



FALCON

Clear-Vax Canopies

©

1/48 SCALE CANOPY SET No.39 US Navy: Part 3

USING REPLACEMENT CANOPIES

Trimming: Insert a new blade into your modelling knife or scalpel. To separate the canopy from its base, score very gently around the ledge moulded at the bottom. Do this very lightly at first, with minimum pressure. Repeat the process until the canopy pops away from the ledge. If you score too heavily at first you risk slipping and ruining the canopy. Finally, any rough edges can be cleaned up by lightly sanding with fine wet-and-dry paper. If you intend separating the canopy for display in the open position, we suggest cutting the break-lines before you cut the canopy from its base.

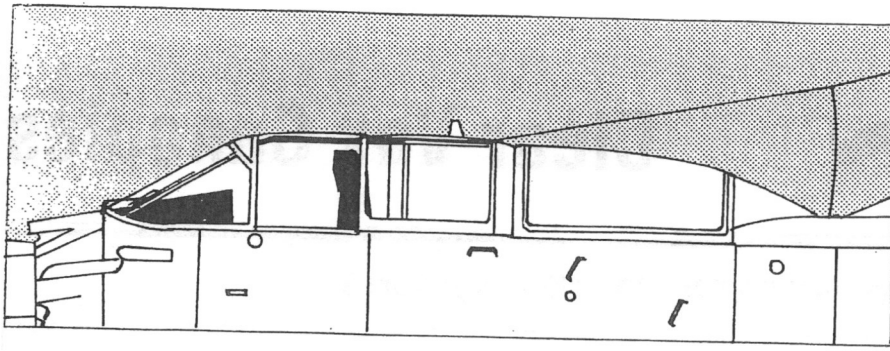
Gluing: Cyanoacrylate (superglue) can be used to fix the canopy to the kit. It gives a fast-setting permanent joint, but fumes given off when setting can cause frosting on clear parts. Where possible, mask around the joint with masking fluid or tape. PVA (white glue) is also useful as it is partly gap-filling, doesn't attack the plastic, and dries clear.

Painting: The best way to achieve crisp and convincing frame lines is by applying pre-painted strips of decal film. Paint part of a sheet of clear decal film, then cut strips of the correct width with a sharp blade and a straight-edge. Decal film sticks better to a painted surface than to bare plastic, so you will have to paint an undercoat on the frame lines marked on the canopy. This technique may not be suitable for canopies with large or irregularly shaped framed areas. For these canopies we suggest you mask the clear areas with clear adhesive tape and then remove the masking after painting.

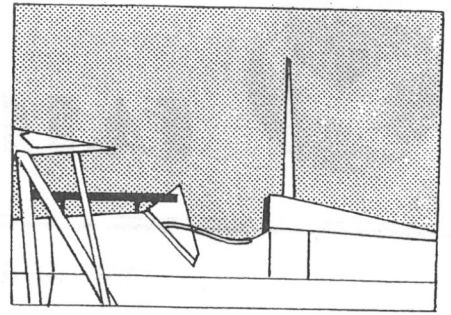
Details: Most aircraft canopies are fitted with handgrabs, latches, locks and mirrors. Take note of these details when studying close-up photos of the cockpit area you are working on, and fabricate them from plastic card, stretched sprue or other materials. Some brass-etch manufacturers include such items in their ranges. In our endeavour to produce thin clear mouldings, it may happen that the edges of the canopy are in fact too thin for scale appearance. It is a relatively simple matter to build up the thickness from the inside using strips of adhesive cut to the width of the frames. We recommend adhesive vinyl sheet as used by signwriters and in the automotive industry for signage and striping on cars. The adhesive is very durable.

Which kit? Please note that where we suggest a certain kitset as suitable for our replacement canopy, the suggested kit is generally regarded as the most accurate model to the given scale. We cannot guarantee that our canopy will fit other kits of the same subject.

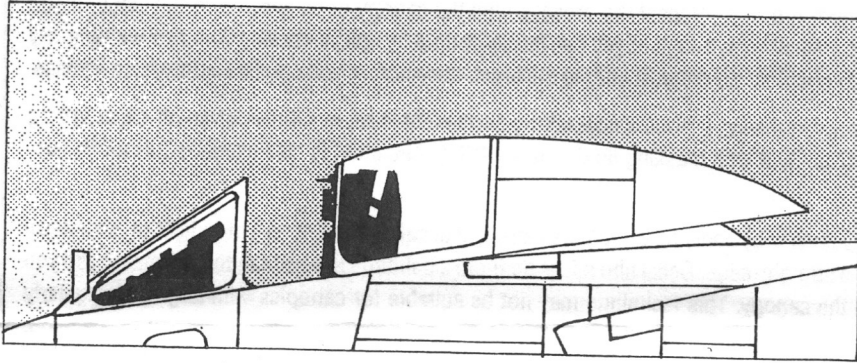
- 1. Douglas A1-E Skyraider.** *Suggested kit: Matchbox A1-E.* The Clearvax canopy directly replaces the kit item. If modelling the canopy open, note that the forward sliding sections operate independently of each other, and the rear section is hinged from the top. We highly recommend the excellent Cobra Company canopy detail set (No.48010) for this model. *Suggested references: Skyraider In Action No.60 (Squadron/Signal); Douglas Skyraider, by Jackson (Aero); Navy Attack, Spads, Scooters and Whales (Osprey).*
- 2. Chance Vought F7U-3 Cutlass.** *Suggested kit: Hobbycraft F7U-3/3m.* The Clearvax canopy is separated for display in the open position. A new bulkhead will need to be made for the sliding section. *Suggested reference: Naval Fighters No.6, F7U Cutlass (Ginter).*
- 3. Chance Vought SB2U Vindicator.** *Suggested kit: HIPM SB2U.* The Clearvax canopy has been sectioned for display in the open position. If building the US Navy version, drill a hole in the windscreen to accept the telescopic bombsight. *Suggested reference: SB2U Vindicator In Action No.122 (Squadron/Signal).*
- 4. Boeing Stearman N2S (PT-17) Kaydet.** *Suggested kit: Lindberg PT-17.* The Clearvax windcreens directly replace the kit items.
- 5. Chance Vought F4U-4 Corsair.** *Suggested kits: Academy or Hasegawa F4U-4.* The windscreen labelled H is to fit the Hasegawa kit, the windscreen labelled A is for the Academy kit. This is necessary because of the different fuselage widths. Note on the drawing the angle of the sliding section in relation to the windscreen. This is typical of all F4U Corsairs. True Details set TD48452 is recommended for this model. *Suggested references: F4U Corsair In Action No. 145 (Squadron/Signal); Detail & Scale Vol.56 (Squadron/Signal); F4U Part 2 (Squadron/Signal).*
- 6. Chance Vought F4U-5N.** *Suggested kit: Minicraft F4U-5N.* The Clearvax canopy directly replaces the kit item.
- 7. Curtiss F11C Goshawk.** *Suggested kit: Lindberg F11C.* The Clearvax canopy directly replaces the kit item.
- 8. Grumman F3F-1.** *Suggested kit: Accurate Miniatures F3F-1.* The Clearvax canopy is separated for display in the open position. Note the two extra frames on the upper rear of the sliding section. These are internal and should be painted on the inside of the canopy. *Suggested reference: Grumman Biplane Fighters In Action No.160 (Squadron/Signal).*
- 9. Grumman F4F Wildcat.** *Suggested kit: Tamiya F4F-4.* The Clearvax canopy directly replaces the kit item. We recommend True Details set TD48474 for this kit. *Suggested references: F4F Wildcat In Action No.84 (Squadron/Signal); Detail & Scale No.30 (Squadron/Signal).*
- 10. Grumman F6F-3 Hellcat.** *Suggested kit: Hasegawa F6F-3.* The Clearvax canopy is designed for display in the open position. Use the kit rear windows. We recommend True Details cockpit set TD48461 for this kit.
- 11. Grumman F6F-5 Hellcat.** *Suggested kit: Hasegawa F6F-5.* Assemble as for the F6F-3. *Suggested references: F6F Hellcat In Action No.36 (Squadron/Signal); Detail & Scale No.26 F6F Hellcat (Squadron/Signal).*
- 12. Grumman F8F Bearcat.** *Suggested kit: Hobbycraft F8F family.* The Clearvax canopy is sectioned for display in the open position. *Suggested reference: F8F Bearcat In Action No.99 (Squadron/Signal).*



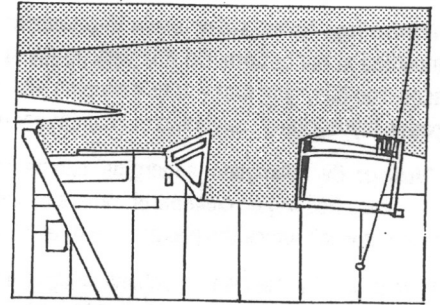
1. Douglas A1-E Skyraider



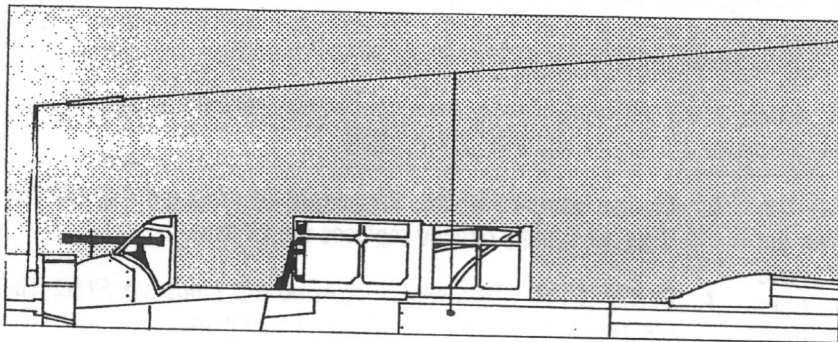
7. Curtiss F11C Goshawk



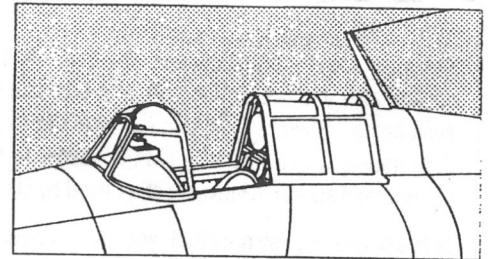
2. Chance Vought F7U Cutlass



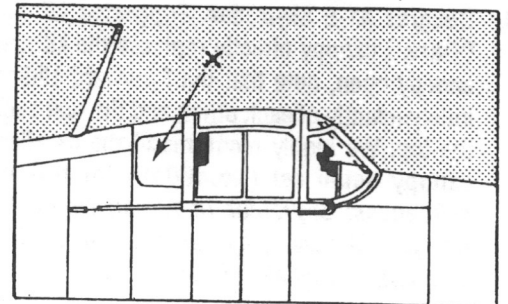
8. Grumman F3F-1



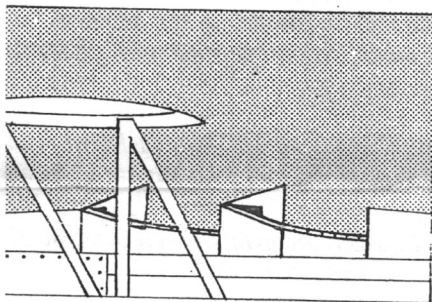
3. Chance Vought SB2U Vindicator



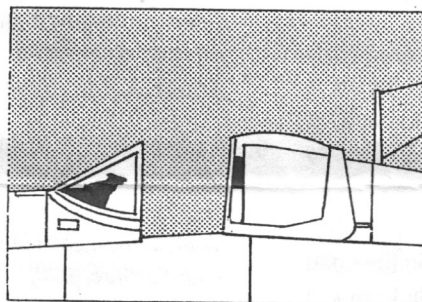
9. Grumman F4F Wildcat



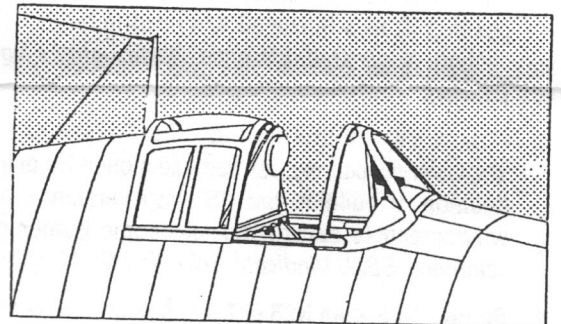
10. Grumman F6F-3 Hellcat



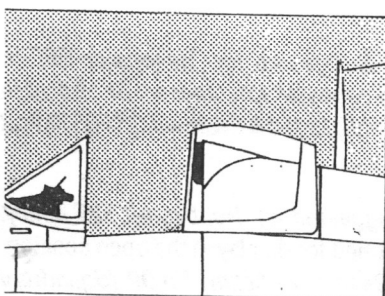
4. Boeing Stearman PT17 Kaydet



5. Chance Vought F4U-4 Corsair

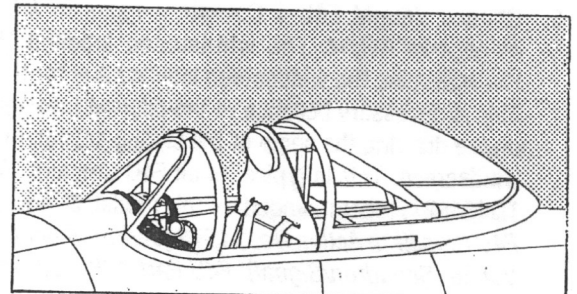


11. Grumman F6F-5 Hellcat



Chance Vought F4U-5N Corsair

Produced by
FALCON INDUSTRIES
PO Box 42-093
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*Falcon Industries are an associate
member of IPMS New Zealand*



12. Grumman F8F Bearcat