

Bob's Card Models

<http://www.bobscardmodels.altervista.org> and www.zealot.com [Resources]

The Bristol Blenheim was a British light bomber aircraft designed and built by the Bristol Aeroplane Company. It was used extensively in the early days of the Second World War, but was later adapted into a successful long-range fighter and night fighter. It was one of the first British aircraft to have all-metal stressed skin construction, to utilise retractable landing gear, flaps, powered gun turret and variable-pitch propellers [Wikipedia].

The model shown here is that of the type Mk IF, based in Kent in August 1939, belonging to 25 Squadron.

More info on: <http://www.nationmaster.com/encyclopedia/Bristol-Blenheim>





Bristol Blenheim Mk IF

Scale 1 : 48

Specifications

General characteristics

Night fighter

Crew: three

Motors: 2 Bristol Mercury VIII, 9 cylinders, air-cooling, 840 HP

Length: 12.12m

Wingspan: 17.17m

Height: 3m

Wing area: 43.57 m²

Empty: 3 675 kg

Loaded: 5 670kg

Performance

Maximum speed: 459 km/h) at 4 600m.

Range: 1 81 km (fully loaded)

Service ceiling: 8 300m

Climb: 11.5 minutes to 4 570m.

Armament

6 Browning machine-guns of 7.7mm, of which 1 in the left wing, 4 under the fuselage, and 1 in the dorsal tower.

Building Instructions

Print all sheets on between 160 and 230g card, except the Instructions and Sheet 7, both which should be printed on 80 - 90g Paper.

Always carefully fit parts together before gluing, and make minor adjustments if necessary.

Bright Green areas must be cut out, BUT only when the Instructions tell you!

Although the model is relatively small, bulkheads have also been used to keep the correct cross-sectional form of the fuselage. NEVER force the bulkheads in position, otherwise ugly "ribbing" will become visible after gluing.

The bulkheads must be a loose fit, kept in position by tacking with a minimum of glue. If necessary, reduce size very slightly to achieve this.

Fuselage

- 1 Cut out Bulkheads A to D, glue on scrap card 2 times, to give a total thickness of 3x . Pierce their centres, to later aid insertion in the fuselage using tooth-picks.
- 2 Cut out main Fuselage 1, carefully round with (for example) a broom-stick handle, close rear portion by gluing long tab a.
- 3 Insert/glue Bulkhead D by inserting from front to rear, in the position shown. NOTE: when inserting each bulkhead, make sure that they are lined up exactly, otherwise the fuselage will become twisted!
- 4 Likewise Bulkhead C.
- 5 Glue side tabs d on both sides of rear portion of 1.
- 6 Close central portion of 1 by gluing long tab b.
- 7 Insert/glue Bulkhead B by inserting from front to rear, in the position shown.
- 8 Glue side tabs e on both sides of central portion of 1.
- 9 Close front portion of 1 by gluing long tab c.
- 10 Insert/glue bulkhead A in position.
- 11 Glue the foremost tab f in position.
- 12 Cut out and fold front fuselage 2, bending tabs down slightly, apart from those marked with a red spot (these should not be bent at all). Suggested sequence : from tabs a to h. Glue in position on 1.
- 13 Cut out the green slits for the wings, cutting through the bulkhead in the way (it has outlived its duty of forming the fuselage).

Wings

- 14 Cut out the 2 portions of the spar 4, make 4x thick, join to form the complete wing spar.
- 15 Cut out the 2 wings 3R and 3L, and bend down all tabs. Slightly round the wing by applying finger pressure, and then glue on the tab joining the middle to the outer section of each wing, at this stage gluing the tab firstly only to the middle section.
- 16 Close/glue the middle section of the right-hand wing, insert/glue half-way the spar 4 (about 1/4 of the way back from the leading edge). Close/glue the outer section of the wing.
- 17 Left-hand wing: Close/glue the middle section, glue on tab linking this to the outer section.
- 18 Put a bead of glue along the edges of spar 4, then insert the left-hand wing on to the right-hand wing assembly, gluing in place.
- 19 Close/glue the outer section of the left-hand wing.
- 20 Resting the wing on a flat surface should now result in the wing tips being 13mm above the surface ie the wing tips making an angle of 6° with the horizontal..
- 21 Glue in position by inserting through the 2 slits in the fuselage - glue a small bead along the join.
- 22 Glue on the two covers 19, to cover the join fuselage-wing. When glue is dry, cut off the overlap.
- 23 Pierce the 2 green holes in the leading edges for the propeller shafts.

Tailplane

- 24 Cut out the tailplane 5, fold down all tabs, glue with a slight concave to the upper surface (taken into account - the upper surface is 2% broader than the lower. TIP: Close/glue the leading edge first. When dry, continue gluing the small tabs.
- 25 Glue in position in the green slits at rear of fuselage.
- 26 At rear end, pinch/glue the 2 sides of the fuselage.
- 27 Cut out the two fin halves, 6, glue together, and glue in place.

Engines (2)

- 28 Cut out 7L, 8L and 9L. Close/glue 7L; the 18 small tabs should be slightly bent downwards.....
- 29 likewise 8L and 9L. The small tabs on 9L should not be bent down at all.
- 30 Glue discs 10L and 11L in position, after making sure that their centres are holed so that the propeller shaft (tooth-pick) will just pass through.
- 31 Cut the flaps on 7L and bend each flap slightly upwards.
- 32 Put glue on tabs of 9L, and pass the part through 8L.
- 33 Glue end of 8L and position it in the rear of 7L.
- 34 Cut out the green areas of the unit, bend down the tabs, and glue unit in position on wing.
- 35 Insert/glue the exhaust pipes 19.
- 36 Repeat for the parts 7R - 11R.
- 33 Cut out the 2 parts 12, fold and glue, cut out the propellers, bend each blade to the correct profile.

Undercarriage

NOTE: All tooth-pick shafts and axles, for authenticity, can be dressed with Shaft Sleeves 26 if so desired. Just cut out each sleeve, cut to length desired and roll/glue around tooth-pick.

- 34 Construct as per images on Sheet 7, using tooth-picks. The tyres are rolled/glued onto the middle of a tooth-pick., and the wheel covers 15 glued in place. Close to, and on each side of the wheel, I drill a tiny hole (can be done with a pin or needle). The 2 vertical shafts are pushed into these holes and glued.
- 35 Insert/glue in position in the holes provided under the engines. When dry, cut inclined shafts from tooth-picks, insert in holes provided, glue, and glue onto the vertical shafts (as always, see image).
- 36 Glue Undercarriage Covers 18 in place directly on the vertical shafts, and to the underside of the engines.

MG emplacement in bomb bay under fuselage

- 37 Cut out emplacement 20, fold all tabs etc, pierce 4 green holes, glue in place, add MG's 21.

Gun Turret

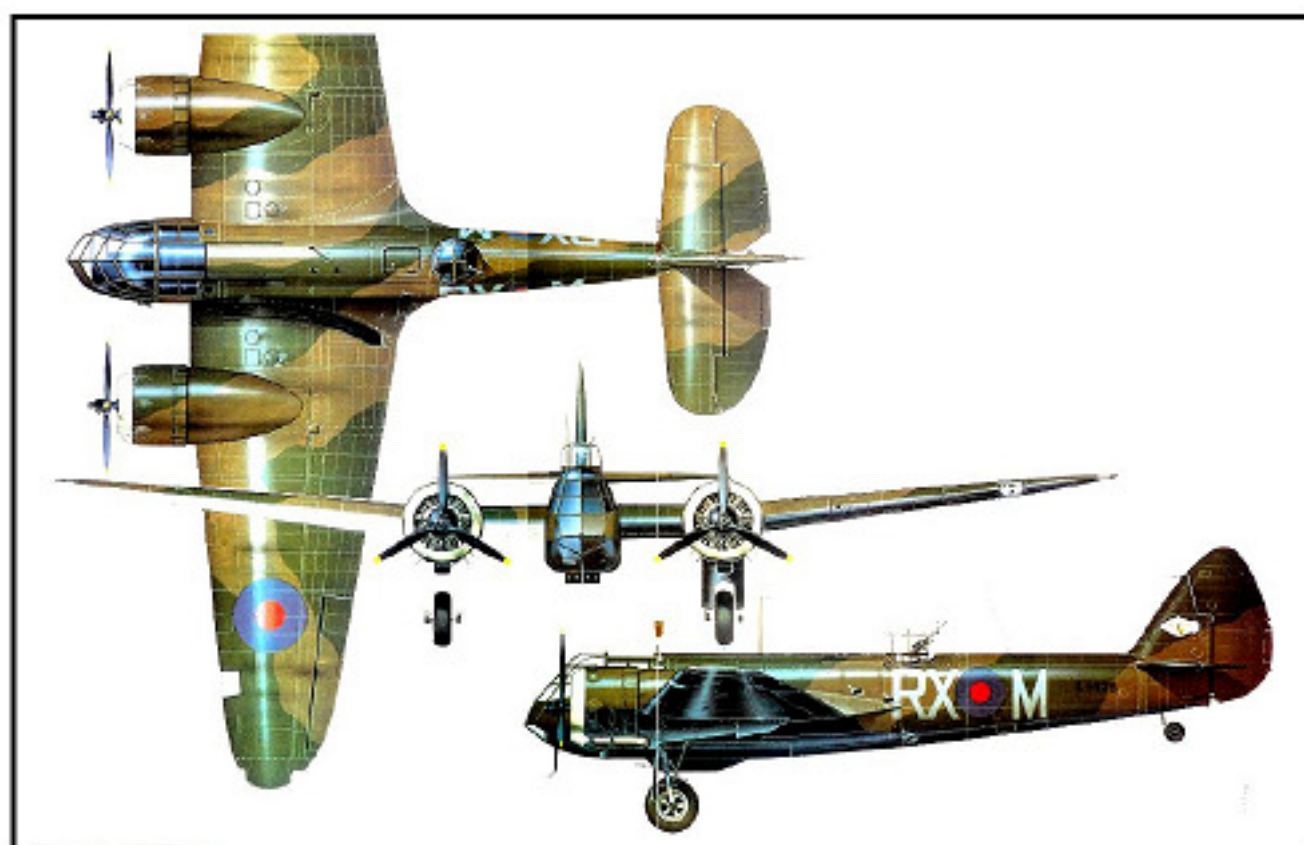
- 38 Cut out 22, fold, glue. Glue the MG 23 onto the turret.

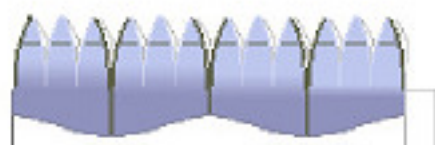
- 39 Glue catwalk 24 in place on left-hand wing.

- 40 Assemble stand 25.

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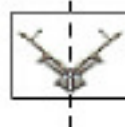






Dorsal turret²²

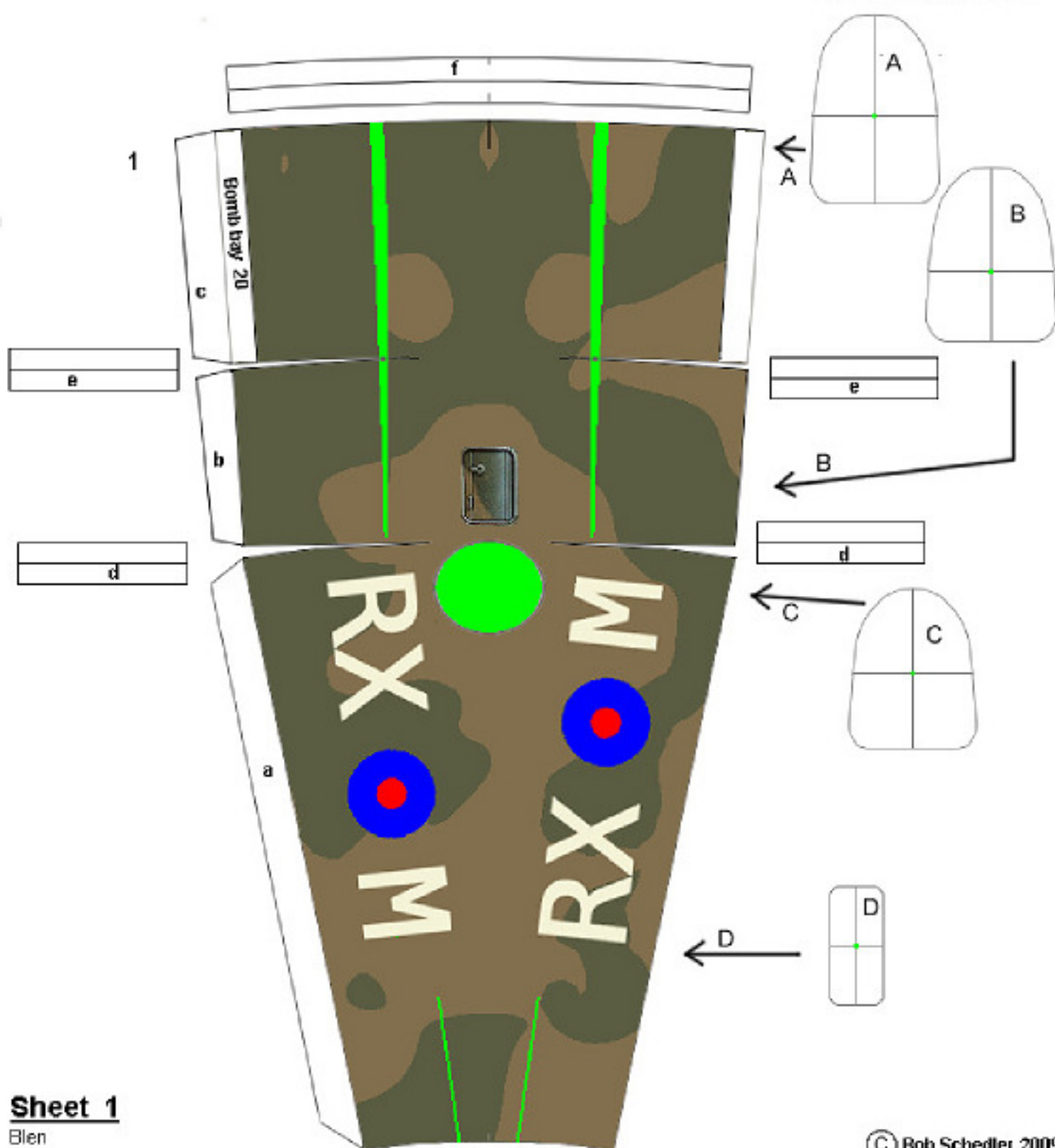
fold & glue



Machine-gun²³



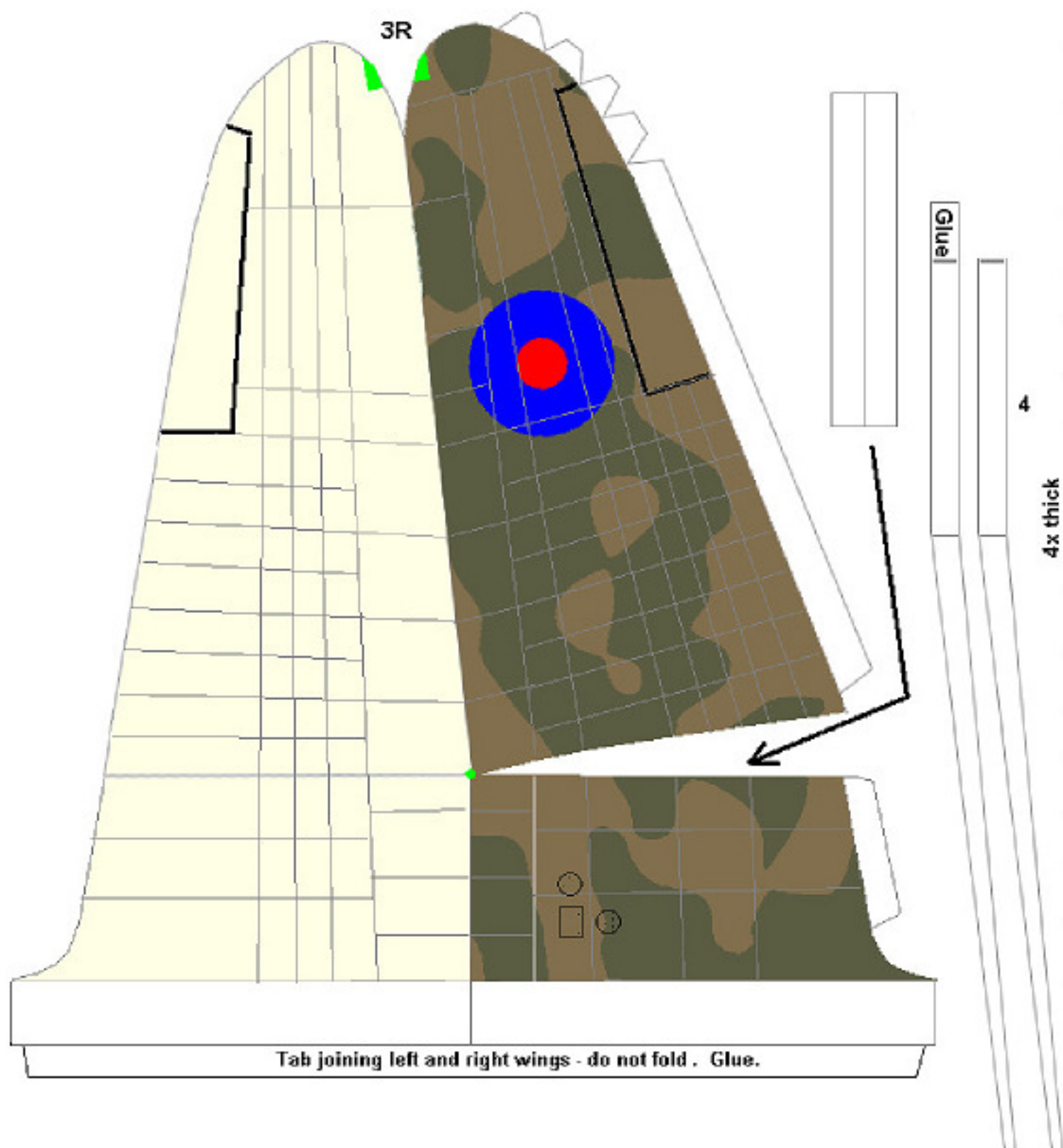
Make bulkheads 3x thick



Bottom

Top

3R



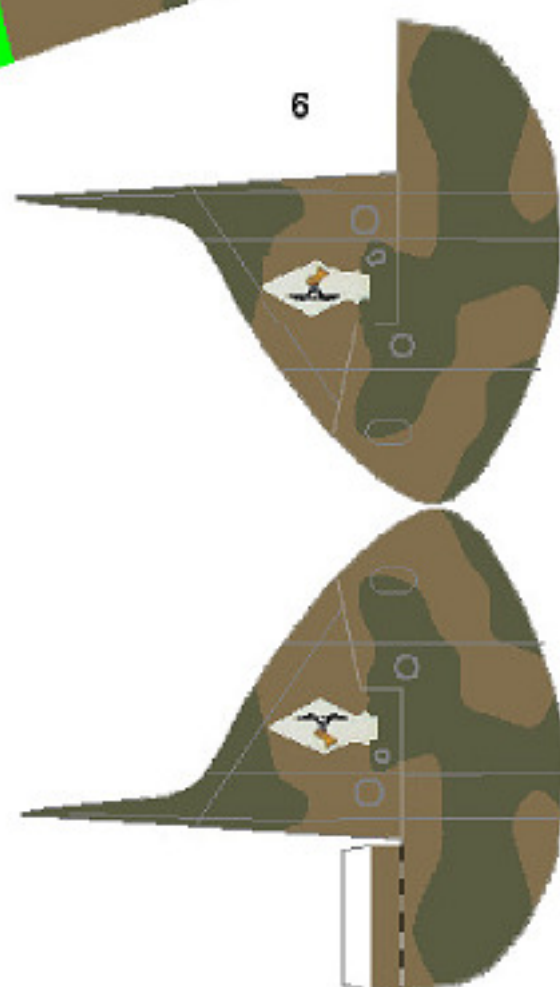
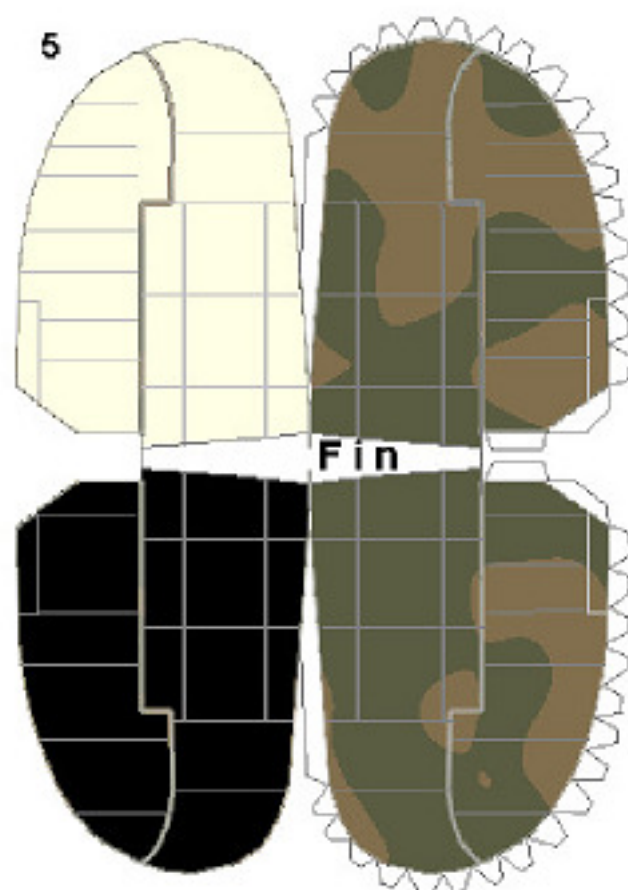
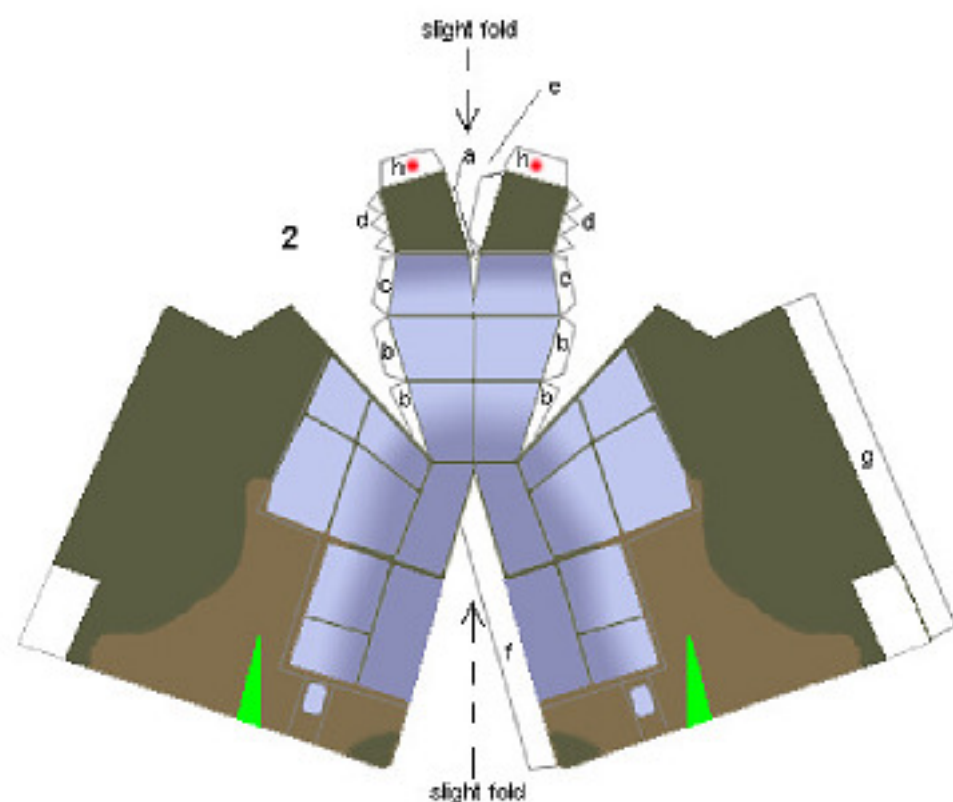
Sheet 2

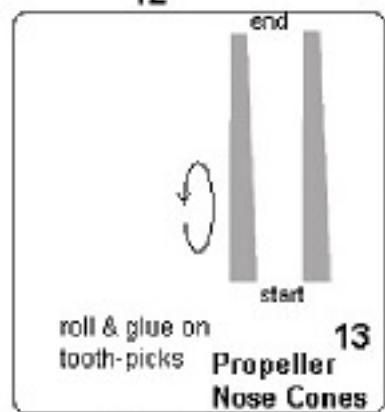
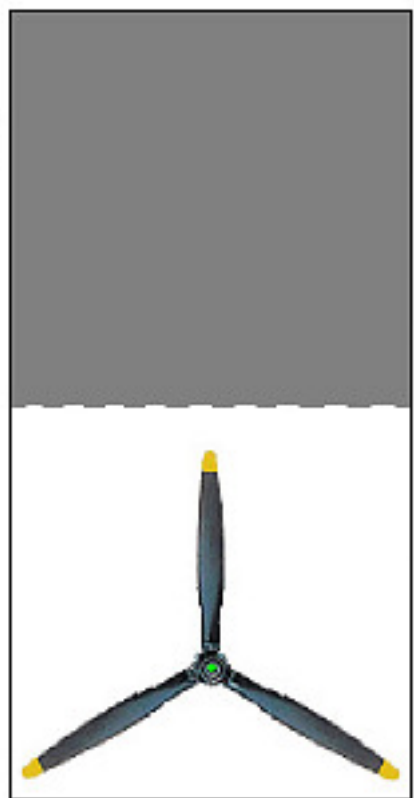
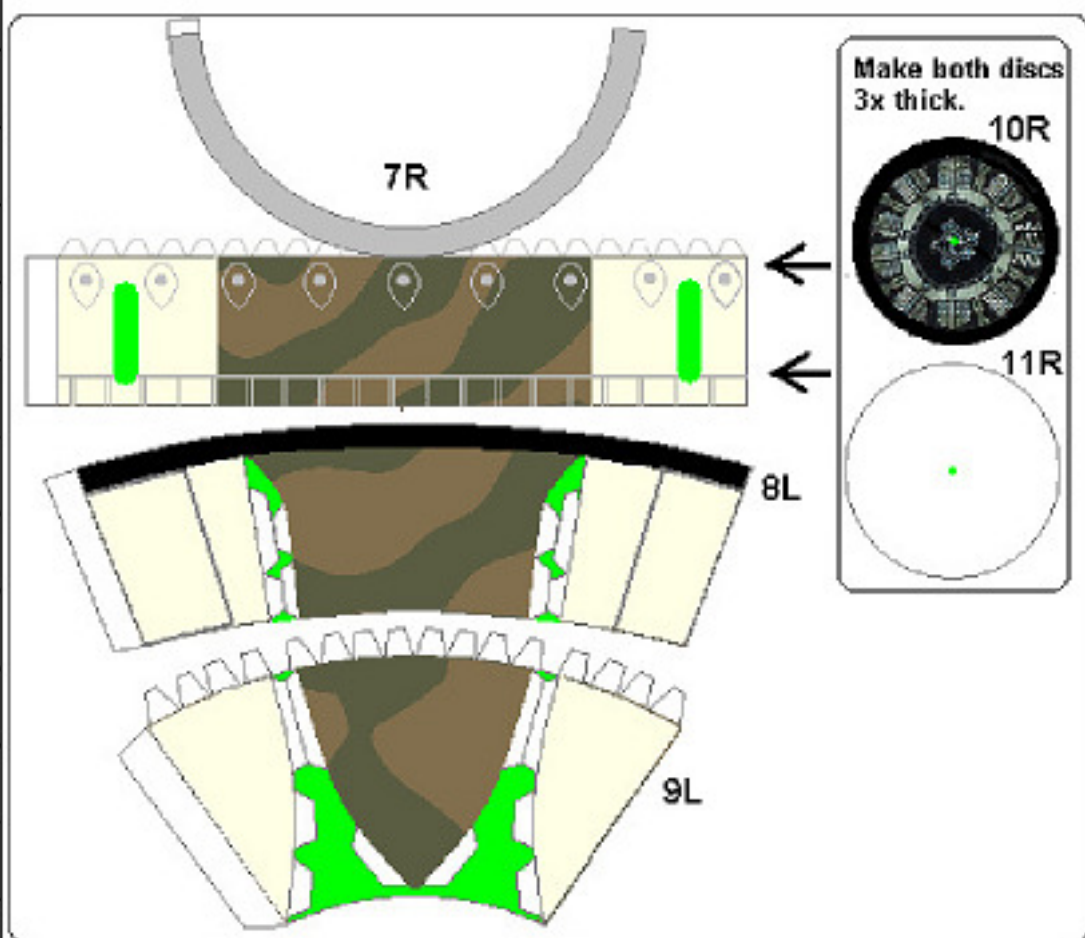
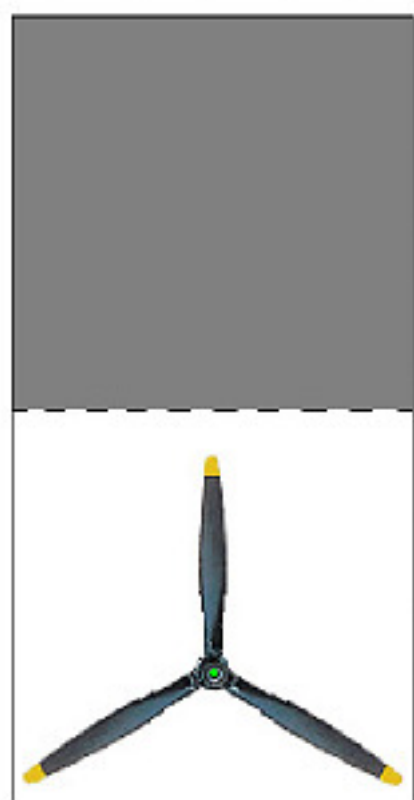
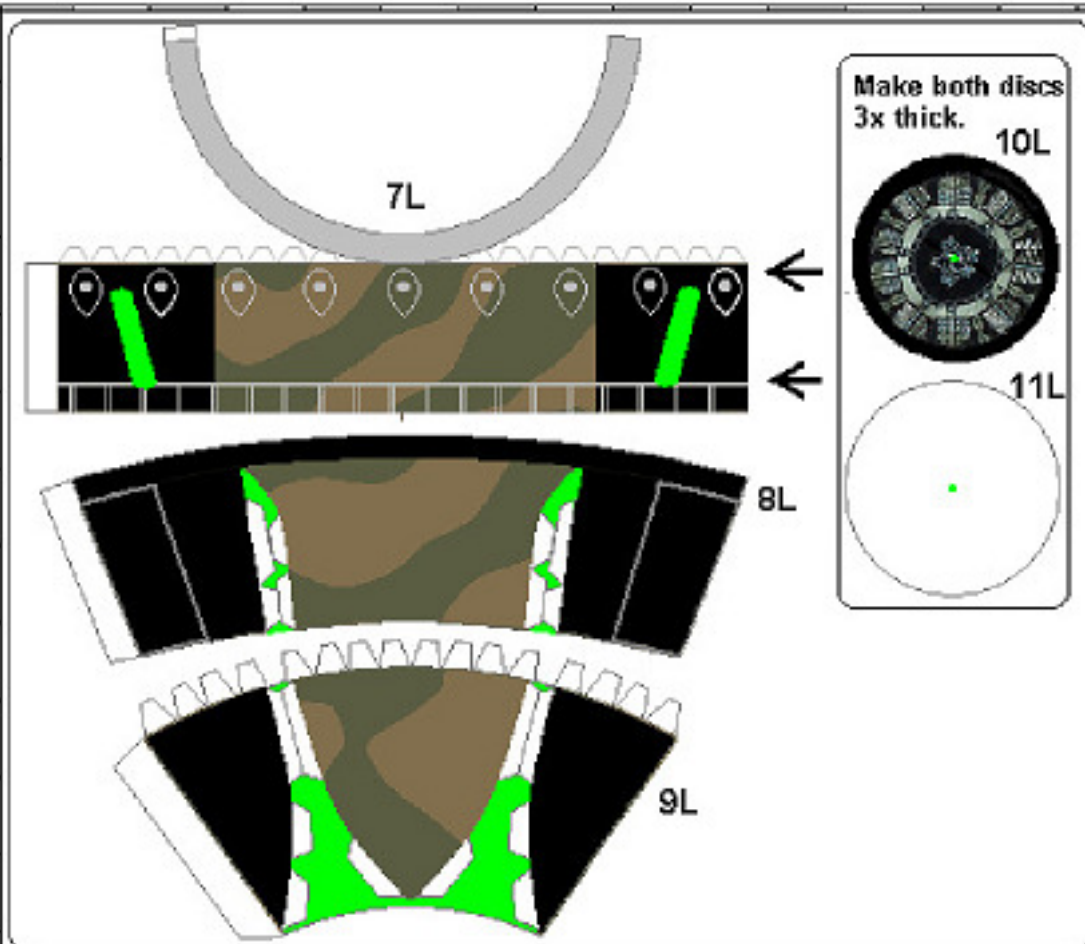
Blen

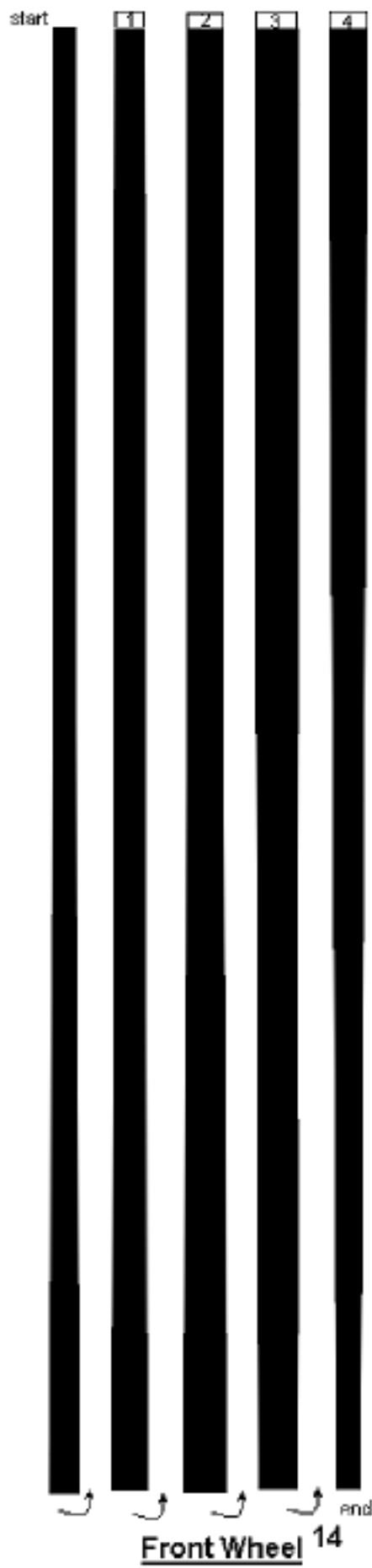
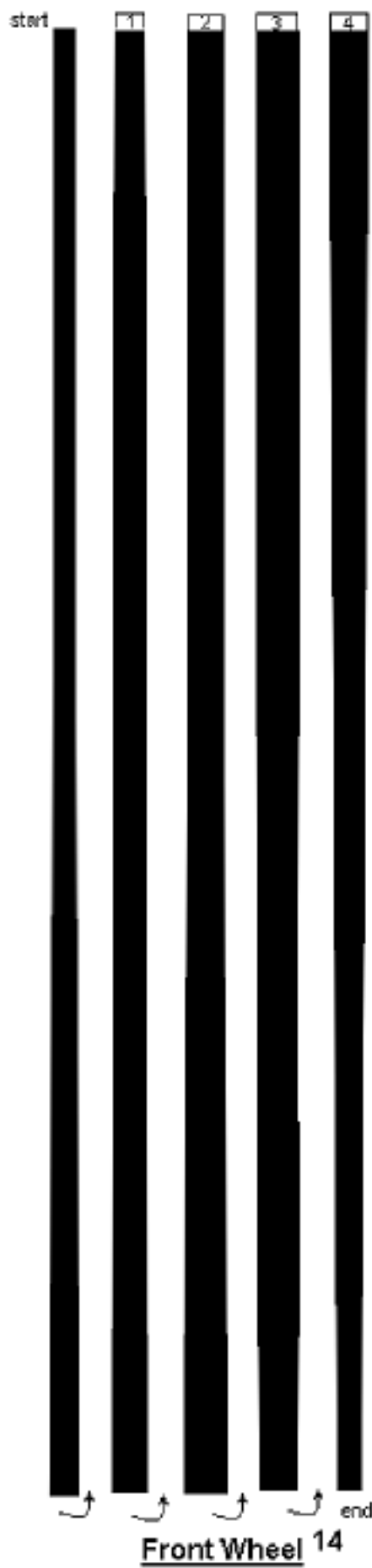
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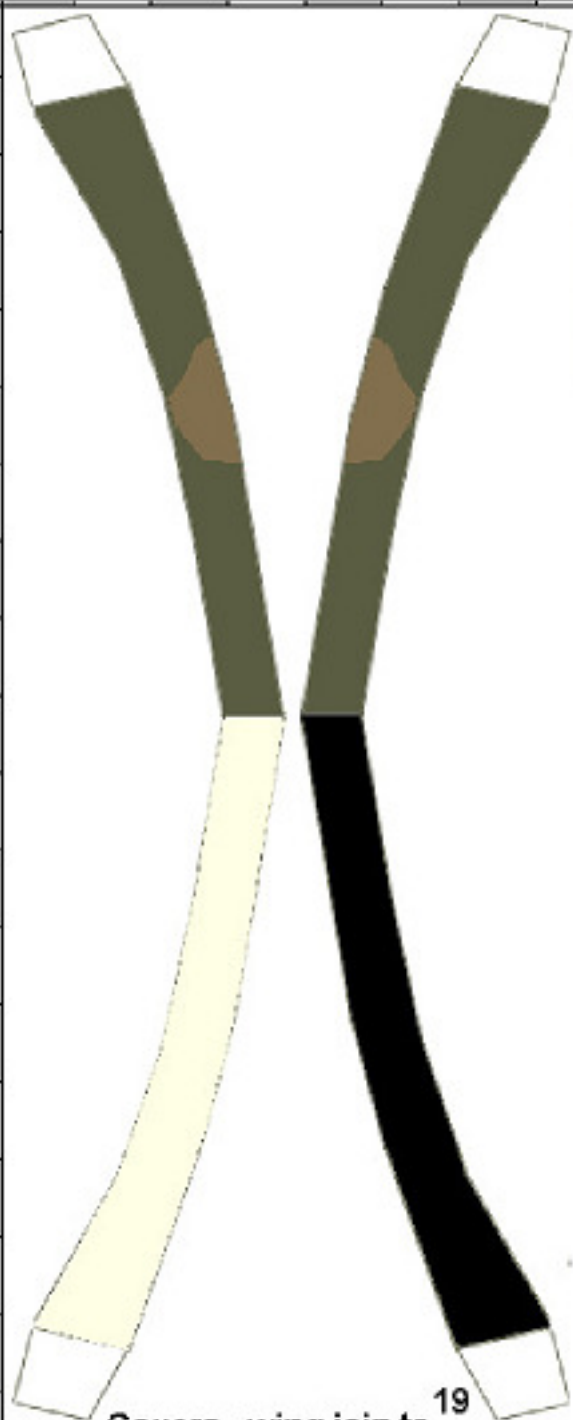
Top



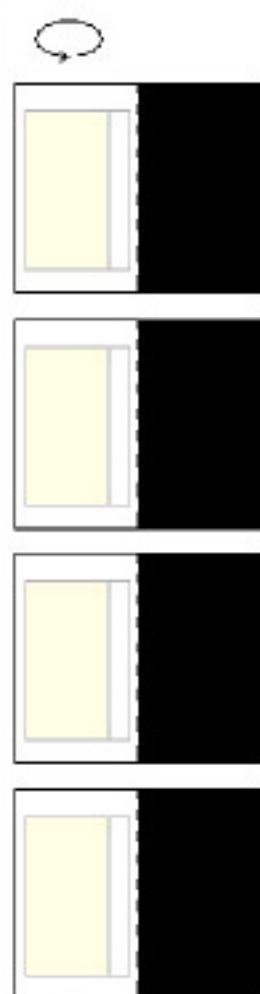
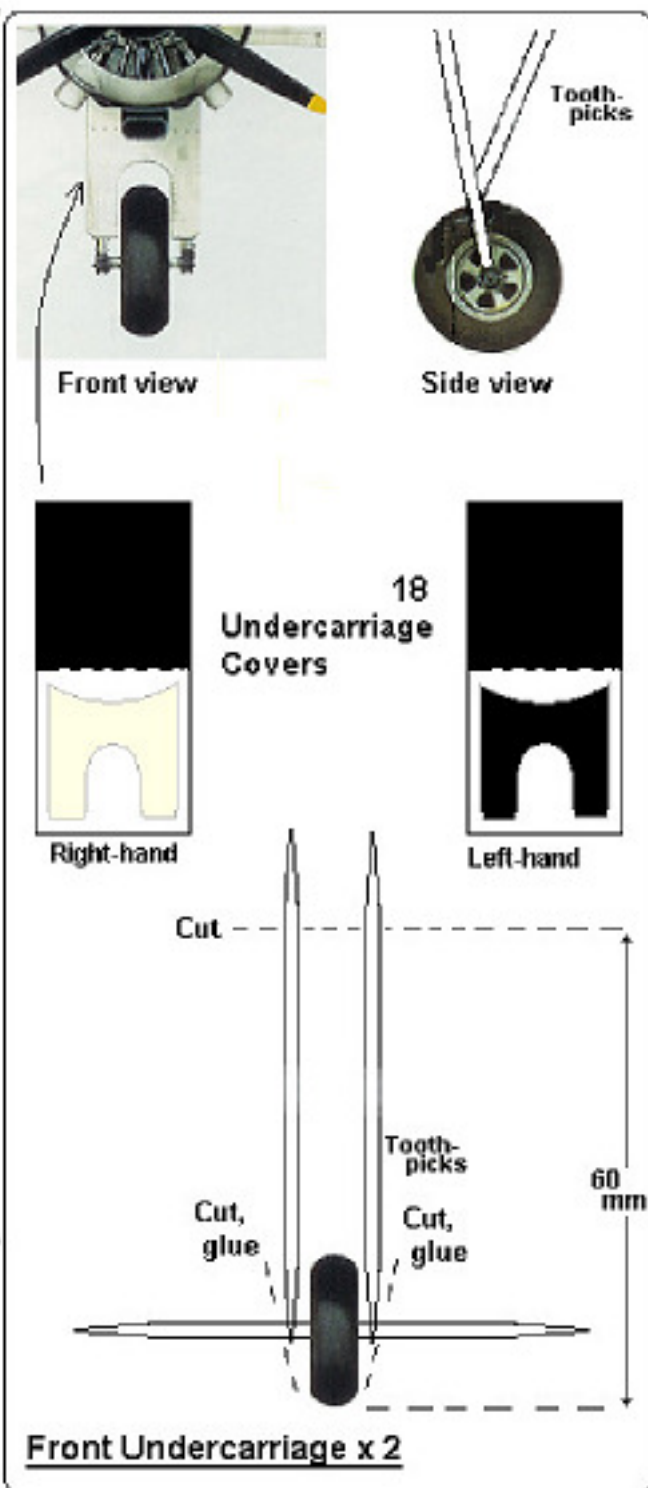
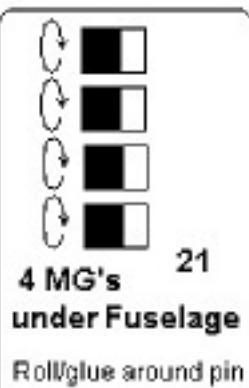






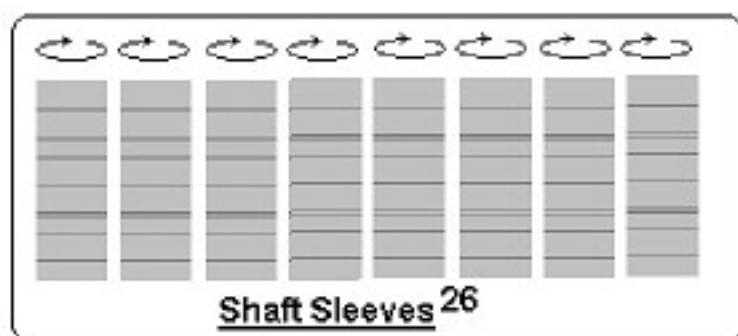


Covers - wing join to fuselage

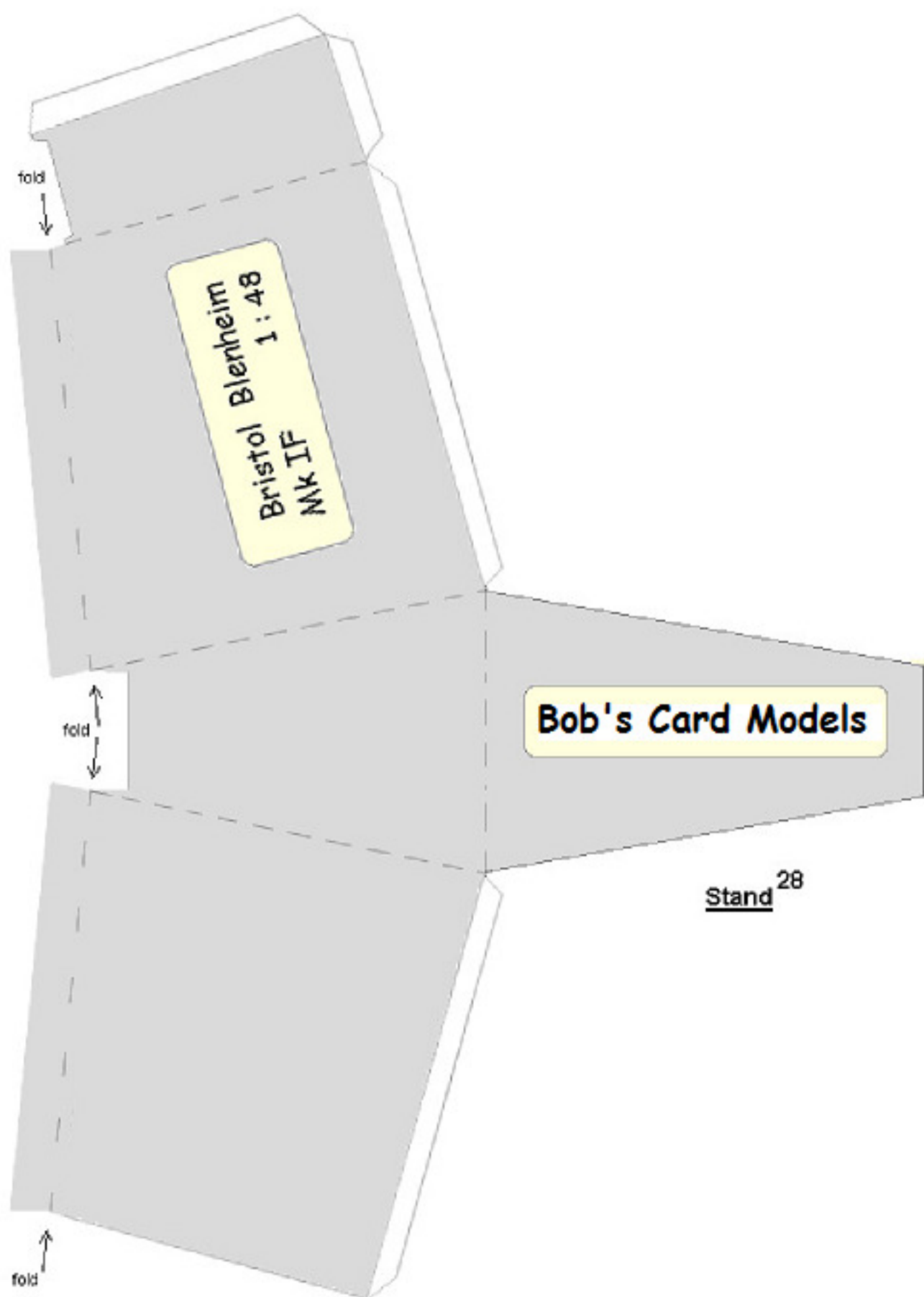


Exhausts

Fold & glue, then roll and glue. (black on the inside)



Catwalk



Sheet 8

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