



Keith Pruitt

Model Kit Report

Keith's Picks For The Month

From quad bikes to fantasy games.

Airfix

Airfix recently released its 1/48 Quad Bikes & Crew #A04701. Quad bikes were developed as a safer alternative to the three-wheeled ATV of the 1970s. Quads were even adopted by militaries in the 2000s as a fast and capable transport option for soldiers and equipment. The British Army currently operates more than 500 quad bikes which are deployed mostly in Afghanistan. The quads are used to transport water, ammunition, and various other supplies to front line troops, and can be used to evacuate wounded soldiers from the front lines.

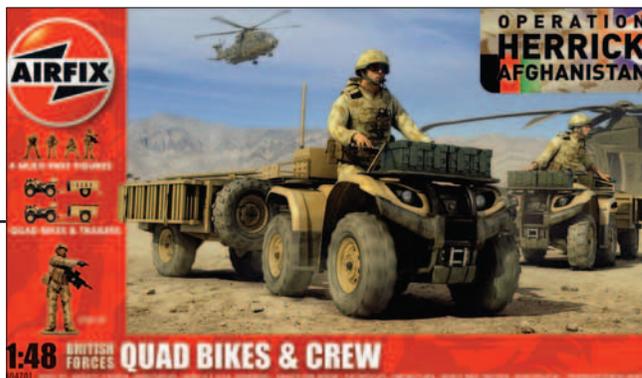
The Airfix kit contains two complete quad bikes and trailers of the style that are operational with the British Army. The kit features multiple building options for the modeler, including positionable front steering, raised or lowered trailer tailgates, water cans and stretchers for the trailers, as well as gap bridges that can be stowed or deployed. While these quad bikes would look nice as solitary models, they are capable of adding a unique detail to a modern warfare diorama.

The finished models can be easily integrated with other Airfix 1/48 modern British vehicle or aircraft kits. The kit comes complete with illustrated instructions, including full color painting and decal placement guides.

Freedom Models

Freedom Models is a new company that has just released its first kit, the 1/48 X-47B UCAV #18001. This is also the first kit of this particular subject in 1/48. Designed by Northrop-Grumman, the X-47B is an UCAV (Unmanned Combat Air Vehicle) intended to fly from the US Navy's aircraft carriers. Expected to

Freedom Models is a new company that has just released its first kit, the X-47B in 1/48 scale.



The Airfix Quad Bikes & Crew contains two complete quad bikes of the type currently in service with the British Army.

enter service by 2019, the X-47B is currently undergoing flight testing, and has successfully completed land and carrier demonstrations.

The Freedom Models kit features beautifully molded plastic parts with engraved panel lines, detailed landing gear and bays, and full jet intake trunking with engine turbine facings. The flaps can be posed in the stowed or deployed positions, and the wings can be modeled in the folded position for stowage, with detailed wingfolding hinges and mechanisms, or in the extended position for takeoff or landing. The landing gear can be positioned open or closed, as well as the air brakes and bomb bay, which contains two detailed 1000 pound GBU-32 smart bombs. There are photoetched metal detail parts included for landing gear tow rings, wingfolding details, sensors, and various other details.

The kit comes complete with illustrated instructions, with full color painting and decal placement guides. With the quality of the X-47B demonstrated in its first kit release, Freedom Models has a bright future ahead.

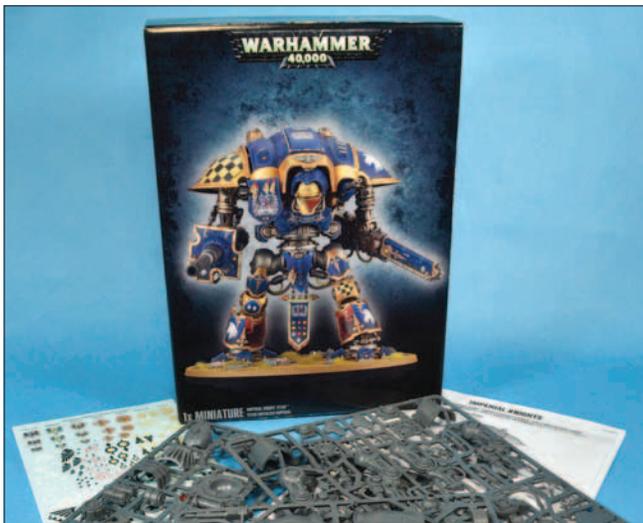
Games Workshop

While Games Workshop models are primarily designed for tabletop wargames, the kits are incredibly detailed and can offer scale modelers an exciting and fun building experience. The recently released Imperial Knight kit builds into an impressive model, standing eight inches tall and bristling with weaponry.

The Imperial Knight can be used in wargames like *Warhammer*



40,000, where they are fighting either for a Knightly House, the Adeptus Mechanicus, or as a mercenary Freeblade fighting on their own. As a Knight Paladin, they can be equipped with a Rapid-Fire Battle Cannon, while a Knight Errant can be fitted with a Thermal Cannon. Both are protected by an Ion Shield and have a Reaper Chainsword as a secondary weapon. The kit contains 147 exquisitely molded plastic



The Games Workshop Imperial Knight contains 147 parts and can be assembled in a variety of different configurations. parts, and features options for weaponry and decals for one of seven different versions.

The kit comes with illustrated instructions, and the model can be painted to match the artwork with Games Workshop's Citadel paints for the most accuracy using *The Imperial Knight Companion* book, which has color illustrations of all the versions.

Hasegawa

Hasegawa offers a line of nicely detailed 1/12 scale diorama accessory kits of various desks and chairs. The kits features snap-together assembly and little or no painting is required. The Hasegawa 1/12 Science Desk & Chairs # HSGS6204 includes a science table, complete with sink and water faucets, gas faucet, electrical outlet, and four chairs. With parts molded in colored plastic, this model would be an excellent choice for a high school or laboratory diorama.

The Hasegawa 1/12 Office Desk & Chair kit # HSGS6203 also features snap-together assembly. It is really more of a half-desk, or student desk, with drawers on one side. The chair is a standard office chair, with padded seat and backrest, and four legs with casters. For an office set-

ting, a college dorm room or teenager's bedroom, the quick assembly makes this kit an outstanding choice for a centerpiece for a diorama.

The Hasegawa 1/12 Meeting Room Desk & Chairs kit # HSGS6202 features a folding table with metal legs. Also

included are two folding chairs with padded seats and backrests. This table could be filled with 1/350 scale models to represent a diorama of a modeling contest, or could be used in a diorama of any scene where this type of furniture would be commonly used.

While expert modelers are likely to paint these models for increased accuracy, they can be quickly assembled without painting and placed on a diorama where needed for maximum scale effect.

Pegasus Hobbies

Pegasus Hobbies has released its 1/350 Cosmostrator #9114. Looking like a spaceship from the comic strips, the



Pegasus Hobbies has released its Cosmostrator which was featured in the 1960 cult classic, *First Spaceship on Venus*. Cosmostrator was introduced in the 1960 film, *First Spaceship on Venus*, an East German-Polish film based on the novel, *The Astronauts*, by Stanislaw Lem. Crown International Pictures shortened the film and dubbed it in



Hasegawa is offering a line of nicely detailed office chairs and desks which are intended for diorama settings.

English for release in this country during 1962. A cult classic, the film featured the unusual spaceship with three winged thruster pods that doubled as landing gear. The movie ship was beautiful with a brilliant polished metal finish on the aerodynamic hull and engines.

The Pegasus Hobbies kit contains 23 molded ABS plastic parts, including one clear part for the upper viewport. The parts are crisply molded resulting in a good parts fit. The surfaces of all the parts are extremely smooth, with almost a polished appearance which will allow a bare metal finish to gleam nicely.

The kit comes with illustrated instructions, with painting instructions for an overall chrome silver finish, but there are no decals since the movie spaceship had no external markings. Sci-Fi fans will rejoice over the long-awaited release of this classic spaceship design in kit form.

Revell

Revell has released its 1/48 Stearman PT-17 kit #85-5264. The PT-17 was designed for light commercial use by the Stearman Aircraft Corporation. The Model 75 was introduced in 1934, a rugged, easily flown biplane, that quickly became a favorite with private pilots, and also caught the attention of the US Military. The US Navy adopted the



The Revell Stearman kit includes decals for the Navy N2S-3 or Army PT-17 versions of the WW II trainer.

Model 75 as the primary trainer for its pilots, and designated its version the N2S-3. The US Army Air Corps followed suit, and called its version the PT-17.

During the late 1930s and into the 1940s thousands of these airplanes were built, and after WW II, the Stearman continued to be used in commercial and private aviation for crop dusting, barnstorming, sport and pleasure flying.

Revell has released this classic aircraft in newly tooled 1/48 scale. The kit includes sixty parts in white and clear plastic and features a nicely detailed dual cockpit with a full interior tube frame. Extending from the front of the frame is the engine mount which holds a detailed radial engine equipped with push rod guides, collector ring, oil tank, and other accessories. The exterior of the aircraft has the intricate fabric pattern molded into the surfaces which realistically hug the underlying framework. The kit can be built as either the US Navy or as a US Army aircraft, with optional propellers in metal for the N2S and wood for the PT-17, with a woodgrain decal for the latter.

The kit includes illustrated instructions, with painting and decal placement guides, as well as a diagram for the wing rigging wires. The decals include markings for either the blue and yellow Army Air Corps PT-17 or the overall yellow Navy N2S-3. **HM**

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