



Keith Pruitt

# Model Kit Report

## Keith's Picks: New Kits of the Month

**Plastic model kits have become very popular items in a hobby store.**

**A**irfix has released its 1/72 Douglas A-4B/4P Skyhawk #03029. Douglas designed the Skyhawk in response to a Navy requirement for a light attack aircraft to replace the aging Skyraider. The Skyhawk is a delta wing that uses a single, non-afterburning turbojet and is armed with two 20mm canon. The design was so compact that it did not require folding wings for aircraft carrier deployment. Delivered to the US Navy in October of 1956, the aircraft saw considerable combat during the Vietnam War. The A-4 also saw combat with five other countries, including Argentina during the Falklands War where it sank two British warships and severely damaged five others. Airfix



The Airfix 1/72 Skyhawk includes a number of options used to simulate mission oriented in flight or static displays.

continues its emphasis on quality and detail, which is appreciated by both beginner and experienced modelers. The kit features several options, including in-flight or static displays, with different landing gear and leading edge wing slats positions, as well as multiple weapons and underwing stores loads that allow the kit to be modeled for a variety of missions. The kit includes illustrated instructions, with color painting and decal placement guides, as well as decals for



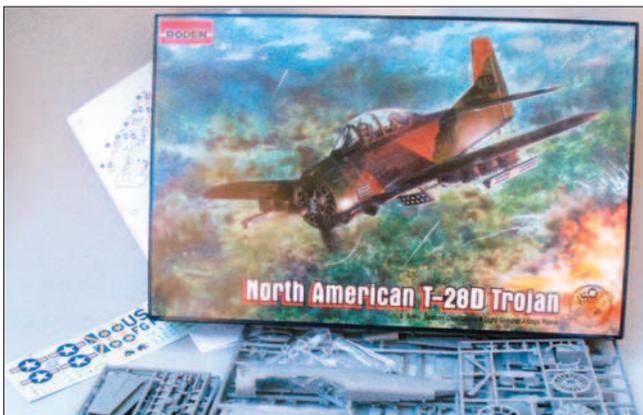
Bronco has released a rather unique armored clearance vehicle which includes Bronco's full-scale 30ft robotic arm. two aircraft, one US Navy A-4B version and one Argentine A-4P Falklands War version.

Bronco has released its 1/35 Buffalo 6X6 MPCV #CB35100. The Buffalo is an MPCV (Mine Protected Clearance Vehicle), with a v-shaped hull to deflect explosive blasts away from the six man crew, tires that can run flat, and six inch thick armored glass windows. The vehicle has a remotely operated 30ft mechanical arm with a camera for close inspection of suspicious devices, along with a camera mounted on top of the vehicle. The Buffalo was first deployed in 2003, and has served in both Afghanistan and Iraq. The kit includes the upper and lower hull, eight plastic tires, eleven sprues of parts, two sprues of clear plastic parts, several lengths of rubber string, and a large fret of photoetched metal detail parts. The kit features a fully detailed interior, multiple hatches that can be displayed opened or closed, and three options depicting different antennae types and placement. The most prominent feature is the large robotic arm, which is fully articulated and extendable giving a variety of choices for individual display or as the centerpiece for a modern warfare diorama. The kit comes complete with a 35 page illustrated instruction booklet with color painting and decal placement guides, and decals for three different vehicles.

Revell has released its 1/32 SnapTite Ford AeroMax #85-1975. SnapTite models can be fun for modelers of all ages whether they are a novice, intermediate modeler, or perhaps a more experienced modeler looking for a fun building diversion. Big rigs offer a unique subject opportunity for modelers to build a vehicle that captures the allure of the open road and the finest in interior traveling comfort. The kit comes complete with 52 crisply molded parts in

white, black and clear with chrome plated parts and soft black tires. With easy snap assembly, and without sacrificing quality, the kit offers some of the same exciting build opportunities that can be found in the more complex Skill Level 2 or 3 model kits. Many of the parts, such as interior details and chassis pieces with separated drive axle and leaf springs components, offer excellent quality and detail. In addition, numerous small chrome parts, such as handlebars, side mirrors, top lights, and dual air horns, accentuate the molded body details. The markings are stickers, rather than waterslide decals and placement guidance is included in the enclosed illustrated instructions. The Revell SnapTite Ford AeroMax kit proves simplicity doesn't have to compromise quality and a pleasurable building experience.

Roden has released its 1/48 T-28D Trojan #450. The T-28A was the primary two-seat trainer for the USAF, while US Navy and Marines developed it as the T-28B/C. During the Vietnam War, T-28As were modified for close air support and counter-insurgency missions, and were redesignated as T-28D Nomads. Fitted with six under wing hardpoints capable of accepting gun pods, rockets, napalm and 500-pound bombs, the T-28D performed well in the new role.



*The Roden 1/48 T28D Trojan replicates the aircraft as it was outfitted for use during a number of conflicts in the 1960s.*

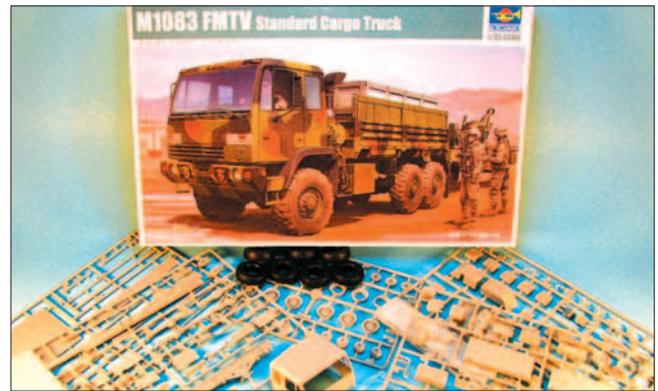
Following Roden's initial release of their T-28B they have released the T-28D. The kit features engraved panel lines, landing gear and wheel well details, and cockpit detail, as well as machine gun pods, bombs, rocket pods, and cluster bomb dispenser pods. The control surfaces, flaps, speed brake, cowl flaps and front and rear canopies can be mod-



*Revell's Ford AeroMax SnapTite kit proves simplicity doesn't have to compromise quality during a kit building experience.*

eled in varied positions. The kit comes with illustrated instructions, with painting and decal placement guides, as well as decals with markings for three different aircraft, including an overall light gray T-28 with the 4400th Training Squadron at Elgin Air Force Base, a gull gray over light gray T-28 with the Special CIA unit in the Congo, and a multicolor Southeast Asia camouflaged T-28 from the 606th Special Operations Squadron in Thailand. The Roden 1/48 T-28D Trojan captures the essence of the T-28D, and would be a welcome addition to almost any aircraft modeler's collection.

Trumpeter has released its 1/35 M1083 FMTV Standard Cargo Truck #01007. The M1083 is a five-ton truck in the FMTV (Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles) that are based on the Austrian Steyr 12M18 truck. The five-



*The Trumpeter 1/35 M1083 FMTV cargo truck is a welcome addition to the modern military genre of fighting vehicles.*

ton M1083 can carry 10,000 pounds, has fold down sides for easy cargo loading and unloading, fold away seats for troops, full time 6x6 drive, an automatic transmission, canvas and bows for the cargo deck, and an optional winch. The kit contains the cab, ten sprues of plastic parts, one sprue of clear parts, seven vinyl tires, and a fret of photoetched metal detail parts. The kit can be built with the troop seats either deployed or stowed, and it is nicely detailed with beautiful vinyl tires and excellent photoetched details. The kit comes complete with illustrated instructions, full color painting and decal placement guides, as well as decals for two US Army vehicles. The Trumpeter 1/35 M1083 Standard Cargo Truck is a welcome addition to the modern military modeling genre, and would be a great kit choice for fans of the modern US Army. **HM**