



Keith Pruitt

Model Kit Report

Keith's Picks For The Month

A variety of kits to suit the tastes of every plastic model enthusiast.

Academy

Academy has just released its 1/48 Academy F-4C Vietnam War kit #12294, a modified release of its recent F-4B Phantom. Developed by McDonnell-Douglas, the F-4 was originally designed as an all-weather fighter-interceptor aircraft for the US Navy. Adopted by the US Air Force in 1963, it had a twin-engine, dual cockpit configuration, advanced radar and weapons capabilities, and with three external fuel tanks, excellent range. The F-4 was the primary air superiority fighter for both the Navy and Air Force during the Vietnam War.

The kit features a one piece molded fuselage, detailed cockpit with accurate Martin Baker ejection seats, detailed landing gear bays, afterburners with turbines, full intake ducts, and Air Force style wing pylons. Several other options, including crew figures, boarding ladder, open or closed canopies, open or closed speed brakes, and separate rudder and outer wing panels. There are multiple options for ordnance and underwing stores, including four each Sidewinder and Sparrow missiles, 12 Mk.82 bombs, three external fuel tanks, and triple ejector racks for the wing pylons.

The kit comes with high quality Cartograf decals which have markings for one aircraft, the F-4C number 64-0829, named SCAT XXVII, flown by Colonel Robin Olds during 1966 while he was assigned as the commander of the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing.

Flying in WW II and Vietnam, Colonel Olds was a triple ace with sixteen victories and a total of 259 combat missions to his credit.



The 1/48 Academy F-4C "Vietnam War" Phantom has an array of options and builds into an impressive model of the aircraft.



The 1/72 Airfix Avro Lancaster B.II is a model of the radial engine variant of the famous British WW II bomber.

Airfix

Airfix has released its 1/72 Avro Lancaster B.II kit #A08001. The Avro Lancaster was a four-engine bomber, and was the primary strategic heavy bomber used by the British and Commonwealth Allies during WW II. Early in the war, the increasing demand for Lancaster bombers put a tremendous strain on suppliers of the Rolls-Royce Merlin engines used on the aircraft. As an alternative, Avro built the Lancaster B.II using Bristol Hercules radial engines. The decrease in power necessitated a reduction in the bomb load, and the Lancaster's maximum altitude and top speed both suffered.

The kit features engraved panel lines, detailed cockpit and bombardiers station, detailed radial engines and landing gear bays, movable gun turrets, separately molded control surfaces, and a multi-part canopy. The kit includes illustrated instructions, with full color painting and decal placement guide, and extensive decals for two different Royal Air Force aircraft.

Hasegawa

Hasegawa has released its 1/72 MV-22B Osprey kit #HSGS1571. The failure of the Iran hostage rescue mission in 1980 demonstrated the need for a new type of air-



Hasegawa has released a model of the Osprey MV-22B tilt-rotor aircraft which is now used extensively by the Marine Corps.

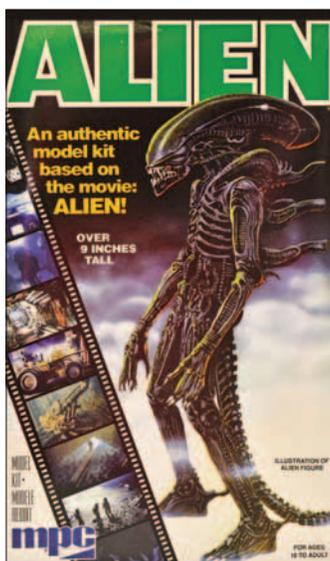
craft able to hover and land like a helicopter but with the speed and range of fixed wing aircraft. The resultant aircraft was the V-22. Although initially plagued by mechanical problems, the USMC MV-22B has been operational since 2006, and has been used in Iraq and Afghanistan for cargo transport, troop movement, and combat missions.

The kit features engraved panel lines, detailed cockpit with crew figures, and movable engine nacelles. The kit has optional lowered or raised flaps and landing gear, and includes a stand for an in-flight display configuration. The kit comes with illustrated instructions, along with painting and decal placement guides, and decals for two different USMC aircraft, one stationed at MCAS (Marine Corps Air Station) Miramar in 2011 and the other at MCAS Futenma in 2012.

MPC

MPC has released its 1/9 scale Alien figure kit #793/12. "In Space, No One Can Hear You Scream" was the tagline from the 1979 Ridley Scott science fiction horror masterpiece *Alien*. The alien creature from the film has given nightmares to generations of movie lovers.

MPC has released a model that stands over nine inches tall. The kit features black plastic parts with a clear molded skull and retractable secondary jaw. Simple enough for the novice builder, the kit is still challenging enough for the experienced modeler to enjoy. While the



Even in model form, the MPC Alien creature will bring about nightmares to movie lovers.

novice may choose to leave the figure unpainted, the expert is going to use all the available modeling and finishing tricks to create an even more realistic and frightening model. No painting instructions are included, but the creature was depicted in the movie with entirely black skin.

Revell

Revell has released its Foose Design '67 Dodge Charger 426 Hemi kit #84-4051. In February of 2006, Chip Foose, automotive designer and star of the reality TV series *Overhaulin'*, worked his

magic on a stock 1967 Dodge Charger.

The kit contains 134 detailed parts to build either a stock 1967 Charger or the Foose Charger. The kit includes parts for the Foose Charger with a custom shaker hood and scoop, custom interior, and decals for the exterior graphics. The kit's suspension can be lowered and the stock wheels replaced with a set of Foose custom designed



The Revell Foose Dodge Charger can be built either as a stock production automobile or as the outrageous Foose custom.

chrome wheels fitted with custom-tread low profile tires. Complementing the cars brilliant silver and black finish are the red and black interior, with decal insets for the custom seats and striping for the body.

Trumpeter

Trumpeter has released its 1/350 HMS Type 23 Frigate *Westminster* F237 kit #04546. Launched in February of 1992, the HMS *Westminster* F237 is the second ship to bear the name.

The kit features a single-piece full hull with keels and stabilizers, a transom platform, nicely detailed decks and superstructure, deck fittings and full weapons complement consisting of a 4.5 inch deck gun, two quadruple Harpoon launchers, 30mm guns, decoy launchers and VLS Sea Wolf array, hangar with interior, helicopters, a display stand and nameplate.

Included in the kit are photoetched metal detail parts for the ladders, mast platforms, yardarms and other fittings. The kit comes with illustrated instructions, with full color painting and decal placement guides, and decals that include markings for the hull and deck and aircraft as well as the ship's crest and flags. **HM**



The Trumpeter HMS Westminster is an extremely detailed model of the second British warship to bear the name.