



Keith Pruitt

Model Kit Report

Keith's Picks For The Month

A little something for everyone.

Airfix

Airfix has released its 1/72 Focke-Wulf Fw190A-8 kit #A01020. Considered one of the finest fighter aircraft ever produced by Germany, the Focke-Wulf 190 A-8 was armed with two 13mm heavy machine guns in the nose cowling, as well as four 20mm cannon mounted in the wings, and was powered by a BMW radial engine generating up to 2,000 horsepower. The A-8 was the most numerous of the Fw190s, with over 6,550 airframes produced from March 1944 to May 1945.



The Airfix Focke-Wulf Fw190A-8 features engraved panel lines, a detailed cockpit and comes with decals for one aircraft.

The kit features engraved panel lines, detailed cockpit and landing gear bays, separately molded gun barrels and rudder, centerline drop tank, and a seated pilot figure. Options are available for an open or closed canopy as well as raised or lowered landing gear. The kit comes with illustrated instructions, with painting and decal placement guides on the back of the box, and decals for one aircraft, Black 11, from late 1944.

Dragon

Dragon has released its 1/35 5cm PAK 38 Auf Zugkraftwagen 1t (German Tracked Gun) kit #DRA-6719. During WW II, the Germans modified their wide



range of half-tracks in a variety of ways, with the Zugkraftwagen created to carry a 5 cm gun. First deployed in 1941, the vehicle was used primarily in an anti-tank role, with the gun anchor on a rear platform of the halftrack. The gun retained its front shielding, and additional armor was added to the vehicle's front cab and engine compartment. Even with the extra weight of the armor plating, the Zugkraftwagen could reach speeds of 40 mph and had a range of almost 200 miles.

The kit features detailed engine and drive train, with springs and slide-molded suspension arms, one-piece lower hull, folded soft top, intricately molded gun with one-piece barrel, muzzle brake and shield, and individual link Dragon Magic Tracks. The kit includes illustrated instructions, with painting and decal placement guides, as well as decals for two German different vehicles from the Eastern Front in 1943.

Hasegawa

Hasegawa has released its 1/350 IJN Light Cruiser *Noshiro* "Battle of Leyte Gulf" kit #HSG40084. The IJN *Noshiro* was an Agano class light cruiser that served with the Imperial Japanese Navy during WW II. The second of the four ships of the class, the *Noshiro* was the flagship of a destroyer flotilla. During the Battle off Samar, the *Noshiro* earned the distinction of being one of only two ships in history to sink an aircraft carrier with gunnery alone, sinking the USS *Gambier Bay* in 1944. Soon after achieving its notable accomplishment, the ship was attacked and sunk by aircraft from the USS *Wasp* and USS *Cowpens*.

The Hasegawa kit contains almost 500 plastic parts, with a two-piece hull, fully detailed superstructure and

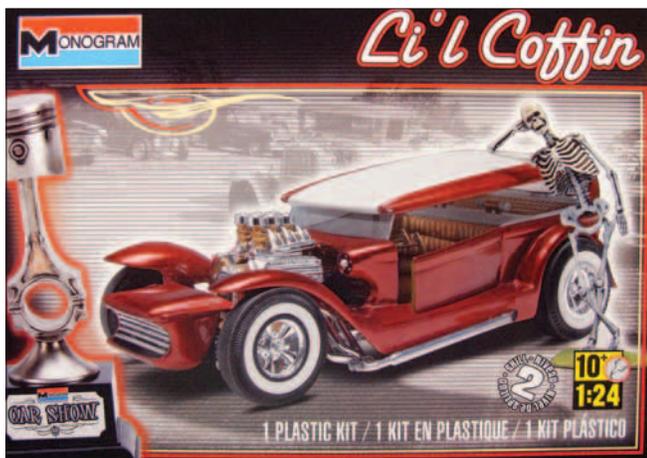


The Hasagawa IJN cruiser Noshiro consists of almost 500 plastic parts and comes with paint and decal placement guides. The kit includes a funnel, fire control system, guns, torpedo tubes, various deck details, as well as display stand and metal anchor chain. The kit comes with illustrated instructions, with full color painting and decal placement guides, an illustrated rigging guide, and decals for the ship and aircraft.

Monogram

Monogram has once again released its classic 1/24 Li'l Coffin kit #85-4183. With its humble beginnings as a 1932 Ford 2 door sedan, Dave Stuckey's Li'l Coffin has become an icon in car customization, undergoing multiple transformations through the years.

With the car's popularity at the National Roadster Show in the 1960s, Monogram delighted youngsters and model car enthusiasts by releasing the Li'l Coffin Show Rod kit. The Monogram Li'l Coffin kit contains 119 parts molded in white and clear with chrome plated parts and soft vinyl tires.



Monogram has once again released its Li'l Coffin National Roadster Show car which was extremely popular in the 1960s.

The finished model has the distinguishing features of the real chopped-and-sectioned Li'l Coffin Show Rod, including its unique cantilever roof which has no front window supports. The kit also contains parts for the detailed chassis and suspension which allows the front wheels to be positioned, opening suicide doors and a whimsical standing skeleton figure. The engine is an excellent representation of the original's DeSoto 331 cubic inch Hemi, with chrome plated valve covers, carburetors, and exhaust headers. The kit comes complete with illustrated instructions, with painting and decal placement guides.

Trumpeter

Trumpeter has released its 1/48 HU-16A Albatross kit #02821. The Grumman HU-16 Albatross is a large twin-



The Trumpeter UH-16A Albatross contains almost 400 plastic parts and includes a fret of photoetched metal detail parts.

The Albatross is a twin-engine amphibious flying boat that was used by the US Air Force, Navy and Coast Guard primarily as a search and rescue aircraft. The Albatross was developed with a deep v-shaped hull, allowing it to land in the open ocean to rescue pilots and flight crewmembers. The Albatross was used extensively in Korea for combat rescue, where it gained a reputation as a rugged and seaworthy craft. Later, the Albatross was used by the USAF Aerospace Rescue & Recovery Service and saw combat service during the Vietnam War.

The Trumpeter contains almost 400 parts, in gray and clear plastic, with a fret of photoetched metal detail parts. The kit features finely engraved panel lines, optional position control surfaces, white metal landing gear, wing floats, drop tanks, detailed landing gear bays, detailed Wright Cyclone engines, interior with crew member stations, and vinyl tires. The kit includes illustrated instructions, with color painting and decal placement guides. There are decals for two aircraft, one in overall aluminum and the other in Navy Blue and White.

Revel

Revel has added several new kits to its series of Snap-Tite models. Kits such as the 1/72 scale P-51 Mustang #85-1391 are designed to target a younger audience both in pricing and complexity.

The kit does not require glue, paint, special tools, or even a lot of patience. Using the easy-to-follow - six step instruction guide, 22 parts assemble quickly into a replica of the famous WW II fighter aircraft. The kit parts are painted in a bright orange and white color making the finished model more visible.

Also included with each kit is a brief history of the aircraft being assembled, and a parts break-down that will teach the builder some basic aeronautic terminology. **HM**



The Revell 1/72 Snap-Tite models are designed to target a younger audience in pricing and complexity.