



Keith Pruitt

Model Kit Report

Keith's Picks For The Month

With so many fabulous kits to choose from it's hard to choose a few to feature.

Airfix

Airfix just released its 1/72 Hawker Hurricane Mk. I #A02067. Developed in the early 1930s to meet a British Air Ministry requirement for a monoplane interceptor, the Hawker Hurricane became fully operational in 1938. The construction method utilized a box-girder frame with wooden formers and stringers covered by fabric. This type of construction was outdated, but proved to be quite beneficial once WW II began as enemy shells could actually pass through the cloth-covered aircraft without detonating. The initial Mk. I aircraft had a two bladed propeller and fabric covered wings, but it was soon changed to metal wings and a three-bladed propeller. During the Battle of Britain, the Hurricane accounted for 60 percent of all air victories.

The kit contains five sprues of gray plastic parts and one sprue of clear plastic parts. While the Airfix kit depicts the early Mk. I with a two bladed propeller and fabric covered wings, it includes a three bladed propeller and ventral fairing that are unused parts that are for later versions. The fuselage and wings have engraved panel lines and very nicely done fabric texture in those areas where appropriate. In addition to extended landing gear, there are also optional closed landing gear doors and a pilot figure for an inflight display.

The kit comes with illustrated instructions, with painting and decal placement guides, which include color



The Airfix Hawker Hurricane Mk. I is an early version kit, and it includes a two-blade propeller and simulated fabric surfaces. The kit includes names and Humbrol paint numbers. The decals include markings for two different aircraft, one from the Royal Air Force in 1938 and one used by the Belgian Air Force during 1940.

AMT

AMT has released its 1/25 Bugaboo Volkswagen Dragster #AMT859/12. Originally released in 1971, this kit is back with the vintage packaging, all original parts, and colorful decal art that characterize this stretch-bodied VW dragster.

Molded in white plastic with chrome plated parts and vinyl slicks, modelers will find some exciting features in this kit like the unique body shell that sets the Bugaboo dragster apart from all the others. The kit features the rear mag and front wire-spoke wheels, as well as chrome plated header pipes that give the detailed blown Hemi engine its blasting good looks.

Also included are optional clear or transparent-blue windows. The interior features a racing bucket seat, floor shifter and gauge panel. The intricate custom-engineered stretched frame features the steering unit and drag link suspension that are accurate for most dragsters, with



First released in 1971, the AMT Bugaboo is back and features vintage packaging, all original parts and colorful decal artwork.

a rear-hinged body design and uplift bar found on funny cars, it makes for an interesting display.

The kit includes illustrated instructions, with painting and decal placement guides, as well as an extensive sheet of decals for custom design.

Aoshima

Aoshima has released its 1/350 I-365 Japanese Submarine kit #AOS-005682. The Japanese I-365 submarine was a D1 transport type, and like all of the D1 submarines, it had no torpedo tubes. Launched in August of 1944, its first mission was carried out in November, delivering medicine and mail to the Japanese base on Truk Island. Taking on thirty-one passengers, she set sail on the return trip to Japan. While running on the surface, I-365 was spotted by an American submarine, the USS *Scabbardfish*. Dodging Japanese aircraft, the *Scabbardfish* submerged and eventually sunk the I-365 with a torpedo. Only one



The I-365 was a WW II transport submarine used to deliver medicine and mail to the Japanese base located on Truk Island. survivor allowed himself to be captured alive, and he identified the submarine as the I-365.

The kit contains five sprues of light gray plastic parts, one sprue of black plastic parts which include a display stand with two mounting screws and nuts. The kit features two hull sides, with separate decking parts, and bulkhead-type inserts to support the display stand and insure that the hull does not flex. Also contained are separate propellers, shafts, dive planes, and a rudder. The sail consists of the top deck, with details like the snorkels, periscope, and observation binoculars, which is placed between the two sides. Other details include the deck guns, supports, anchors, and landing craft.

The kit includes illustrated instructions, with painting and decal placement guides, as well as decals for one boat, the I-365.

Hasegawa

Hasegawa has released its 1/24 Porsche 944 Turbo #HSG20260. Introduced in 1983, and based on the 924 model, the Porsche 944 had improved engine performance, suspension, and braking systems. Powered by a four cylinder turbocharged engine, the car was capable of going from zero to 60mph in only eight

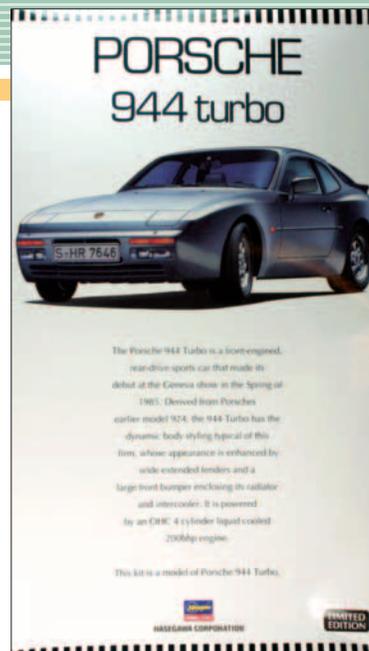
seconds. The near perfect 50-50 front and rear weight distribution gave the car outstanding handling characteristics. Rare for the time, the interior featured a ten-speaker stereo system, air conditioning, and a folding rear seat.

The Hasegawa 944 Turbo kit includes a one-piece body molded in white plastic, along with bumpers and other panels also molded in white. The chassis and suspension parts are molded in gray, with other parts in chrome plated and clear. The kit features a full engine, with opening and closing hood, and highly detailed chassis and suspension. The interior features excellent bucket seats, full set of pedals, and a painting guide for the various switches and controls in the instructions.

The kit comes with illustrated instructions, with painting and decal placement guides, as well as decals for the body emblems.

Revell

Revell has released its 1/25 '69 Shelby GT500 Convertible #85-4025. The introduction of the Ford Mustang started a revolution in the US automotive industry, opening the door for faster, more powerful, sporty cars. When noted race car builder and driver Carroll Shelby modified Mustangs into Shelby GTs, the horsepower wars kicked into high gear. The 1969 Shelby GT500 was powered by the 428 cubic inch Cobra Jet, a modified police interceptor engine with better air and fuel flow through larger ports and manifolds. The engine was fitted with a four-barrel carburetor and produced over 300 horsepower. The body was restyled in 1969 as well, with a longer front



The Hasegawa Porsche 944 Turbo features a highly detailed engine, chassis and suspension system.



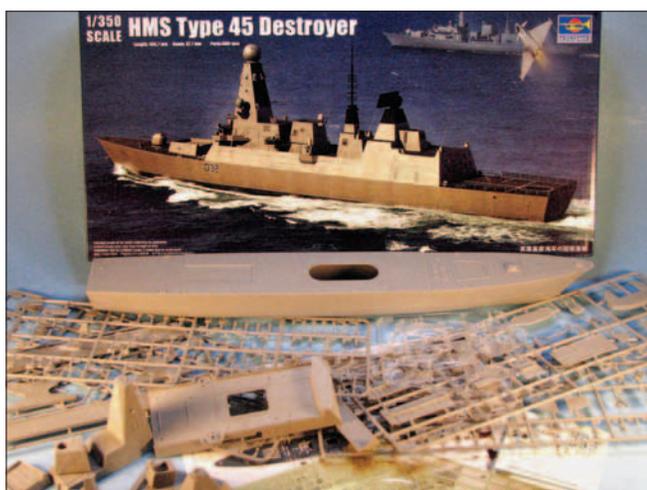
The '69 Shelby GT500 Convertible is a modified re-release that builds on the excellent qualities of the original GT500 Coupe. section, hood and fender air scoops, and the integral rear spoiler in the quarter panels and truck lid. With only 246 Shelby GT500 convertibles produced in 1969, the cars are rare and high-priced collectibles today.

The Revell kit is a modified re-release of the GT500 coupe kit from a few years ago, and builds on the excellent qualities of that kit. The kit includes a multipart 428 engine, with accurate convertible interior tub and seats. There are optional parts for a custom tunnel-ram intake manifold with dual four-barrel carburetors and custom chrome plated aluminum wheels. The kit can be built with either the raised convertible top or the boot for the open top, in either standard stock formation, or as a one-off custom with the included additional parts.

The kit includes illustrated instructions, with painting and decal placement guides.

Trumpeter

Trumpeter has released its 1/350 HMS Type 45 Destroyer #TSM-04550. The Type 45 destroyers are primarily used as air-defense platforms for the British Royal Navy. The



The Trumpeter HMS Type 45 Destroyer is an outstanding kit of the British Royal Navy's primary seaborne air-defense platform. ship is built around the Sea Viper air-defense system, which uses the Aster 15 and 30 missiles, capable of tracking over 2000 targets and controlling a large number of missiles in the air. Designed with stealth characteristics in

the hull and superstructure, the ship is also armed with a 4.5 inch naval gun, mounts several smaller close-range air-defense weapons, and carries either one Merlin or two Lynx anti-submarine helicopters.

The kit contains a one piece hull, deck, nine superstructure parts, four sprues of plastic detail parts sprues, two sprues of clear parts, and three comprehensive frets of photoetched metal detail parts. One nice feature is that the clear sprues contain parts for the Merlin helicopter, making it easy to mask the cockpit windows for easier painting.

The kit comes with illustrated instructions, with full color painting and decal placement guides, and decals with markings for one Royal Navy ship.

Lindberg

Lindberg has released its 1/44 Santa Catarina Portuguese Man-O-War #HL202/06. In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, the Man-O-War ships were the primary gunships of every naval fleet, and are equivalent to the modern battleship. While they were similar in design to galleons, the ships were heavily armed, carrying anywhere from 60 to 100 guns on three gun decks. The ships typically had three masts rigged with sails. Spain, England



The Santa Catarina Portuguese Man-O-War replicates the type of ship that controlled the seas during the seventeenth century. and France used the ships extensively for combat, transport of valuables and escort of merchant ships.

The Lindberg kit is actually a reissue of the Pyro kit from many years ago. The kit features a two-piece hull with walls and decks with a molded wood grain pattern, as well as masts which include injection molded sails attached to the yardarms. The kit uses molded plastic rat-line rigging, but includes a spool of thread for rigging the sails, as well as a piece of heavy thread for the anchor rope. Also featured is a separate multi-part dingy that would have been used on the full-scale ship for excursions to shore.

The kit comes complete with illustrated instructions with painting and rigging guides and a display stand. **HM**