



Keith Pruitt

Model Kit Report

Customers' Choice: New Plastic Kits

The plethora of new kits and re-releases now available is amazing.

AMT has released a couple of beautiful kits recently. The 1/25 1962 Ford Thunderbird kit builds into a replica of the Thunderbird, a car noted for its style, sophistication and performance. Considered a personal luxury car, the 1962 Ford Thunderbird had a long and sleek body, with an overall tapered look. AMT's kit, loaded with detailed parts, is a dream come true for many model car builders. The kit includes optional engine components, whitewall tires and fender skirts. It also has custom options like low profile tires and wheels, suspension parts, taillight lenses and decals featuring script logos, custom scallops, pinstripes and gauges. Also included is an optional hard tonneau cover to depict the Thunderbird sports roadster, emphasizing the wraparound cockpit concept. The AMT 1962 Ford Thunderbird kit is one that model car builders will certainly appreciate and enjoy.

AMT has also released the 1950 Chevrolet Texaco 3100 Pickup kit. The 1950 Chevrolet 3100 pickup truck was a top seller in postwar America. The kit comes with the workhorse Thriftmaster six-cylinder engine, opening tailgate, moveable seat back and optional exterior sun visor. Included in the kit are parts for emergency signal lights, front push-bar bumper



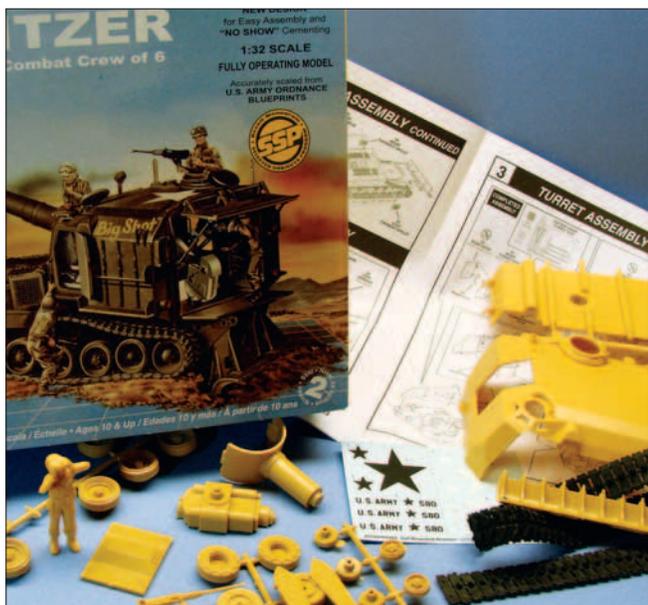
AMT's 1962 Ford Thunderbird builds into an automobile noted in its time for its style, sophistication and performance and is a dream come true for many builders of vintage model cars.



The 1950 Chevrolet 3100 pickup truck was a top seller in post WW II America. AMT's kit features optional items like a push-bar bumper, and emergency signal lights.

parts and a full array of vintage Texaco decals that allow the hobbyist to replicate a roadside service vehicle. Raised tailgate lettering, additional service station decals, chrome accent pieces, independent chassis and suspension parts and molded wood grain for the truck bed are just a few of the features in this kit. Illustrated instructions assist with building options, decal choices and placement, Chevrolet commercial vehicle colors and interior detailing information. The AMT 1950 Chevrolet Texaco 3100 Pickup kit is an excellent choice for modelers wanting to recreate a vintage part of the American automotive heritage.

Revell, through its Selected Subjects Program, has released the Renwal Blueprint Models 8-inch Self-Propelled Howitzer kit. The Self-Propelled 8-inch Howitzer demonstrated high mobility and maneuverability, along with the impressive ability to fire a 200-pound projectile every two minutes at a range of 11 miles. This kit is characterized by numerous operating features including a moveable turret and gun,



Through its Selected Subjects Program, Revell has released the Renwal Blueprint Models 8-inch Self-Propelled Howitzer kit. Included with the kit are six crew figures.

opening and closing hatches and rear door and working tracks. The parts are molded so that fit is basic, simple and clean with careful consideration for robust molding on moving parts. Considering this is a classic kit, the clever placement of lips, ridges and exposed surfaces on parts allows for a very clean final assembly. Also included in the kit are six crew figures, black vinyl tracks, authentic decal markings and complete instructions. Whether for a unique and nostalgic experience with a classic kit or for a simple-to-build kit for a beginning modeler, the Revell Renwal Blueprint Self-Propelled 8-inch Howitzer model kit is a true blast from the past.

Dragon Models USA has released the Dragon Jagdtiger Sd. Kfz 186 Porsche Production Type with



Dragon Models USA has released the Jagdtiger Sd. Kfz 186 Porsche Production Type with Zimmerit. The Jagdtiger (Hunting Tiger) was the heaviest armored fighting vehicle of WW II.

Zimmerit. The Jagdtiger (“Hunting Tiger”) was the heaviest armored fighting vehicle of WW II, entering service in late 1944 and seeing action on both the Eastern and Western fronts. Two versions were produced, with the simpler Porsche suspension system being the subject of this kit. The kit includes, in addition to the plastic parts, an optional cast aluminum barrel, metal wire tow cables, metal towing hooks, photoetched engine grills and hatch parts as well as clear plastic parts for simulating periscope optics. The main body sections are molded with Zimmerit coating (an anti-magnetic paste used on German tanks during WW II to prevent magnetic mines from being attached) and there are extra track sections that can be used for additional armor. Two particularly nice features include rear access doors that are hinged to open and close as well as a variety of spare equipment that can be attached to the tank. The track comes in small linked sections, which allows a modeler to depict the authentic curvature and sag seen on full-scale WW II German tanks. The Jagdtiger was a large, impressive tank and Dragon has created a kit that is just as impressive.



Airfix, available through Hornby America, has released a 1/72 scale Vickers Valiant. The full-scale bomber saw combat action during the Anglo-French-Israeli Suez intervention in 1956

Airfix, available through Hornby America, has just released a 1/72 scale Vickers Valiant. This bomber first saw combat during the Anglo-French-Israeli Suez intervention in late 1956. It was also the bomber that dropped the first British hydrogen bomb over the Pacific Ocean in 1957. The kit is molded in gray plastic with engraved surface details, and it features reinforcements molded inside the wings to prevent warping and to establish the correct dihedral angles. Features include optional open or closed doors, control surfaces that can be posed in various realistic positions, as well as alternate parts for the tail section, canopy and nose cone so that different versions of the model can be built. The cockpit, landing gear bays and bomb bay are nicely detailed and include options for either standard bombs or the 1957 nuclear weapon. The kit includes complete instructions and Cartograf decals for four different versions of the aircraft. Scale modelers have been waiting a long time for a kit of this model, and Airfix aims to please with its new offering. **HM**