



Building the Supermarine Spitfire Mk1a Starter Kit

This starter set comes complete with four paints, one brush and a tube of cement. While the instruction sheet is inside the box the painting and decaling guide is on the back of the box.



Photo 1
Thirty four crisply detailed light grey parts adorn two sprues while a clear sprue carries the canopy and landing light.

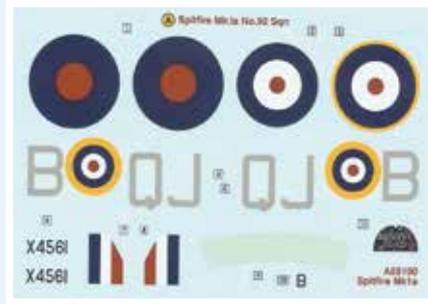


Photo 2
The small decal sheet carries an instrument panel and markings for a machine of 92 Squadron based at Royal Air Force Manston, Kent, England during December 1940.



Photo 3
The cockpit assembly is built up of five parts; consisting of rear frame to which the seat is cemented, floor frame with integrally moulded rudder pedals to which the control column is cemented and finally the instrument panel frame.



Photo 4
A decal is supplied for the instruments.

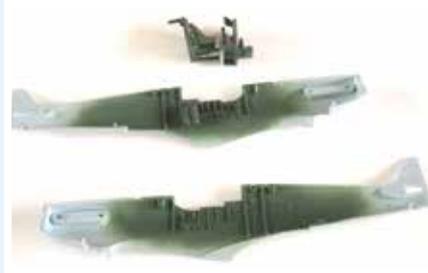


Photo 5
A small double oxygen bottle is fitted to the port fuselage before the cockpit assembly is fitted and the fuselage halves assembled. Each fuselage half has integrally moulded cockpit detail.



Photo 6
A pilot figure is included but may have to have his feet trimmed to fit in the cockpit.

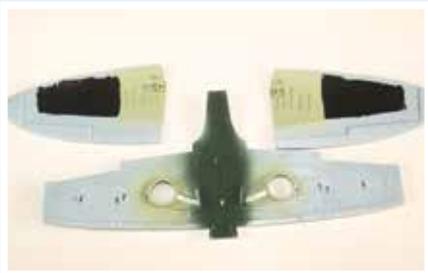


Photo 7
The lower and upper wing parts painted and ready for assembly.



Photo 8
The tail planes and rudder ready for assembly, the tail planes have been moulded in such a manner as not to get them the wrong way round.



Photo 9
Radiator and cooling intakes are fitted in grooves and slots to the underside of the wing and fuselage.



Photo 10
Parts are provided for a retracted undercarriage, but here the lowered option is very simple and features weighted wheels.

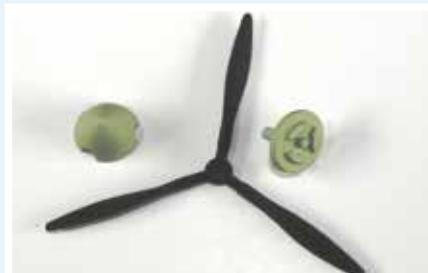


Photo 11
The propeller is assembled from three parts. Although the propeller is suppose to be fitted before the fuselage halves are assembled and should be free to rotate, I find it easier to slot it into position after final assembly of the model to avoid getting glue on it.



Photo 12
Once painted and decaled the Spitfire is ready to go.