

LIMITED EDITION!

CED48118



F-117A

"U.S. Flag Scheme"



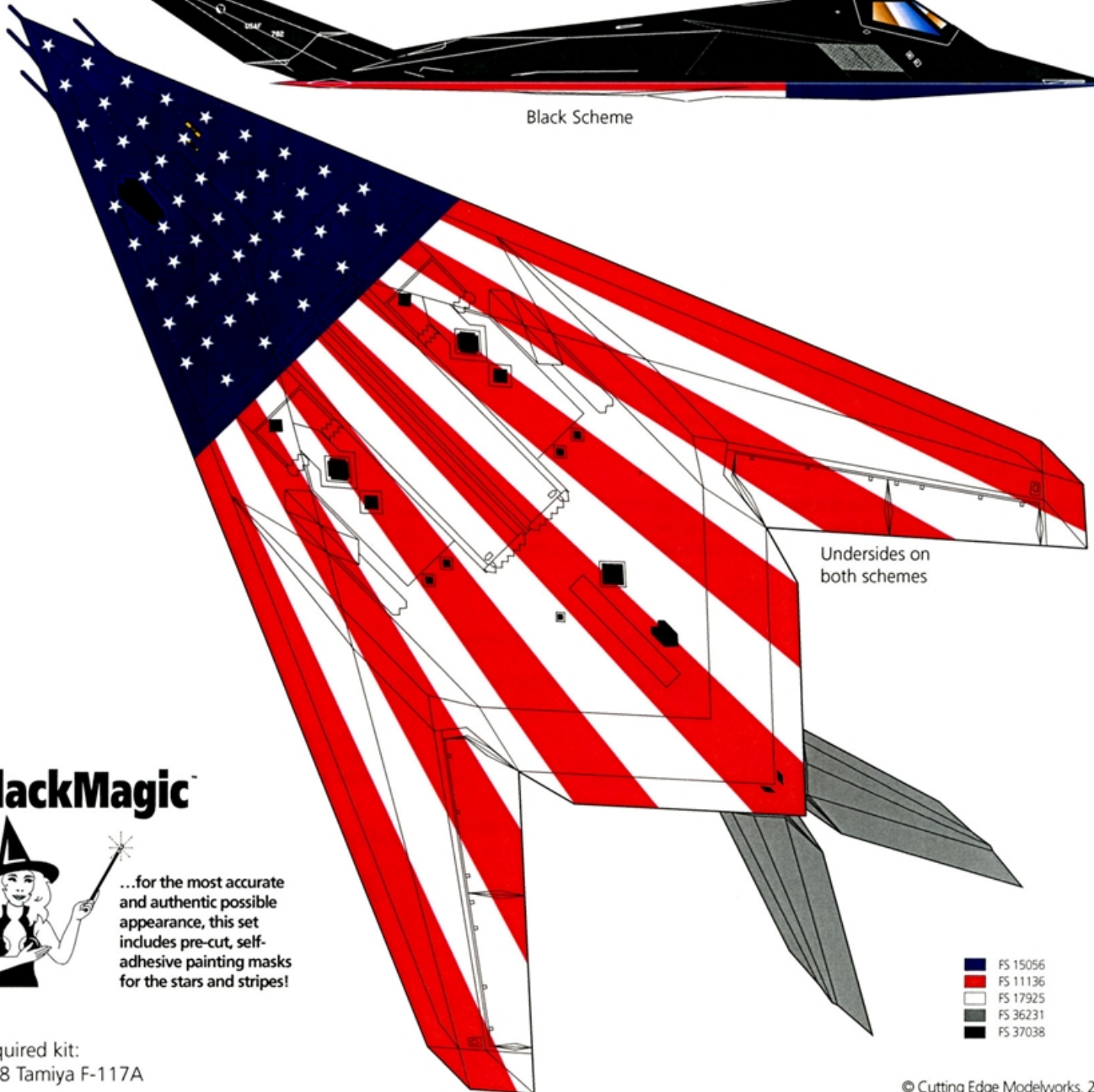
"Scorpion 3"
79-10782



Gray Scheme



Black Scheme



Undersides on both schemes

BlackMagic™



...for the most accurate and authentic possible appearance, this set includes pre-cut, self-adhesive painting masks for the stars and stripes!

Required kit:
1/48 Tamiya F-117A

- FS 15056
- FS 11136
- FS 17925
- FS 36231
- FS 37038

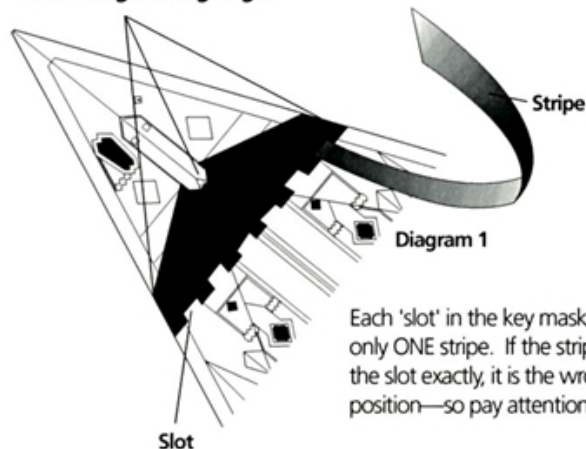
F-117A "U.S. Flag Scheme"

There were five Full Scale Development (FSD) F-117As (also *incorrectly* known as YF-117As). 79-10782 was the third test Black Jet produced, and the one selected for a special ceremony on December 14, 1983, at Groom Lake, Nevada. For this occasion, the jet was painted in this striking "U.S. Flag" scheme, which was of course removed soon after. This decal set was produced from photos we obtained showing the precise scheme carried on this jet.

Our photos prove the aircraft was in the gray scheme when the flag was initially applied. At a later time, while still wearing the flag, it received the more common black paint scheme on its topsides. The entire jet was repainted black after the ceremony.

There are a number of books available on the F-117, although unfortunately many of them were produced fairly soon after the existence of the Nighthawk was publicly acknowledged. Most of them suffer from a paucity of useful content, and some of the newer books on the jet are similarly short on accurate, useful information. Luckily for all of us, Tony Landis will soon publish what promises to be the ultimate book on the F-117's development. Watch for his book!

Align the key mask on the rear of the nose wheel door and wing leading edges



Each 'slot' in the key mask will properly fit only ONE stripe. If the stripe does not fit in the slot exactly, it is the wrong stripe for that position—so pay attention!

- Paint undersurface white, then apply the **BlackMagic™** stripes key mask (Diagram 1).
- Apply the stripe masks using the key mask to help align them according to the underside schematic on the front page. Note the stripes key into the key mask AND line up at the rear (trailing edge) of the wings and fuselage.
- Paint the red stripes, let dry, then remove the stripe masks.

We give you the option of making the white stars from the decal or painting them by using the star masks.

- If you want to paint the stars, apply the individual stars at this point.
- Mask off a straight line where indicated and paint the forward fuselage dark blue. When dry, remove all masks.

Useful Related Stuff:

These additional **BlackMagic™** precut painting masks will help you make more accurate and neat models!

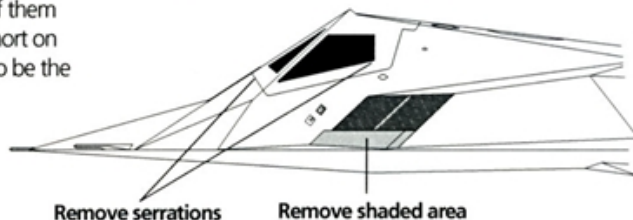
CEBM48403	1/48 F-117A Canopy & Wheel Hub Masks for Tamiya	\$5.99
CEBM48241	1/48 F-117A RAM Repair Panels* for any kit	\$8.99
CEBM48404	1/48 F-117A Canopy & Wheel Hub Masks for Monogram**	\$5.99

* NOTE that the FSD jets did NOT have RAM installed, so while this set will be very useful for other F-117 models, it is not applicable to 782!

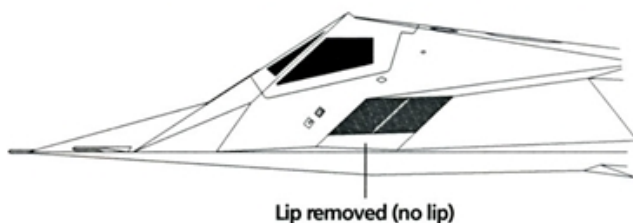
** Note this decal set is intended ONLY for the Tamiya F-117, which is by far the best on the market. The masking set for the Monogram kit is included here only for your general information!

Kit Modifications

The Tamiya kit is by far the most accurate Black Jet on the market and correctly portrays the F-117A's production configuration. The purpose of FSD was, as always, to test design configurations and their suitability for operational use. This jet did not have the air intake deicers fitted to the production birds, and the modifications required are shown below. It DID have the larger vertical fins of the production jets, so the kit tail is correct for this version.



- 782 was produced prior to the decision to add a de-icer arm to clear the intake of ice build up, so there is no 'lip' in front of the intake to house the wiper arm assembly.
- The FSD jets did not have any "serrations" on the canopy (kit part D11).



While our photos do not show the starboard cockpit area, 782 was just a standard FSD jet with a special underside paint scheme. We're certain the rescue stencils as shown under the starboard cockpit would have been similar to 780 (and we do have photos of 780).

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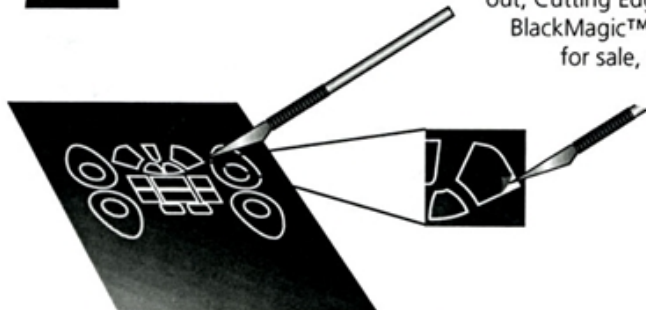
BlackMagic™ by...

Cutting Edge®

MODELWORKS

Canopy and Wheel Hub Masking Sets

Painting clean frame lines on canopies has been a perennial problem for scale modelers. To help you out, Cutting Edge is proud to offer our BlackMagic™ line of specialized painting masks. Each BlackMagic™ set has been exactly test fit to the model it's designed for before it was released for sale, so you can count on your mask set fitting properly. Most canopy mask sets also contain masks for the difficult task of painting the wheel hubs. Many Black-Magic™ sets are available for camouflage patterns (including Luftwaffe splinter schemes), D-Day invasion stripes, large scale insignia, etc. Contact Meteor Productions, Inc., or see our web site at <http://www.meteorprod.com> for more details on the hundreds of BlackMagic™ sets currently available.



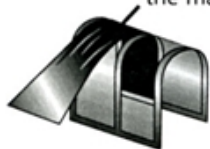
Use the tip of your scalpel or Xacto to lift the corner of a mask. DO NOT lift from the middle of an edge as it could stretch the mask.

"Flat" Canopies

For "flat" canopies, begin by aligning one corner and side, then carefully apply the remainder of the mask.



BE CAREFUL not to stretch the mask as you apply it!



Mask off the canopy interior with tape or other materials. Paint the interior color first, then the exterior color.



Remove the mask by GENTLY picking up a corner.

CAUTION:

- These masks are for expert modelers only. Each set has been exactly fit tested before it went on the market, but it is possible to misapply them if you don't know what you're doing! Read and understand the instructions. If you've never used BlackMagic™ before, you might want to experiment with some scrap material before applying your first set.
- Sharp knife points and clear parts are not a match made in Heaven. Be very careful not to scratch your clear parts as you apply and remove the masks!
- SWEATY PALMS! No, we were not kidding when we said on the BlackMagic™ header card that sweaty palms are a required tool. Remove some of the tackiness of each mask by pressing the sticky side against your palm before applying it to your model. DO NOT press it to your forehead, as it is undoubtedly too oily and will leave a residue on your model. DO NOT press it on the back of your hand, as it could pick up small hairs. Speaking of residue, in the unlikely event slight adhesive residue is left on your model after you remove the masks, take it off with "Goo-Gone" adhesive remover (available at hardware stores). Be sure to test the Goo-Gone on a test paint strip to ensure it does not discolor the paint.
- Some professionals have had good luck applying masks by pre-wetting the area with water with a little liquid dishwashing material added. When dry, wipe off the residue.
- Burnish the edges of the BlackMagic™ with your fingertip—DO NOT use a sharp object as it could stretch or tear the mask.
- Like all such material, the material your BlackMagic™ set is made from has a shelf life of about a year if stored outside the closed zipper bag it was shipped in, but lasts indefinitely if kept airtight. So, keep it in the bag until you're ready to use it.
- We've tested BlackMagic™ and have found you can safely leave it on your model for several weeks without leaving excess adhesive residue. But be smart—put it on, spray your model, and take it off as quickly as you can to ensure you're happy with the results.
- Adhesive tapes like masking and scotch tape can lift paint chips off poorly prepared surfaces when they are removed. Although BlackMagic™ has considerably less adhesive than most masking and scotch tapes, you still need to properly prepare your model before painting.

... proudly presented by:

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Bubble Canopies

For bubble canopies, begin by carefully aligning the mask at one of the corners away from the loose ends.

The loose ends will wrap across each other. Be careful to align the ends to give a smooth, straight masking line.

Continue applying the mask from the front to the rear.

Apply scrap BlackMagic™ material to the open area, or use tape or other material to cover the outside of the canopy.

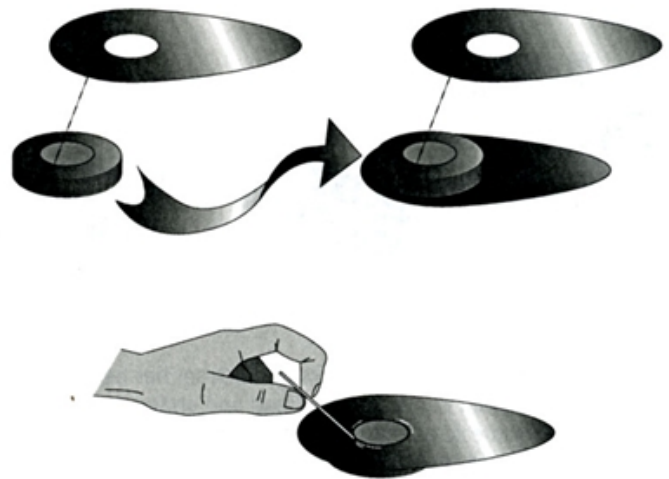
Mask off the interior of the canopy with tape or other materials.

Paint the interior color first, then the exterior color.

Wheel Hubs

NOTES:

- It is extremely common—on both injection molded kits and in resin sets—for the two sides of the wheel hubs to be different sizes—sometimes dramatically different! We have designated the two sides the “hole” side (where the wheel axle fits in) and the “disc” side (without a hole for the axle), and have marked an “H” and “D” on the BlackMagic™ backing material. In some cases the axle goes all the way through the wheel hub and both sides have “holes.” In this case, we could not mark the different sides on the backing material.
- SWEATY PALMS! No, we were not kidding when we said on the BlackMagic™ header card that sweaty palms are a required tool. Remove some of the tackiness of each mask by pressing the sticky side against your palm before applying it to your model. DO NOT press it to your forehead, as it is undoubtedly too oily and will leave a residue on your model. DO NOT press it on the back of your hand, as it could pick up small hairs. Speaking of residue, in the unlikely event slight adhesive residue is left on your model after you remove the masks, take it off with “Goo-Gone” adhesive remover (available at hardware stores). Be sure to test the Goo-Gone on a test paint strip to ensure it does not discolor the paint.
- Some professionals have had good luck applying masks by pre-wetting the area with water with a little liquid dishwashing material added. When dry, wipe off the residue.



1. Paint the tires black.
2. Check the BlackMagic™ backing material for an “H” (hole side) or “D” (disc side) identifier. To double-check your mask, hold it STICKY SIDE UP over the wheel hub to ensure you have the proper mask.
3. When you’re sure you have the right size mask, carefully place it over the hub, sticky side down.
4. Use a FLAT, WOODEN toothpick (not round and not plastic!) to gently but firmly burnish the mask down around the hub’s base.
5. Apply the proper size BlackMagic™ to the other side of the wheel.
6. Ensure the circumference of the tire is masked off to prevent overspray.
7. Spray the hub, keeping the tip of your airbrush perpendicular to the center of the wheel.
8. Leave the BlackMagic™ on until the paint is dry.
9. Run a thin black wash around the joint between the tire and hub—and you’re done!

