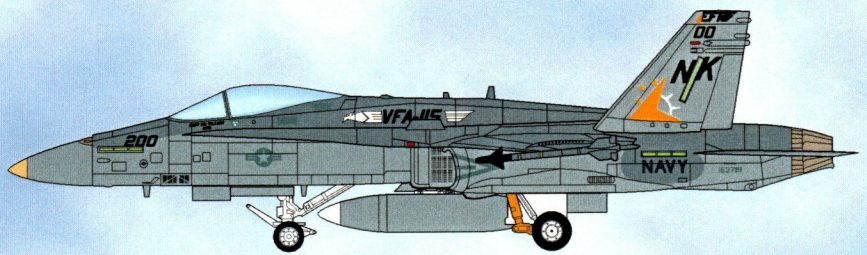
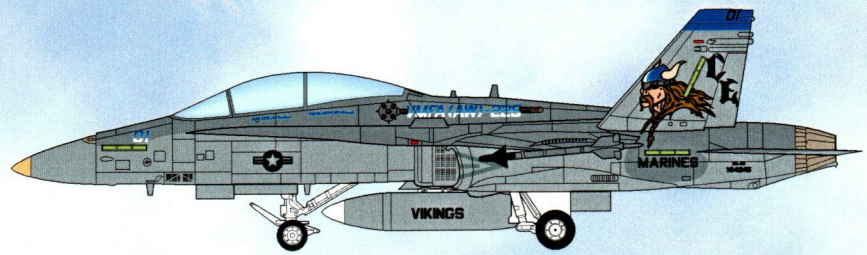


AeroMaster™ PRODUCTS

Stinging Hornets Pt. VII

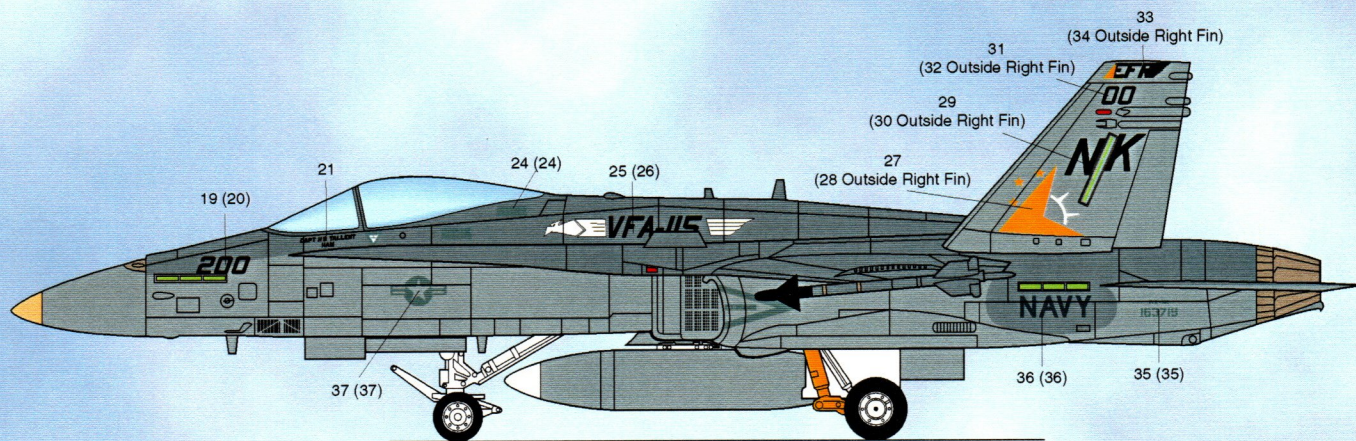
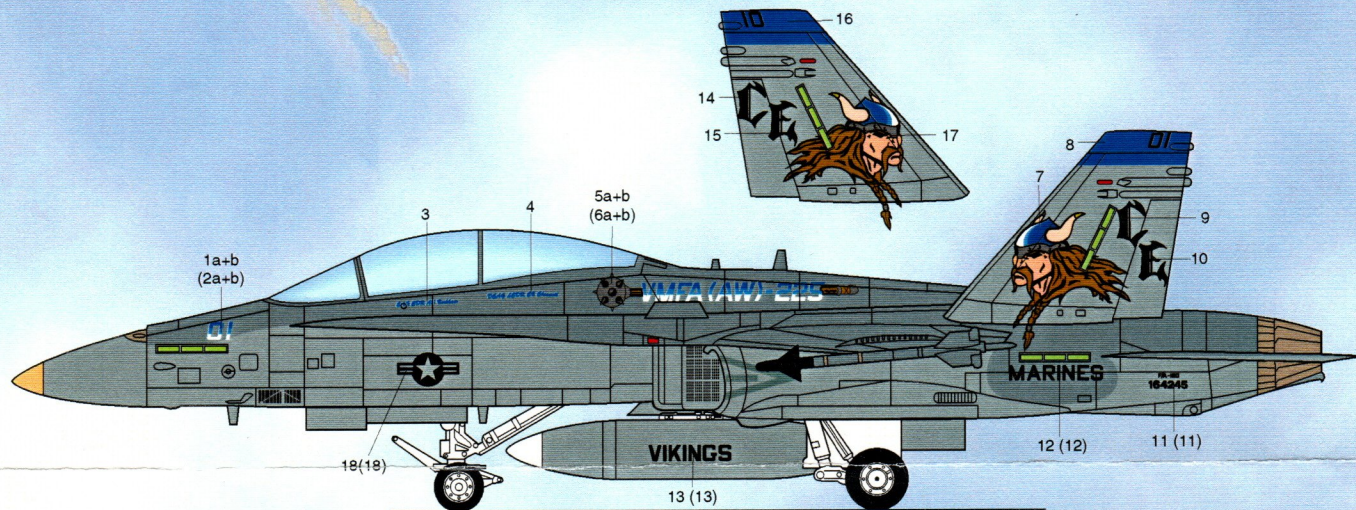
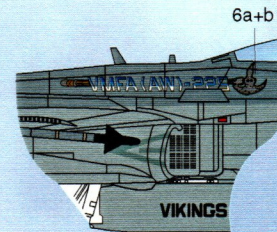


Suggested Kit: Hasegawa F-18 Family

Stinging Hornets Pt. VII

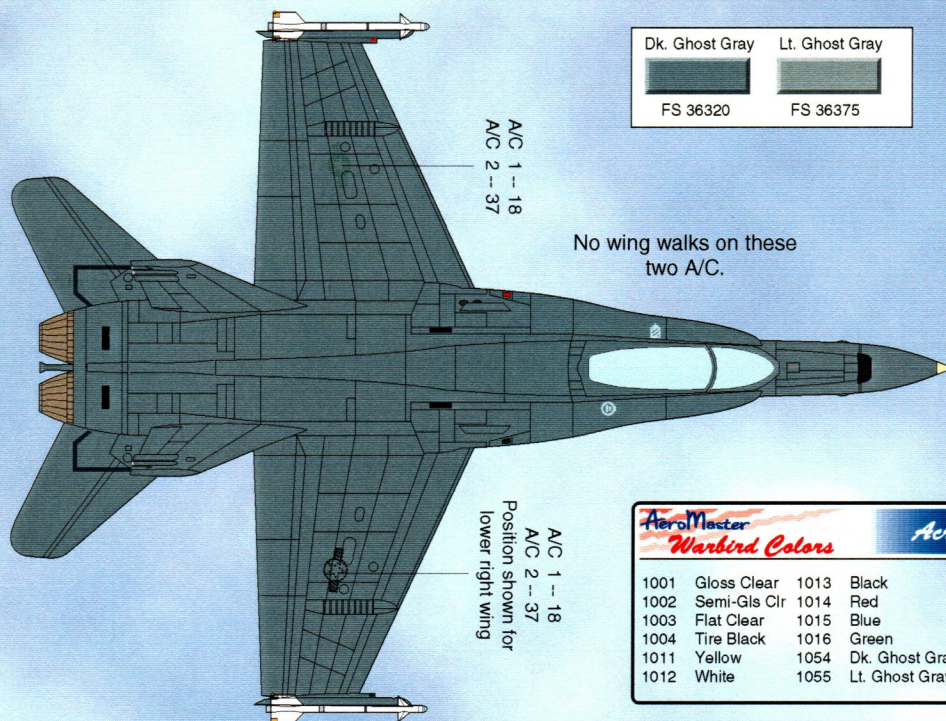


AIRCRAFT 1 • F/A-18D, BuNo. 164245, #01 of VMFA (AW)-225 'Vikings', NAS El Centro. Aircraft carried black national insignias in four standard places. Not many stencils were visible on our pictures.

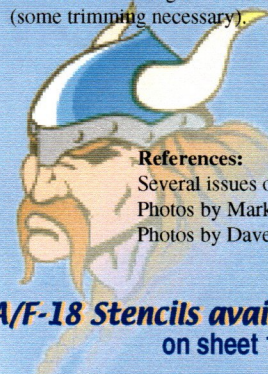


AIRCRAFT 2 • F/A-18C, BuNo. 163719, #200 flown by CAG Captain Tallent, VFA-115 'Eagles', NAS Lemoore. Note "Yellow Socks" coloring of main undercarriage struts. In addition to stencils 22,23 and 24 provided, aircraft apparently had minimal standard stencilling.





Suggested 1:48 Scale Kits:
 Measured for Hasegawa F-18 Family.
 Also usable Monogram & Italeri F-18 Family of kits (some trimming necessary).



References:
 Several issues of Kokufan III.
 Photos by Mark Hasara.
 Photos by Dave Roof.

A/F-18 Stencils available
 on sheet 148-022 from AMD.

AeroMaster Warbird Colors		Acrylics	
1001	Gloss Clear	1013	Black
1002	Semi-Gls Clr	1014	Red
1003	Flat Clear	1015	Blue
1004	Tire Black	1016	Green
1011	Yellow	1054	Dk. Ghost Gray
1012	White	1055	Lt. Ghost Gray

AeroMaster Warbird Colors		Enamels	
9001	Black	9011	Glaze
9002	White	9012	Flat Clear
9003	Yellow	9013	Semi-Gls Clr
9004	Blue	9014	Gloss Clear
9005	Red	9054	Dk. Ghost Gray
9010	Tire Black	9055	Lt. Ghost Gray

COLOR NOTES ON HORNETS (US)

During the early days of the Hornet and up to the early to mid 80's, F-18s were painted as follows:

- Upper Surfaces were Lt. Ghost Gray FS 36375
- Under Surfaces were Lt. Gray FS 36495
- Antiglare Panels were Medium Gray FS 35237
- Servicing Markings were Medium Gray FS 35237
- Outer Surface of Vertical Fins FS 36495
- Inner Surfaces of Vertical Fins FS 36375
- Squadron applied markings were a combination of the three above mentioned colors plus FS 36118.

As with most naval A/C, constant touch ups of areas affected by corrosion gave these A/C a very stained or dirty look. These touch ups were mostly around panel joints and hatches or doors.

- Around the mid 80's, new colors were introduced.
- Upper surfaces were Dk Ghost Gray FS 36320
- Lower surfaces were Lt Ghost Gray FS 36375

Most A/C dispensed with the anti-glare panel and the service markings remained FS 35237

Color demarcation also changed, and the Dk Ghost Gray did not cover the front lower fuselage section below the wing glove. Generally the radome cap was natural fiberglass color (tan) on both, early and late schemes.

Of course there were a lot of variations to these rules. Modelling a Modern US Naval A/C in mint condition (Tactical Scheme) will result in a very unrealistic and dull looking model. We recommend that you look at the published references, magazines, or any photo publications on F-18's and try your hat at some weathering, especially around the panel joints, wing walks, and landing gear area. Remember, a little is better than a lot, so exercise discretion and we wish you good luck. Our thanks to Bill Hardman, of the National Museum of Naval Aviation in Pensacola for his help confirming the color for the Hornets.

And our friend M. Sgt. Dave Roof also informs us that:

- 1) All F/A-18A/B/C/D's from BuNo. 161353 through BuNo. 164068 use SJU-5/A or SJU-6/A ejection seat.
- 2) All F/A-18C/D's from BuNo. 164196 and up use SJU-17 (V) 1/A Naces ejection seat.
- 3) F/A-18A's up to BuNo. 162477 have doors 5R and 5L. From BuNo. 162826 doors 5R and 5L are deleted.
- 4) F/A-18C/D aircraft from BuNo 163699 and up do not have the stiffeners on the inside of the vertical tail.

So there.

Our thanks
to Bill and Dave

If you have suggestions for future subject matter, AeroMaster would like to hear from you. Our goal is to provide high quality, well researched decals of unusual and interesting subjects. We value our customers' input, so if you have specific suggestions or photographs of unusual subject matter which you would be willing to share, please contact us.

AeroMaster

1/2 oz color bottles \$1.99

Warbird Acrylic Colors™ are licensed & manufactured by Floquil-Polly S Color Corp.

Colors in bold-italics are now in stock (at last!!)



Basic Colors

- 1001 Gloss Clear
- 1002 Semi-Gloss Clear
- 1003 Flat Clear
- 1004 Tire Black

Germany WW II

- 1010 RLM 02 Gray
- 1011 RLM 04 Gelb
- 1012 RLM 21 White
- 1013 RLM 22 Black
- 1014 RLM 23 Red
- 1015 RLM 24 Blue
- 1016 RLM 25 Green
- 1020 RLM 27 Gelb
- 1021 RLM 65 Hellblau
- 1022 RLM 66 Schwarzgrau
- 1023 RLM 70 Schwarzgrün
- 1024 RLM 71 Dunkelgrün
- 1025 RLM 74 Graugrün
- 1026 RLM 75 Grauviolett
- 1027 RLM 76 Lichtblau
- 1028 RLM 78 Hellblau
- 1029 RLM 79 Sandgelb
- 1030 RLM 80 Olivegrün
- 1031 RLM 81 Braunviolett
- 1032 RLM 81A Braunviolett
- 1033 RLM 82 Dunkelgrün
- 1034 RLM 83 Lichtgrün
- 1035 RLM 84 Graublau

U. S. WW II

- 1040 US Olive Drab 41
- 1041 US Olive Drab 41 Faded
- 1042 US Green 42
- 1043 US Neutral Gray 43
- 1044 US Sea Blue Flat ANA 607
- 1045 US Sea Blue Gloss ANA 623
- 1046 US Interm. Blue ANA 608
- 1047 US Lt. Gull Gray
- 1048 US Blue Gray
- 1049 US Interior Green
- 1050 US Interior Yellow
- 1051 US Orange Yellow ANA 614
- 1052 US Sand ANA 616

U. S. Modern

- 1053 Neutral. Gray FS 36270
- 1054 Dk. Ghost Gray FS 36320
- 1055 Lt. Ghost Gray FS 36375
- 1056 Lt. Gull Gray FS 36440
- 1057 Gunship Gray FS 36118
- 1058 Medium Gray FS 35237
- 1059 Tan FS 30219
- 1060 Dk. Green FS 34079
- 1061 Med. Green FS 34102
- 1062 Lt. Gray FS 36622
- 1063 Dk. Gunship Gray FS6081**
- 1064 Dk. Mod Eagle Gray FS 36176**
- 1065 Lt. Mod Eagle Gray FS 36251**
- 1066 Dk. Gull Gray FS 36231**
- 1067 Lt. Gray FS 36495**
- 1068 ADC Gray FS 16473**

Japan WWII

- 1084 Aotake
- 1085 Overall Gray
- 1086 A/N Yellow
- 1087 Mitsubishi Cowl Blue/Black
- 1088 Kawanishi Green
- 1089 Earth Brown
- 1090 Nakajima Navy Green
- 1091 Nakajima Navy Gray
- 1092 Nakajima Army Green
- 1093 Nakajima Int. Gry/Green
- 1094 Mitsubishi Navy Green
- 1095 Mitsubishi Navy Gray
- 1096 Mitsubishi Interior Green
- 1097 Kawasaki Army Green
- 1098 Under Surface Army Gray/Green
- 1099 A/N Red Brown Primer

France WWII

- 1100 Dk. Blue Gray
- 1101 Lt. Blue Gray
- 1102 Khaki
- 1103 Brown
- 1104 Tan
- 1105 Interior Blue

U.K. WWII

- 1110 Dk. Earth
- 1111 Dk. Green
- 1112 Ocean Gray
- 1113 Med. Sea Gray
- 1114 Sky
- 1115 Midstone
- 1116 Azure
- 1117 P.R.U. Blue
- 1118 Ext. Dk. Sea Gray
- 1119 Slate Gray
- 1120 Interior Green
- 1121 Mediterranean Blue
- 1122 Dk. Sea Gray

Russia WWII

- 1190 Lt. Gray
- 1191 Dk. Gray
- 1192 Earth Brown FS 30219
- 1193 Topside Green
- 1194 Lt. Blue FS 35414
- 1195 Dk. Gray II FS 36081

Italy WWII

- 1210 Gray I Grigio Mimetico
- 1211 Gray II Grigio Azzurro
- 1212 Green I Verde Mimetico
- 1213 Green II Verde Mimetico
- 1214 Dk. O.D. Verde Oliva Oscuro
- 1215 Sand 4 Nocciola Chiaro
- 1216 Tan 4 Giallo Mimetico
- 1217 Brown Bruno Mimetico
- 1218 Int Green Verde Anticorrosivo

Finland WWII

- 1230 ID Yellow
- 1231 Olive Green
- 1232 Lt. Blue

WARSAW Pact

- 1260 Red Brown Earth
- 1261 Tan
- 1262 Medium Green
- 1263 Dark Green
- 1264 Undersurface Blue Gray
- 1265 Undersurface Gray
- 1266 Air Superiority Gray
- 1267 Stone
- 1268 Radome/Hub Green
- 1269 Radome Gray
- 1270 Cockpit Blue Green



Try AeroMaster Warbird Acrylic Colors™ and experience the difference!

A WORD ABOUT DECALING

Much has been written recently on how to apply decals, and although most of these articles explain correctly how to use water transfers, we feel a good explanation is in order.

When you use good quality decals (like Microscale's AMD, etc.) you should NOT trim the thin clear film around the item you are applying. This clear film is the buffer zone that allows the decal to disappear. Sometimes when you use other brands of decals, old or from kits, you may have to trim the clear part, since in most cases they are very irregular and ragged. We advise against trimming this very important part of your quality AMD decals.

There are two basic decaling solutions, and most go by a name ending in set or sol. That is where the similarities end. Aero Set, Micro Set, etc., are wetting solutions that allow you to move your decals over a surface without carrying air bubbles (which cause silvering) trapped between them. Always use a good soft brush to push your decals from one position to another, and avoid unnecessary repositioning. This will weaken the decal glue. Aero Sol, Micro Sol, etc., are the solvent solutions that soften your decals and allow them to conform to raised and recessed panel lines.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLYING DECALS

Most of the time AMD decals do not really need setting solutions. However, there are times when a little help is required. Decals will adhere better on a glossy surface than on a matte one. After you have painted your model with (what else!) AeroMaster Warbird Colors, apply a coat of Aero Gloss thinned down 20-25% with Airbrush Thinner and allow to dry for approximately an hour.

Cut each subject carefully. DO NOT trim the excess clear film from around the image, as this allows the decal film to disappear when dry. Dip the decal into clean water for 10 seconds. Allow water to soften decal adhesive for approximately one minute or until decal slides easily on backing paper. Do not force decal to slide before adhesive is completely dissolved, or the decal film may tear.

It is always a good practice to apply Aero Set to the surface where you are going to place your decal. Carefully slide the decal on the wet area and position it in the correct place and wait a few minutes before touching it again.

Some decals that are printed on a paper called Deca-Fix, leave a white milky residue. This is normal, but residue must not be allowed to dry on your model, or you will have a never drying spotty finish on your model, when you apply your final coat. Adhesion on these decals is excellent.

When the surface of the decal is almost dry carefully place a drop or two of Aero Sol on the decals, making sure the whole decal is wet. Now go help your wife with the dishes or watch Wings on TV.

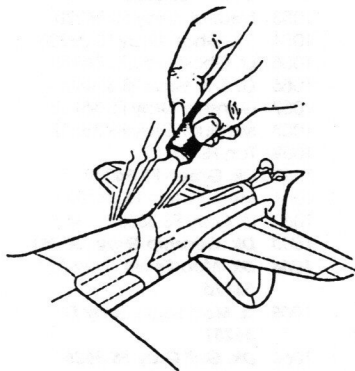
Do Not Touch It! Resist the temptation. Wait until the next morning, or evening for that matter, to handle the decal. If you find any air bubbles or silvering, poke a small hole through the decal with a pin or the point of a sharp knife at the affected area. Put a drop of Aero Sol on the bubble or silvered area. Again resist the temptation to handle the decal. The next morning your model is ready for the next step, which I hope you know is washing off your model with warm water and mild detergent in order to remove the decal glue residue. If this residue is not washed off it can cause fish-eyes in the next clear coat. Do not scrub the model. Rinse it off well, making sure you don't have soap bubbles coming out of little holes. Let the model air dry.

A light coat of Aero Gloss will seal the decals, preventing them from lifting or yellowing. Weather the model as you normally do. Now decide whether you want a gloss, semi-gloss, or flat final finish and apply several light coats of the final clear coat.

It may seem complicated but really it isn't. Remember, patience makes the difference between a run of the mill model and a great model.

AMD Decals are made with the finest materials available. There are some setting solutions on the market that are too strong for today's high quality decals, so be careful what you use. Remember, if you have any questions or suggestions we are only a phone call away.

Happy Decaling



PS Use this technique when cutting wet decals