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Cutting Edge Modelworks, 2003

# F/A-18C Hornet's Revenge Part 1 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_



#### 165228

• It is a Christmas tradition with CVW-17 to paint special markings on their jets, usually one from each squadron. In 2002, the Grinch was applied to the fin of this Hornet from VFA-83. Other than the "high-viz" Grinch artwork, this jet was in normal low-viz TPS camouflage and markings.

#### 163471

 This is VFA-81's high-viz "CAG bird" from the Afghan War cruise. Note the highly non-standard star and bar typical of Sunliner Hornets. This style star and bar is use on the fuselage ONLY on all squadron jets. The wing stars and bars are typical for TPS camouflaged Hornets.

### **Applying the Decals**

You probably already know all this stuff, so feel free to use your regular process; however, if you're new to aftermarket decals, here goes:

- Generally, use the Microscale Finishing System. We don't recommend extremely strong decal solvents such as Solvaset.
- Your model must have a smooth, glossy surface, as decals won't adhere well to matte surfaces. Use gloss paints
  or your favorite clear gloss overspray over matte or semigloss paint.
- Cut each subject out without trimming off the slight excess film (this helps the decal film disappear when dry).
- Put the decal in warm water that has a drop or two of liquid dishwashing soap or photo-flo for 10 seconds.
- When the decal will slide off the backing paper without forcing it, apply it to the proper position on your model.
   Slide the backing paper out from underneath.
- Gently blot off excess water and smooth out bubbles under the decal surface. If you wish, carefully brush on a mild decal softener such as Micro-Sol.
- When all decals are completely dry, gently wash off all excess decal adhesive.
- Finally, overcoat your model with a good quality gloss coat, followed by your choice of matte or eggshell clear topcoat.

### FS 595 Color Cross Reference

FS 6320 Xtracolor X135, ModelMaster 1741, Gunze Sangyo H307, Mr Color 307, Polly-S 837, Pro Modeler 88-0036, Floquil 303133

FS 6375 Pro Modeler 88-0034, Polly Scale 505304

## **Bibliography**

Original photos by David H. Klaus Research help from Kevin Stevens