

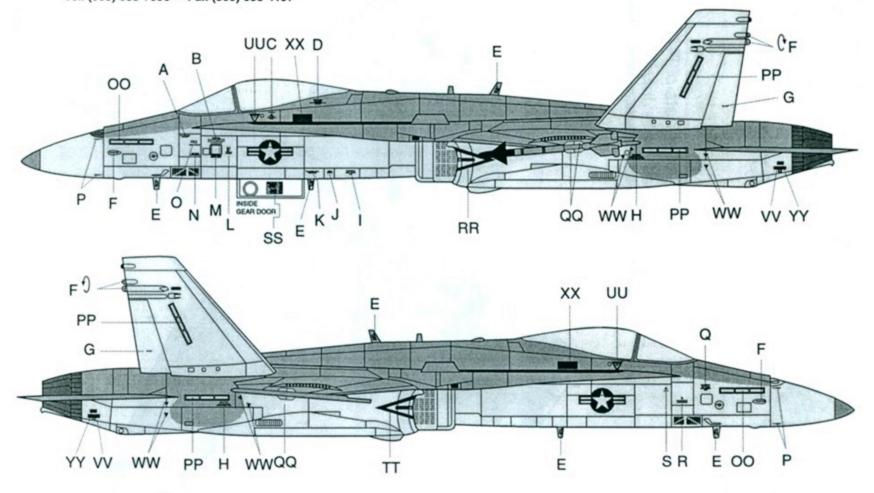
AeroMarter Decals...

3615 NW 20th Ave • Miami, Florida 33142 • USA Tel. (305) 633-7398 • Fax (305) 638-4197 on the web: www.AeroMaster.Com

(AeroMarter Decals...)

F-18 HORNET STENCILS

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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.

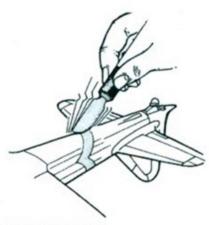
Do Not Touch It! Resist the temptation. Wait until the next morning, or evening for that matter, to handle the decal. If you find any air bubbles or silvering, poke a small hole through the decal with a pin or the point of a sharp knife at the affected area. Put a drop of Aero Sol on the bubble or silvered 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

