

EAGLE STRIKE



48092

Checkertail Plan

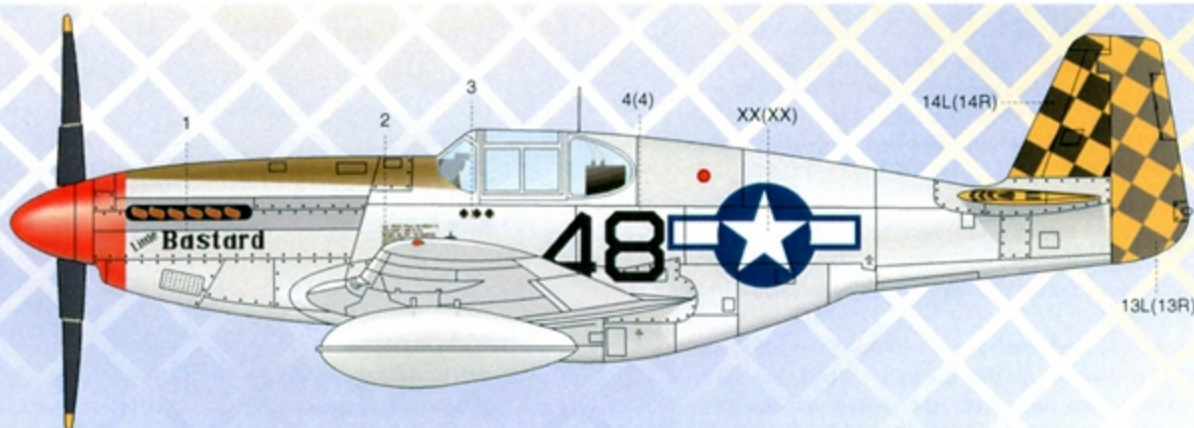
Pt. III

Checkertail Plan

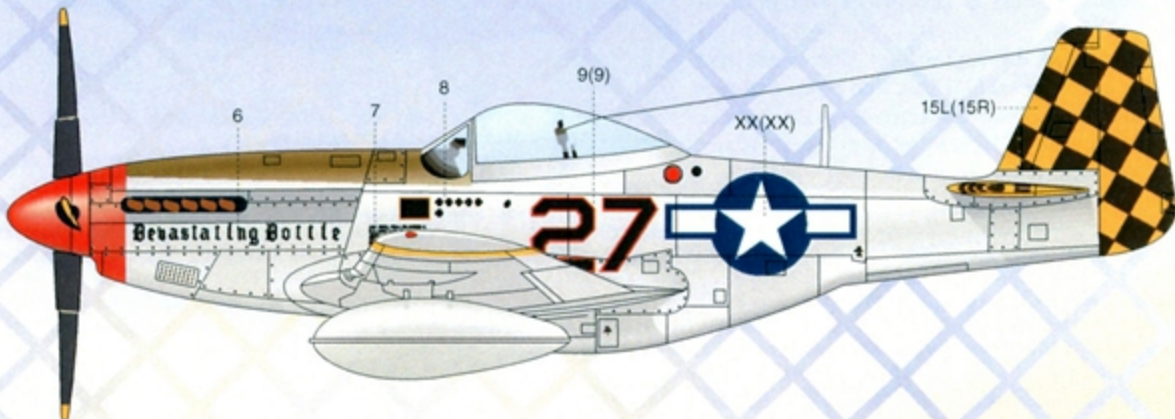


Suggested Kit: Tamiya P-51 Mustang

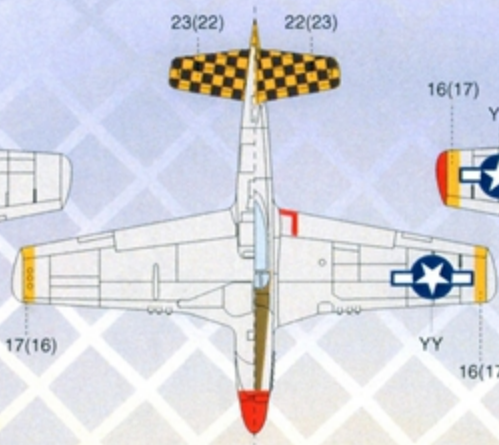
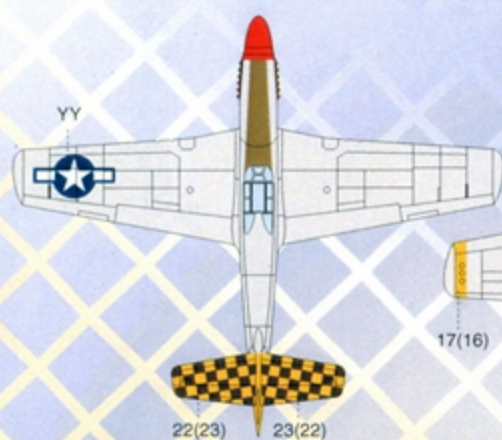
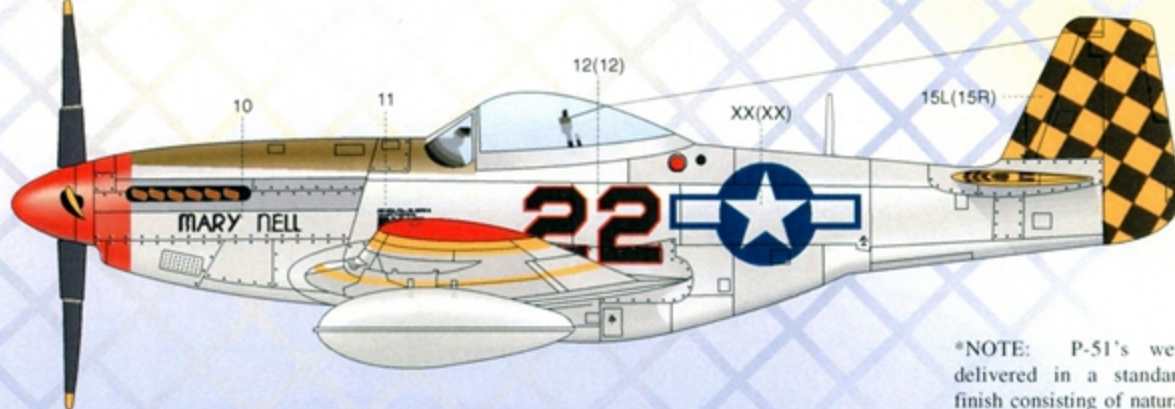
AIRCRAFT 1. P-51C 42-103562 'Little Bastard', flown by Varner A. Woodman. Note this aircraft had a replacement rudder that was very faded.
 Photos supplied by Dwayne.



AIRCRAFT 2. P-51D 44-13322 'Devastating Dottie/Lady Janie VIII', flown by John Simmons. Ref. 5, page 77. If necessary, apply the spare part 5 for better opacity.



AIRCRAFT 3. P-51 D "MARY NELL". 317th FS, 325th FG, 15th AF. A/C serial number P-51D-10-NA/44-14440, flown by 1st Lt. William A. Taylor, MIA-POW, 2/22/45. A/C exhibited heavy exhaust staining & large oil stain from hand-crank starter hole on starboard. Ref. 5, page 76.



*NOTE: P-51's were delivered in a standard finish consisting of natural metal on the fuselage, vertical fin, and horizontal stabilizers. The majority of the upper and lower wings were painted aluminum lacquer with all rivets and joints sealed to provide smoother airflow over the laminar flow wing. Ailerons and flaps were left in natural metal. Anti-glare panels were olive drab.

References:

1. Photographs supplied by Dwayne Tabatt, of Spokane, WA, Historian & Researcher of the 325th Fighter Group, to whom we are indebted for his assistance and patience.
2. Aircam Aviation Series, No. 1, North American P-51D Mustang, Osprey Publications LTD., England.
3. P-51 Mustang Aces, William N. Hess, Thomas G. Ivie, Motorbooks Inter-national, USA, 1992.
4. Koku Fan Illustrated, #52, P-51 Mustang, Masahiko Takeda, BUNRIN-DO, CO. LTD, Tokyo, 1990.
5. Checkertails S/Signal, E.R. Mc Dowell.



Suggested 1:48 Scale Kits:
 Tamiya P-51 Mustang

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Trivia Factor

The tail fillets added in the field were 2 inches higher and 2 inches longer than the ones added at the factories, beginning with the P-51D-10 model. They were added to eliminate the "takeoff shudder" and "porpoise" effect during a high speed dive!

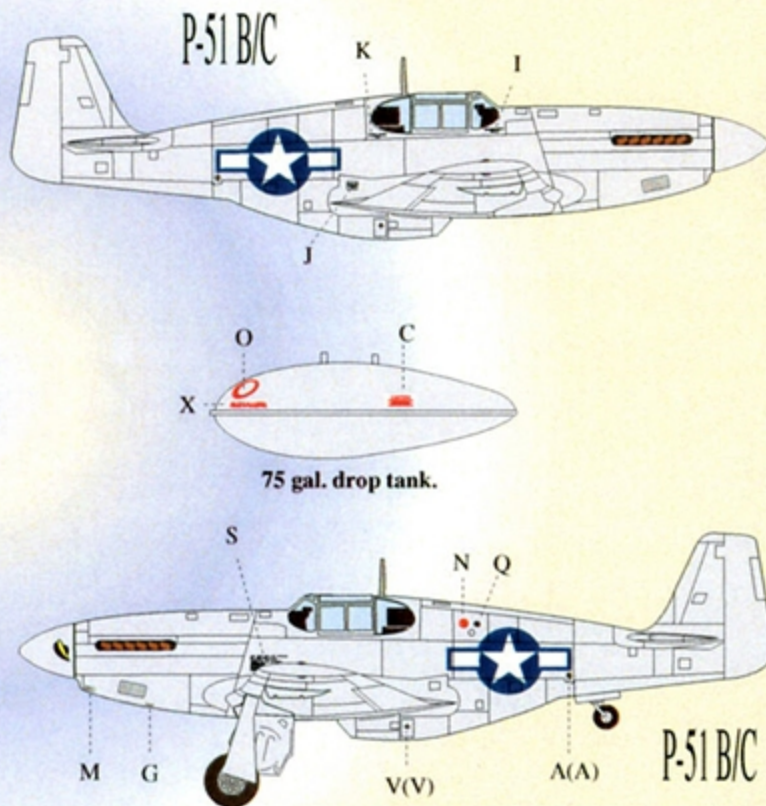
On the B/C models, which only carried 4 guns, the guns would stop during a dive and the pilots returned to base, complaining of "guns jamming". The armers eventually found that due to "centrifugal force", the guns stopped!!

The crews installed small motors to drive the belts, and installed a switch in the cockpit. When the guns stopped, the pilot turned on the switch and the guns worked. This was invented by the 325th and became standard from the factory as new planes were built. So simple!!

You have heard the expression: "The whole nine yards"? When a pilot said, "I shot him down and used the whole nine yards", this was referring to the machine gun belts which were "27 feet long", or 9 yards! OK!

The 325th invented napalm bombs also!

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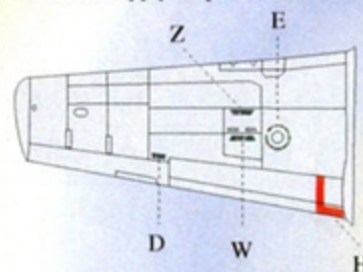


75 gal. drop tank.

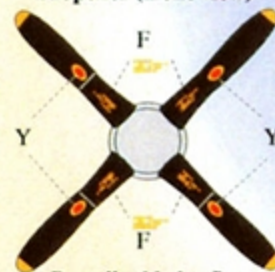
stencil instructions

(upper wing surface, all marks apply to port & stbd. except H)

P-51 B/C



Propeller (front view)



Propeller blades flat
Black with Yellow tips.

P-51 D



Decaling: Apply decals only to a glossy surface.

1. With a sharp scissors or knife, carefully cut item to be used, being careful of not cutting off the clear film around it or that belonging to an adjacent item.
2. Submerge in clean tap water for over 10 seconds and lay over an absorbent paper towel. Decal will slide freely in about 20 seconds. Do not leave decal on water bowl over ten seconds, or adhesive quality will suffer.
3. With a clean brush, apply a setting solution to the area where the decal will finally lay. (Micro, Super or Aero Set will do). With a clean pointed brush slide the decal on to the final area. Allow the setting solution to dry for about 3-5 minutes.
4. With another clean brush, apply a solvent solution over the decal (Micro, Super or Aero Sol will do). Do this if possible in one stroke since your decal will soften up and wrinkle immediately. This is an important step in the process, whatever you do DO NOT TOUCH THE DECAL, after this process until it is totally dry, preferably overnight.
5. When thoroughly dry, rinse your model with tap water and mild soap to wash of excess glue.
6. Finish your model with the desired final coat (gloss, flat, or semi-gloss).

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