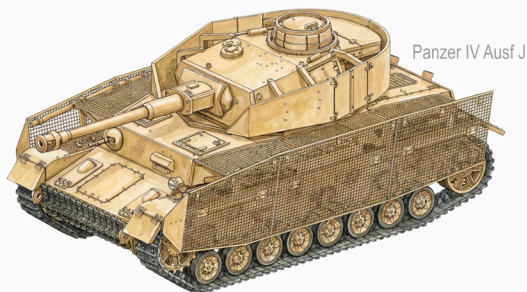


1:56 WW2 Military Vehicle Series SdKfz 161 Panzer IV Ausf J Medium Tank



Product Code: **280078**
250604-2



Panzer IV Ausf J



READ THIS FIRST BEFORE ASSEMBLY STARTS...

Please study the instruction thoroughly **before** actual assembly. This kit enables you to build a **Panzer IV Ausf J** medium tank with or without a Thoma wire-mesh side armour. It is good practice to **test fit** all parts and study all build options **before** gluing them together. This will save you time and frustrations!

A sprue layout guide is located at the back of this instruction sheet. Some (optional) parts require drilling holes in the parts they are being placed. To ensure best fitting, please use drill bit of 1.3mm (0.05") in diameter.



CAUTION

- When you use glue or paint, do not use near a naked flame, and use in a well-ventilated area.
- When assembling this kit, tools including knives are used. Extra care should be taken to avoid personal injury.
- Keep out of reach of small children.

Read carefully and fully understand the instructions before commencing assembly. Model supplied unpainted. Bases, scenery, glue and paint not included. Meaning of symbols used:



Choices



Optional



No glue



Drill hole



Bend



Cut or trim
with care



Please use **ABS Plastic Cement** for assembly.

WARNING

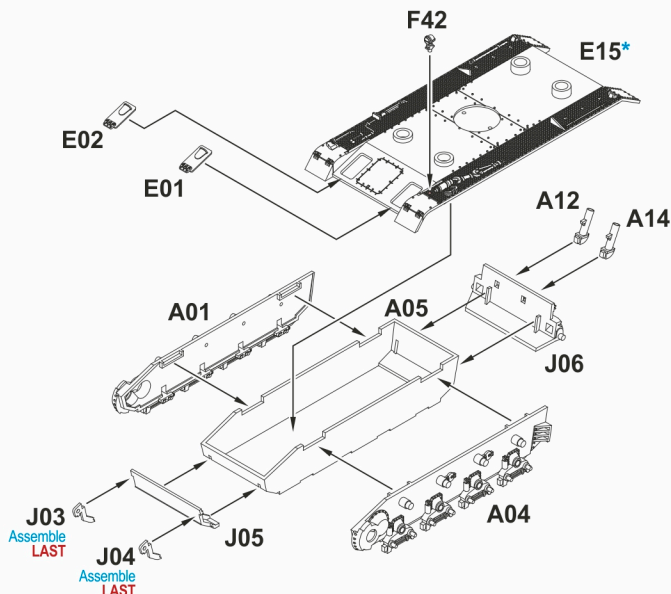
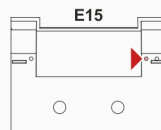
- THIS IS NOT A TOY
- INTENDED FOR COLLECTORS OF AGE 14 AND ABOVE
- CONTAINS SMALL PARTS AND POINTED COMPONENTS
- NOT SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 6 YEARS OLD
- MODEL MAY VARY FROM IMAGE ON BOX
- READY TO ASSEMBLE PRECISION MODEL KIT

1

Lower Hull Assembly

DO THIS FIRST *

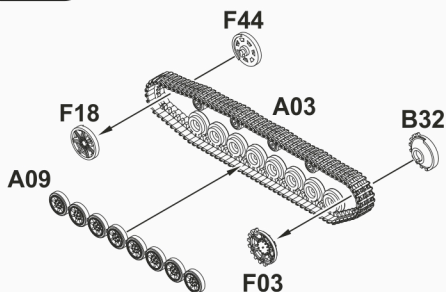
Drill holes from the underside of E15 before assembly:



2a

Roadwheels & Track

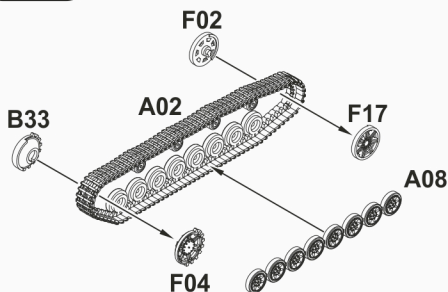
Right Side



2b

Roadwheels & Track

Left Side



If you like this **Panzer IV** medium tank, you might also want to take a look at our other German vehicles, ranging from tanks, trucks, light vehicles, to motorcycles. **Rubicon Models** also have a wide range of plastic and pewter figures to go with our WW2 vehicle products. For more info, please visit our **Regional Webstores**.



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www.rubiconmodels.co.uk



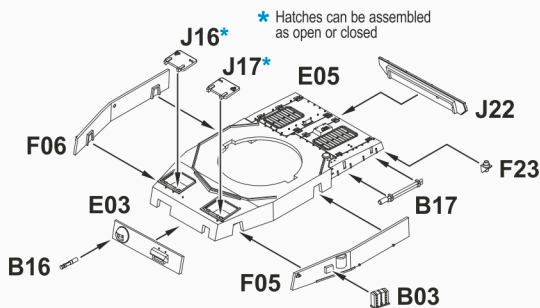
www.rubiconmodelsusa.com

 Please also visit our official Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/rubiconmodels>

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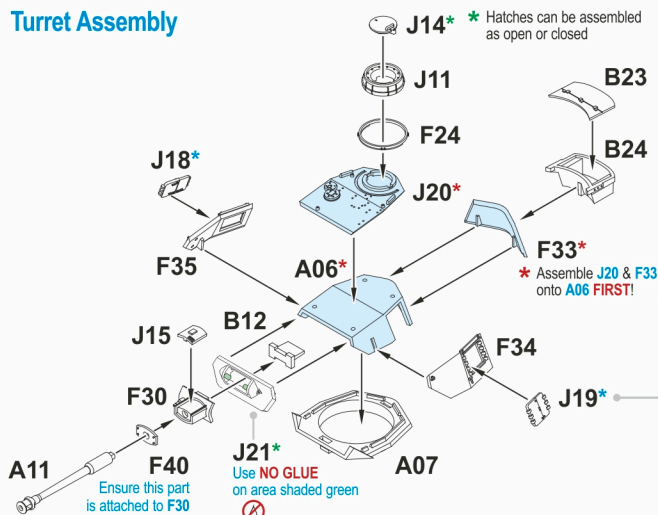
3

Upper Hull Assembly



4

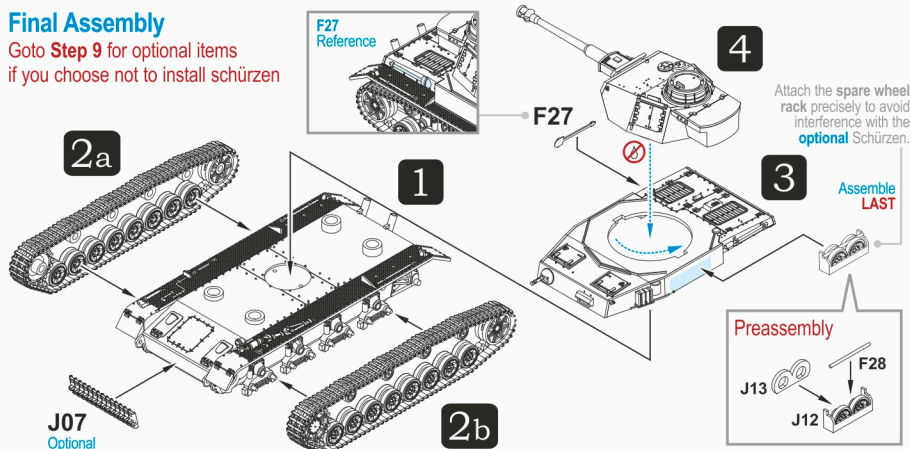
Turret Assembly



5

Final Assembly

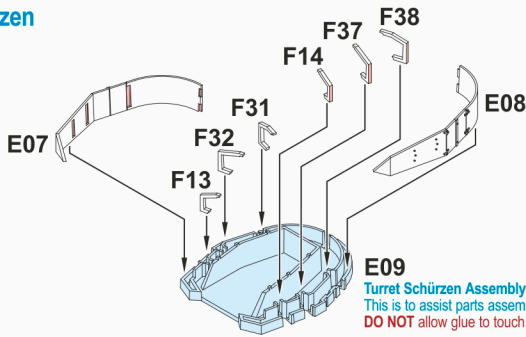
Goto **Step 9** for optional items if you choose not to install schürzen



6

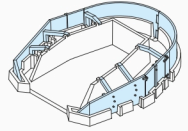
Turret Schürzen

Optional



Position Reference

After Assembly



E09

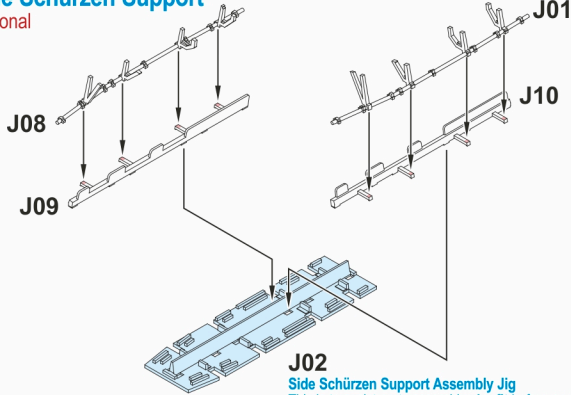
Turret Schürzen Assembly Jig

This is to assist parts assembly, **dry fit** before applying glue
DO NOT allow glue to touch any area on **E09**

7

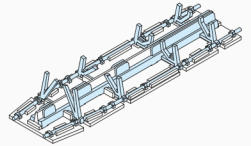
Side Schürzen Support

Optional



Position Reference

After Assembly



J02

Side Schürzen Support Assembly Jig

This is to assist parts assembly, **dry fit** before applying glue
DO NOT allow glue to touch any area of **J02**

8

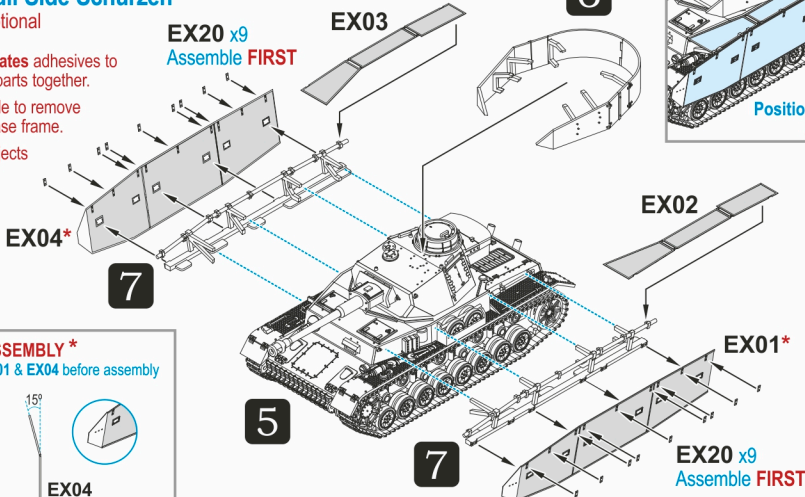
Thoma Wire-Mesh Hull Side Schürzen

Optional

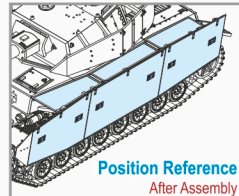
Use **Cyanoacrylates** adhesives to glue photo-etch parts together.

Use a sharp blade to remove parts from the base frame.

Handle sharp objects carefully.



6



Position Reference

After Assembly



PRE-ASSEMBLY *

Bend **EX01** & **EX04** before assembly

15°

15°



EX01

EX04

5

7

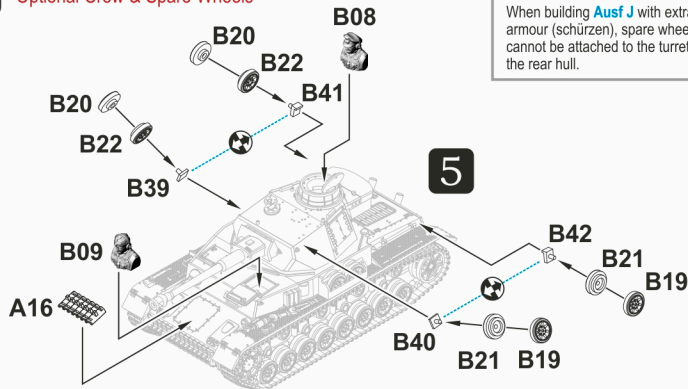
EX20 x9

Assemble **FIRST**

9

Panzer IV Ausf D / E

Optional Crew & Spare Wheels

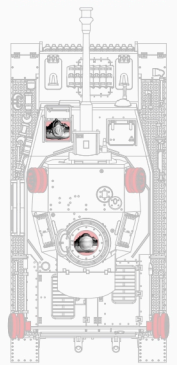


Assembly Notes

Spare Wheels

When building **Ausf J** with extra armour (schürzen), spare wheels cannot be attached to the turret or the rear hull.

Position Reference



BACKGROUND HISTORY OF THE PANZER IV

The **SdKfz 161 Panzerkampfwagen IV (PzKpfw IV)**, commonly known as the **Panzer IV**, was a German medium tank developed in the late 1930s and used extensively during World War 2.

The **Panzer IV** was the most numerous German tank and the second-most numerous German armored fighting vehicle of the war, with some **8,500** built. The Panzer IV chassis was used as the base for many other fighting vehicles, including the Sturmgeschütz IV assault gun, Jagdpanzer IV tank destroyer, the Wirbelwind self-propelled anti-aircraft gun, and the Brummbär self-propelled gun.

The Panzer IV saw service in all combat theaters involving Germany and was the only German tank to remain in continuous production throughout the war. It received various upgrades and design modifications, intended to counter new threats, extending its service life. Generally, these involved increasing the Panzer IV's armor protection or upgrading its weapons, although during the last months of the war, with Germany's pressing need for rapid replacement of losses; design changes also included simplifications to speed up the manufacturing process.

The Panzer IV was partially succeeded by the **Panther** medium tank, which was introduced to counter the Soviet T-34, although the Panzer IV continued as a significant component of German armored formations to the end of the war. The Panzer IV was the most widely exported tank in German service, with around 300 sold to Finland, Romania, Spain and Bulgaria. After the war, Syria procured Panzer IVs from France and Czechoslovakia, which saw combat in the 1967 Six-Day War. A total of 8,553 Panzer IVs of all versions were built during World War 2, with only the **StuG III** assault-gun/tank destroyer's **10,086** vehicle production run exceeding the Panzer IV's total among Axis armored forces.

Panzer IV Production Numbers and Dates

The following figures were obtained from Waffenamt (WaA) production statistics enhanced and verified by assembly plant reports and Fgst.Nr (chassis number) analysis:

Variant	Quantity	Production Date
Ausf A	35	October 1937 – March 1938
Ausf B	42	April 1938 – September 1938
Ausf C	134	September 1938 – August 1939
Ausf D	229	October 1939 – May 1941
Ausf E	223	September 1940 – April 1941
Ausf F	462	April 1941 – March 1942 (7.5cm Kpfg.K. 37 L/24 gun)
Ausf F2	175+25	March 1942 – July 1942 (7.5cm Kpfg.K. 40 L/43 gun)
Ausf G	1,687	May 1942 – June 1943
Ausf H	3,774	April 1943 – July 1944
Ausf J	1,758	June 1944 – March 1945



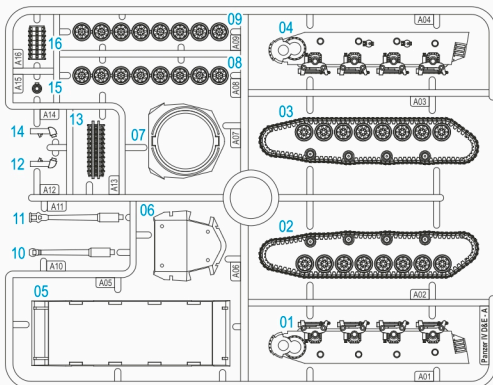
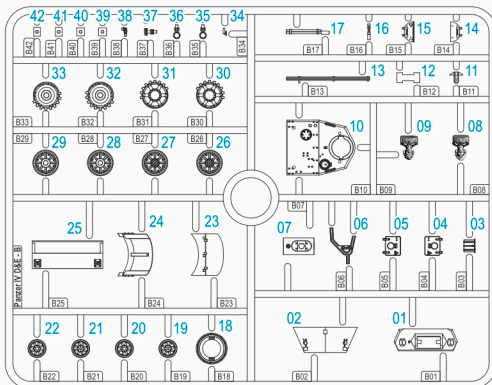
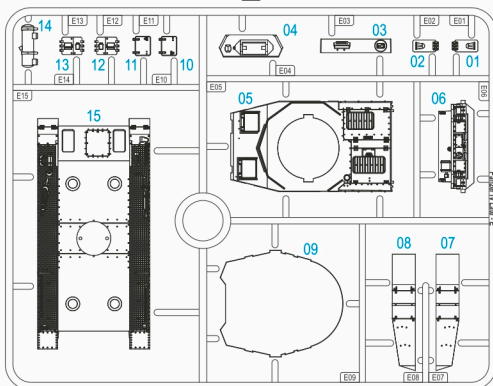
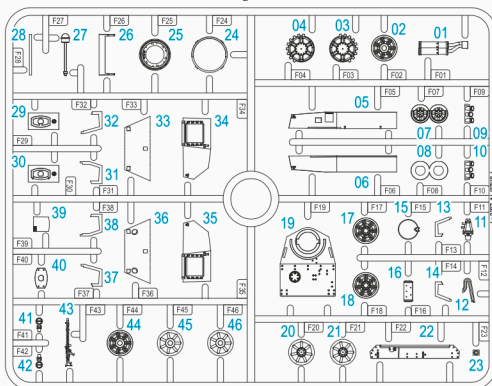
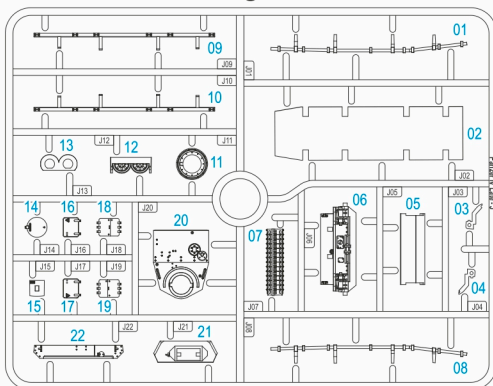
Panzer IV
Ausf E



Panzer IV
Ausf H



Panzer IV
Ausf J

A

B

E

F

J


Rubicon Models has released several plastic kits based on the **Panzer IV** medium tank:

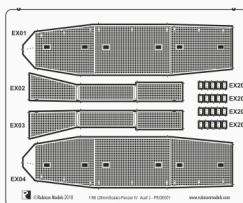
- 280076 Panzer IV Ausf D/E
- 280077 Panzer IV Ausf F/F2/G/H
- 280078 Panzer IV Ausf J
- 280079 Flakpanzer IV "Wirbelwind" with crew

Additional add-on products in resin and pewter are available. Please visit our **Regional Webstores** and **Facebook** page for our current and latest products at www.facebook.com/rubiconmodels.

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EX


SPECIAL NOTES ON PHOTO-ETCH PARTS

- Use **Cyanoacrylates** adhesives (superglue) to glue photo-etch parts together.
- Use a sharp blade or clipper to remove parts from the base plate.
- Handle sharp objects with extreme care.
- When in doubt, please check the internet for additional information on handling photo-etch parts. There are numerous web articles on the subject that are helpful.
- Photo-etch parts can be primed and paint over just like any pewter or plastic material.