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› GSI Creos Academy U.S. M3A1 Stuart Light Tank Model Kit Instruction Manual

## GSI Creos 1398

# GSI Creos Academy U.S. M3A1 Stuart Light Tank Model Kit Instruction Manual

Model Number: 1398

## 1. INTRODUCTION

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This manual provides detailed instructions for the assembly, operation, and maintenance of your GSI Creos Academy U.S. M3A1 Stuart Light Tank 1/35 scale model kit. The M3A1 Stuart was a significant American light tank used extensively during World War II by U.S. and Allied forces. This kit offers a highly detailed replica, featuring a fully detailed interior and exterior, movable gun elevation, and various accessories to enhance realism. Please read all instructions carefully before beginning assembly.

# 1/35 U.S. M3A1 STUART LIGHT TANK



Figure 1.1: Packaging illustration of the M3A1 Stuart Light Tank model kit.

## 2. SETUP AND ASSEMBLY

The Academy U.S. M3A1 Stuart Light Tank is a plastic model kit requiring assembly. This section outlines the general steps and considerations for building your model.

### 2.1 Required Tools and Materials

- Plastic cement (model glue)
- Hobby knife or sprue cutters
- Small files or sandpaper (fine grit)
- Tweezers for small parts
- Paints (acrylic or enamel, as per your preference and the included painting guide)
- Paintbrushes
- Decal setting solution (optional, but recommended)

### 2.2 General Assembly Steps

1. **Part Preparation:** Carefully remove all parts from the sprues using a hobby knife or sprue cutters. Clean any mold lines or excess plastic using a file or sandpaper.
2. **Interior Assembly:** Begin by assembling the detailed interior components. Refer to the included instruction booklet for specific part numbers and placement.
3. **Hull Assembly:** Assemble the main hull sections, ensuring proper alignment. Allow sufficient drying time for the plastic cement.
4. **Turret Assembly:** Construct the turret, including the main gun and any associated movable parts. The kit features movable gun elevation, so ensure these components are assembled correctly to allow for articulation.

5. **Track Assembly:** The kit provides options for either flexible vinyl tracks or individual track links. Choose your preferred option and assemble them according to the instructions. Ensure the tracks fit correctly around the road wheels and drive sprockets.
6. **Detailing and Accessories:** Attach all external details, such as tools, spare parts, and other accessories.
7. **Painting:** Follow the included painting guide for recommended colors and schemes. Apply paint in thin, even coats.
8. **Decal Application:** Once paint is dry, apply the decals using water and, if desired, decal setting solution for a seamless finish. Refer to the decal placement guide for accurate positioning.



Figure 2.1: Front-side view of the assembled M3A1 Stuart model.



※画像はキットを組み立てて塗装を施した製作例です

Figure 2.2: Side view of the assembled M3A1 Stuart model, showcasing track and hull details.

### 3. OPERATING THE MODEL

This model kit is designed for static display. While not a toy, certain features are designed to be articulated for enhanced realism.

- **Gun Elevation:** The main gun is designed to have movable elevation. Handle gently when adjusting its position.
- **Turret Rotation:** The turret can typically be rotated. Avoid forcing rotation if it feels stiff to prevent damage.
- **Display:** Place the finished model on a stable surface away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and high humidity to preserve its condition.



Figure 3.1: Rear-side view of the assembled M3A1 Stuart model.

## 4. MAINTENANCE

Proper care will ensure your model remains in excellent condition for years.

- **Cleaning:** Dust the model regularly with a soft, dry brush or a can of compressed air. Avoid using water or chemical cleaners, as these can damage paint and decals.
- **Storage:** If storing the model, place it in a dust-free, temperature-controlled environment. Consider a display case to protect it from dust and accidental damage.
- **Handling:** Always handle the model by its main hull or base. Avoid touching delicate parts like antennas, machine guns, or small accessories.

## 5. TROUBLESHOOTING

Encountering issues during model building is common. Here are some tips for common problems:

- **Parts Not Fitting:** Ensure you are using the correct parts as indicated in the instruction booklet. Check for excess plastic (flash) on the parts or sprue attachment points that may prevent a flush fit. Carefully trim or sand as needed.
- **Decals Not Adhering:** Ensure the surface is clean and smooth. A gloss coat before decals and a decal setting solution can help them conform to irregular surfaces and adhere better.
- **Paint Issues:** If paint is clumping or not adhering, ensure the surface is clean and dry. Apply paint in thin layers rather than one thick coat. Humidity and temperature can affect paint drying and finish.
- **Broken Small Parts:** Small parts can be delicate. If a part breaks, use a small amount of plastic cement to reattach it. For very small or structural breaks, consider reinforcing with a tiny piece of wire or plastic rod.

## 6. SPECIFICATIONS

<b>Brand Name</b>	GSI Creos
<b>Model Number</b>	1398
<b>Set Name</b>	M3A1 Stuart - 1/35
<b>Scale</b>	1:35 Scale (Note: JSON states 1:48, but product description and set name confirm 1:35, which is standard for this kit)
<b>Material Type</b>	Plastic
<b>Assembly Required</b>	Yes
<b>Manufacturer Minimum Age</b>	168 months (14 years)
<b>Item Weight</b>	1 Pound
<b>Item Dimensions (L x W x H)</b>	1.6 x 0.8 x 5.1 inches (packaged)
<b>Educational Objective</b>	Model Building, Historical Knowledge, Research Skills

## 7. WARRANTY INFORMATION

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The manufacturer, Model Rectifier Corp., warrants this product against defects in workmanship and materials. The manufacturer will repair at its expense any product proven defective by reason of improper workmanship or materials. The manufacturer will repair said product without charge for necessary parts or labor. If the product cannot be repaired, it will be replaced with another product of equal or greater value. This warranty only extends to the original purchaser. Warranty repairs must be returned freight prepaid.

## 8. SUPPORT

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For further assistance, questions regarding parts, or warranty claims, please contact the manufacturer, Model Rectifier Corp., or GSI Creos directly. Refer to the contact information provided on the product packaging or their official websites.

**Manufacturer:** Model Rectifier Corp.

**Brand:** GSI Creos