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Italeri 1255S C-130J

Italeri 1255S 1/72 C-130J Hercules Model Kit Instruction Manual

Model: 1255S C-130J | Brand: Italeri

Introduction

This instruction manual provides detailed guidance for assembling the Italeri 1255S 1/72 C-130J Hercules plastic model kit. This kit allows for the construction of a highly detailed replica of the C-130J Hercules transport aircraft, featuring intricate components for the cockpit, engine nacelles, and cargo area. The rear loading ramp and forward crew access ladder can be positioned open or closed, offering display versatility.

Safety Information

WARNING: SMALL PARTS. This model kit contains small parts which may pose a choking hazard. Not suitable for children under 8 years of age. Adult supervision is recommended during assembly.

Kit Contents

Your Italeri 1255S C-130J Hercules model kit includes the following components:

- Highly detailed grey plastic sprues for main airframe components, engines, and interior details.
- Clear plastic sprue for window glazing.
- Waterslide decal sheet with markings for three versions: US Maryland Air National Guard, Italian Air Force (46 Brigatta Aerea), and Royal Air Force (Lyneham).
- Illustrated instruction manual.

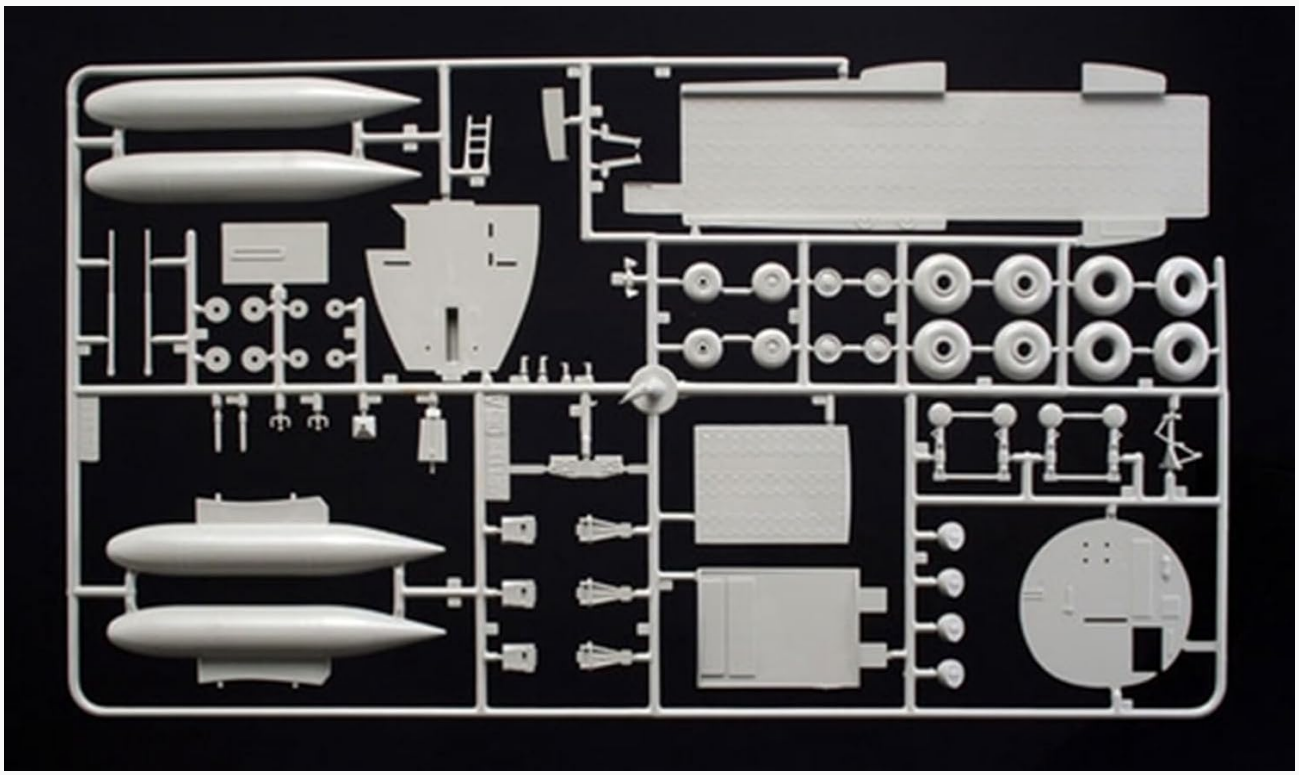


Image 1: Main sprue with fuselage parts, wheels, and external tanks.

This image displays a sprue containing various plastic components, including the main fuselage sections, landing gear wheels, and external fuel tanks, all molded in grey plastic.

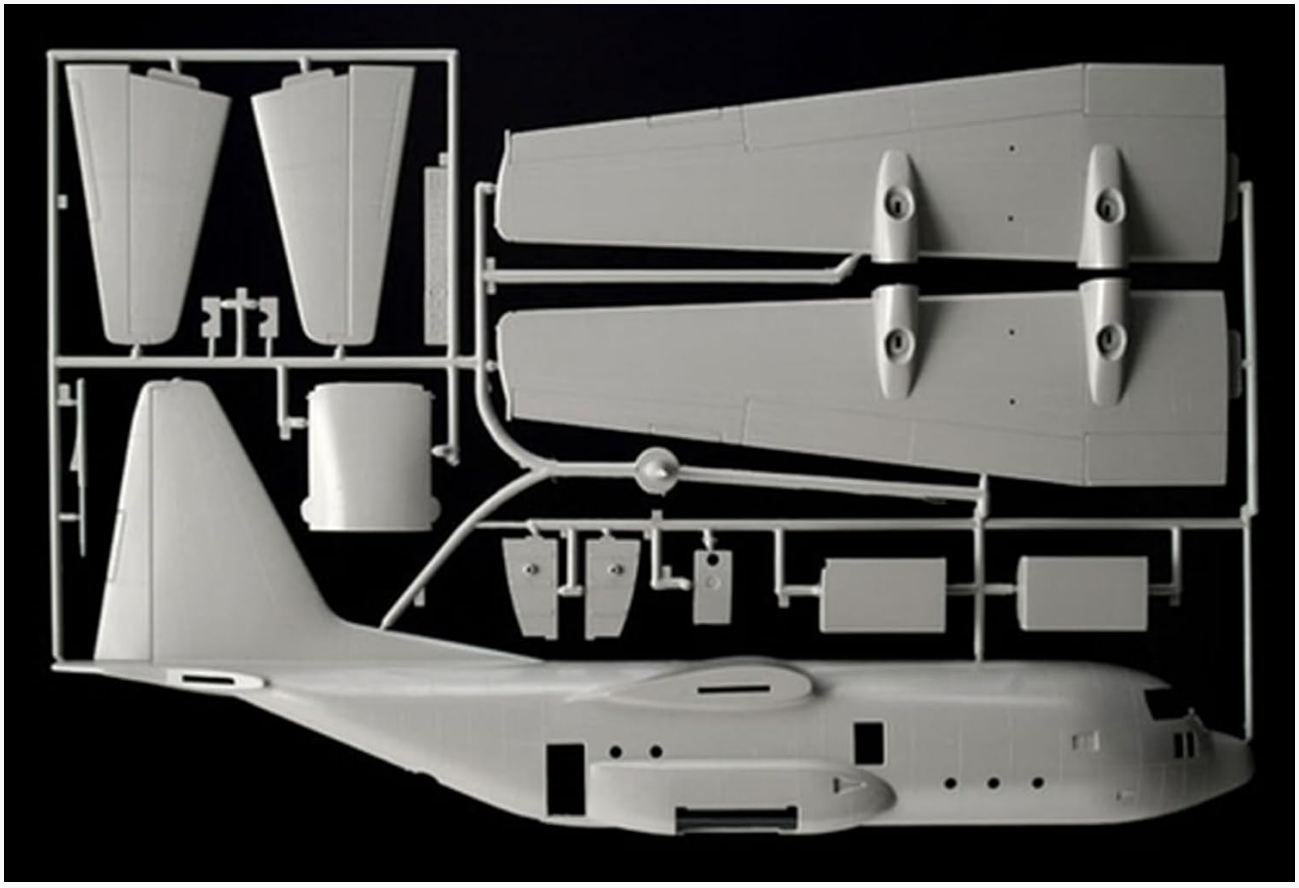


Image 2: Sprue with wing sections and tail components.

This image shows a sprue with the primary wing sections and horizontal and vertical tail stabilizers, essential for the aircraft's structure.

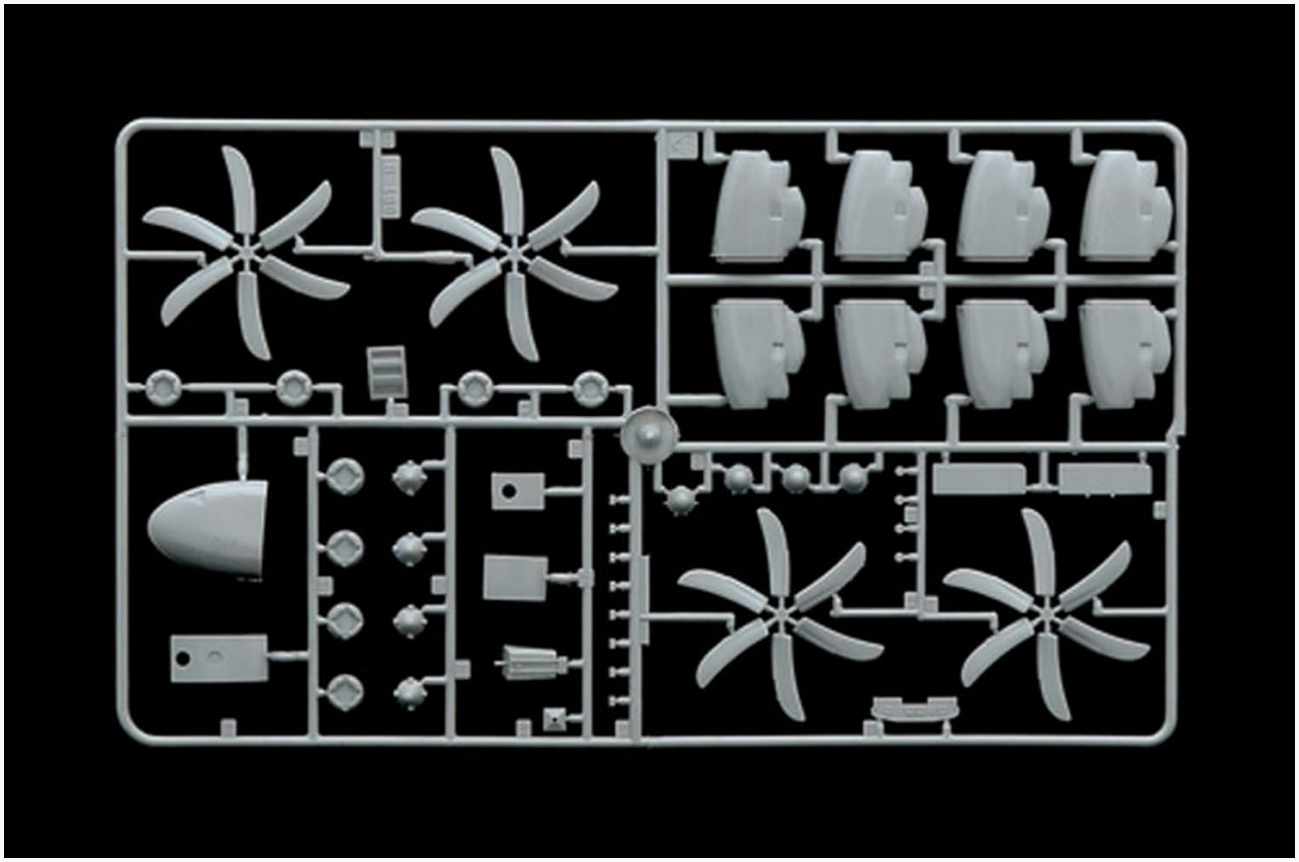


Image 3: Sprue containing engine nacelles and propeller blades.

This image displays a sprue dedicated to the aircraft's propulsion system, including the detailed engine nacelles and individual propeller blades.

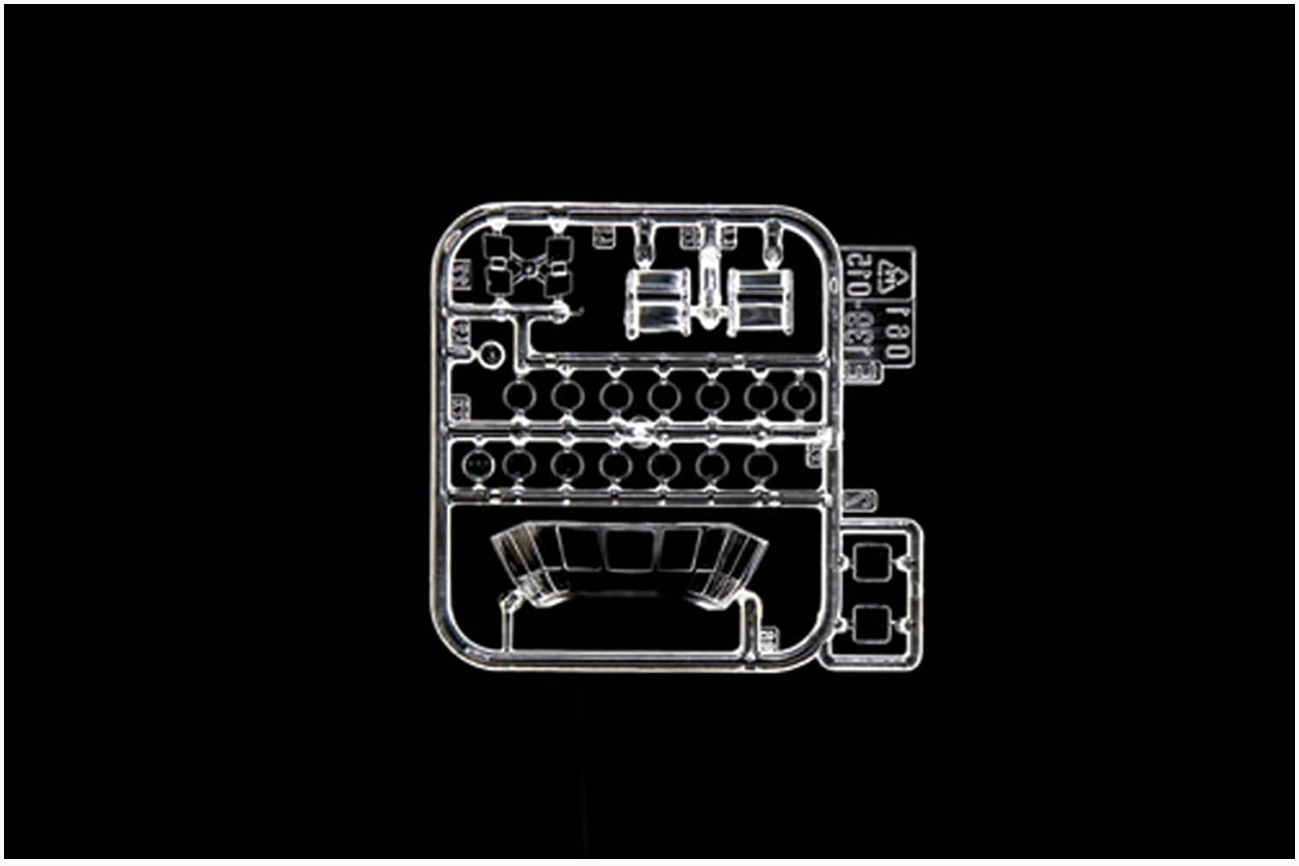


Image 4: Clear parts sprue for windows and canopy.

This image shows the clear plastic sprue, which includes the cockpit canopy and various window parts for the model, providing transparency.

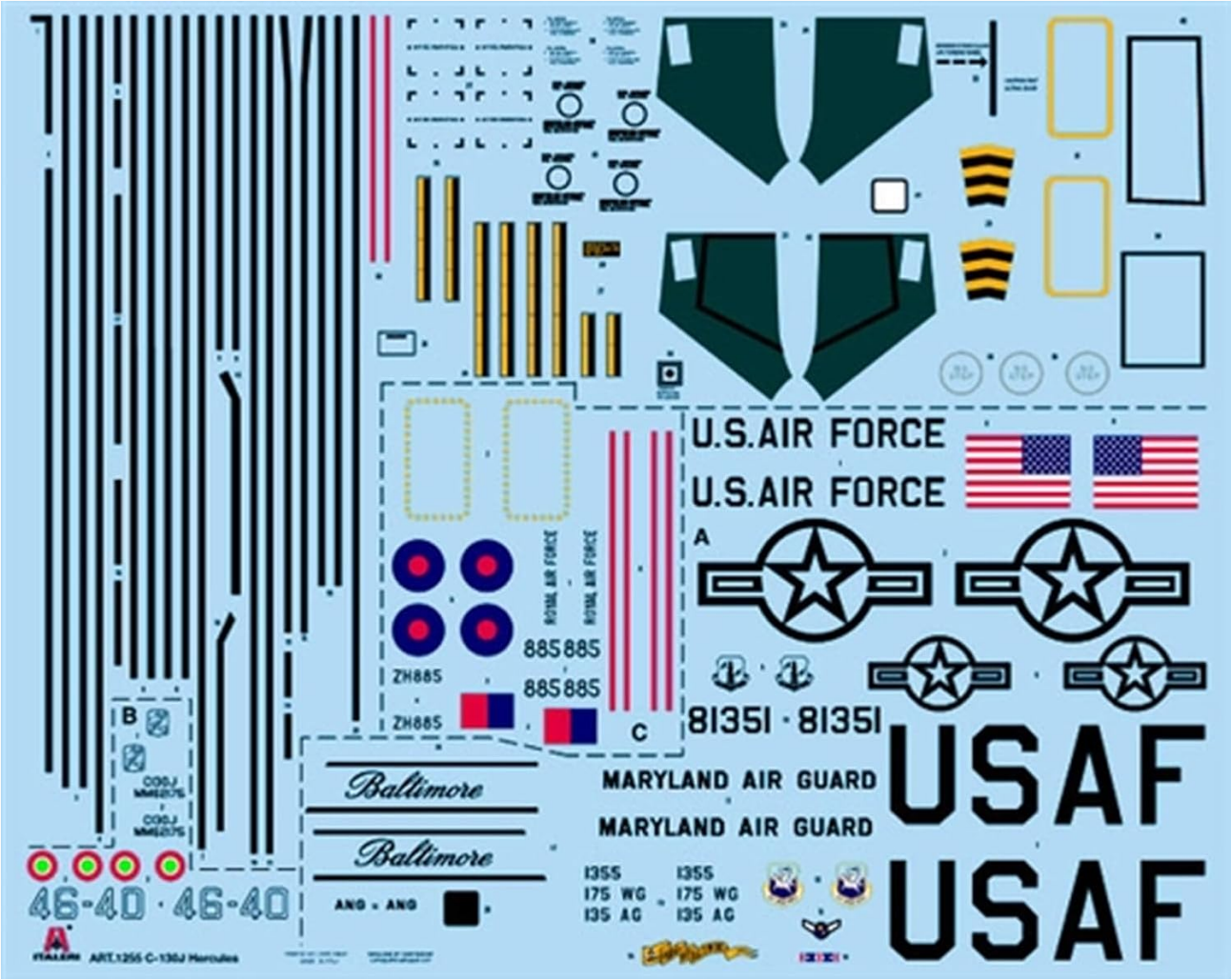


Image 5: Decal sheet for various marking options.

This image displays the comprehensive decal sheet, featuring national insignia, squadron markings, and stencils to complete three distinct versions of the C-130J Hercules.

Required Tools and Materials

The following tools and materials are required for the assembly and finishing of your model kit (not included):

- Hobby Knife (e.g., RMXR6909)
- Plastic Cement (e.g., TESR3512)
- Sprue Cutters (e.g., HCAR0630)
- Paints (specific colors listed below)
- Small files or sanding sticks
- Tweezers
- Paint brushes or airbrush

Recommended Paints:

- FS37038 Flat Black
- Semi-Gloss Steel
- Semi-Gloss Orange
- FS34227 Flat Pale Green
- FS37087 Flat Olive Drab
- FS36375 Flat Light Ghost Gray

- Metalized Gunmetal
- FS36118 Flat Gunship Gray
- FS17875 Gloss Insignia White
- Gloss Red
- FS36173 Flat Air Mobility Command Gray

Assembly Steps

Follow the illustrated instructions provided in your kit for detailed, step-by-step assembly. The general process involves:

1. **Part Preparation:** Carefully remove parts from the sprues using sprue cutters. Trim any excess plastic (flash) with a hobby knife and smooth edges with a file or sanding stick.
2. **Sub-Assembly:** Assemble smaller components first, such as the detailed cockpit, engine nacelles, and landing gear.
3. **Fuselage Assembly:** Join the fuselage halves, ensuring proper alignment. Integrate the cockpit and cargo area details as instructed. The rear loading ramp can be modeled in the open or closed position. The forward crew access ladder can also be fixed in either position.
4. **Wing and Tail Assembly:** Attach the wings and tail sections to the fuselage.
5. **Engine Installation:** Assemble and attach the four detailed engines to the wings.
6. **Landing Gear:** Install the landing gear components.
7. **Clear Parts:** Carefully attach the window glazing and cockpit canopy using appropriate clear parts cement to avoid fogging.

Note: Dry-fit all parts before applying cement to ensure a good fit.

Finishing and Painting

After assembly, prepare your model for painting and decaling:

1. **Surface Preparation:** Clean the model to remove any dust, grease, or fingerprints. Apply a primer coat if desired for better paint adhesion.
2. **Painting:** Apply paints according to your chosen marking option. Refer to the instruction manual for specific color placement and camouflage patterns. Allow each coat of paint to dry thoroughly before applying the next.
3. **Decal Application:** Once painting is complete and fully dry, apply the waterslide decals. Cut each decal carefully from the sheet, dip it in warm water for a few seconds until it slides freely, then position it on the model. Use decal setting solutions for better adhesion and to conform to surface details.
4. **Protective Coat:** After decals are dry, apply a clear protective coat (gloss, semi-gloss, or flat, depending on the desired finish) to seal the decals and protect the paint.

Marking Options:

The included decal sheet provides markings for three distinct versions of the C-130J Hercules:

- US Maryland Air National Guard
- Italian Air Force, 46 Brigatta Aerea
- Royal Air Force, Lyneham



Image 6: Example of a completed model (box art illustration).

This image illustrates the C-130J Hercules model, completed with US Air Force markings, flying over a city, demonstrating the final appearance of the model.

Troubleshooting Common Model Building Issues

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

- **Poor Part Fit:** If parts do not fit together smoothly, gently sand or file the mating surfaces. Avoid forcing parts, as this can cause breakage.
- **Gaps:** Small gaps can be filled with plastic putty or stretched sprue. Once dry, sand smooth.
- **Decal Silvering:** If decals appear to have a silvery film under them, ensure the surface is glossy before application. Use decal setting solutions to help the decal conform and eliminate air bubbles.
- **Paint Issues:** Ensure surfaces are clean before painting. Apply thin coats to avoid obscuring details. Allow adequate drying time between coats.

Specifications

Feature	Detail
Brand	Italeri
Model Name	C-130J Hercules
Model Number	1255S (also 510001255)
Scale	1:72
Length (Completed Model)	414 mm (16.3 inches)
Wingspan (Completed Model)	569 mm (22.4 inches)
Material	Plastic, Steel
Skill Level	4 (on a scale of 1-5, 5 being most difficult)
Recommended Age	8 years and up (Manufacturer recommended)
Item Weight	0.7 Kilograms (1.54 pounds)
Product Dimensions (Box)	41.4 x 0.1 x 0.1 inches

Feature	Detail
Number of Pieces	Varies (Kit contains multiple sprues of parts)



Image 7: Model kit box dimensions.

This image illustrates the approximate dimensions of the model kit packaging, showing a height of 11 inches (28 cm).

Product Overview Video

▶ **Watch video online**

Product Overview Video

This video provides a brief overview of the Italeri 1255S 1/72 C-130J Hercules model kit, showcasing the box art and the various plastic sprues included in the kit. It highlights the quality of the plastic parts and the level of detail.

Warranty and Support

For specific warranty information, missing parts, or technical support regarding your Italeri model kit, please refer to the documentation included in the product packaging or visit the official Italeri website. Contact details for customer service are typically provided by the manufacturer.

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