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## TAMIYA TM61029

# Tamiya 1/48 McDonnell Douglas F-15C Eagle Model Kit Instruction Manual

Model: TM61029 | Brand: TAMIYA

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides detailed instructions for the assembly and care of your Tamiya 1/48 scale McDonnell Douglas F-15C Eagle Model Kit (Model TM61029). The F-15 Eagle is a renowned jet fighter, known for its performance and design. This kit allows for the creation of a detailed replica of this iconic aircraft.

The kit features a 1/48 scale representation of the F-15C, including a removable front nose section to display the APG-63 radar system, a detailed cockpit, external fuel tanks, metal landing gear legs, ample ordnance, and a pilot figure. Multiple marking options are also provided to customize your model.

## 2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Please read and understand all safety precautions before beginning assembly. This model kit contains small parts and sharp components. Adult supervision is recommended for users under 18 years of age.

- **Choking Hazard:** Small parts are included. Keep away from young children.
- **Sharp Edges:** Exercise caution when cutting and trimming plastic parts. Use appropriate tools safely.
- **Adhesives and Paints:** Use in a well-ventilated area. Avoid prolonged skin contact and inhalation of fumes. Refer to the safety instructions provided with your chosen adhesives and paints.
- **Eye Protection:** Consider wearing eye protection during assembly, especially when cutting or sanding.

## 3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all components are present before starting assembly. The kit typically includes:

- Plastic sprues containing aircraft parts
- Clear plastic parts for canopy and lights
- Decal sheet for markings
- Instruction manual
- Metal rods for landing gear reinforcement
- Additional components: 3 external fuel tanks, APG-63 radar system in removable front nose section, ample ordnance, and one pilot figure.



Figure 1: Front view of the Tamiya McDonnell Douglas F-15C Eagle Model Kit box.



Figure 2: Overview of the kit contents, showing bagged plastic sprues and clear parts within the box.



Figure 3: The instruction sheet included with the Tamiya F-15C Eagle model kit, providing assembly steps and diagrams.

## 4. ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS (SETUP)

Follow the step-by-step diagrams in the included instruction manual for precise assembly. The general process involves:

1. **Part Preparation:** Carefully cut parts from the sprues using a hobby knife or nippers. Clean any excess plastic (flash) with a hobby knife or sanding stick.
2. **Test Fitting:** Before applying adhesive, test fit parts to ensure proper alignment and minimize gaps.
3. **Adhesion:** Apply plastic cement sparingly to join parts. Hold parts together until the adhesive sets.
4. **Sub-Assemblies:** Assemble smaller sections (e.g., cockpit, landing gear, weapons) before integrating them into the main fuselage.
5. **Fuselage Assembly:** Join the main fuselage halves, ensuring proper alignment. Address any seams with filler and sanding if necessary.
6. **Wing and Tail Assembly:** Attach wings and tail surfaces according to the instructions.
7. **Landing Gear:** Assemble and attach the landing gear. The kit includes metal rods for reinforcement.
8. **External Stores:** Attach external fuel tanks and ordnance as desired.
9. **Canopy:** Attach the clear canopy parts. Use a clear-part-safe adhesive to avoid fogging.

Refer to the detailed diagrams in the kit's instruction booklet for specific part numbers and assembly sequences.

## 5. PAINTING AND DECALS (OPERATING)

Once assembly is complete, or at appropriate stages as indicated in the instructions, proceed with painting and decal

application.

- **Surface Preparation:** Ensure the model surface is clean and free of dust or grease before painting. A primer coat is recommended for better paint adhesion.
- **Painting:** Apply paint in thin, even coats. Allow each coat to dry thoroughly before applying the next. Refer to the instruction manual for recommended paint colors and camouflage patterns.
- **Gloss Coat:** Apply a clear gloss coat over painted surfaces before applying decals. This provides a smooth surface for decals and helps prevent silvering.
- **Decal Application:** Cut out each decal carefully. Dip in warm water for a few seconds until it slides freely from the backing paper. Position the decal on the model and gently slide the backing paper away. Use a soft brush or cotton swab to remove excess water and air bubbles.
- **Decal Setting Solution:** For better conformity to surface details, a decal setting solution can be used.
- **Flat/Matte Coat:** Once decals are dry, apply a clear flat or matte coat to seal them and achieve a uniform finish.



Figure 4: A fully assembled and painted Tamiya F-15C Eagle model, showcasing the finished appearance.

## 6. DISPLAY AND CARE (MAINTENANCE)

To ensure the longevity and appearance of your finished model:

- **Display Location:** Place your model in a stable location away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and high humidity to prevent fading, warping, or decal degradation.
- **Cleaning:** Dust the model regularly with a soft, dry brush or a gentle air blower. Avoid using harsh chemicals or abrasive materials.

- **Handling:** Handle the model carefully, preferably by its sturdy parts like the fuselage or wings, to avoid damaging delicate components such as antennas or landing gear.

## 7. TROUBLESHOOTING

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Common issues encountered during model kit assembly and their potential solutions:

- **Poor Part Fit:**
  - Ensure all flash is removed from parts.
  - Sand mating surfaces lightly to improve fit.
  - Use plastic filler or putty for stubborn gaps.
- **Paint Adhesion Issues:**
  - Clean parts thoroughly before priming and painting.
  - Apply a dedicated model primer before color coats.
  - Ensure paint is thinned correctly for application method.
- **Decal Silvering (air trapped under decal):**
  - Apply decals over a gloss surface.
  - Use decal setting solutions to help decals conform and eliminate air.
  - Prick small bubbles with a sharp needle and apply setting solution.
- **Broken Small Parts:**
  - Use super glue (cyanoacrylate) for reattaching small broken plastic parts.
  - For structural breaks, consider reinforcing with a small piece of wire or plastic rod (pinning).

## 8. SPECIFICATIONS

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<b>Brand</b>	TAMIYA
<b>Model Name</b>	F-15C Eagle
<b>Model Number</b>	TM61029
<b>Scale</b>	1/48
<b>Material</b>	Plastic
<b>Number of Pieces</b>	Approximately 120
<b>Special Features</b>	Removable front nose section (APG-63 radar), detailed cockpit, external fuel tanks, metal landing gear legs, ample ordnance, pilot figure, multiple marking options.
<b>Recommended Age</b>	18 years and up

## 9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

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For any questions regarding missing parts, manufacturing defects, or assembly assistance, please contact Tamiya customer support directly. Refer to the contact information provided on the product packaging or the official Tamiya website for the most current support details.

This product is intended for hobby use and is subject to the manufacturer's standard warranty terms. Please retain your proof of purchase.

