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› Tamiya 35020 1/35 German Hanomag SDKFZ 251/1 Plastic Model Kit Instruction Manual

TAMIYA TAM35020

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1. OVERVIEW

Product Description

The Tamiya 35020 1/35 German Hanomag SDKFZ 251/1 is a plastic model kit replicating the iconic German armored personnel carrier. Developed in 1938, the Hanomag Sdkfz 251/1 was a crucial vehicle for the German mechanized corps throughout World War II. This kit allows for the construction of an accurate 1/35 scale replica of this historical vehicle.

Key Features

- Includes five detailed figures to complement the vehicle.
- The completed model measures approximately 6.5 inches (16.5 cm) in length.
- Constructed at a 1/35 scale, offering a detailed representation.
- Features a detailed interior, including torsion bars for the suspension and crew compartment floor with benches.
- Rear crew doors are designed to be movable, allowing display in open, closed, or partially open positions.
- Rubberized plastic tracks facilitate construction.
- Separate tires simplify the painting process.
- Includes a detailed dashboard panel with instrument faces.
- Pioneer tools (shovel, spade, pick) and OVM tools are included.
- Two MG34 machine guns are provided.
- Decals for three different vehicles are provided, along with numerous number decals for customization.

2. SETUP AND ASSEMBLY

Required Tools and Materials

To successfully assemble this model kit, the following tools and materials are recommended:

- Plastic cement (model glue)
- Hobby knife or sprue cutters (nippers)
- Small files or sandpaper (fine grit)
- Tweezers (for small parts)
- Paints (acrylic or enamel, suitable for plastic models)
- Paintbrushes (various sizes)
- Decal setting solution (optional, for better decal adhesion)

Assembly Instructions

Carefully follow the step-by-step instructions provided in the kit's instruction manual. It is crucial to read through all steps before beginning assembly.

1. **Part Preparation:** Carefully remove parts from the sprues using nippers or a hobby knife. Clean any excess plastic (flash) with a hobby knife or fine sandpaper.
2. **Test Fitting:** Before applying cement, always test fit parts to ensure proper alignment and fit. This helps prevent errors and ensures a clean build.
3. **Sub-Assemblies:** Assemble smaller components and sub-assemblies first, such as the chassis, interior, and figures, before joining them to the main body.
4. **Track Assembly:** Pay close attention to the track assembly. Some builders find it helpful to gently heat the rubberized tracks (e.g., by boiling or with a heat gun) to make them more pliable and easier to fit around the drive wheels. Ensure the drive wheels are securely attached to the hull to prevent detachment during track installation.
5. **Painting:** Painting can be done at various stages. It is often easier to paint interior components and figures before final assembly. Refer to the painting guide in the kit manual for recommended colors and schemes.
6. **Decals:** Apply decals after painting and a clear gloss coat. Use decal setting solution for optimal adhesion and to eliminate silvering.

Component Identification



An assembled Tamiya German Hanomag SDKFZ 251/1 model, showcasing the vehicle and its accompanying five figures in a dynamic display. The vehicle is painted in a military grey, with figures in green uniforms.



A detailed view of two figures inside the Hanomag model. One figure is depicted aiming a rifle from the vehicle's interior, while another appears to be observing the surroundings, highlighting the interior detail and figure placement.



A close-up of three figures from the kit, positioned on the ground. They are equipped with various weapons and gear, demonstrating the detailed sculpting of the infantry figures.

3. OPERATION AND DISPLAY

The Tamiya 35020 1/35 German Hanomag SDKFZ 251/1 is a static display model kit. It is not designed for remote control or active play. Its primary function is for historical representation and display.

Display Features

- The front wheels are designed to roll and turn, allowing for dynamic posing.
- The tracks are designed to roll on the wheels, adding to the realism of the model.
- The rear crew doors can be positioned open or closed to suit your display preference.
- The included figures can be arranged in various combat poses around or within the vehicle to create a diorama.

4. MAINTENANCE

Proper maintenance ensures the longevity and appearance of your completed model.

- **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 or decals.
- **Storage:** Store the model in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight, which can cause paint fading or plastic warping. Consider a display case to protect it from dust and accidental damage.

- **Handling:** Handle the model by its base or sturdy sections to avoid breaking delicate parts.

5. TROUBLESHOOTING

Here are some common issues encountered during model assembly and their potential solutions:

- **Parts Not Fitting:** Ensure all sprue gates and flash are completely removed. Test fit parts before gluing. If a part is slightly warped, gentle heat (e.g., warm water) can sometimes help reshape it.
- **Track Installation Difficulty:** The rubberized tracks can be challenging to fit. If they are too stiff, gently heat them in warm water or with a low-setting heat gun to increase flexibility. Ensure the drive wheels are firmly secured to the hull before attempting to install the tracks to prevent them from pulling out.
- **Decal Silvering:** If decals appear to have a silvery film underneath after drying, this is often due to air trapped beneath the decal. Apply a gloss coat before decals, use decal setting solution, and ensure the surface is smooth. Puncture tiny holes in large decals with a sharp needle to release trapped air.
- **Paint Adhesion Issues:** Ensure the plastic surface is clean and free of oils or mold release agents. Wash parts with mild soap and water, then rinse thoroughly and allow to dry completely before priming or painting.
- **Missing or Damaged Parts:** Carefully check all sprues against the parts list in the instruction manual. If a part is genuinely missing or damaged, contact the retailer or manufacturer for assistance.

6. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Brand Name	TAMIYA
Model Name	1/35 German Hanomag SDKFZ 251/1 Plastic Model Kit
Model Number	TAM35020
Scale	1:35 Scale
Material Type	Plastic
Item Dimensions	11.38 x 7.5 x 2.13 inches (packaging)
Item Weight	299 Grams
Assembly Required	Yes
Batteries Required	No
Operation Mode	Manual (static display model)
Included Components	Tamiya 35020 1/35 German Hanomag SDKFZ 251/1 Plastic Model Kit (includes vehicle parts and five figures)
Educational Objective	Historical Learning, Fine Motor Skill Development, Instruction Following

7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Manufacturer Warranty

This product is sold without a manufacturer's warranty. Please refer to the retailer's return policy for any issues regarding product defects or discrepancies upon receipt.

Customer Support

For questions regarding assembly, missing parts, or general inquiries about Tamiya products, please contact the retailer where the kit was purchased or visit the official Tamiya website for their customer support resources.