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## Trumpeter F/A-18E Super Hornet

# Trumpeter 1/32 F/A-18E Super Hornet Fighter Model Kit Instruction Manual

## 1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

This instruction manual provides detailed guidance for assembling the Trumpeter 1/32 F/A-18E Super Hornet Fighter Model Kit. The F/A-18E/F Super Hornet is an advanced variant of the F/A-18C/D Hornet, featuring a larger wing, an extended fuselage for increased fuel capacity, and more powerful engines. This highly detailed plastic model kit allows enthusiasts to recreate this iconic aircraft with precision.

The kit is designed for modelers aged 14 and above, offering a challenging yet rewarding building experience with its intricate components and realistic design.

## 2. WHAT'S IN THE BOX

Upon opening your Trumpeter 1/32 F/A-18E Super Hornet model kit, you will find the following components:

- Ready-to-assemble plastic model parts (hundreds of pieces)
- Photo-etched parts for enhanced detail
- Instruction manual
- Decals for markings

*Note: Glue and paint are not included and must be purchased separately.*

## 3. SETUP AND PREPARATION

Before beginning assembly, ensure you have a clean, well-lit, and organized workspace. Gather all necessary tools, which typically include:

- Plastic cement or glue suitable for model kits
- Hobby knife or sprue cutters
- Tweezers for small parts

- Sandpaper or sanding sticks (various grits)
- Paints and brushes (or airbrush) as per the color guide in the instructions
- Masking tape

Carefully unpackage all sprues and compare them against the parts list in the instruction manual to ensure all components are present and undamaged.

## 4. ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

Follow the step-by-step diagrams and text provided in the included instruction manual. Pay close attention to part numbers and orientation. Test-fit parts before applying glue to ensure proper alignment.



Figure 1: Front of the Trumpeter 1/32 F/A-18E Super Hornet model kit box, showcasing the aircraft's design.



Figure 2: Back of the model kit box, illustrating different F/A-18E configurations and armament options.



Figure 3: Side of the model kit box, providing additional details about the kit's contents and scale.

## 4.1 General Assembly Steps:

1. **Part Preparation:** Carefully remove parts from the sprues using cutters. Clean any excess plastic (flash) with a hobby knife or sandpaper.
2. **Sub-Assembly:** Begin by assembling smaller sections, such as the cockpit, landing gear, and weapon systems, as indicated in the manual.
3. **Main Fuselage Assembly:** Join the main fuselage halves, ensuring a tight fit. Use clamps or tape to hold parts together while glue dries.
4. **Wing and Tail Assembly:** Attach wings, horizontal, and vertical stabilizers. Ensure correct angles and alignment.
5. **Detailing:** Add photo-etched parts and other small details as specified.
6. **Painting:** Apply primer, then base coats, and finally detail painting according to the provided color scheme. Allow adequate drying time between coats.
7. **Decals:** Apply decals carefully using water and decal setting solutions for a seamless finish.
8. **Final Assembly:** Attach landing gear, canopy, weapons, and any remaining external components.

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Video 1: Product Overview Video (0:51). This video provides a general overview of the model kit, showcasing its components and features. While the video may feature a different model, the general principles of model kit assembly and the quality of components are representative.

## 5. MAINTENANCE AND CARE

To preserve the appearance and integrity of your assembled model, follow these maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Dust your model regularly with a soft, dry brush or a can of compressed air. Avoid using harsh chemicals or abrasive materials.
- **Handling:** Always handle the model by its sturdy parts, such as the main fuselage or wings, to prevent damage to delicate components.
- **Display:** Display your model in a stable location away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and high humidity, which can cause paint fading or warping.
- **Storage:** If storing the model, use a protective display case or a sturdy box with soft padding to prevent

dust accumulation and physical damage.

## 6. TROUBLESHOOTING COMMON ISSUES

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

- **Parts Not Fitting:** If parts do not fit perfectly, gently sand down the edges or contact points. Avoid forcing parts together, as this can cause breakage.
- **Excess Glue:** If you apply too much glue, allow it to dry completely, then carefully scrape or sand away the excess.
- **Paint Issues:** For uneven paint, ensure surfaces are clean and dry before painting. Apply multiple thin coats rather than one thick coat. For brush strokes, use a paint retarder or thinner.
- **Decal Silvering:** If decals show a silvery film, apply a gloss coat before decals, use decal setting solution, and then a final matte or gloss clear coat.
- **Missing or Damaged Parts:** Refer to the manufacturer's contact information for assistance with missing or damaged components.

## 7. SPECIFICATIONS

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Feature	Detail
Brand	Trumpeter
Model Name	Super Hornet
Scale	1:32
Art Craft Kit Type	Model Aircraft Kit
Material Type	Plastic
Number of Pieces	738
Item Dimensions (L x W x H)	23.82 x 24.42 x 6 inches
Item Weight	1.91 Kilograms
Age Range (Description)	14+
Additional Features	Photo-etched parts, Pleated wings

## 8. WARRANTY INFORMATION

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This Trumpeter model kit comes with a **30-day warranty against manufacturer defects**. This warranty covers any defects in materials or workmanship that may arise under normal use within 30 days from the date of purchase. Please retain your proof of purchase for any warranty claims.

The warranty does not cover damage resulting from improper assembly, misuse, accidents, or modifications made to the kit.

## 9. CUSTOMER SUPPORT

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For further assistance, inquiries about missing parts, or technical support regarding your Trumpeter 1/32 F/A-18E Super Hornet Fighter Model Kit, please contact the manufacturer or retailer where the product was purchased.

You may also visit the official Trumpeter website for additional resources, FAQs, and contact information. Always refer to the specific contact details provided on the product packaging or the manufacturer's official channels.