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Trumpeter 05116

Trumpeter 05116 1/35 AH-1W Super Cobra Plastic Model Instruction Manual

Detailed assembly and painting guide for your Trumpeter AH-1W Super Cobra model kit.

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing the Trumpeter 05116 1/35 AH-1W Super Cobra Plastic Model Kit. This kit allows you to build a detailed replica of the AH-1W Super Cobra, a twin-engine attack helicopter used by the United States Marine Corps. This manual provides comprehensive instructions for assembly, painting, and decal application to help you achieve a high-quality finished model.



Figure 1: The Trumpeter 05116 1/35 AH-1W Super Cobra Plastic Model Kit. This image shows the product box art, providing an overview of the model you will be building.

SAFETY INFORMATION

Please read and understand all safety warnings before beginning assembly. This kit contains small parts and requires the use of sharp tools and adhesives. Adult supervision is recommended for younger modelers.

- **Small Parts:** Choking hazard. Keep away from small children.
- **Sharp Tools:** Use hobby knives, nippers, and other tools with extreme care. Always cut away from your body.
- **Adhesives and Paints:** Use in a well-ventilated area. Avoid prolonged skin contact and inhalation of fumes. Refer to the manufacturer's safety data sheets for specific product warnings.
- **Etched Parts:** Handle photo-etched parts carefully as they can have sharp edges.

PACKAGE CONTENTS

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

- Plastic model parts (sprues)
- Etched parts sheet
- Decal sheet (VMA-542/HMT-303 and more)
- Canopy masking sticker sheet
- Instruction booklet (this manual)

TOOLS REQUIRED (SOLD SEPARATELY)

The following tools and materials are essential for successful assembly and finishing of your model:

- Plastic cement (liquid or tube type)
- Hobby knife or sprue cutters
- Sandpaper or sanding sticks (various grits)
- Tweezers
- Small files
- Paints (acrylic or enamel, as per color guide)
- Paintbrushes (various sizes) or airbrush equipment
- Masking tape
- Decal setting solution and softener
- Clear coat (gloss and/or matte)

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

Follow these steps carefully. Refer to the diagrams in the physical instruction booklet for visual guidance. Dry-fit parts before applying adhesive.

1. Fuselage Assembly

1. Carefully remove the fuselage halves (parts A1, A2) from their sprues using sprue cutters. Clean any mold lines or flash with a hobby knife or sandpaper.
2. Assemble the cockpit interior (parts B3, B4, C1, C2) according to the diagrams. Paint interior components before assembly if desired.
3. Insert the assembled cockpit into one fuselage half. Ensure proper alignment.

4. Attach any internal bulkheads or equipment bays as indicated in the diagrams.
5. Apply plastic cement sparingly to the mating surfaces of the fuselage halves and join them together. Hold firmly until the adhesive sets. Use masking tape to secure if necessary.
6. Fill and sand any seams along the fuselage join line for a smooth finish.



Figure 2: Fuselage Assembly. This diagram illustrates how the two main fuselage halves are joined, along with the placement of the cockpit and internal structures.

2. Rotor Assembly

1. Assemble the main rotor hub and blades (parts D1-D8). Pay close attention to the pitch and alignment of the blades.
2. Assemble the tail rotor (parts E1-E4).
3. Attach the main rotor mast to the top of the fuselage. Do not glue the main rotor assembly if you wish it to be rotatable.



Figure 3: Rotor Assembly. This diagram details the construction of both the main rotor and the tail rotor, including blade attachment.

3. Landing Gear and External Details

1. Assemble and attach the landing skids (parts F1, F2) to the underside of the fuselage.
2. Attach external antennas, sensors, and other small details (parts G1-G10) as indicated. Use tweezers for small parts.
3. Install the canopy. Use the provided masking stickers for painting the canopy frames.



Figure 4: Landing Gear and External Details. This diagram shows the placement of the landing skids, various antennas, and other small external components.

4. Weapons and Armament

1. Assemble the various weapons systems (e.g., rocket pods, missile launchers, gun turret) according to the diagrams.
2. Attach the assembled weapons to the wing pylons.

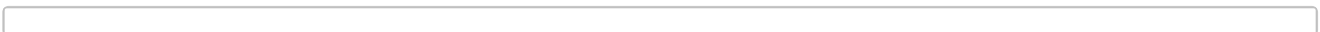


Figure 5: Weapons Assembly. This diagram illustrates how to assemble and mount the various armament options for the Super Cobra.

PAINTING GUIDE

Painting is a crucial step for a realistic finish. Refer to the color guide provided in the physical instruction booklet for specific paint codes and camouflage patterns.

1. **Preparation:** Ensure the model is clean and free of dust, grease, or fingerprints. A light wash with mild soap and water, followed by thorough drying, is recommended.
2. **Priming:** Apply a thin, even coat of primer. This helps paint adhere better and reveals any surface imperfections.

3. **Base Coats:** Apply the main camouflage colors in thin, even layers. Allow each coat to dry completely before applying the next. Use masking tape for sharp demarcation lines between colors.
4. **Detail Painting:** Paint smaller details such as landing gear, weapons, cockpit interior, and lights.
5. **Weathering (Optional):** Once the base coats are dry, you may apply weathering effects such as washes, dry-brushing, or chipping to enhance realism.

DECAL APPLICATION

Decals add markings and stencils to your model. A glossy surface is ideal for decal application.

1. **Gloss Coat:** Apply a thin, even coat of gloss clear coat over the areas where decals will be placed. Allow it to dry completely.
2. **Cut Decals:** Carefully cut out each decal from the sheet as close to the edge of the design as possible.
3. **Soak Decals:** Dip the decal in lukewarm water for 10-20 seconds until it can slide freely on its backing paper.
4. **Apply Decal:** Gently slide the decal from its backing paper onto the model surface. Position it carefully using tweezers or a wet paintbrush.
5. **Setting Solution:** Apply a decal setting solution to help the decal conform to surface details and eliminate silvering. Follow the product instructions for the setting solution.
6. **Final Clear Coat:** Once all decals are dry and setting solutions have cured, apply a final clear coat (gloss or matte, depending on desired finish) to seal and protect the decals.

MAINTENANCE

Once assembled and painted, your model requires minimal maintenance to preserve its appearance.

- **Cleaning:** Dust your model regularly with a soft, dry brush or a can of compressed air. Avoid using wet cloths or harsh chemicals, which can damage paint and decals.
- **Display:** Display your model in a stable, dust-free environment, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperature fluctuations, which can cause fading or warping.
- **Handling:** Handle the model by its sturdy parts, such as the fuselage, to avoid breaking delicate components like antennas or rotor blades.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Here are solutions to common issues encountered during model building:

Problem	Solution
Parts do not fit together properly.	Ensure all sprue gates are cleanly removed. Sand or trim excess plastic. Dry-fit parts before gluing. Check for mold flash.
Seams are visible after gluing fuselage halves.	Apply plastic filler or putty to the seam. Once dry, sand smooth with progressively finer grits of sandpaper.
Paint appears uneven or peels off.	Ensure the model surface was clean and primed. Apply paint in thin, multiple coats. Allow adequate drying time between coats.

Problem	Solution
Decals silver (appear milky or have air bubbles).	Ensure a glossy surface before decal application. Use decal setting solution and softener. Prick small bubbles with a sharp needle and reapply setting solution.
Small parts break during removal from sprue.	Use sharp, dedicated sprue cutters. Cut slightly away from the part and then trim cleanly with a hobby knife.

SPECIFICATIONS

Key specifications for the Trumpeter 05116 1/35 AH-1W Super Cobra Plastic Model Kit:

- **Model Number:** 05116
- **Scale:** 1/35
- **Type:** Unpainted Plastic Assembly Kit (Helicopter)
- **Assembled Dimensions:**
 - Total Length: 18.5 inches (469 mm)
 - Total Width: 16.5 inches (419.5 mm)
- **Material:** Plastic
- **Included Components:** Plastic model parts, etched parts, decals, canopy masking sticker
- **Recommended Age:** Adult
- **Manufacturer:** Trumpeter

OFFICIAL PRODUCT VIDEOS

No official product videos from the seller were found in the provided data.

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Specific warranty information for the Trumpeter 05116 1/35 AH-1W Super Cobra Plastic Model Kit is not provided in the product details. For any questions regarding missing parts, manufacturing defects, or assembly issues, please contact Trumpeter customer support directly or the retailer from whom you purchased the kit. Keep your proof of purchase.

You can often find contact information for Trumpeter on their official website or through your local hobby shop.