



MIKE ASHEY PRODUCTIONS

PRESENTS

KIT REVIEW OF THE TRUMPETER 1/350 SCALE USS RANGER CV-4

All of Trumpeters 1/350 scale aircraft carriers have two piece hulls split at the water line as well as multiple piece hanger decks and flight decks. This kit is a departure from that standard as it has a one piece hull and a one piece flight deck and hanger deck. The 28 page instruction booklet is well illustrated and the color sheet provides port, starboard and top views of the Rangers dazzle pattern. There are three sheets of brass photoetch which provide everything that the scale modeler will need, including all the railings, inclined ladders and radars.

The kit's sprues are well packaged and separated from the hull and decks by sturdy cardboard. There are 11 sprues with some duplication and you will also have some extra parts that you can add to your spare parts box. There are 15 aircraft supplied with the kit, 5 SBD's, 5 Hellcats and 5 TBF's, all of which are the early gray, black and clear injection molded assemblies instead of all clear parts, which are more difficult to assemble.

This kit review is not an in box review as Mike has removed all the main kit parts and taped them together, which allows for a fit check, and how sub-assemblies fit together with each other. The pictures and captions also have tips on working with some of the assembled parts.

KIT NOTES

There are some thick sprue attachments on some of the hanger deck superstructure parts.

The long hanger deck superstructure parts (A-1 & A-10) positioning tabs need some trimming to get them to fit into their corresponding holes.

The hanger deck roller doors are separate parts so that they can easily be trimmed to any length.

The small boats are well detailed.

The splinter shields are thin on most parts, but some are slightly thicker.

The island superstructure parts are connected to their respective trees at the upper edges of the splinter shields and they must be carefully removed or the shields will be damaged.

The hanger deck has indentations for the elevators so that they will sit flush with the deck in the down position.

There are a lot of round mold punch out on the undersides of the flight deck catwalks that are 1/16 of an inch high and will have to be carefully cut off and sanded smooth.

There are also mold punch outs on the inside walls of the hanger deck superstructure sides, but they can be sanded smooth with a length of sandpaper wrapped around a length of balsa wood.

The underside of the flight deck has lots of girder detail which will add to the hanger decks detailed appearance.

The 6 smoke stacks can be rotated into their steaming positions or flight operations positions. The smoke stack flight deck inserts will need to be glued into place for either position.

The 5"/38 open mounts are multiple assemblies and nicely detailed. They are much better than the open mounts on Trumpeter's Essex class carrier series. The barrels do have slide mold injection point attachments that will need to be carefully removed.

The 40 MM guns are well detailed and the splinter shields are much thinner than on the Hobby Boss Alaska kit. There are also no sprue attachment points on the barrels.

The 20mm guns are petite, and have no sprue attachments on the barrels. There are no 20mm ammo ready boxes, so after market resin ones will need to be added.

The surface detail on all the superstructure sides is excellent and all the small parts and fittings also have excellent surface detail. The anchors have separate stems so they can be positioned against the hull in their correct positions.

There are seams where the catwalks meet the flight deck sides that will need to be covered with .030 inch half round as filling, scraping and sanding these seams is very difficult.

The flight deck sits perfectly on top of the hanger deck superstructure sides.

There are three molded on stubs that will need to be removed from the forward area of the hull so that the forward 5"/38 gun platforms sit correctly. There is also a stub on the hanger deck superstructure where the island superstructure is located that will also need to be removed.

Overall the kit goes together well. With that said, be sure to test fit all the parts as some of the locator tabs will need to be trimmed for a proper fit.

1/350 scale

ITEM NO.:05629



USS Ranger CV-4

美国海军“突击者”号航空母舰CV-4

READ BEFORE ASSEMBLY:

- This kit is not recommended for inexperienced modelers or for children under 14 years of age
- Study and understand these instructions thoroughly before beginning assembly
- When needed, remove photo-etch parts carefully using a modeling knife or photo etch sprue cutter, being careful not to damage or lose small parts.
- Take extra care in handling photo etch parts in order to avoid injury
- Apply instant cement sparingly to photo etch parts where instructed

Tools recommended(not included in kit):Plastic and instant cements,sprue cutters,long nose pliers,modeling knife, small files, tweezers, pin vise & scissors. Soft cloth and sandpaper will also assist in construction

- Glue and paint are not included in the kit. Use plastic cement and hobby paints only. Color guide for purchasing paint is included in the kit.
- Keep out of reach of small children. They must not be allowed to ingest small parts or handle plastic bags in any way.

装配之前仔细阅读

- 小心用模型锉刀锉平所有零件表面的注射浇口。
- 小心用刀片切下蚀刻片零件，不要遗失小零件。
- 用强力快干胶水粘合蚀刻片零件和金属轴。过量的快干胶水使用可能导致可动零件会粘住，小心涂胶。
- 取蚀刻片时应特别注意安全，防止利刃划伤手指。
- 某些零件表面需贴水上贴纸，请选择在装配的同时进行。
- 推荐模型工具(自备)：胶水，水口剪刀，长咀钳，刀片，锉刀，镊子钳，钻，剪刀，瞬间快干胶。
- 软布同砂纸同时也应该是必备工具。
- 请使用塑料胶水和油漆，模型内不含。
- 谨防小孩吸吮塑料零件，或者将塑料袋套在头上，制作时应将套材远离小孩接触。
- 本产品不适合14岁以下没有经验的模型爱好者。

水贴纸的使用:

1. 从水贴纸上剪下印花;
2. 将印花放入温水中浸10秒, 然后放在干净布上;
3. 拿着印花纸板将印花移到模型上;
4. 手指蘸水将印花移到适当的位置;
5. 用软布轻压印花直至水干, 汽泡消失.

DECAL APPLICATION:

1. Cut decals from sheet as needed
2. Dip the decal in warm water for about 10 seconds and then place on soft clean cloth.
3. Hold the decal backing sheet edge and gently slide the decal onto the model in its proper position.

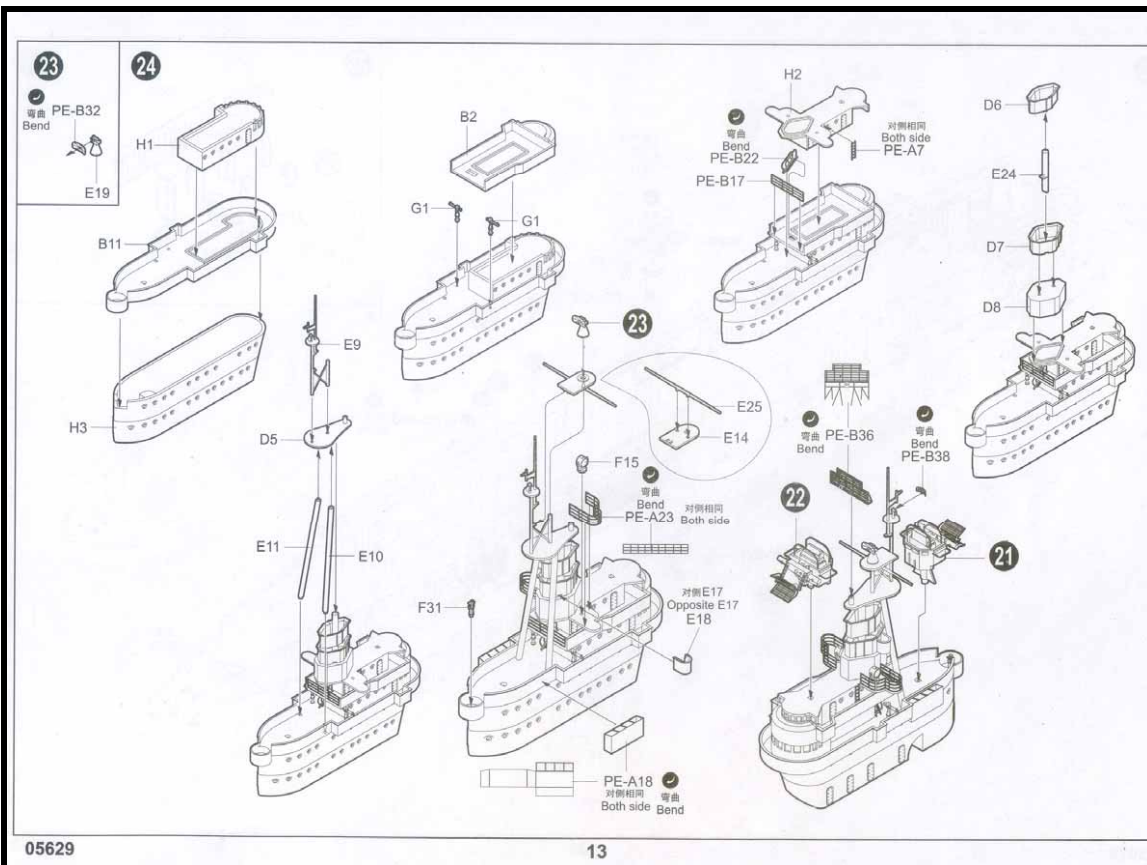
4. While still wet, decal can be adjusted for better fit on model by dampening it gently with your finger.
5. When placed in the proper position, gently press decal down with a soft cloth until excess water and air bubbles are gone.
6. Allow decal to dry completely before handling model



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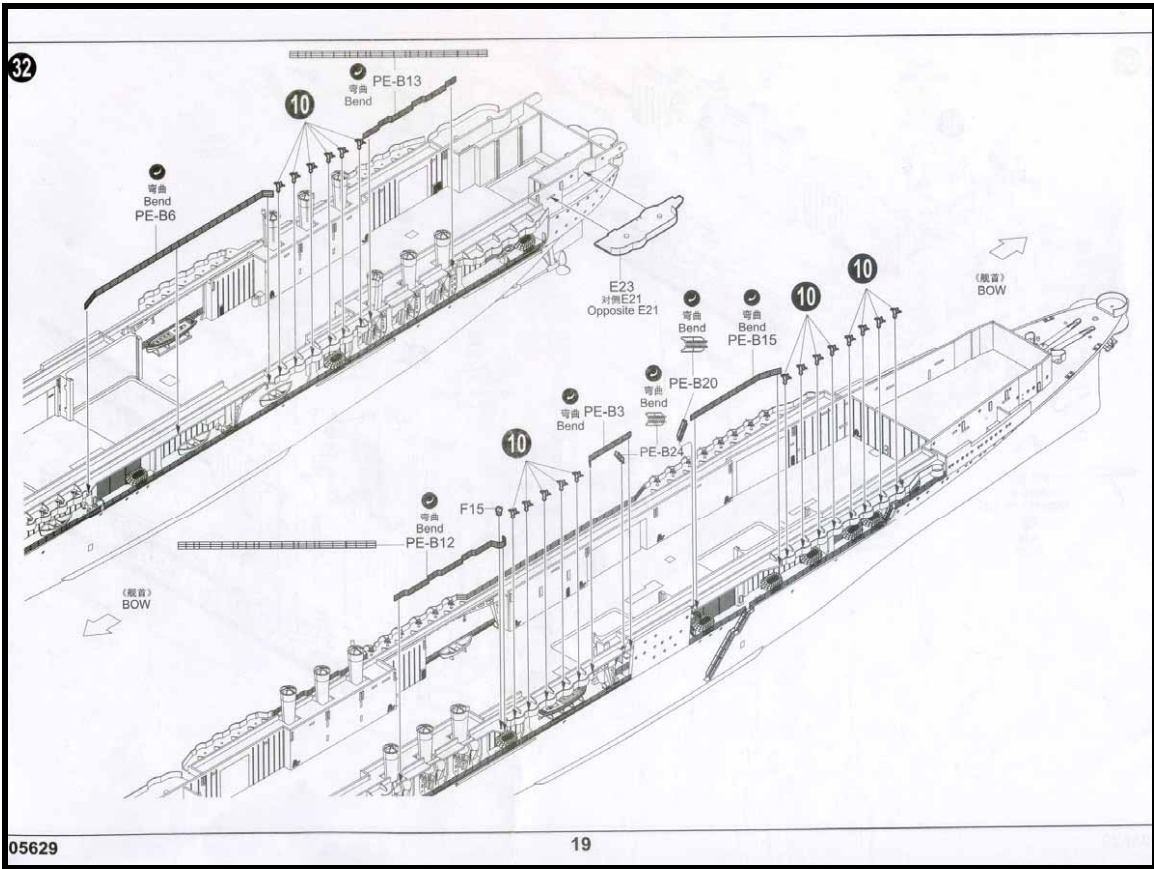
The instructions for the Ranger are typical for a Trumpeter ship kit. The instruction booklet is 28 pages long and the assembly drawings are superb. As with any ship model you will have to deviate from the instructions to properly assembly and paint the model and add the photoetch as you build up the kit



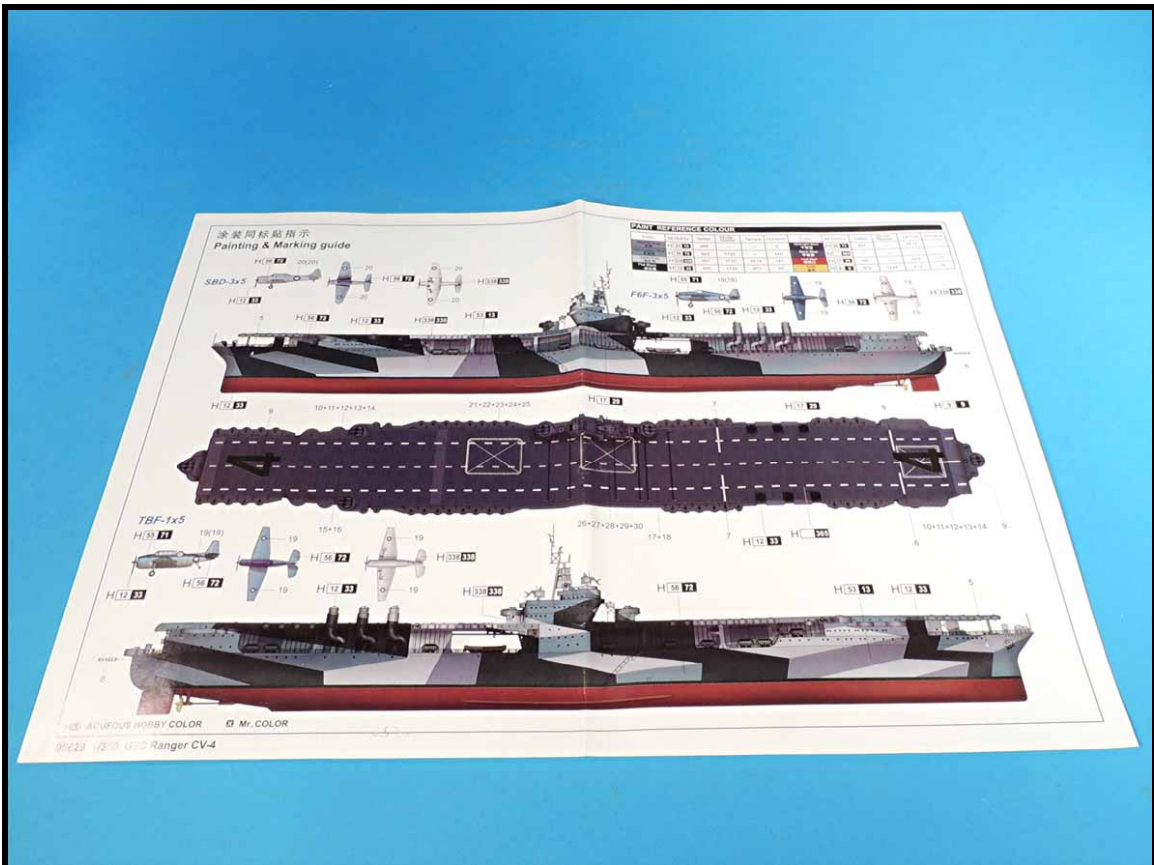
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13

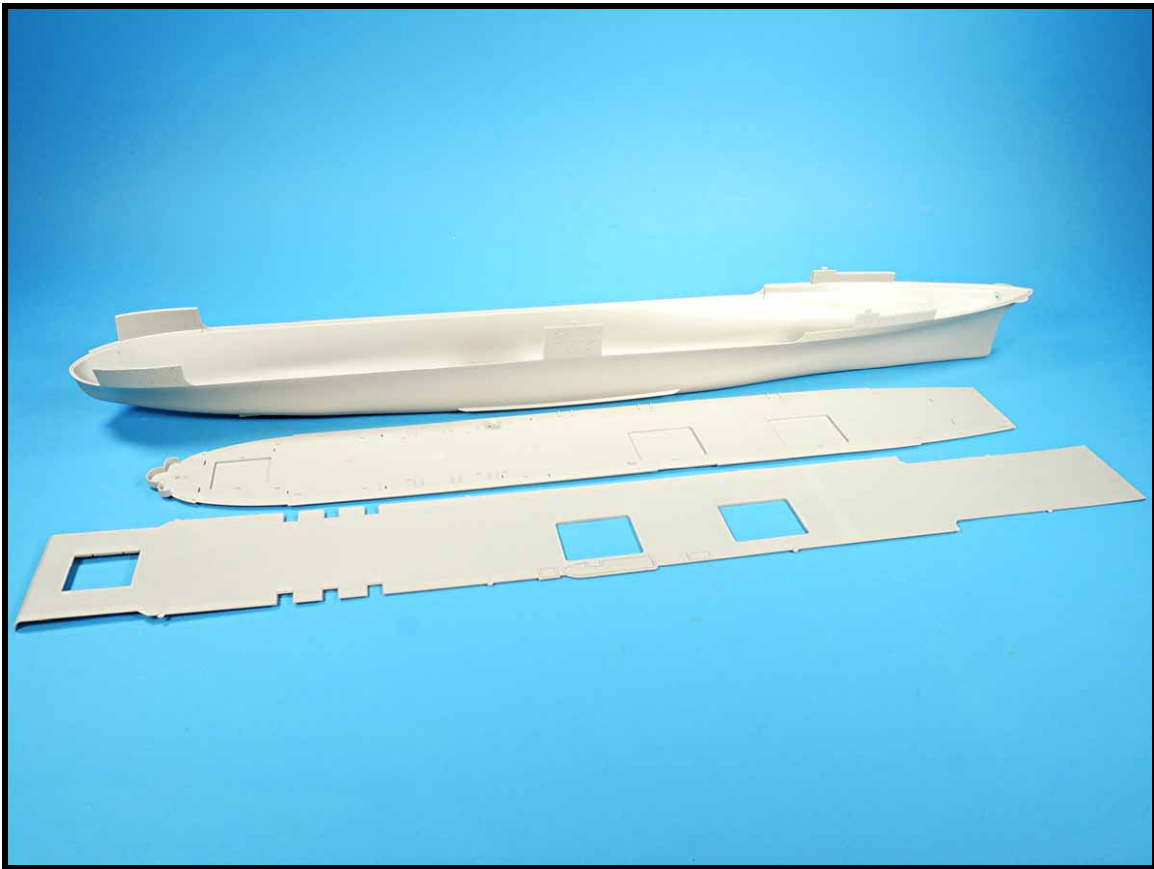
The tripod mast assembly is a bit tricky to assemble as the legs have shallow positioning tabs at the base of each leg, but none for the tear dropped shaped tower platform.



While the instructions call for the attachment of the photoetch railings and 20mm guns at this stage of assembly, these parts are better attached after the painting is complete.



As with all Trumpeter ship kits the painting guide is superb.



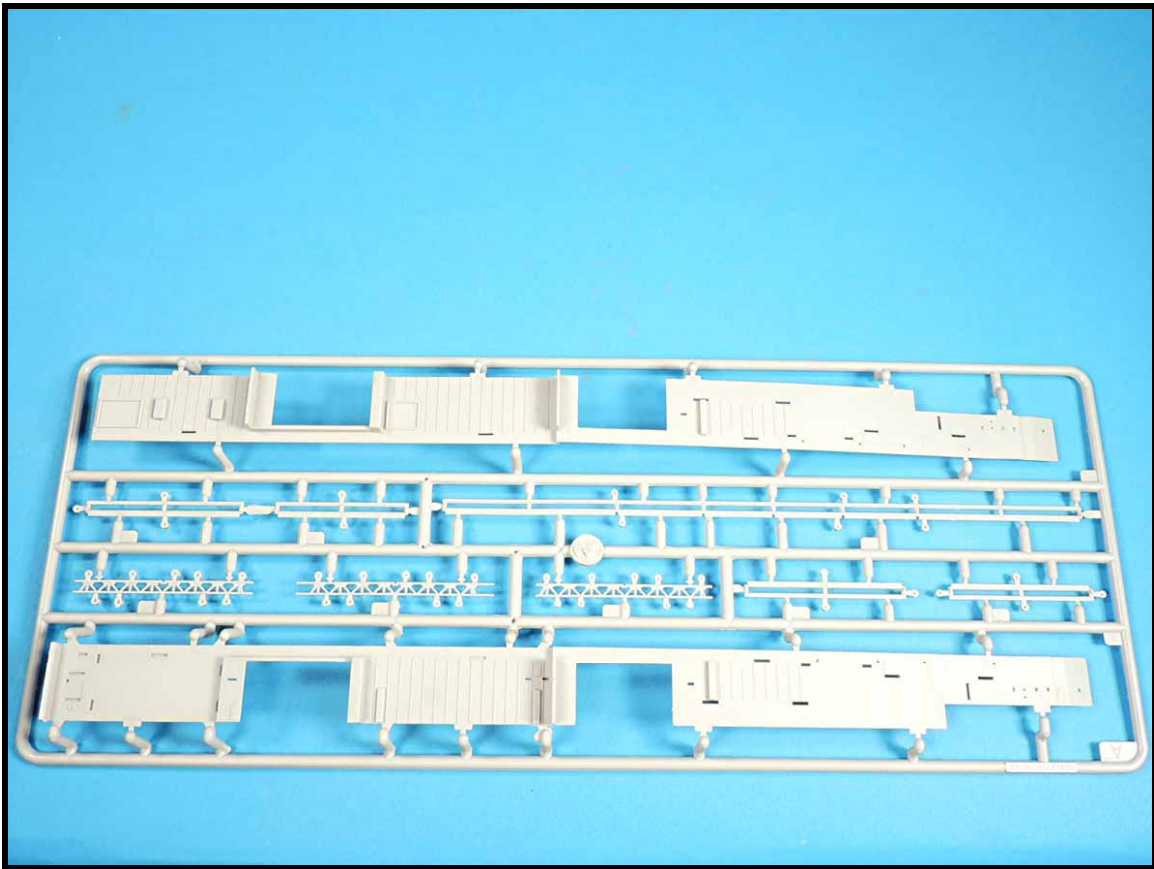
The kit has a one piece hanger deck and flight deck. The hull measures approximately 26.5 inches long and the flight deck is 24 $\frac{7}{8}$ inches long. The side keels are also molded onto the hull, which is much better than the separate ones, on the Alaska kit. The hanger deck has elevator wells so that the elevators can be set flush with the deck.



The kit comes with the generic Trumpeter stand and anchor chain which has to be painted flat black.

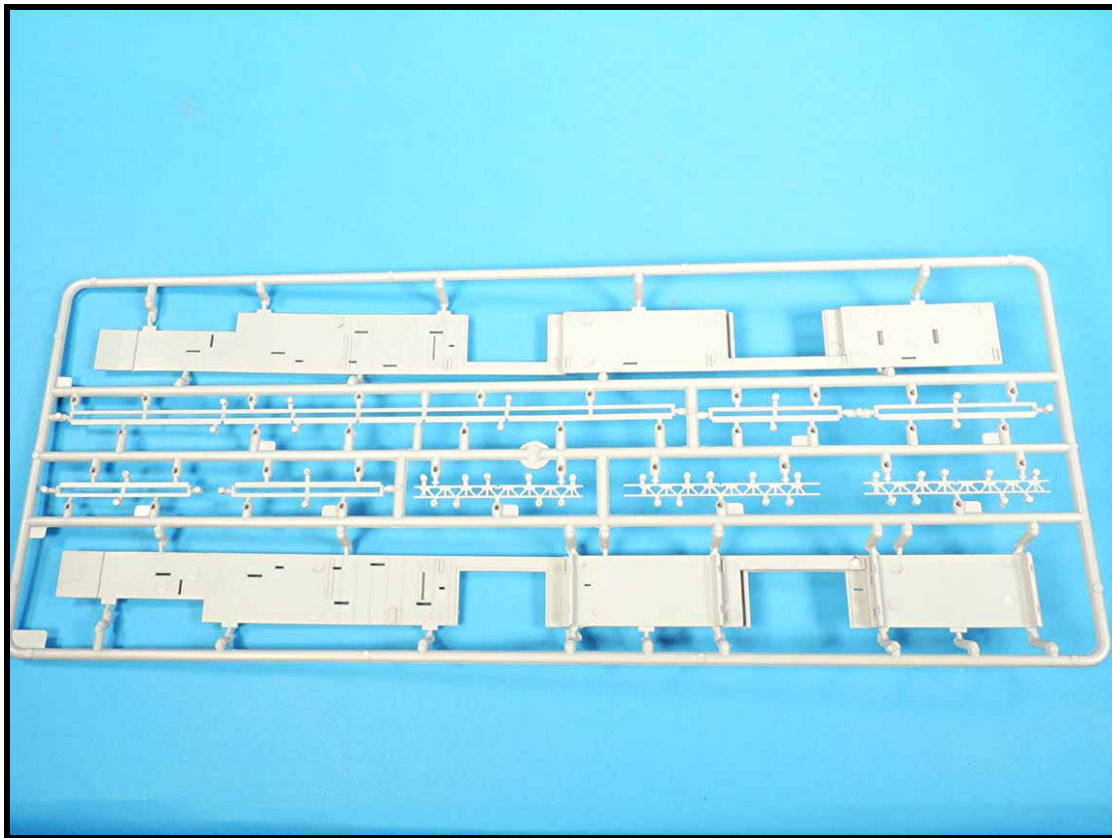


The wood deck detail is very petite and superbly molded. The arresting gear is supplied as photoetch. The cut outs are for the 6 smoke stacks which can be rotated into the steaming position (vertical) or the flight operations position (horizontal). The flight deck inserts will have to be glued into place for either option.



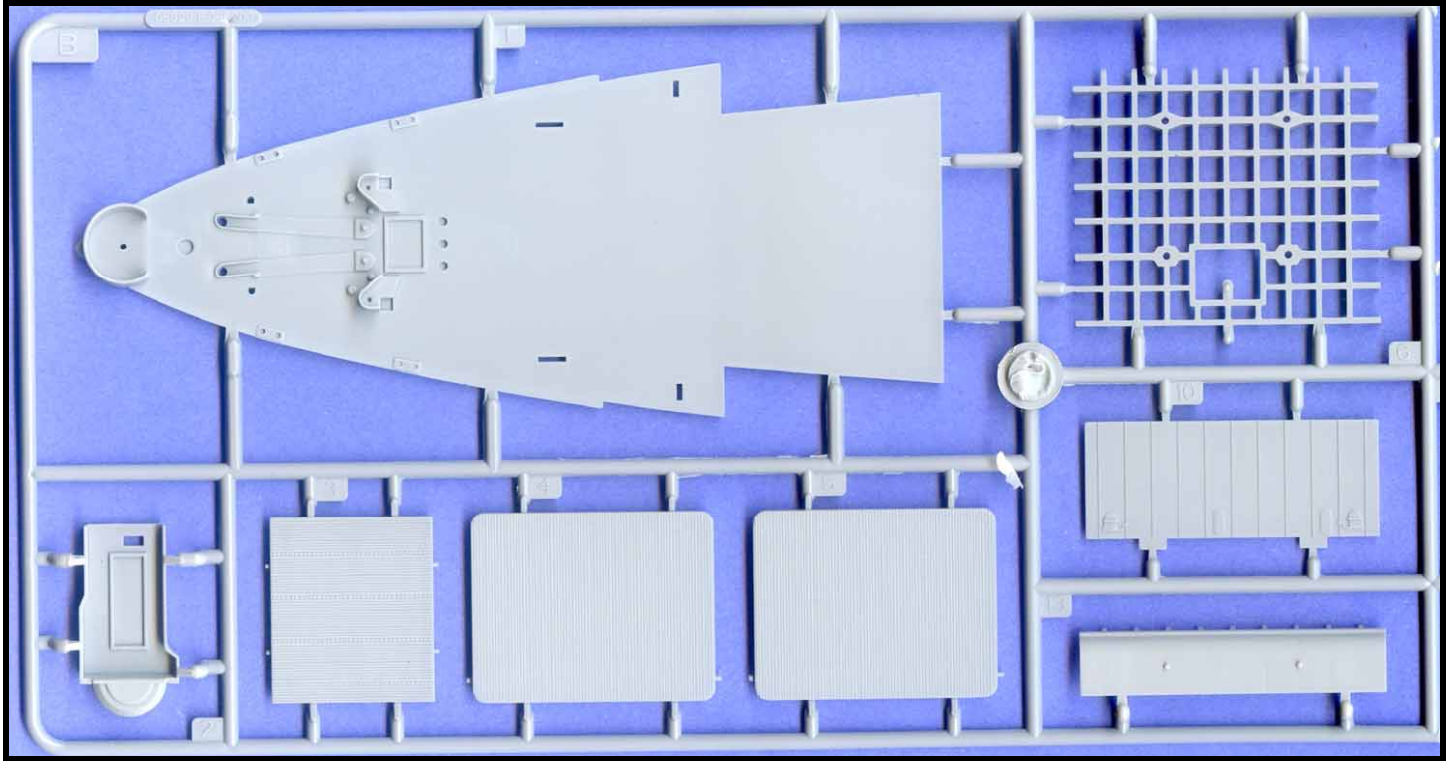
SPRUE-A, SIDE-1

The long hanger deck superstructure sides are a bit flexible. The positioning tabs for these parts will need some trimming to get them to fit correctly into their corresponding positioning holes.



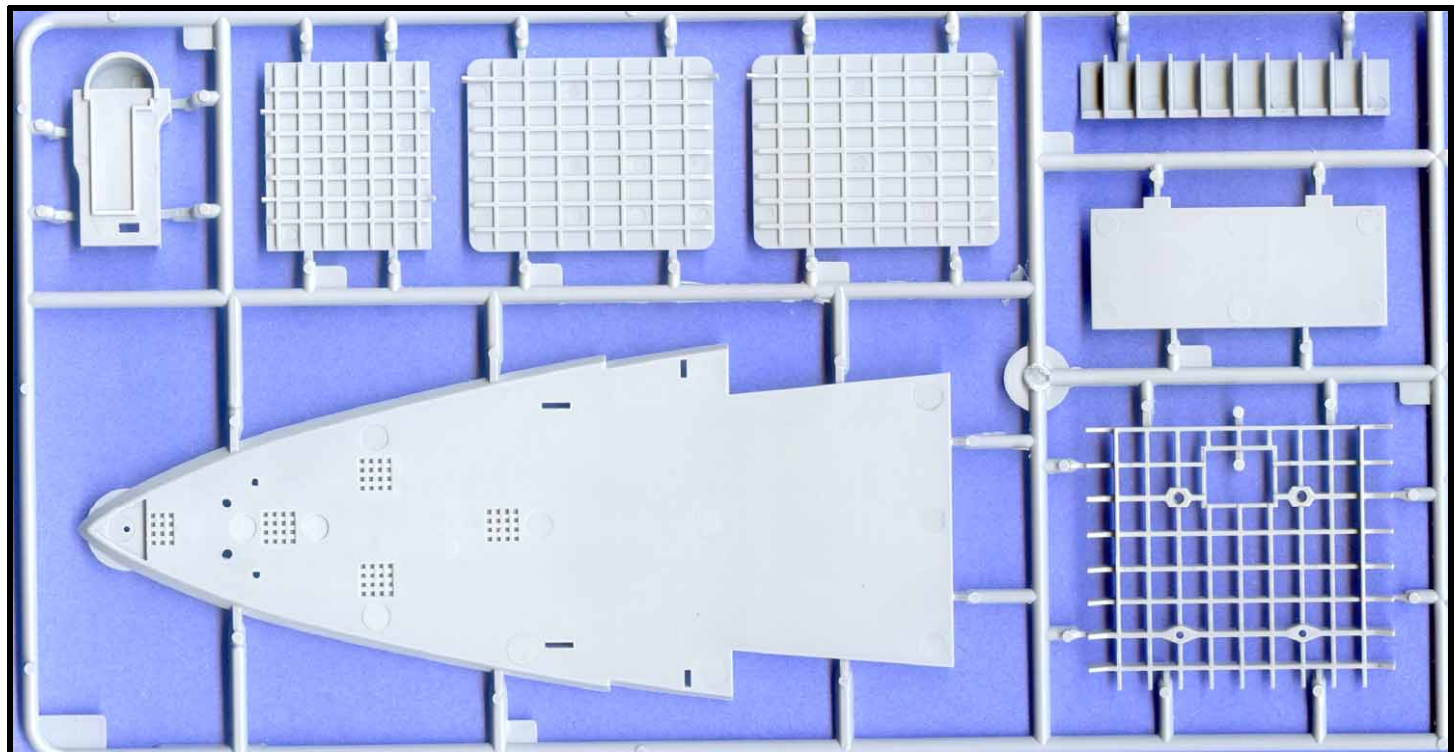
SPRUE-A, SIDE-2

The backsides of the hanger deck superstructure sides have interior parts which provide support for both positioning and strength. They are also mold punch outs which will need to be addressed.



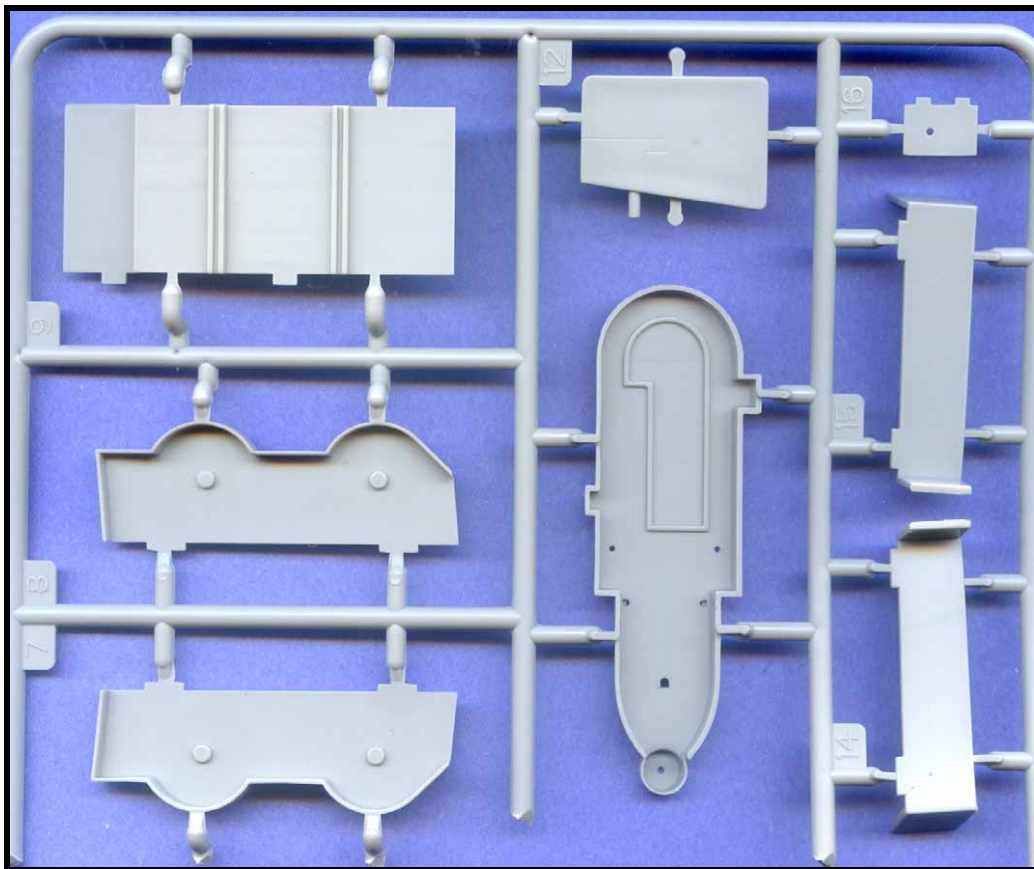
SPRUE-B, PART-1 SIDE -1

The flight deck overhang girder support framing is nicely molded with no flash. The flight deck elevators also have tabs so that they will sit in the elevator track systems supplied with the kit.



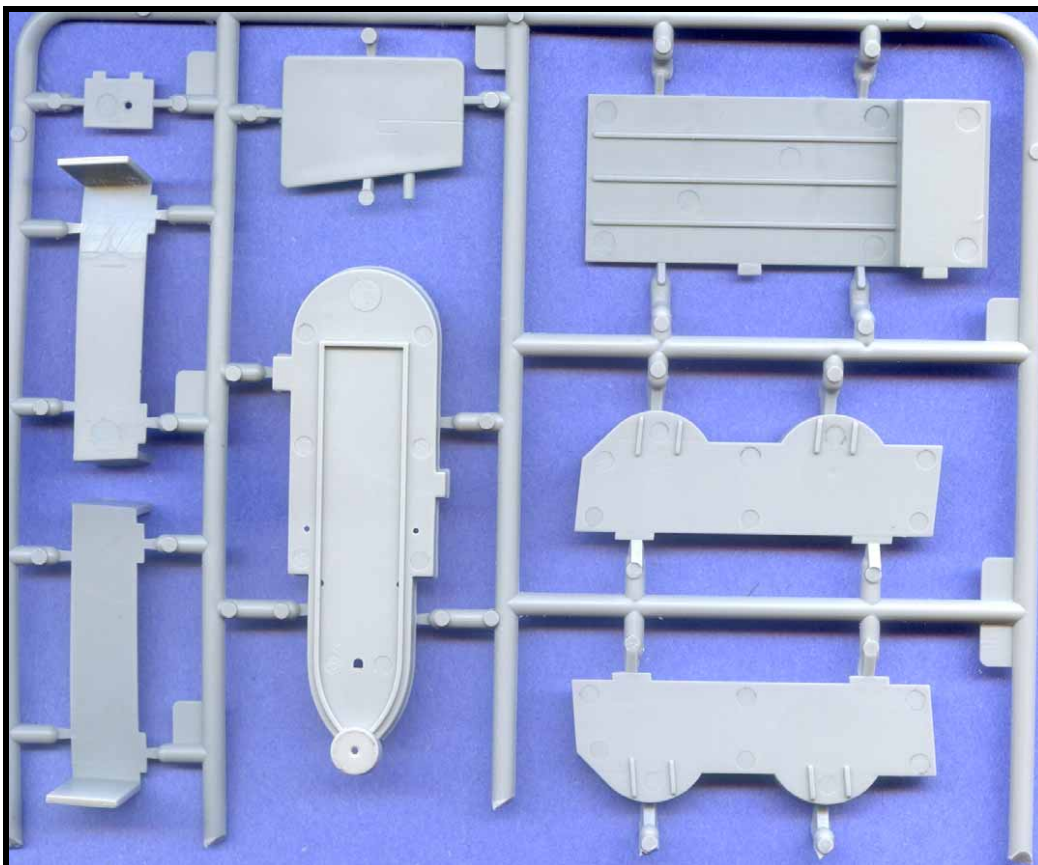
SPRUE-B, PART-1, SIDE-2

The underside of the elevators also have girder support detail.



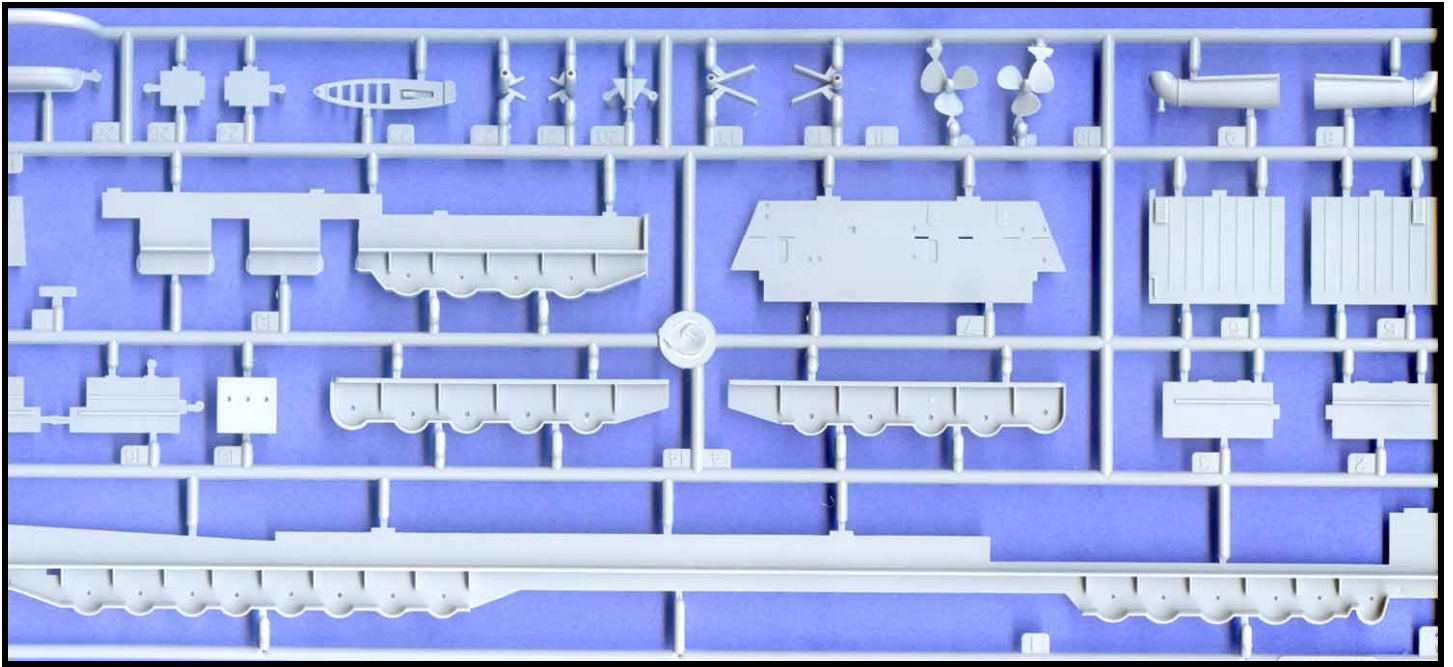
SPRUE-B, PART-2, SIDE-1

The sprue tabs are connected to the tops of the splinter shields on the flight deck island.
Be careful when removing these parts as it is easy to damage the splinter shields.



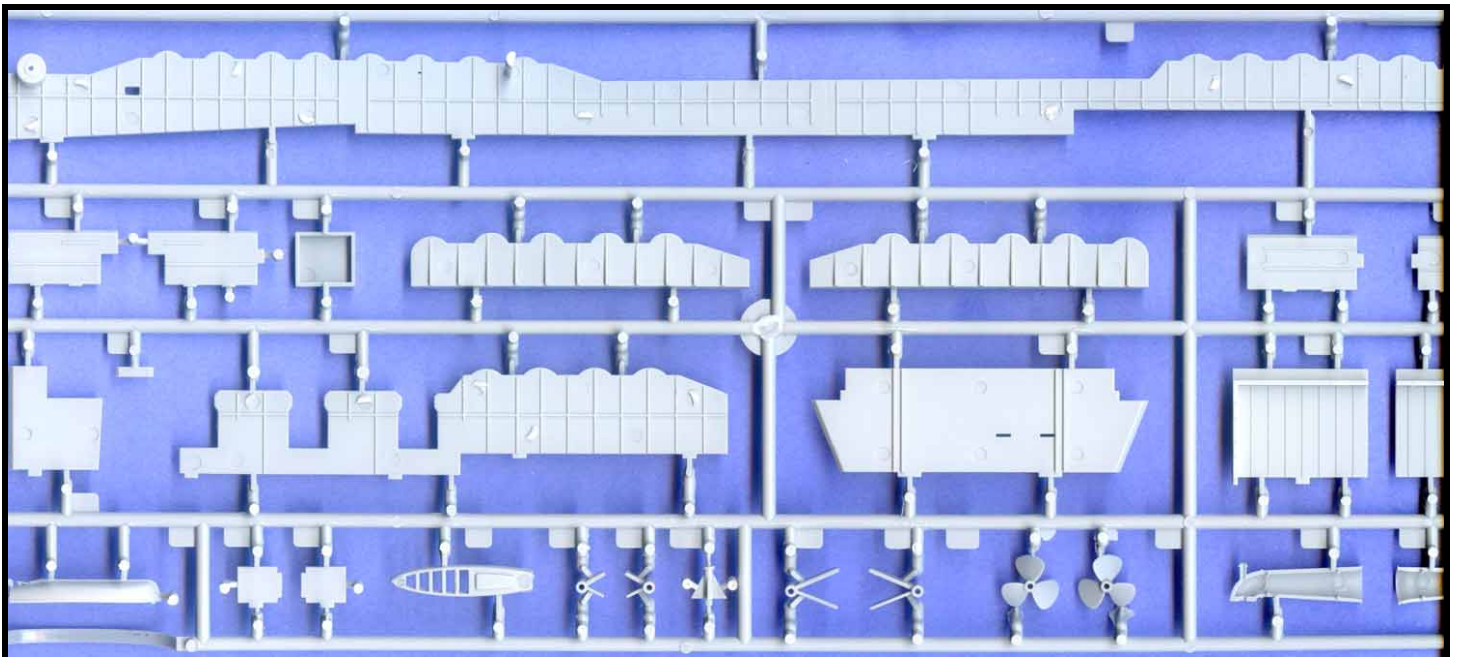
SPRUE-B, PART-2, SIDE-2

Careful wet sanding will be required to remove the mold punch outs on the upper right part.



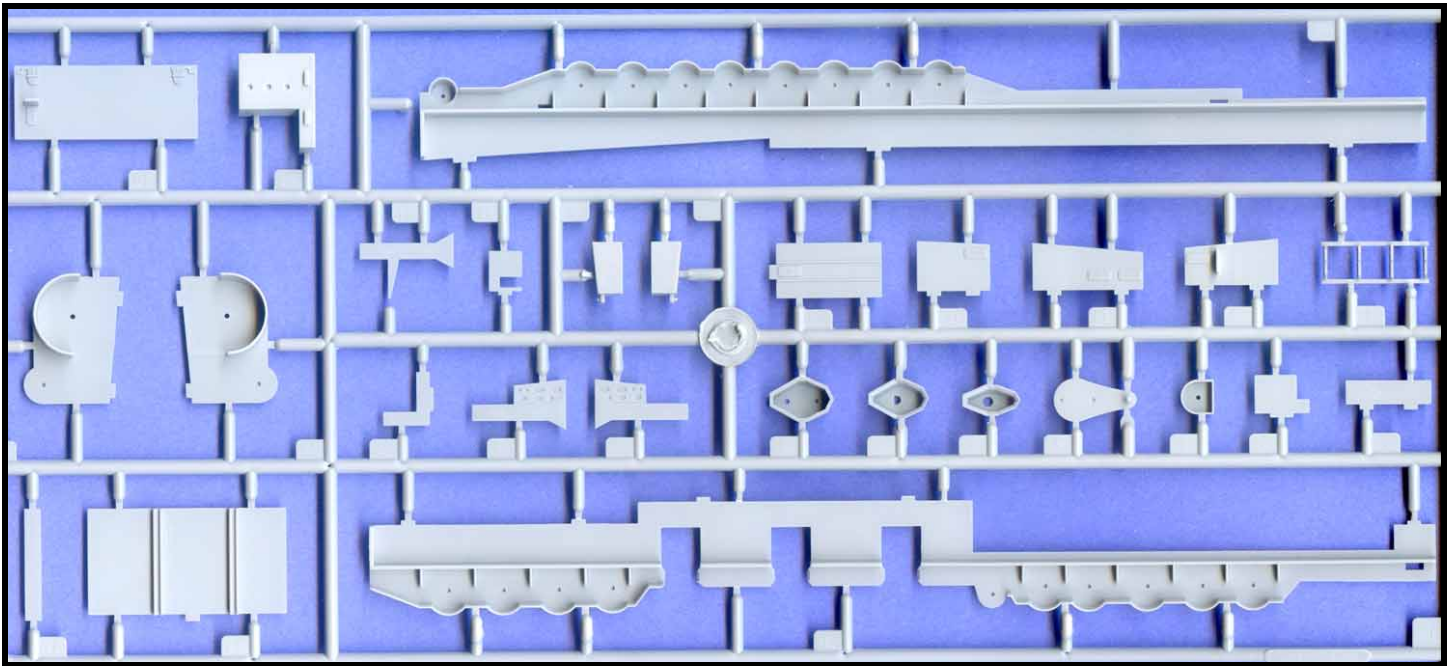
SPRUE-C, SIDE -1

The splinter shields on the catwalk 20mm gun positions are well done and thin.



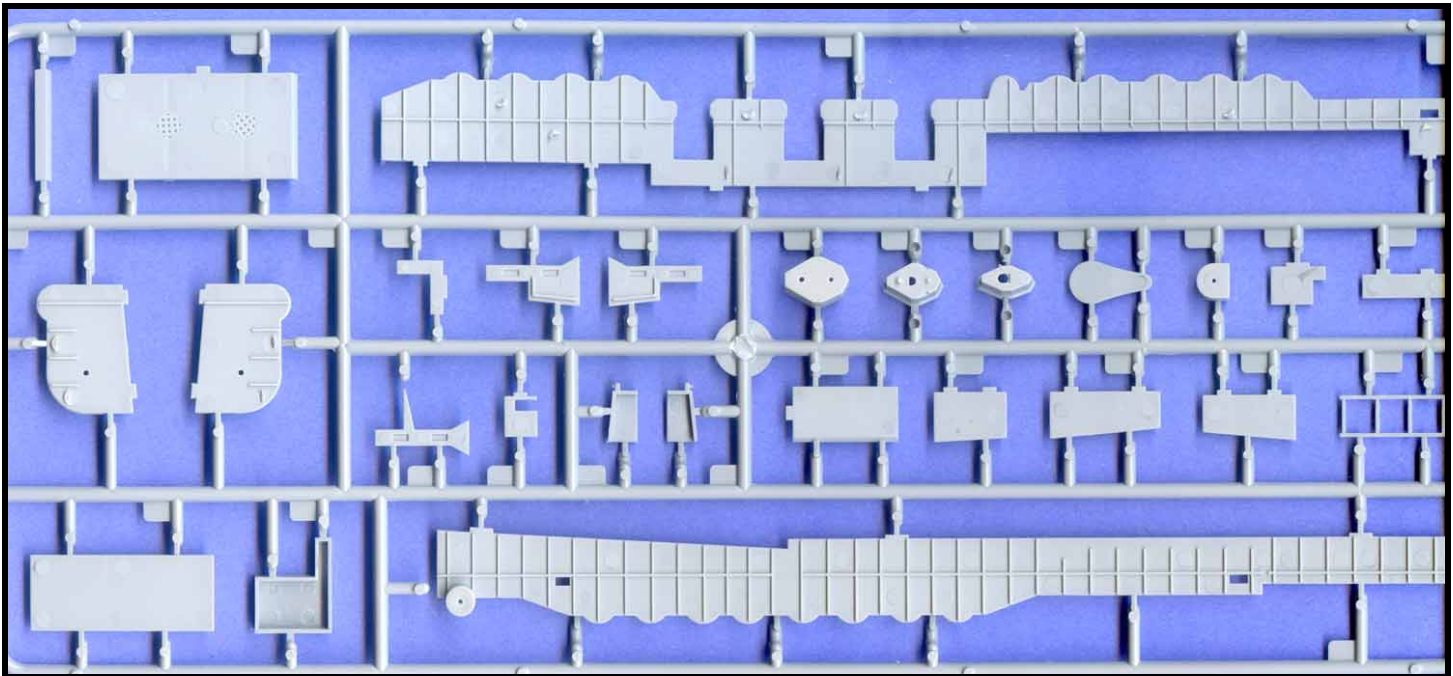
SPRUE-C, SIDE -2

The undersides of the flight deck catwalks have mold punch outs that are raised and in some cases are 1/16 of an inch above the surface. These will have to be carefully cut off and the surfaces wet sanded, which is going to be a challenge without damaging the support framing.

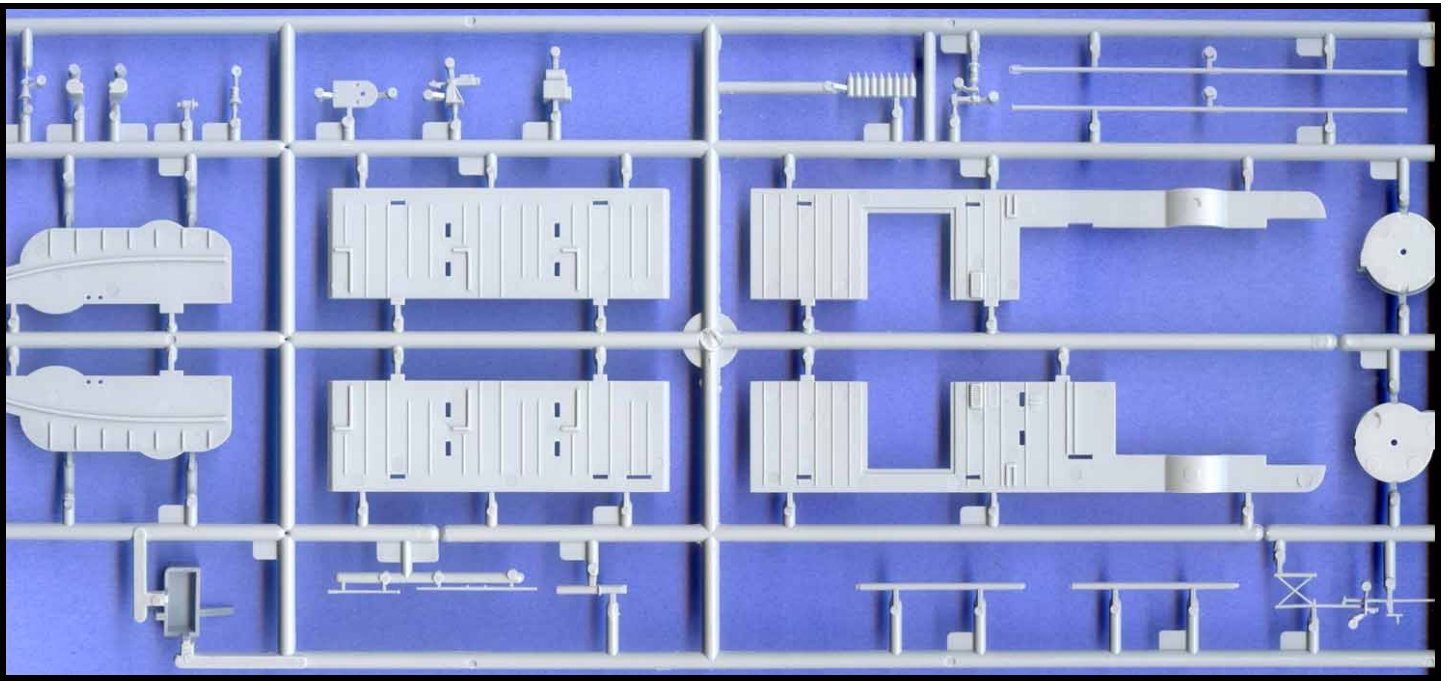


SPRUE-D, SIDE-1

On some surfaces you can see tiny raised lines that are a result of the slide molding. These lines will need to be removed.

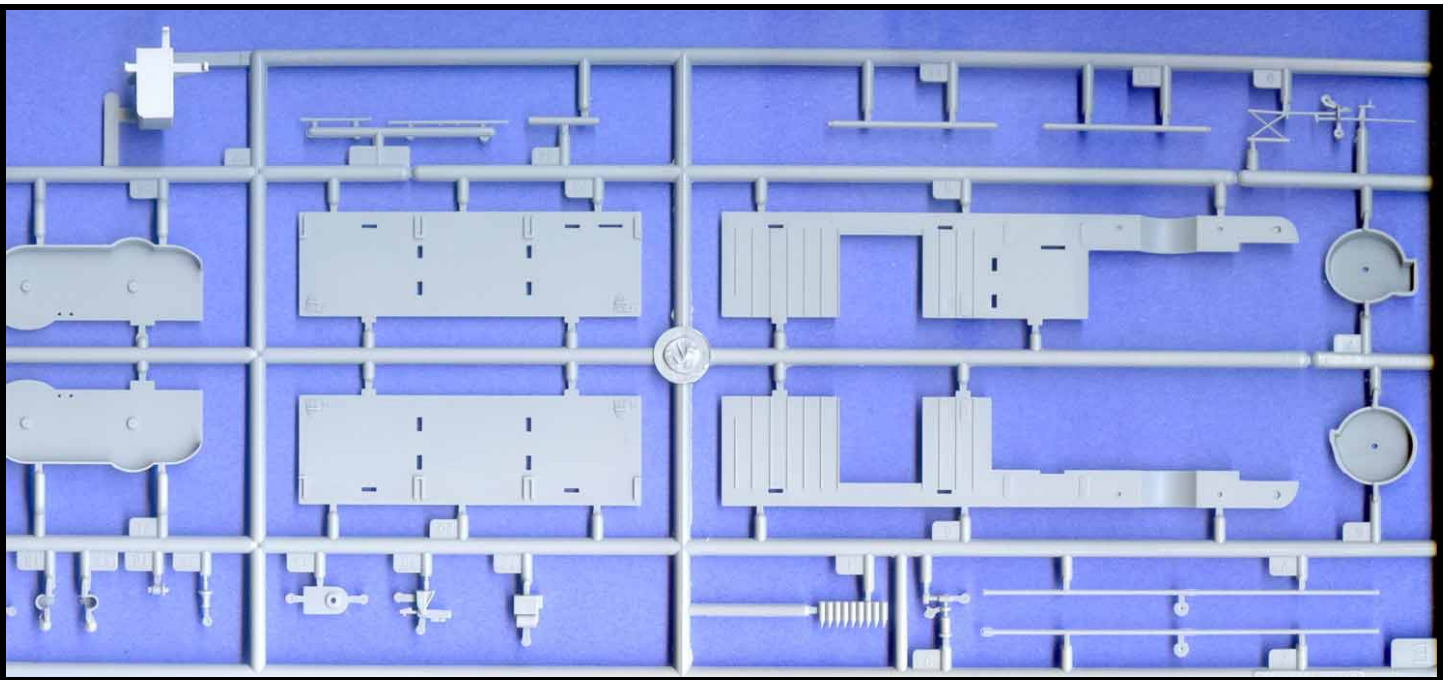


SPRUE-D, SIDE-2

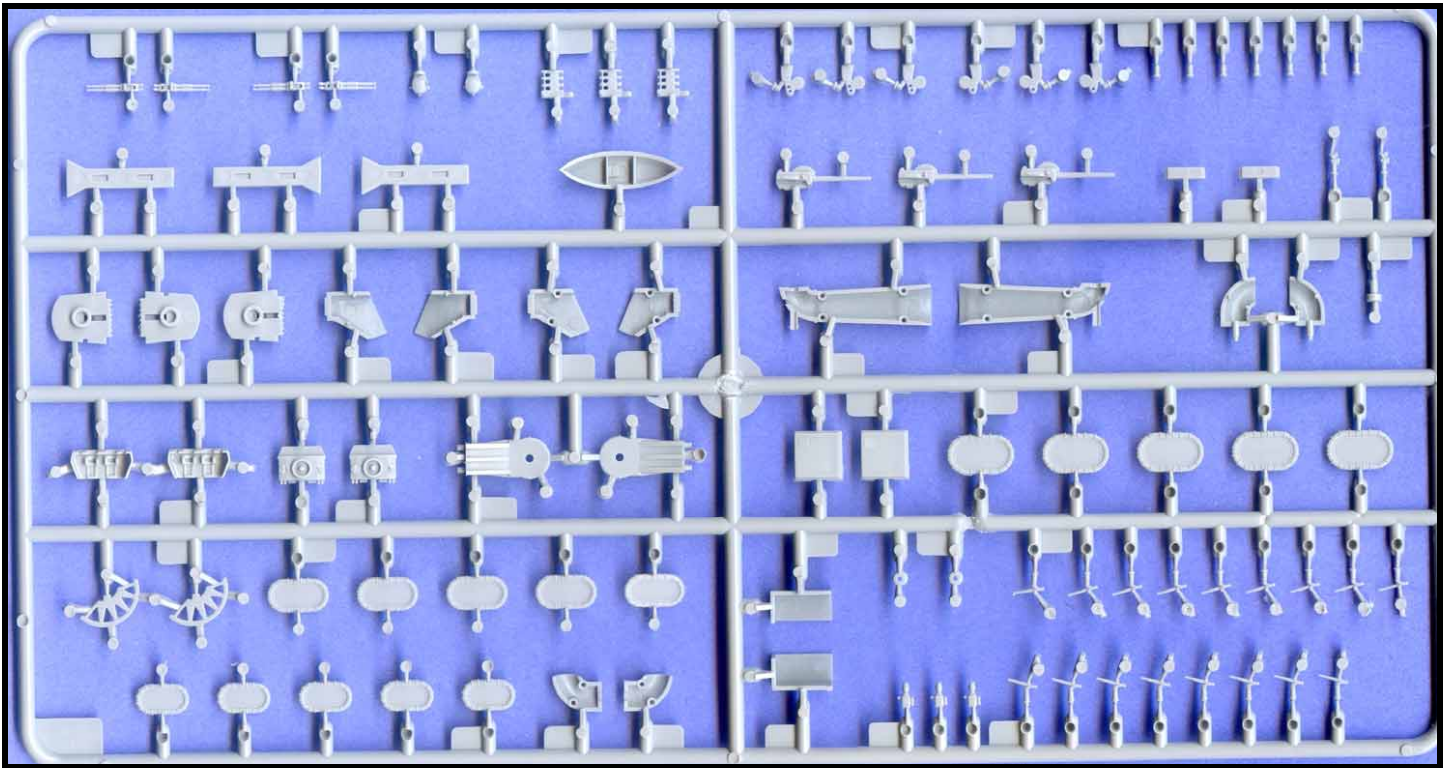


SPRUE-E, SIDE-1

The smaller mast and yardarm parts will need to be replaced with stiff brass wire so that rigging can be attached.

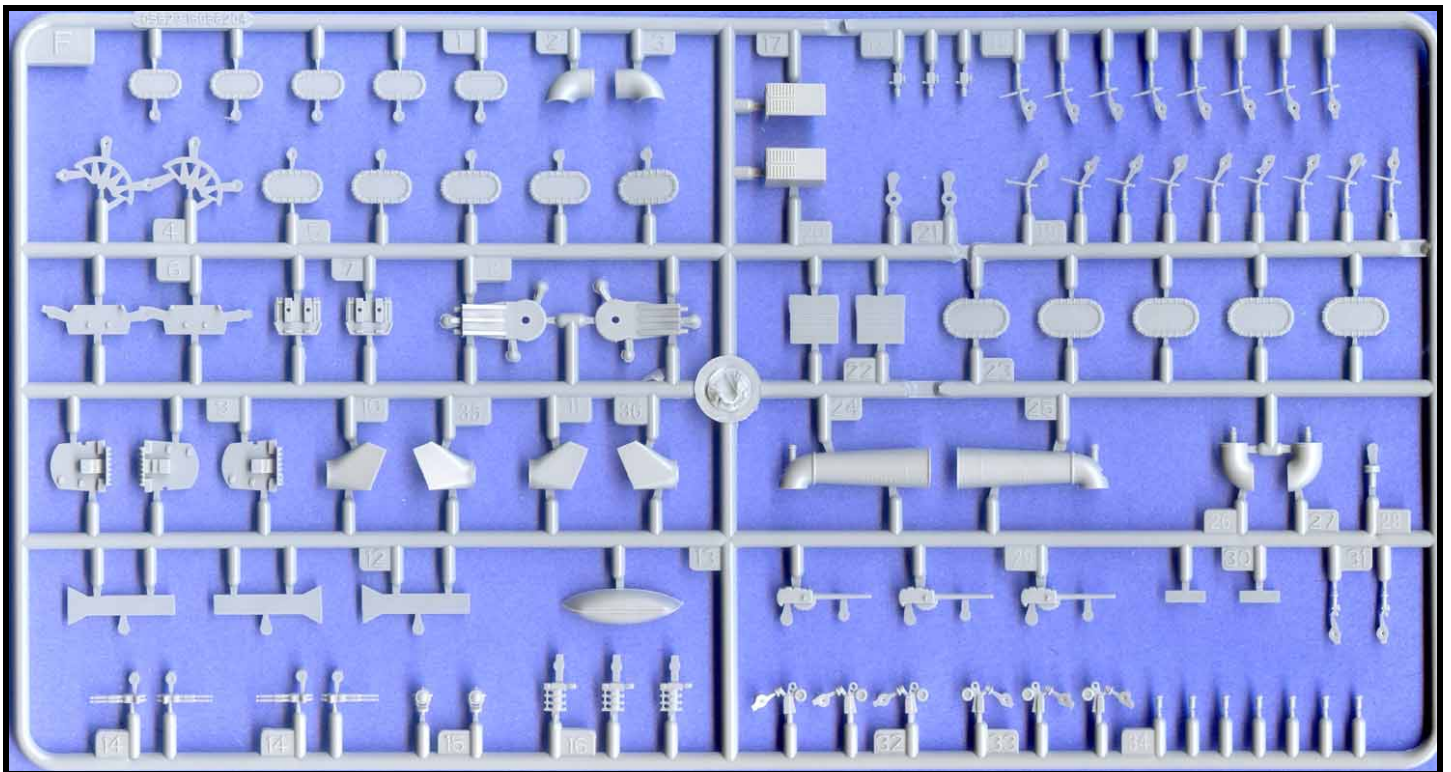


SPRUE-E SIDE-2

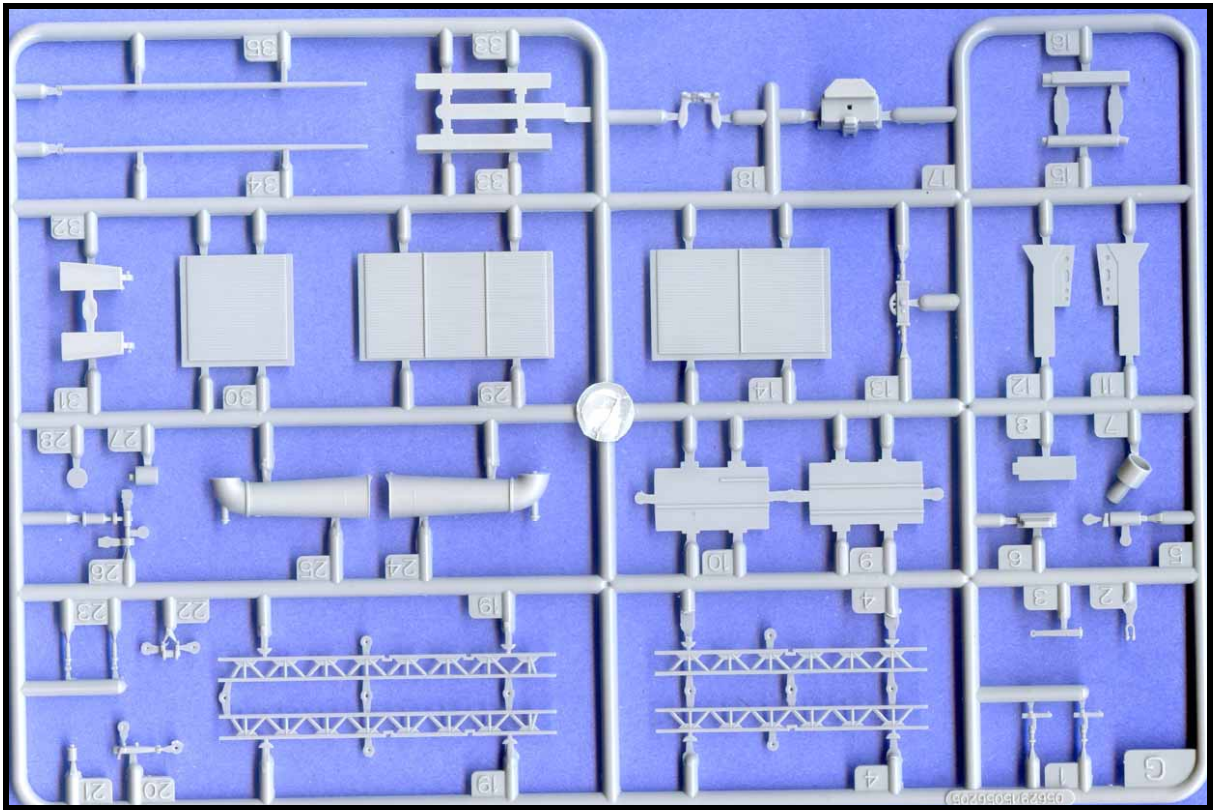


SPRUE-F, SIDE-1 (3 of these are supplied with the kit)

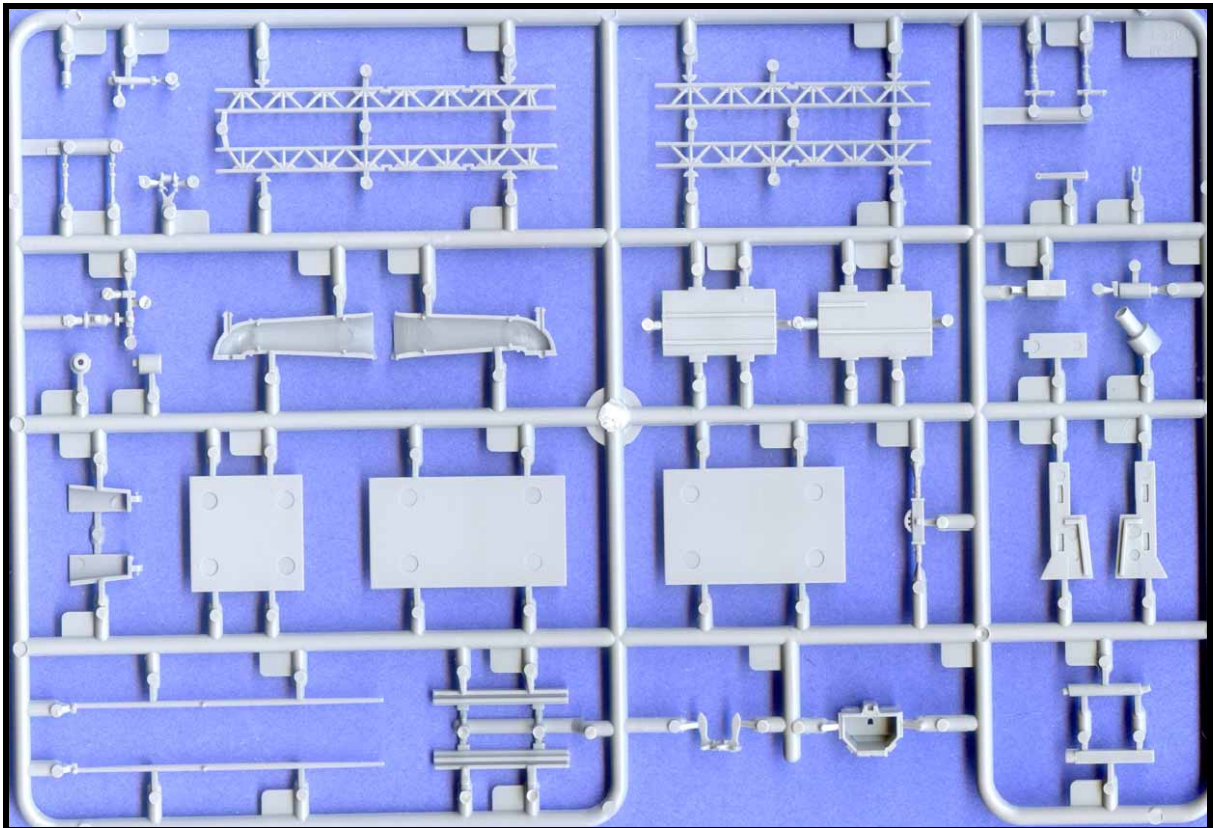
There are injection stubs on the barrels of the 5"/38 mounts that will need to be removed very carefully or the barrels will be damaged.



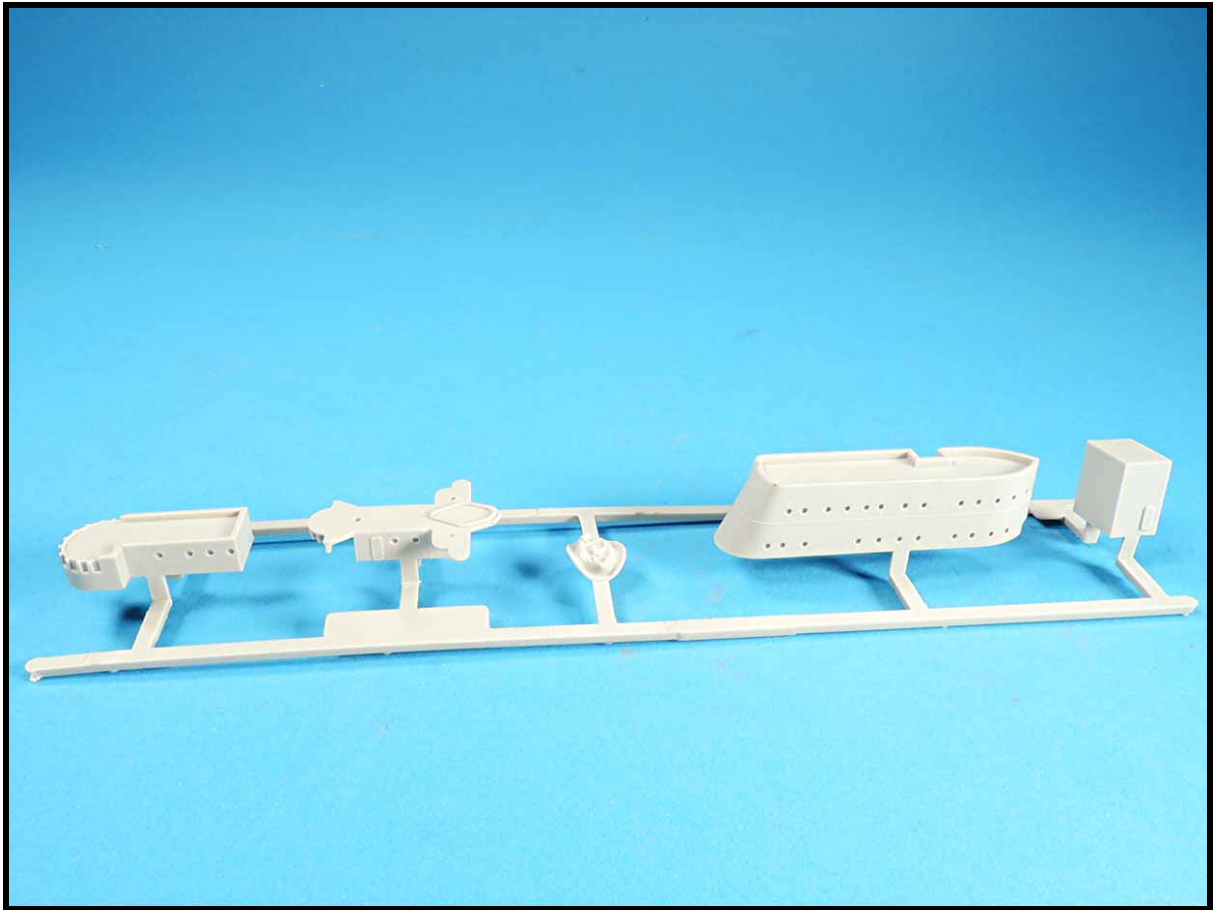
SPRUE-F, SIDE-2



SPRUE-G, SIDE-1 (2 of these are supplied with the kit)

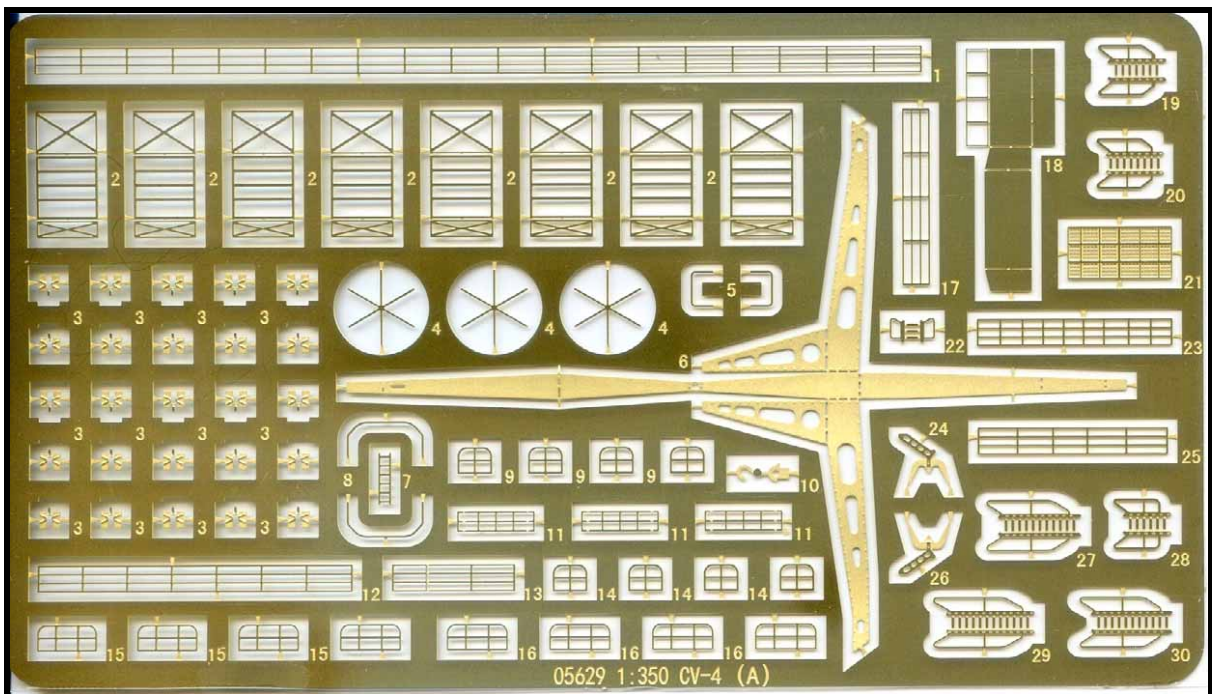


SPRUE-G, SIDE-2



SPRUE-H

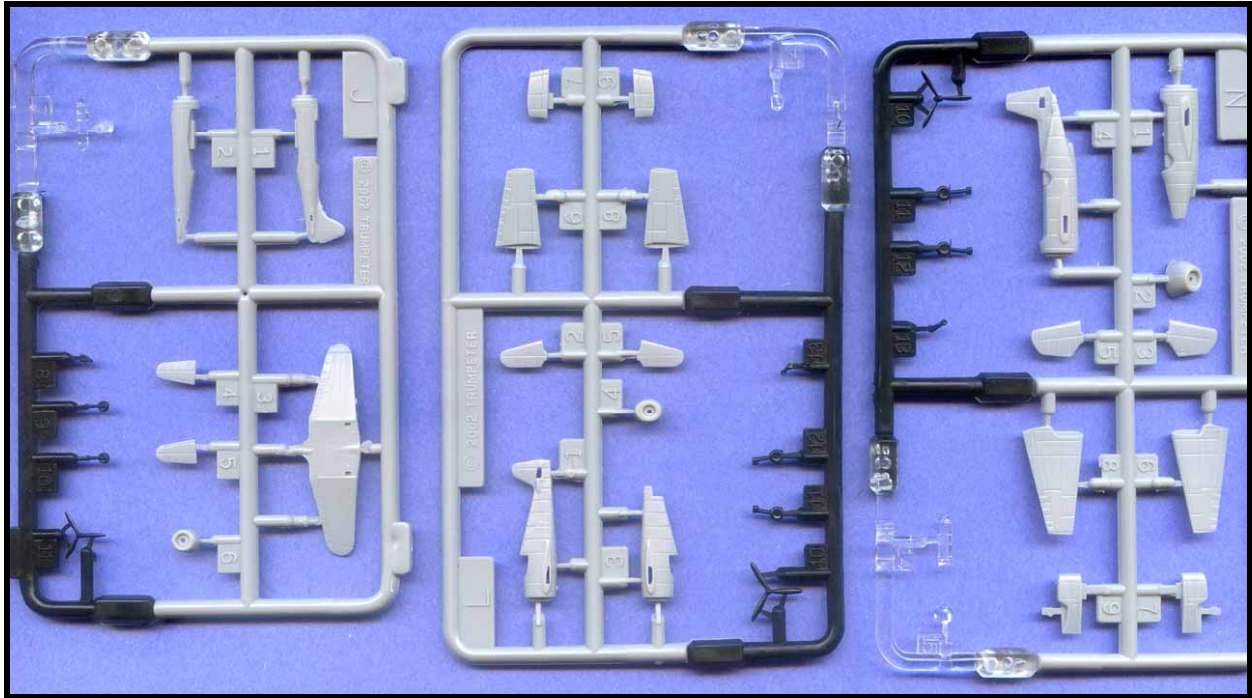
These parts can easily be removed and the sprue stubs removed without damaging the parts.



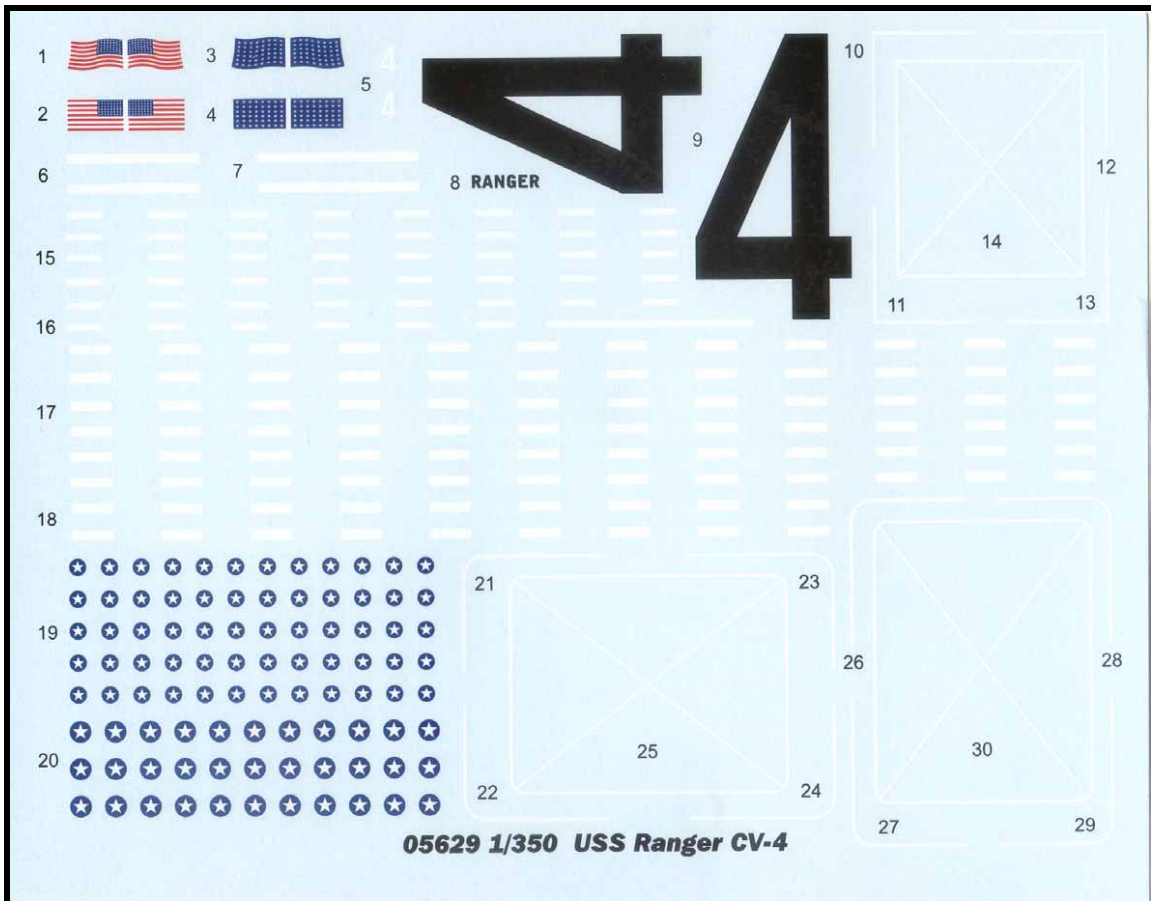
PHOTOETCH SHEET-A (2 of these are supplied with the kit)



PHOTOETCH SHEET-B

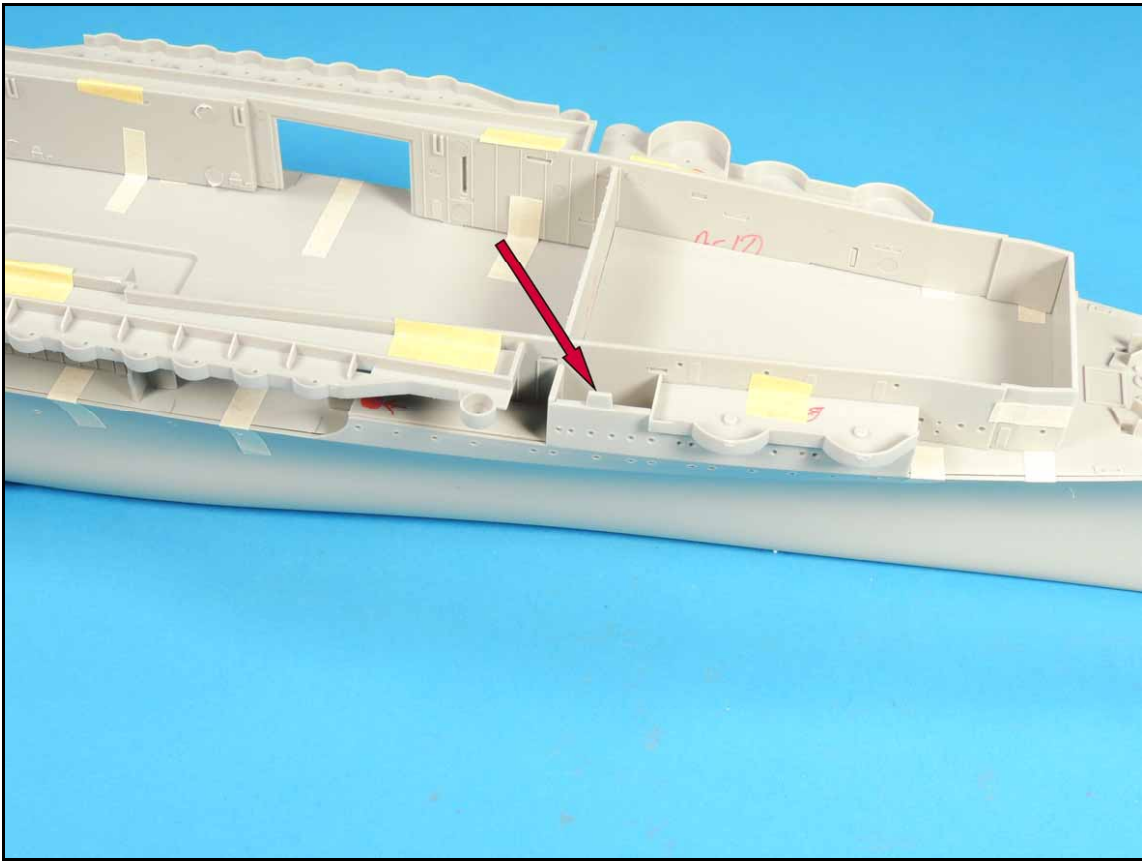


There are 5 of each of these aircraft supplied with the kit. These aircraft are much easier to assemble than the clear ones.



DECAL SHEET

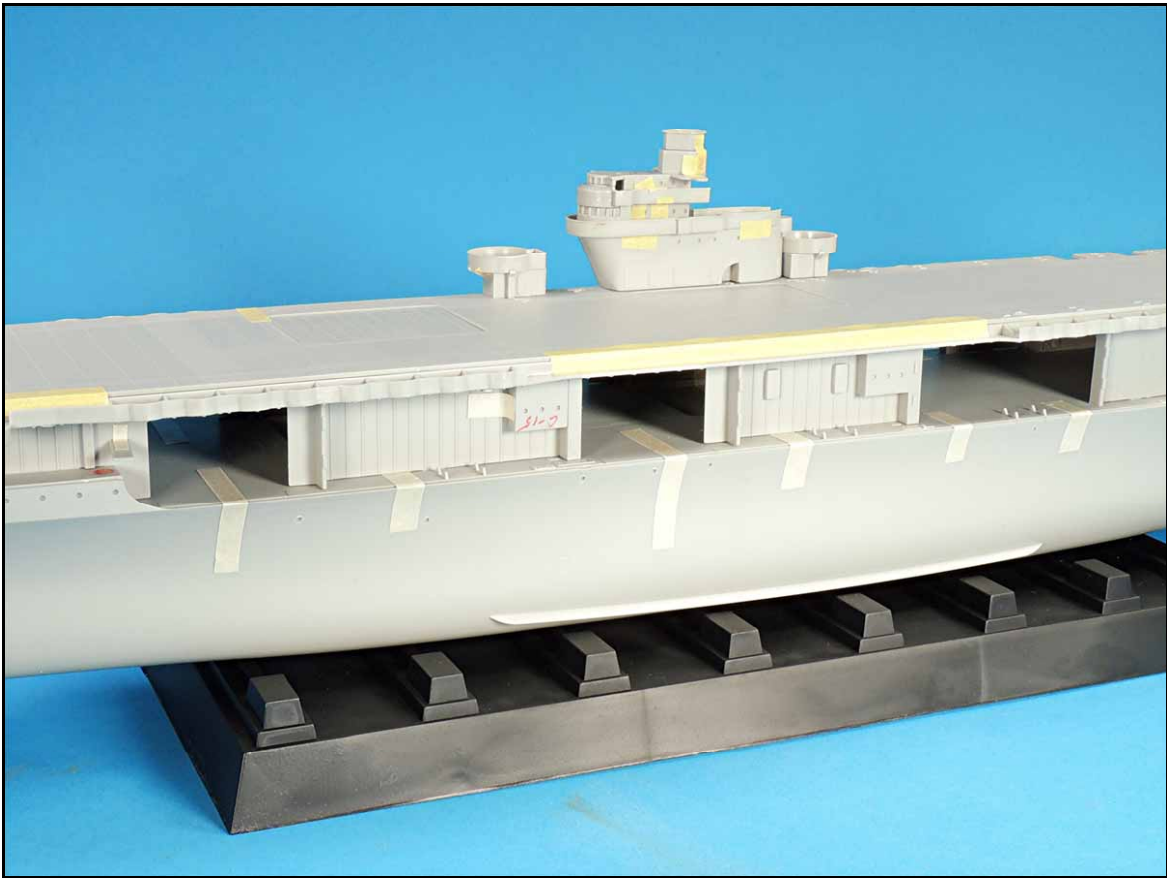




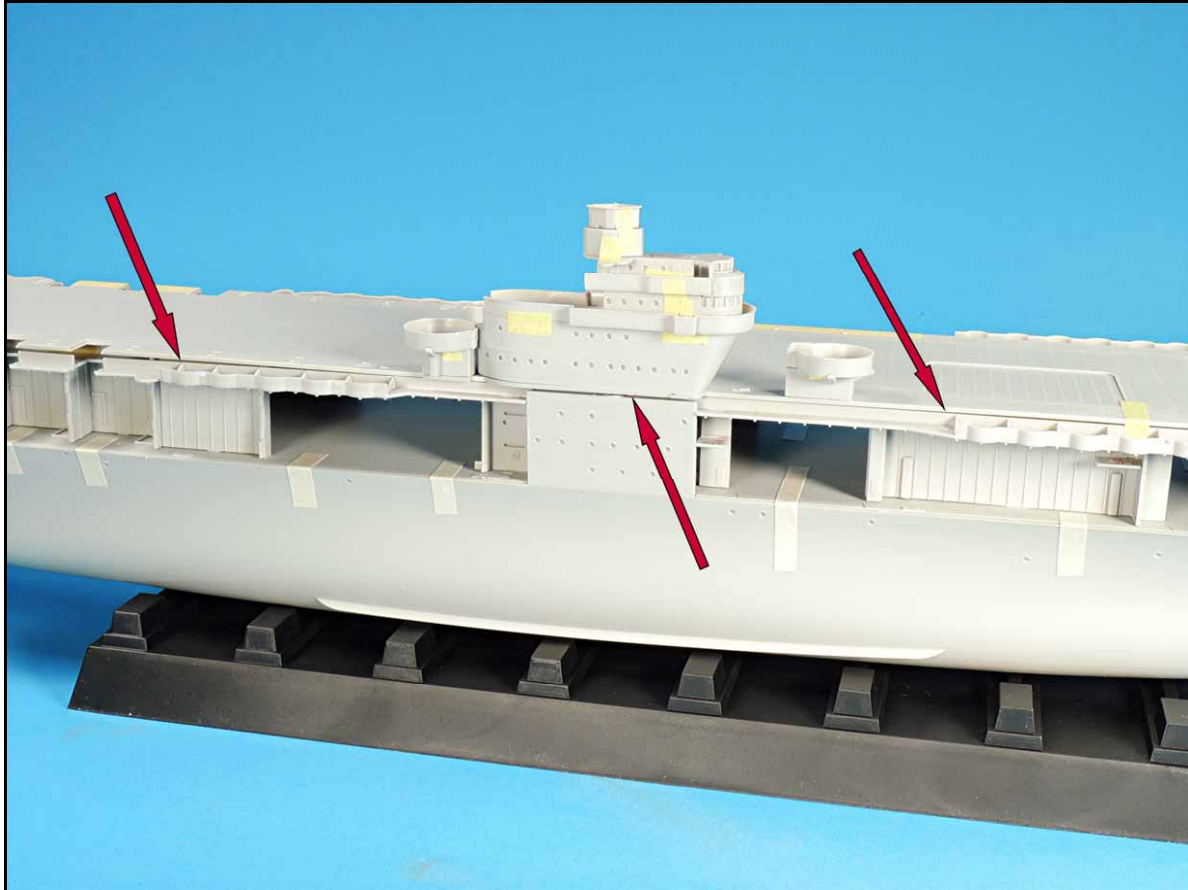
There are 3 of these tabs that will need to be removed. Two are on the forward superstructure port and starboard sides and one is on the starboard side just under the area where the island structure sits.



Trying to fill, scrape and sand the seam between the flight deck side and the catwalk will be very difficult. The solution is to cover the seam with .030 inch half round.



The hanger deck superstructure sides have an abundance of surface detail. The island superstructure is not very big and it is not a complicated build.



The seam below the island can be filled, scraped and sanded smooth, but here again the seams between the catwalks and the flight deck sides will have to be covered with .030 inch half round just like on the port side.