

X-WING FIGHTER

Photoetch Set

For Bandai, Revell, and FineMolds 1/48 scale kits



P/N: PGX201

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INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing ParaGrafix's X-Wing Fighter Phototech Set for the 1/48 scale kits from Bandai, Revell, and Fine Molds. We have tried to make this set as straight-forward as possible to install, though there are some steps that require moderate scale modeling experience. For information on the more advanced techniques involved, please view our videos at www.paragrafix.biz/video-instructions-1.asp.

Key

Kit part (plastic):

1

Photoetched part:

1

Materials

In addition to the photoetch, you will also need scissors or a knife* to remove individual pieces from the main fret, a file to remove material left from cutting, and super glue (aka CA or cyanoacrylate). Additionally, to fold some pieces, you will need a pair of razor blades** or a specialty tool such as PhotoFold from ParaGrafix.

* We prefer a #17 Xacto chisel blade.

** Extreme care must be taken when using razor blades. Risk of serious injury.

Raised Detail

Where applicable, these instructions note an area where the raised kit detail must be removed. The symbol at left will show you where this needs to happen. This may be done in whatever way you are most comfortable: sanding, filing, chiseling. Note that in most cases the surface does not need to be perfectly smooth as the photoetched part will replace the "lost" kit detail.

Lighting Options

Unless otherwise noted, you can prep areas for lighting by removing plastic from areas where there are through holes in the photoetch. You can then backlight the photoetch. For best results, we suggest using Micro Kristal Klear from Microscale Industries (www.microscale.com) or Clear Parts Adhesive and Window Maker from Testors (www.testors.com) to fill the through holes. To make controls of different colors, wait for MKK or CPAWM to fully cure, then paint the back side of each, individual control with a clear hobby paint such as Tamiya Clear Red, Green, Blue, Yellow, etc.

Installation Parts Order

Unless otherwise noted, the installation steps are not in any particular order. You can complete them as you see fit to complement your kit construction order.

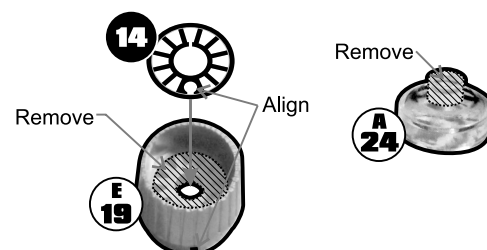
Engine Exhausts

Bandai

Cut out the center of the four engine exhausts, kit parts E19, leaving a very small lip in place. Remove the small "nipple" from the top of clear parts A24.

Attach an exhaust grill (etch parts 14) in each of the kit exhausts. Make sure that the "keyhole" in the etched part lines up with the groove on the base of E19.

Assemble kit parts E19, A24, and E20 per kit instruction step 4-1.



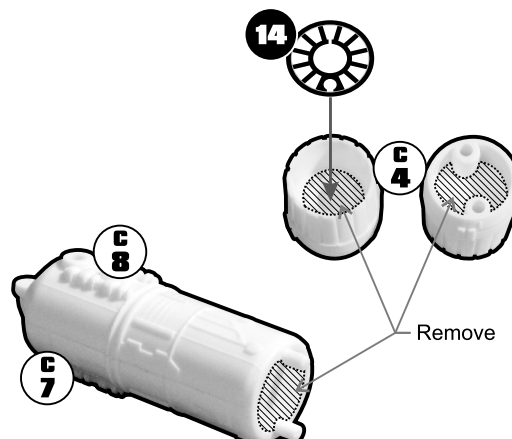
Revell / FineMolds

Cut out the center of the four engine exhausts, kit parts C4, leaving a small lip in place. Note that the mounting holes will be nearly obliterated by this operation, so make sure that at least the inner, curved etch of the hole to help align the parts.

If lighting the engines, remove the flat area at the rear of kit parts C7 and C8, making sure to leave the mounting pins in place.

Attach the exhaust grill (etch part 14) to part C4, making sure that the "keyhole" is aligned with one of the mounting holes.

Assemble kit parts C4, C7 and C8 per kit instruction step 7. **NOTE:** during assembly, make sure that the "keyhole" in the etch part is aligned with the mounting holes on the bottom of kit part C8.



Boarding Ladders

Platform Ladder

This ladder was seen on-screen just before and just after the Battle of Yavin. Technicians were using it before the battle, then Luke exited his ship onto this ladder at the end of the battle.

Folding

Fold platform 16 as shown below.

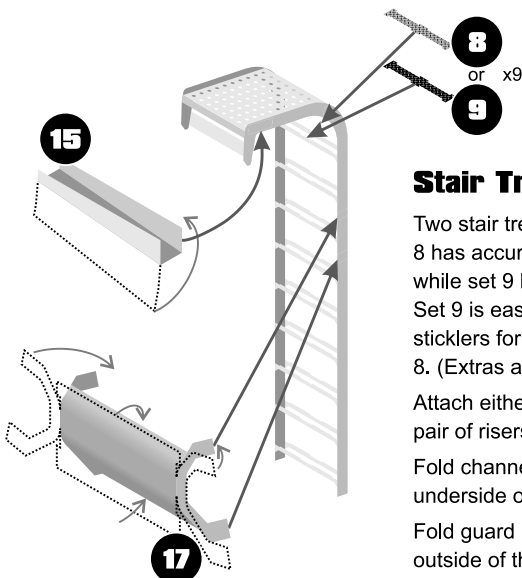
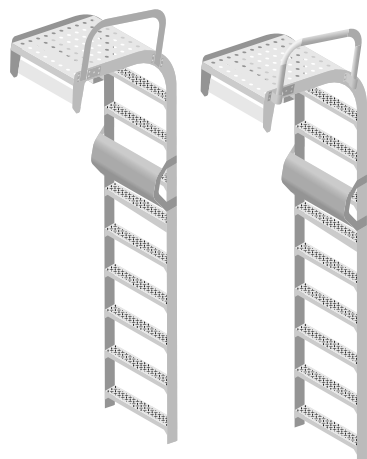
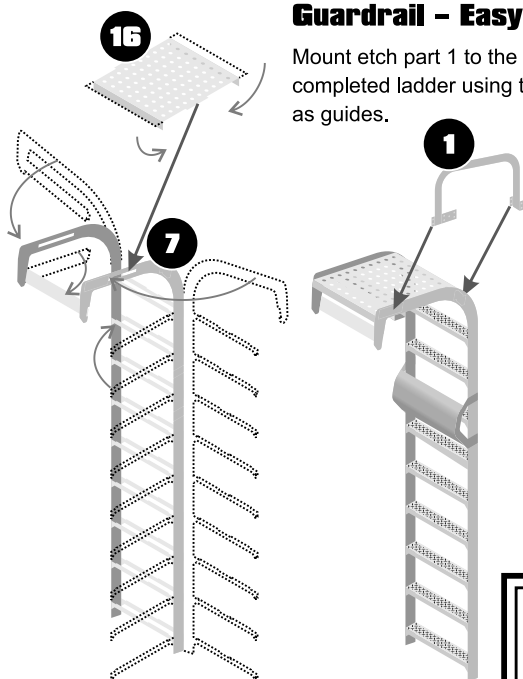
Fold the side rails of ladder 7 to 90° and insert the platform into the slots at the top of the ladder. Note that the slots are keyed so the platform will only fit in one direction. Secure the platform in place with super glue.

Fold the remaining stair risers over so that they mate with the slots in the left-hand side rail and secure in place.

Fold the upper flap and secure it.

Guardrail - Easy

Mount etch part 1 to the side of the completed ladder using the etched lines as guides.



Stair Treads

Two stair tread sets are included. Set 8 has accurate, raised diamond-plate, while set 9 has recessed diamonds. Set 9 is easier to work with, but sticklers for accuracy will want to use 8. (Extras are included of each.)

Attach either 8 or 9 on top of each pair of risers on the ladder.

Fold channel 15 and mount to the underside of the platform.

Fold guard 17 and mount to the outside of the side rails using the engraved lines as a position guide.

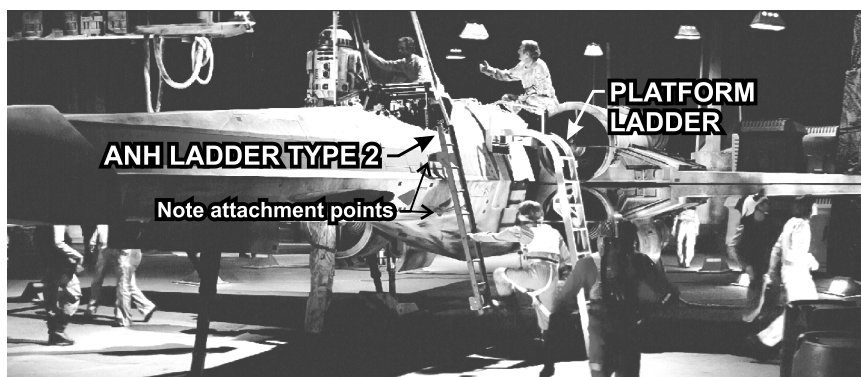
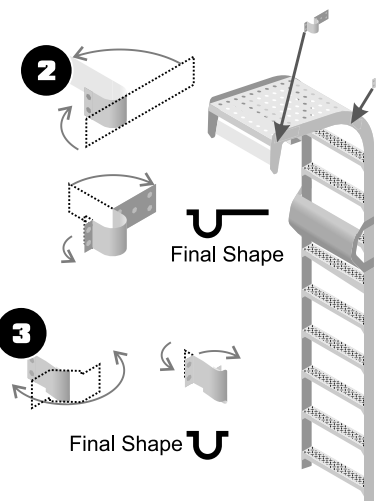
Guardrails - Advanced

Round parts 2 and 3 as shown at right, then fold the "bolt tabs" out flat.

Attach to the ladder using the etched lines as guides.

NOTE: If modeling the ladder at the end of Episode 4, ignore the following procedure.

Shape a piece of 0.04" (1 mm) plastic or brass rod using the rail of part 1 as a guide. Insert into the open sections of parts 2 and 3.



Boarding Ladders - Continued

ANH Ladder Type 2

This ladder style was only seen when the pilots were boarding their X-Wings before the Battle of Yavin.

Easy Ladder

Fold the side rails of part 11 at 90°, then fold the “standoffs” toward each other until they meet, as shown.

Advanced Ladder

This ladder is more accurate and incorporates round treads instead of the flat ones of the Easy Ladder.

Fold the ladder jig as shown below.

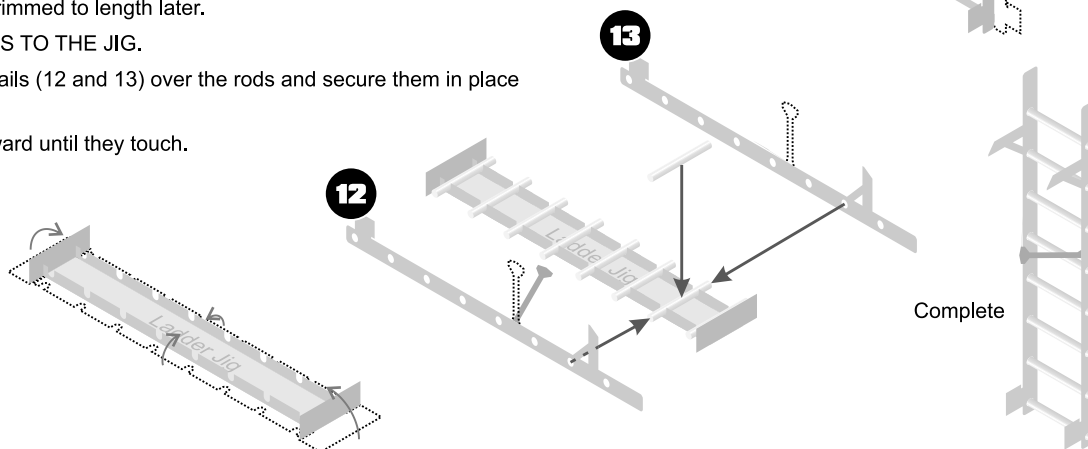
Cut eight lengths of 0.04” (1mm) rod to about 1/2” (12 mm) long and lay them in the jig. The rod will be longer than needed, but can be trimmed to length later.

DO NOT GLUE THE RODS TO THE JIG.

Slide the two ladder side rails (12 and 13) over the rods and secure them in place with glue.

Bend the two supports inward until they touch.

If you cut the rods long, trim them back now. A short (less than 0.03” / 0.8 mm) amount of rod should stick out from the side rails.



Boarding Ladders - Continued

ESB Ladder

This ladder was only seen during the scene in “The Empire Strikes Back” where Luke is preparing to leave for Bespin.

Easy Ladder

Fold each parts 6 and 8 as shown at right. Then attach 18 to 6 so that the “wings” are centered over the lines engraved in 6.

Advanced Ladder

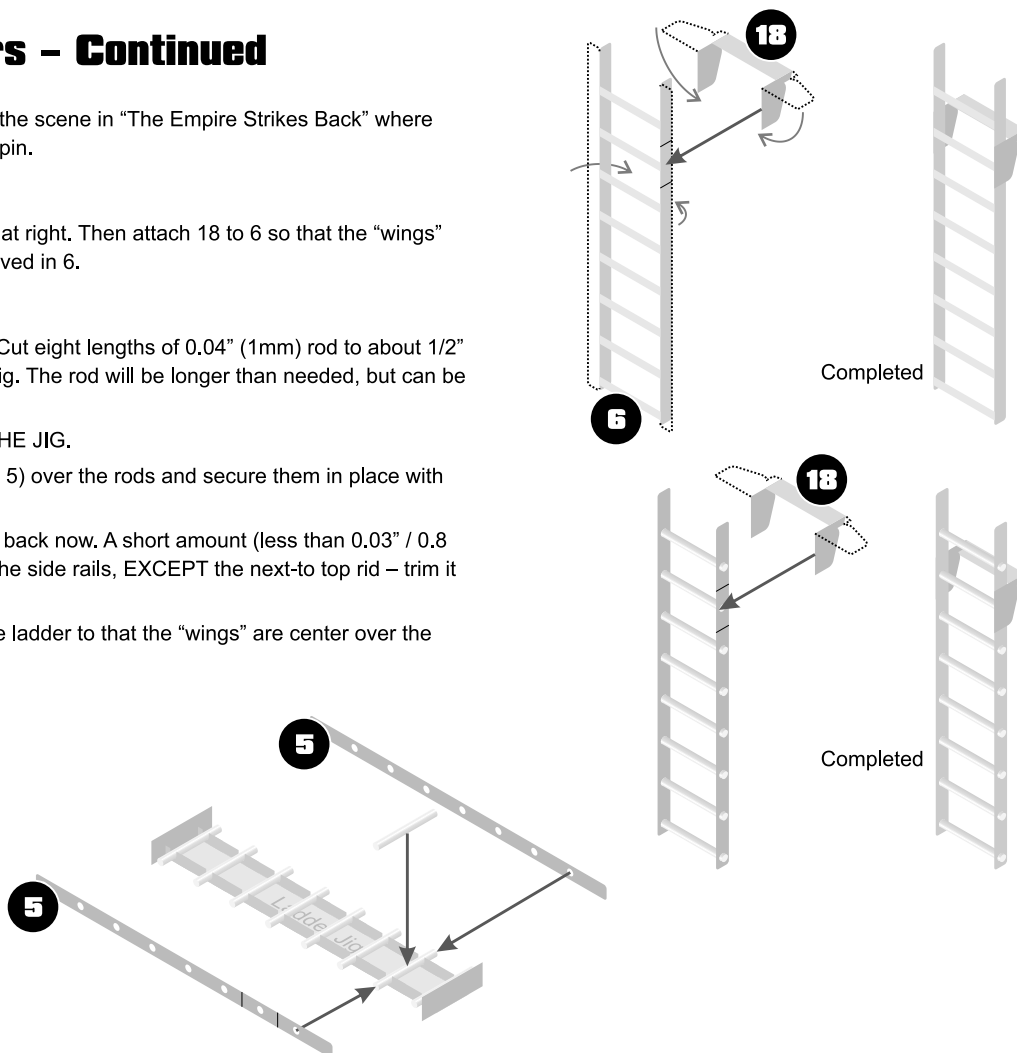
Use the jig as assembled above. Cut eight lengths of 0.04” (1mm) rod to about 1/2” (12 mm) long and lay them in the jig. The rod will be longer than needed, but can be trimmed to length later.

DO NOT GLUE THE RODS TO THE JIG.

Slide the two ladder side rails (2 x 5) over the rods and secure them in place with glue.

If you cut the rods long, trim them back now. A short amount (less than 0.03” / 0.8 mm) of rod should stick out from the side rails, EXCEPT the next-to top rid – trim it flush.

Fold each part 18 and attach to the ladder so that the “wings” are center over the lines engraved in both parts 6.



Cockpit Controls

Common

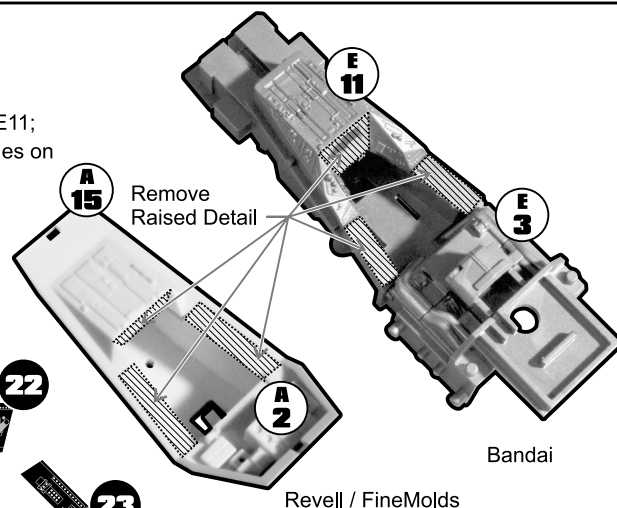
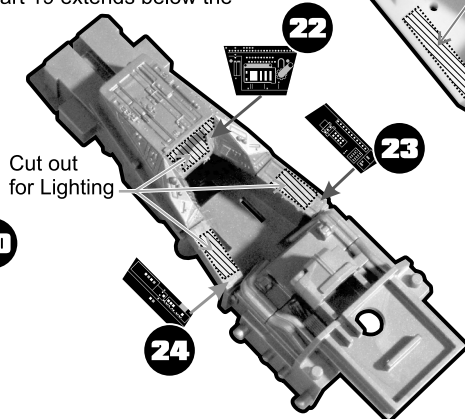
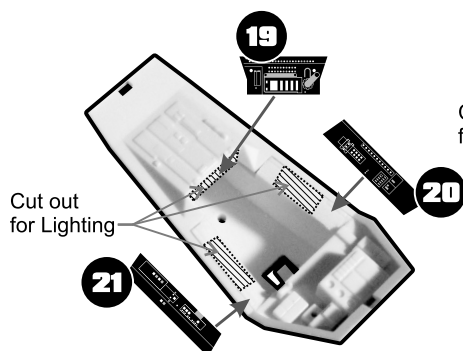
Remove the raised surface detail from kit parts where shown (Bandai: E3 & E11; Revell/FineMolds: A2 & A15). If lighting, mark the locations of the through holes on the panels and cut out areas so that light will show through.

Bandai

Mount etch parts 22, 23, and 24 as shown.

Revell / FineMolds

Mount etch parts 19, 20, and 21 as shown. Note that a light box will need to be constructed if lighting the kit as photoetch part 19 extends below the plastic kit part.



NOTE: This photoetch set matches the "hero" cockpit interior used to shoot the scenes of Luke flying to and from Dagoba in "The Empire Strikes Back".

Cargo Hold Hatch

NOTE: The hold is sized to more closely match the full-sized prop used in "The Empire Strikes Back", not the filming miniatures.

Common

Fold etch parts 4 and 10 (10 merely gets creased to follow the angle of the hull and part 4), then assemble them so that the tabs at the end of 4 fit into 10's slots.

Bandai

NOTE: This is not recommended – the motorized system takes up the room of the cargo hold and the hatch requires the removal of the two forward mounting sockets which could adversely affect the action and strength of the wings.

Use the template* to mark the hatch location on the hull and carefully cut out space for the hatch. Install the hatch so that it's base is parallel to the ground.

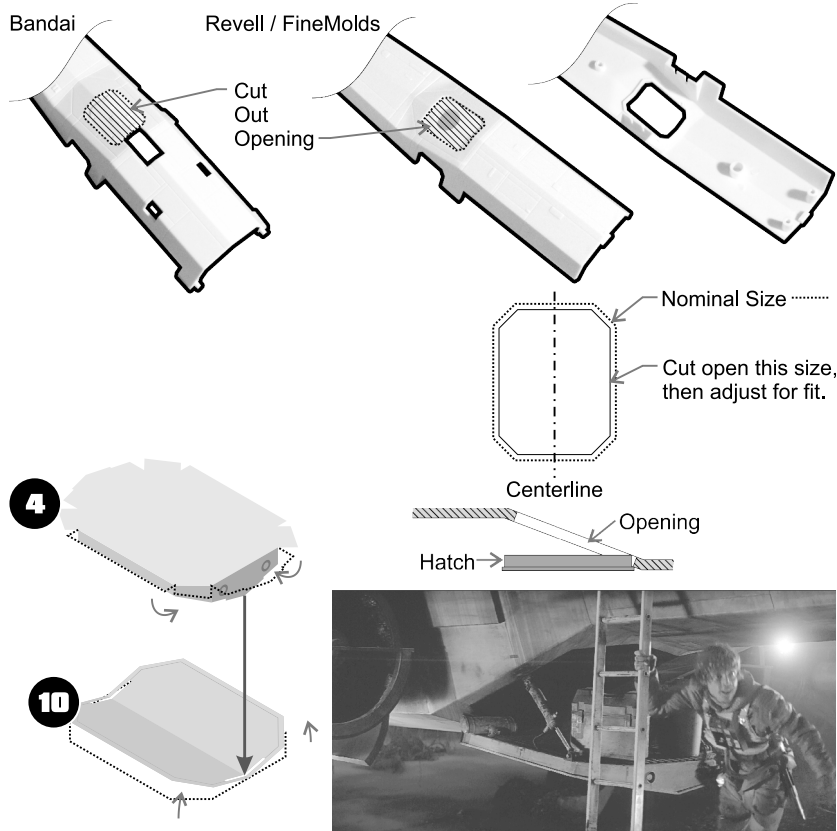
Revell / FineMolds

Cut out the existing kit hatch "socket". Cut smaller, then adjust the hole until the assembled etch hatch just fits inside.

Install the hatch so that it is parallel to the ground.

Common

Install nesting tubing to simulate the hydraulic lift mechanism.



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