

VIPER MK VII PHOTOETCHED COCKPIT

MOEBIUS MODELS
For #916
PGX144
Rev 1

PGMS
ParaGrafix
Modeling Systems

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INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing ParaGrafix's photoetched cockpit for the Moebius Models Viper Mk VII kit. If you are unfamiliar with working with photoetched parts, please see our written primer (<http://www.paragrafix.biz/instructions.asp>) or our video instructions (<http://www.paragrafix.biz/video-instructions-1.asp>).

You will find it easier to paint most of the parts before folding and then touch them up after assembly.

Note that there are several holes in the photoetch set that are sized to permit mounting of 3mm LEDs for lighting.

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.

Super glue (aka CA or cyanoacrylate).

A clear adhesive such as Micro Kristal Klear.

A folding tool (such as Etch Mate 3C or even just a pair of razor blades or straight edges) will be handy for a few of the folds, but most can be done with simple finger pressure.

Key

Kit part (plastic):



Photoetched part:

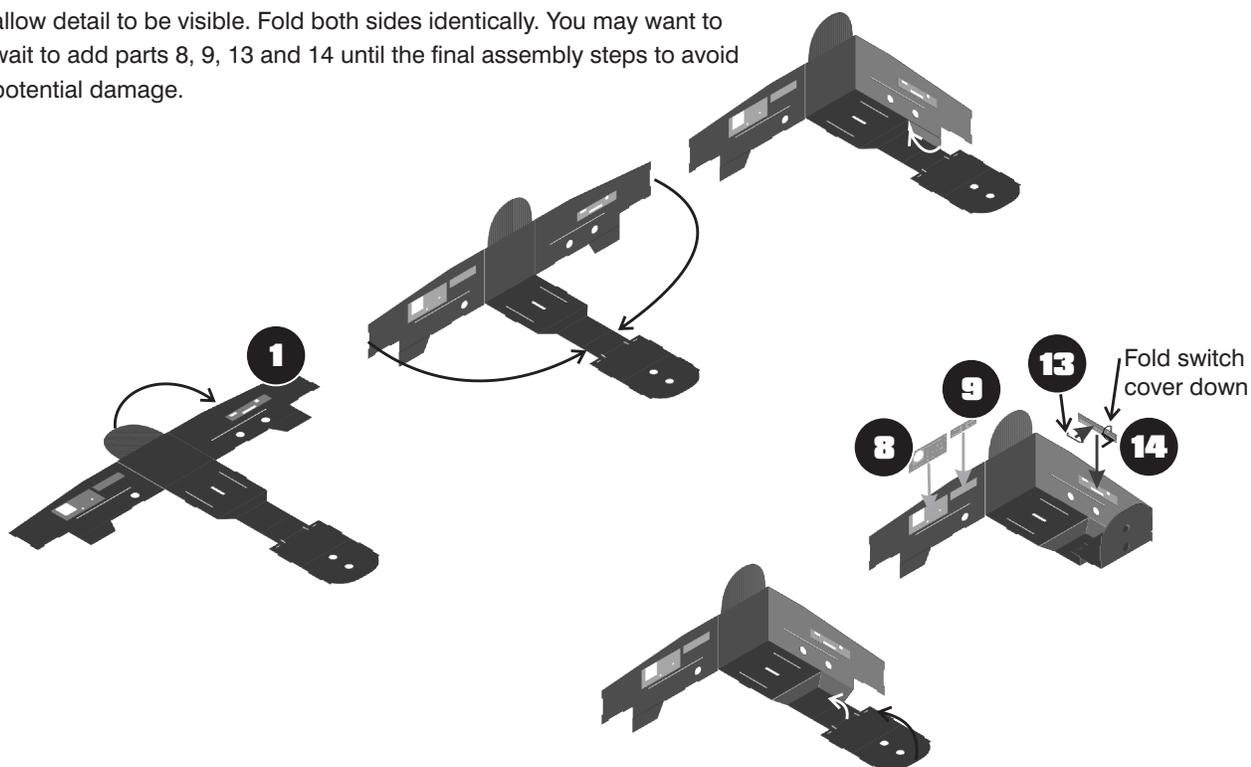


Backlight film:



Cockpit Tub

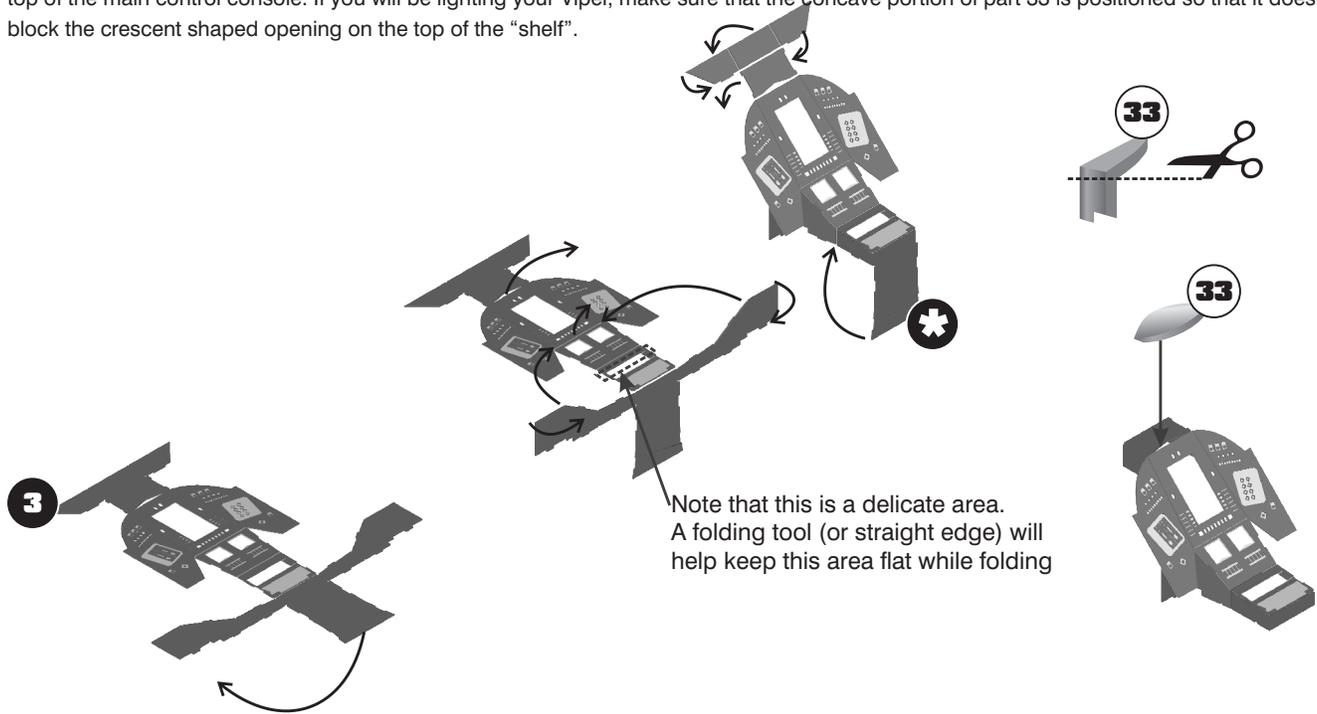
Fold the cockpit tub (etch part 2) as shown below. Note that only one of the side walls is shown folded - this is done only to allow detail to be visible. Fold both sides identically. You may want to wait to add parts 8, 9, 13 and 14 until the final assembly steps to avoid potential damage.



Main Console

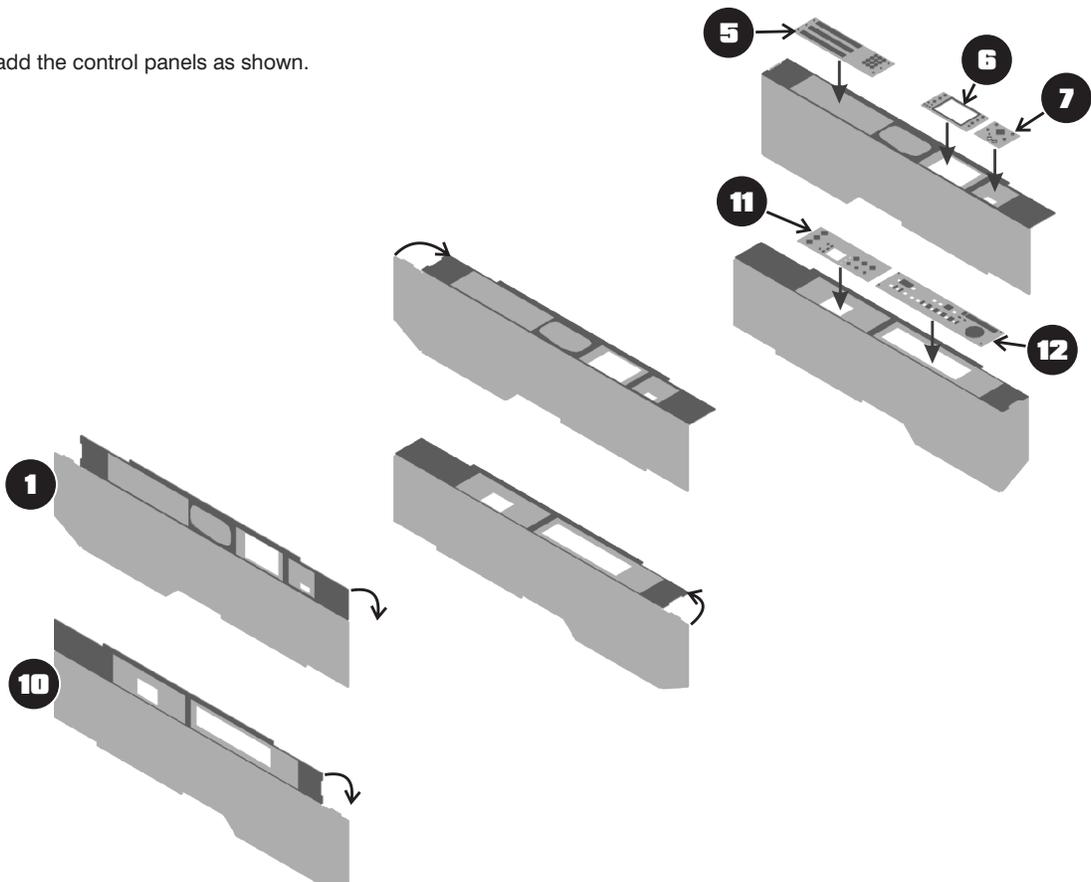
Fold the main control console (etch part 3) as shown. TIP: Do not glue the bottom panel (*) into place until mounted the backlight display into the opening above the keyboard. (See next page.)

Cut kit part 33 horizontally with a hobby saw at the bottom edge of the curved upper portion and attach to the top of the "shelf" created at the top of the main control console. If you will be lighting your Viper, make sure that the concave portion of part 33 is positioned so that it doesn't block the crescent shaped opening on the top of the "shelf".



Armrests

Fold the armrests and add the control panels as shown.



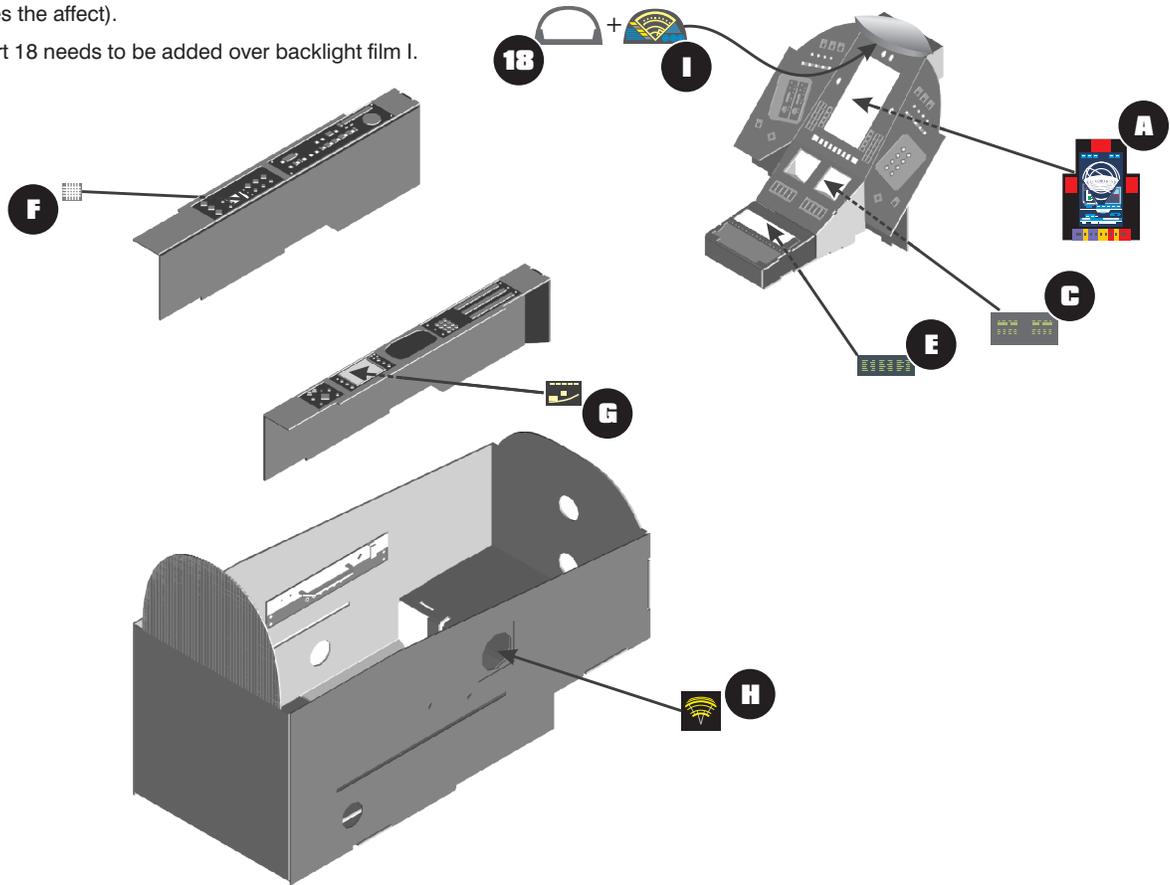
Backlight Films

Although called "backlight" films, these panels look great whether you're lighting your kit or not.

For best results, paint the cockpit pieces individually before mounting the films.

Mount the panels from the back side in the positions shown. Micro Kristal Klear is an excellent adhesive - just brush it around the film once it is in place to lock it down. You can also brush it into the through holes in the etch to give the appearance of lighted buttons (a quick spray of dull coat enhances the affect).

Note that etch part 18 needs to be added over backlight film I.

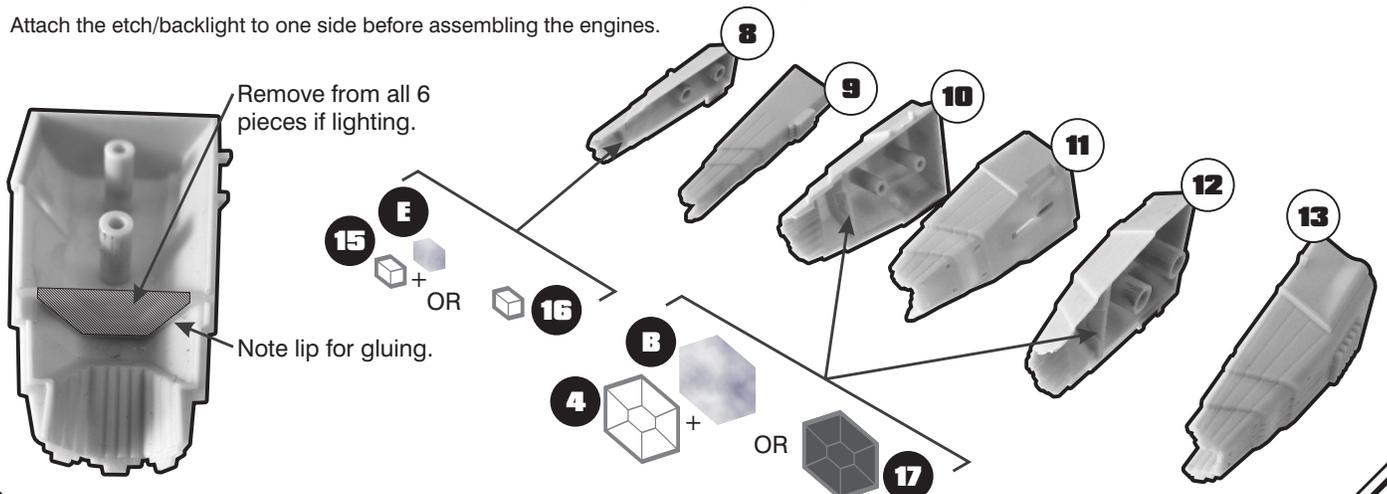


Engine Inserts

If lighting your Viper's engines, use etch parts 4 and 15, and backlight films B and D. Remove material from inside the vertical bulkheads of all kit parts (8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13) to allow light through (but leave a thin lip as a gluing surface). A single LED inside each of the engines can be used for lighting.

If not lighting, then use etch parts 16 and 17 to cover the seams deep in the kit's engine parts.

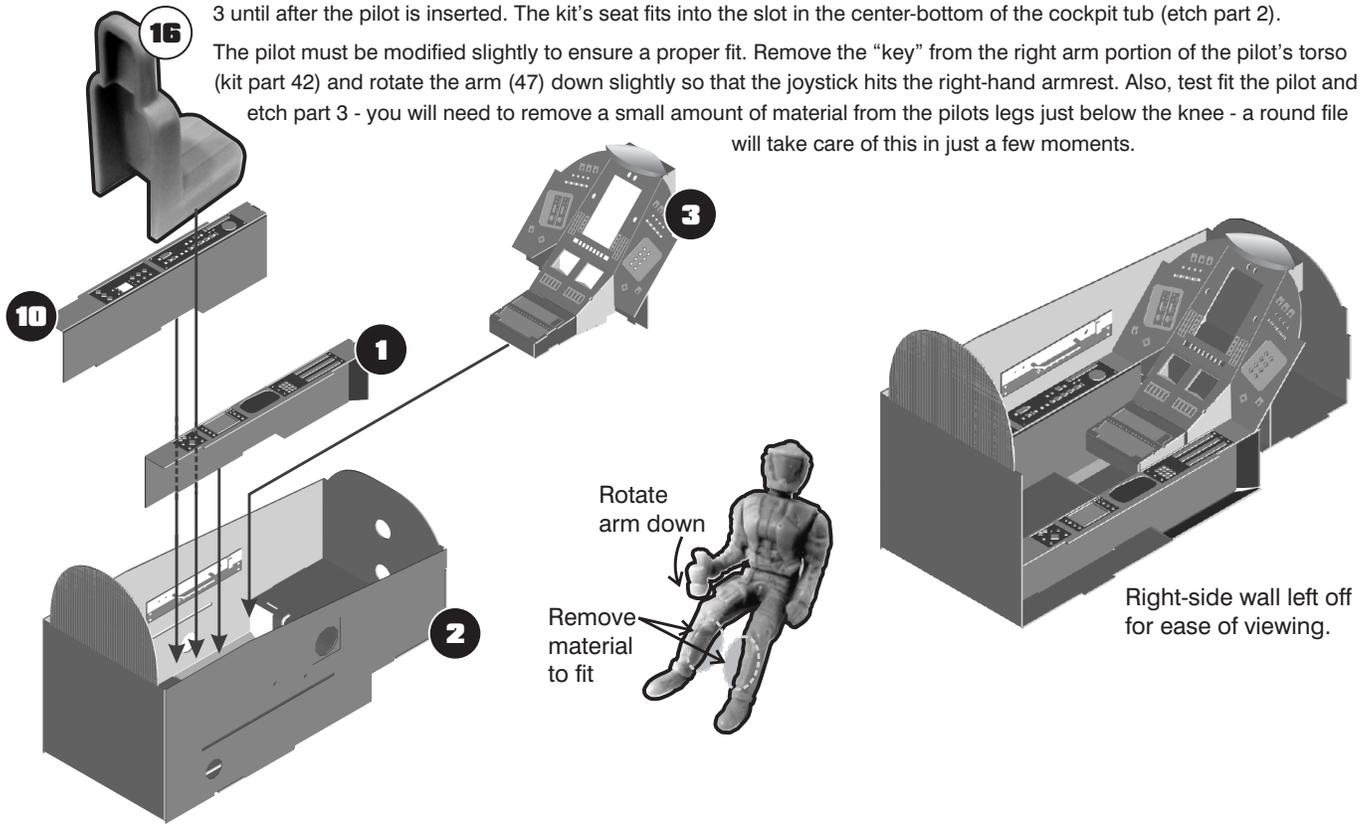
Attach the etch/backlight to one side before assembling the engines.



Cockpit Final Assembly

Assemble all of the cockpit components as shown below. Add armrests 1 and 10 first, then the seat - wait to add etch part 3 until after the pilot is inserted. The kit's seat fits into the slot in the center-bottom of the cockpit tub (etch part 2).

The pilot must be modified slightly to ensure a proper fit. Remove the "key" from the right arm portion of the pilot's torso (kit part 42) and rotate the arm (47) down slightly so that the joystick hits the right-hand armrest. Also, test fit the pilot and etch part 3 - you will need to remove a small amount of material from the pilots legs just below the knee - a round file will take care of this in just a few moments.



Install Cockpit

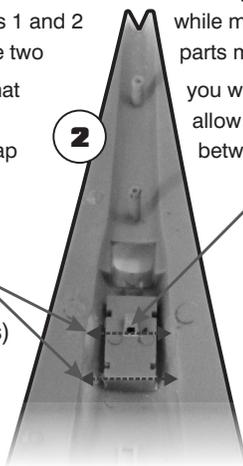
The cockpit fits between the 3 mounting pins for the kit. The front of the cockpit fits right up against the front pin.

Note that you will have to do some slight modifications to kit part 2 so that the cockpit will fit in properly. After installing the cockpit in part 1, test fit the assembly of parts 1 and 2 while making the adjustments noted below to ensure that the two parts mate properly without gaps.

If lighting, note that mounting pin to fill the small gap

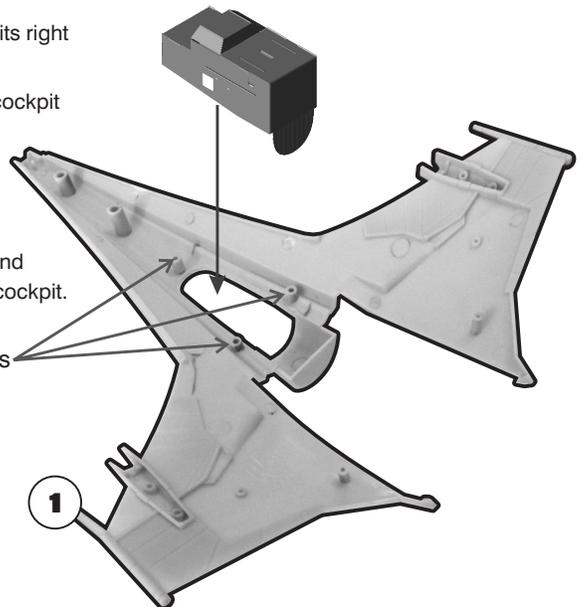
2

Remove Material (both sides)



Trim top box approximately 1/16" (1.5mm) (Not necessary for etch marked "Rev 1" or greater)

Mounting Pins



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Thank you to Frank Winspur and Dave Metzner of Moebius Models for providing a copy of the kit, as well as other background information, without which this photoetch set would have been impossible.

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