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INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing ParaGrafix's photoetched enhancement set for the AMT rereleased version of the USS Reliant starship. We have made every effort to ensure that these parts can be used successfully by a modeler of modest experience, but there may be items that require advanced modeling techniques. For a basic primer on the use of photoetch, please visit <http://www.paragrafix.biz/video-instructions-1.asp> and other resources available on the web.

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 an Etchmate 3C from Mission Models.

* We prefer a #17 Xacto chisel blade.

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

Key

Kit part (plastic): 1

Photoetched part: 1

DRILL OUT WINDOWS

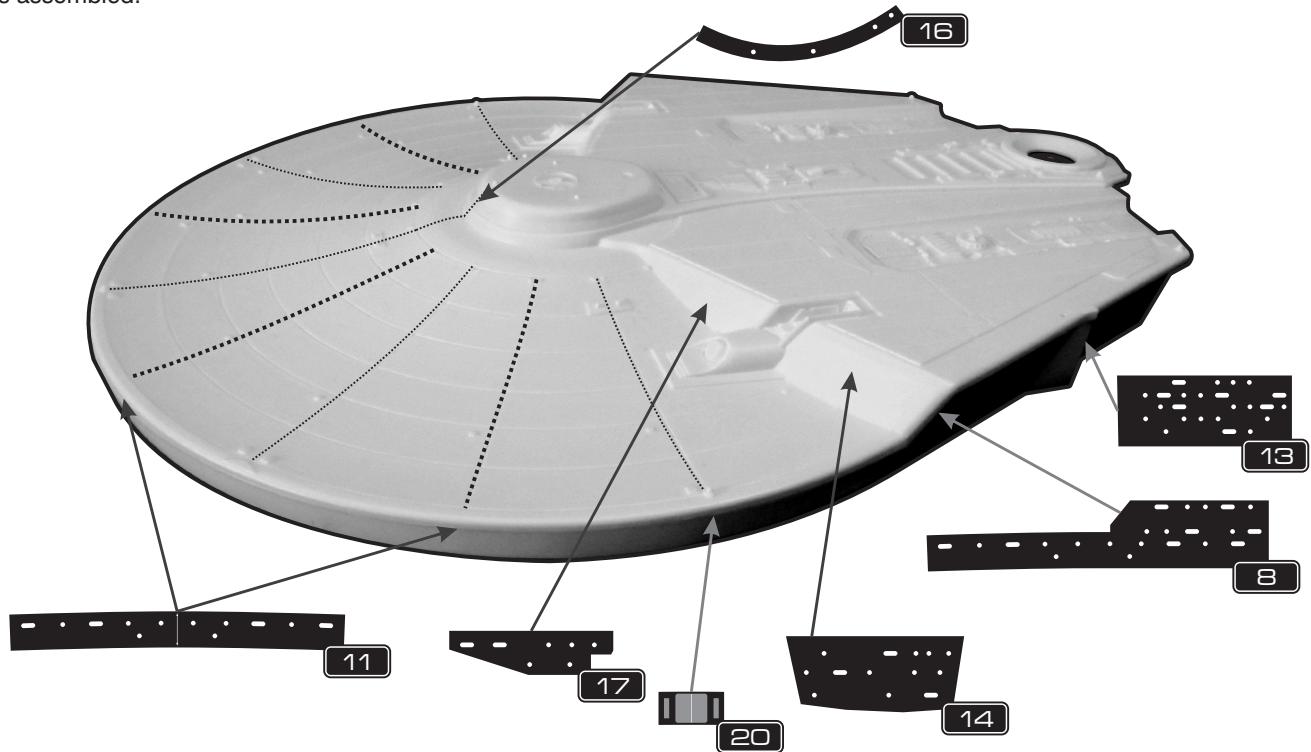
NOTE that although the hull is shown assembled, you will want to drill the window holes before you have assembled the ship.

Tape the templates in position as shown and drill out with 0.03" drill bit. For the oval windows drill several holes along their length, then file out in between them.

Only one side is shown. Reuse the same templates for the starboard side of the ship (flipping them over as appropriate).

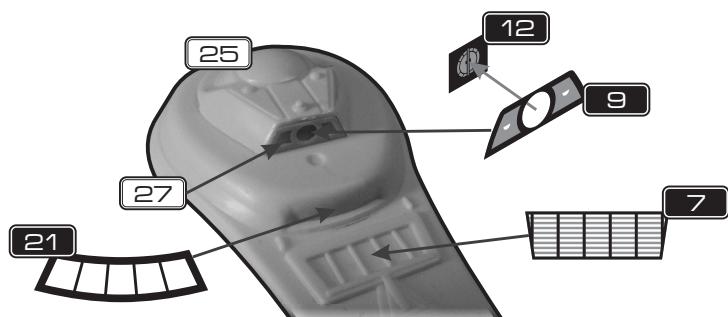
For the saucer edge windows, align template 11's central arrow with the bolded grid lines as shown.

Etch part 20 is not a drilling template. Attach one copy to each side as shown. Note that you may want to remove some material from the saucer edge to allow the parts to fit flush. Also, you will like want to wait to apply these pieces until the hull is assembled.



BRIDGE AREA

Remove some material from the center of the airlock door (kit part 27) to allow the etch door (12) to fit in. Alternatively, you can shim the ledge of the bridge (kit part 25) with 0.04" plastic stock and mount etch parts 9 and 12 flush.



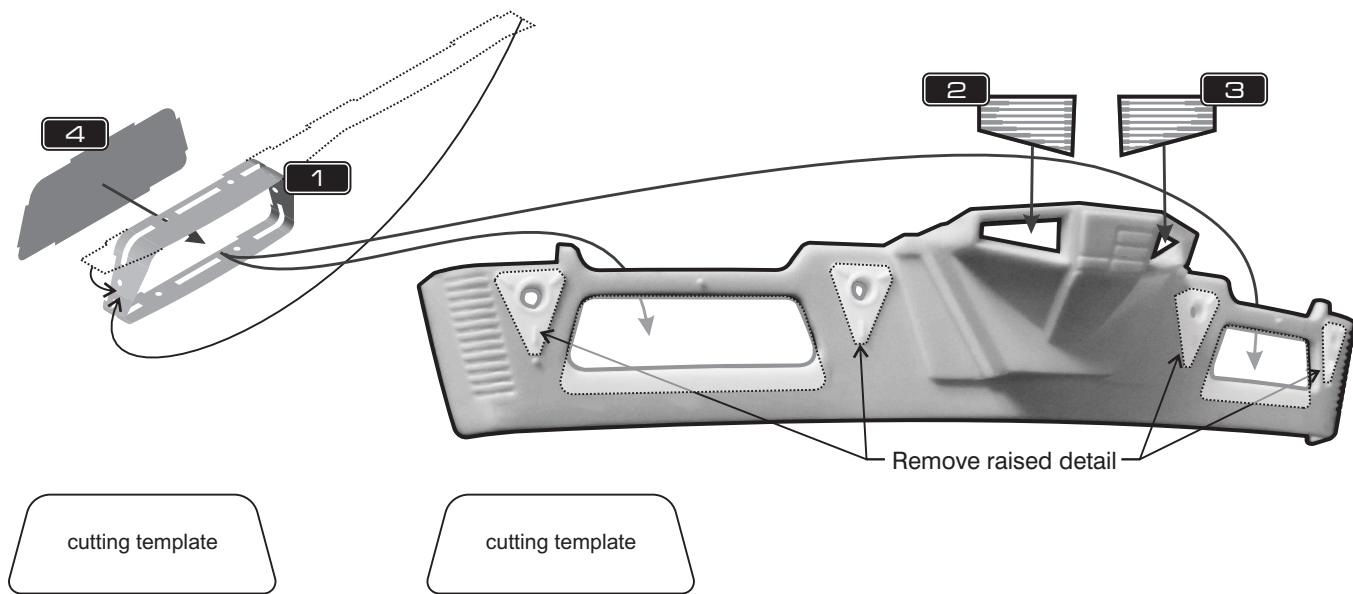
SHUTTLE BAYS AND IMPULSE ENGINES

TIP: Remove the raised "triangle" details as shown before attaching the shuttle bays and impulse engines.

Attach the impulse engine grills (2 and 3) as shown below.

Use the cutting templates below (feel free to photocopy them if you like) and use them to mark out the new size of the shuttle bays. Cut out that material - note that you will likely have to fine tune your hole, so make it a bit under-sized, then enlarge it as you test fit the shuttle bays.

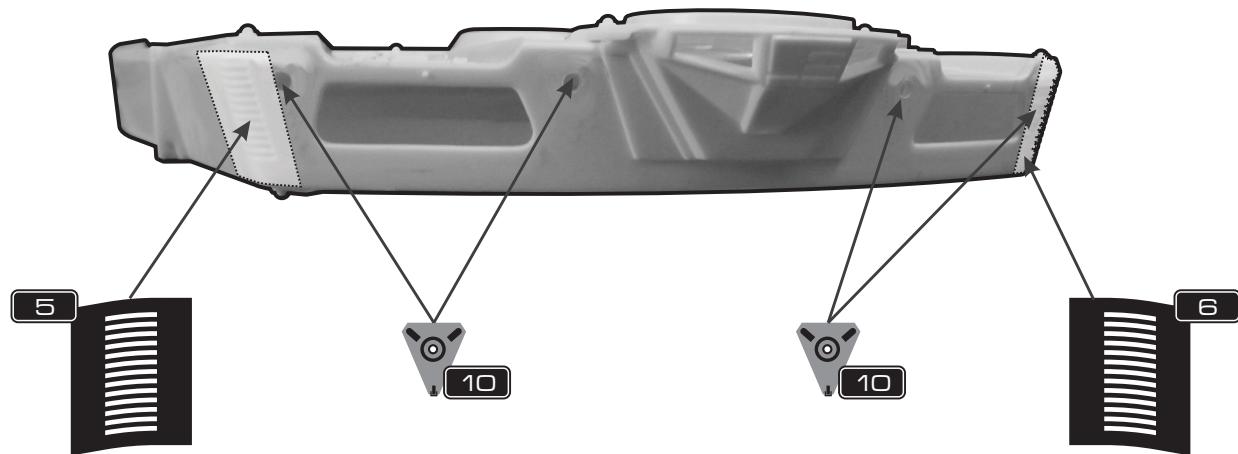
To assemble the shuttle bays (1 and 4), line up the upper notch of the bulkhead (1) with the tab of part 4 with the engraved lines pointing down (inward). Bend the bulkhead at the corners (the grooves make it easy to bend there for a smooth curve) until the overlapping joint matches up. Cement the two parts together, then insert into the newly resized shuttle bay holes.



CORNER GRILLS and TRIANGLE DETAILS

Pre-bend the corner grills (etch parts 5 and 6) by placing them on the hull (grooved side against the hull) and push the outer edges to meet the hull surface. To allow the corner grills to sit smoothly on the hull, remove about 0.01" of material in the area indicated by the dashed outlines below. If you want to light the grills, cut out the center of the area.

Attach the corner grills first, then the triangle details (10) since the triangles will overlap the grills.



CRYSTAL FRAMES

You will likely find it easier to paint the frames before attaching them to the crystals.

Attach the frames for the two deflection crystals using a clear adhesive such as Microscale's Micro Kristal Klear.

