DEEP SPACE NINE PARA Window Drilling Templates

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INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing ParaGrafix's photoetched Window Drilling Templates.

With care, these templates will last more than for more than one kit, but they are not indestructible. Please take when drilling to ensure that you do not damage the templates, especially those that are used in more than one location.

Materials

In addition to the photoetch, you will also need scissors or a knife* to remove individual pieces from the main fret, a drill, drill bits, and tape. If you will be building one of the original releases in opaque plastic, you will also need optic fibers.

Drill: Although the large number of holes makes using a rotary tool (eg. a Dremel) seem advantageous, it is suggested that you use a pin vice and hand drill the holes. This will help avoid damage to the templates and melting of the kit's plastic.

Required drill bits (and optic fiber) sizes: 0.015, 0.02", 0.25", and 0.04" (0.4mm, 0.5 mm, 0.6 mm, and 1 mm, respectively).

Note that the drilled holes and optic fibers may tend to "bind". It may be necessary to remove any burrs from the ends of the fibers and/or around the holes. Additionally, it may be necessary to ream the holes to make them slightly larger to accept the fibers.

Tape: Since the templates are only attached temporarily, you will need tape to hold them in place. We suggest a moderate tack tape such as Tamiya Masking Tape which will remove cleanly from painted surfaces.

* We prefer a #17 Xacto chisel blade.

Light Source: If you are building the clear release of the kit, you can use ParaGrafix's Easy LED to illuminate the interior - the light will shine through once you have drilled through the paint. You can also use Easy LED for the opaque kits and just use short sections of optic fiber instead of the traditional bundling of long lengths tied directly to the light source. In both cases, you will want to use enough Easy LED to evenly light the interior without making it excessively bright.

TIP - Clear Kit (AMT751/06)

Unlike traditional lighted kits, you need to add light blocking paint to the *exterior* of Deep Space Nine, otherwise no light will shine through. After the kit is light blocked, you can then paint as desired. Once all of the paint has cured, use these templates as guides to drill through the paint to expose the clear plastic beneath.

TIPS - All

Subassemblies: You will find it easier to work in subassemblies as some of the areas to be drilled are tough to reach once assembly is complete. We suggest doing a test assembly using tape to figure out the sub assemblies that work best for you.

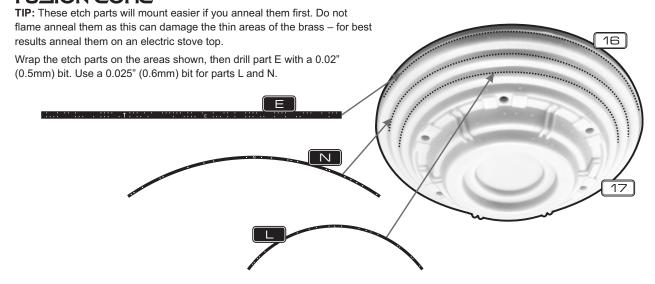
Raised Detail: Along the areas to be drilled, there are many areas of raised detail (especially along the promenade and docking rings). These make it difficult to snug-down the photoetch, which can lead to uneven drilling. This raised detail should be filed off prior to assembly.

Kit part (plastic): 1

Photoetched part:



FUSION CORE



PROMENADE

Upper Deck

Remove the raised windows from the 10 promenade sections.

Note that two copies of O1 and O2 are provided, but there are 10 sections that need to be dealt with.

CLEAR KIT: Mount etch parts O1 and remove paint through the holes. (TIP: a small wire brush mounted to a motor tool helps make short work of this.

OPAQUE KIT: Mount etch parts O2 and drill using a 0.4" (1mm) bit.

Underneath

Use the templates to drill as shown using a 0.025" (6mm) bit. Note the locations for templates A1 and F1 – the remaining numbered pieces are used in a clockwise fashion (as seen from the bottom).

