18 INCH ENTERPRISE
Window Templates

P/N: PGX188

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing ParaGrafix's window template set for the classic 18" USS Enterprise it. These templates may be used as masks for painting in the windows or as drilling/cutting templates to aid in lighting.

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/instructions.asp for printed instructions and http://www.paragrafix.biz/video-instructions-1.asp for videos.

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.

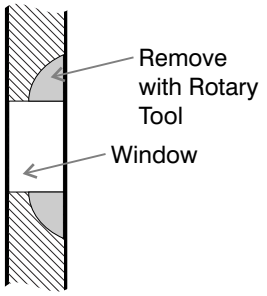
GENERAL CONSTRUCTION NOTES

Annealing

A few items may need annealing to allow them to fit the curvature of the hull. If unsure how to do this, please see our video on the page listed above.

Cutting/Lighting

Please note that cutting out the windows (especially the rectangular ones) is an advanced technique and best suited for modelers with experience in scratch building and/or finely detailed work. In addition to the tools above, micro-sized files, drills/bits, and blades will be required.



TIP: Although the etch locations are shown on the completed ship you will find it easier to work on the individual parts prior to assembly.

TIP: If you will be using a clear window media (Micro Krystal Klear, clear dental material, etc.) you will want to thin down the backside of the kit parts where the windows are to provide good visibility for the lighting. An easy way to do this is with a rotary tool (eg. a Dremel) with a ball end mill cutter attached. (See the image at right.)

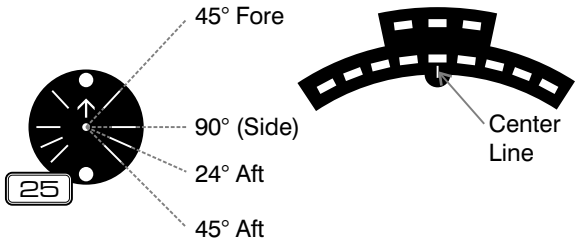
BE VERY CAREFUL WHEN DOING THIS so that you don't melt or cut through the kit parts.

Center Lines

Many pieces include center lines to aid in aligning them with the kit parts. On the primary hull (saucer section) these center lines are based on the "protractor" included with this set (etch part 25). This protractor can be temporarily placed at the hub of the primary hull in the location where the kit domes (clear kit parts 101 and 102).

Note the forward pointing arrow and the fact that the outer circular holes can be easily aligned with the holes provided for mounting the clear kit parts.

Each etch part that will take advantage of the protractor will have its angle listed in the illustration.

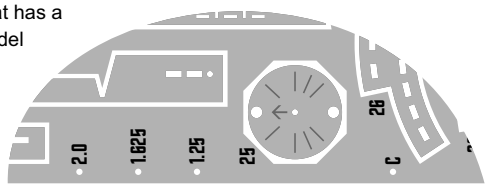


Lower Primary Hull Modifications

The windows for the lower portion of the primary hull require two modifications to the kit: the three "dimples" must be filled in and the three rings must be sanded off and replaced.

Dimples: Fill and smooth using your favorite putty. You will have best results if you use a putty that has a similar hardness to the kit styrene such as sprue softened with liquid cement (eg. Tenax 7R or Model Master Liquid Cement for Plastic Models).

Rings: New rings should be scribed (or marked with pencil, etc.) at radii of 1.25", 1.625" and 2.0" (3.2, 4.1, and 5cm respectively). We have included a simple jig on the left side of the photoetch fret to make setting your compass easy. Set the pointer of your compass in the hole marked "C", then use the 1.25, 1.625, and 2.0 holes as required to set your radius.



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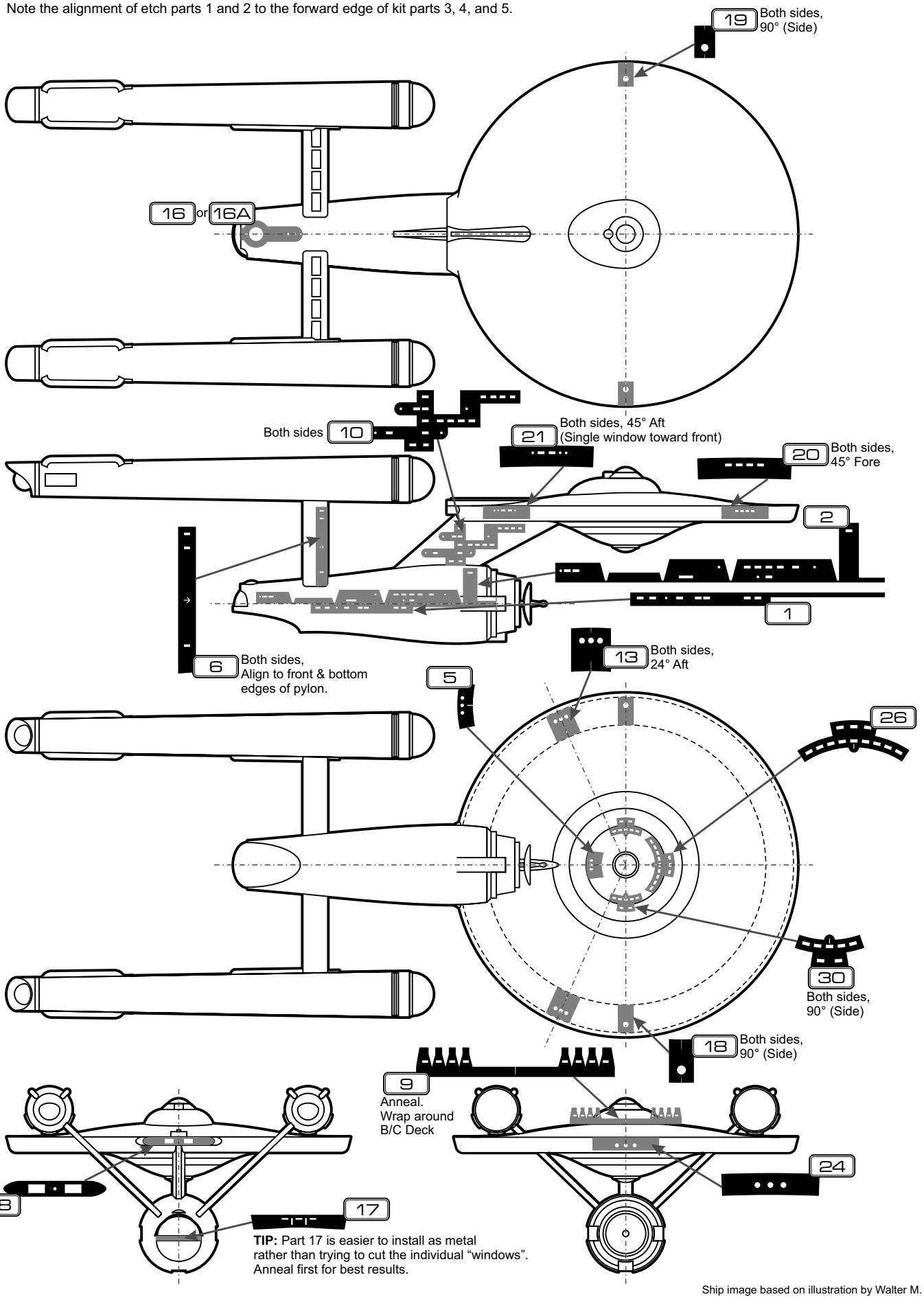
FIRST PILOT

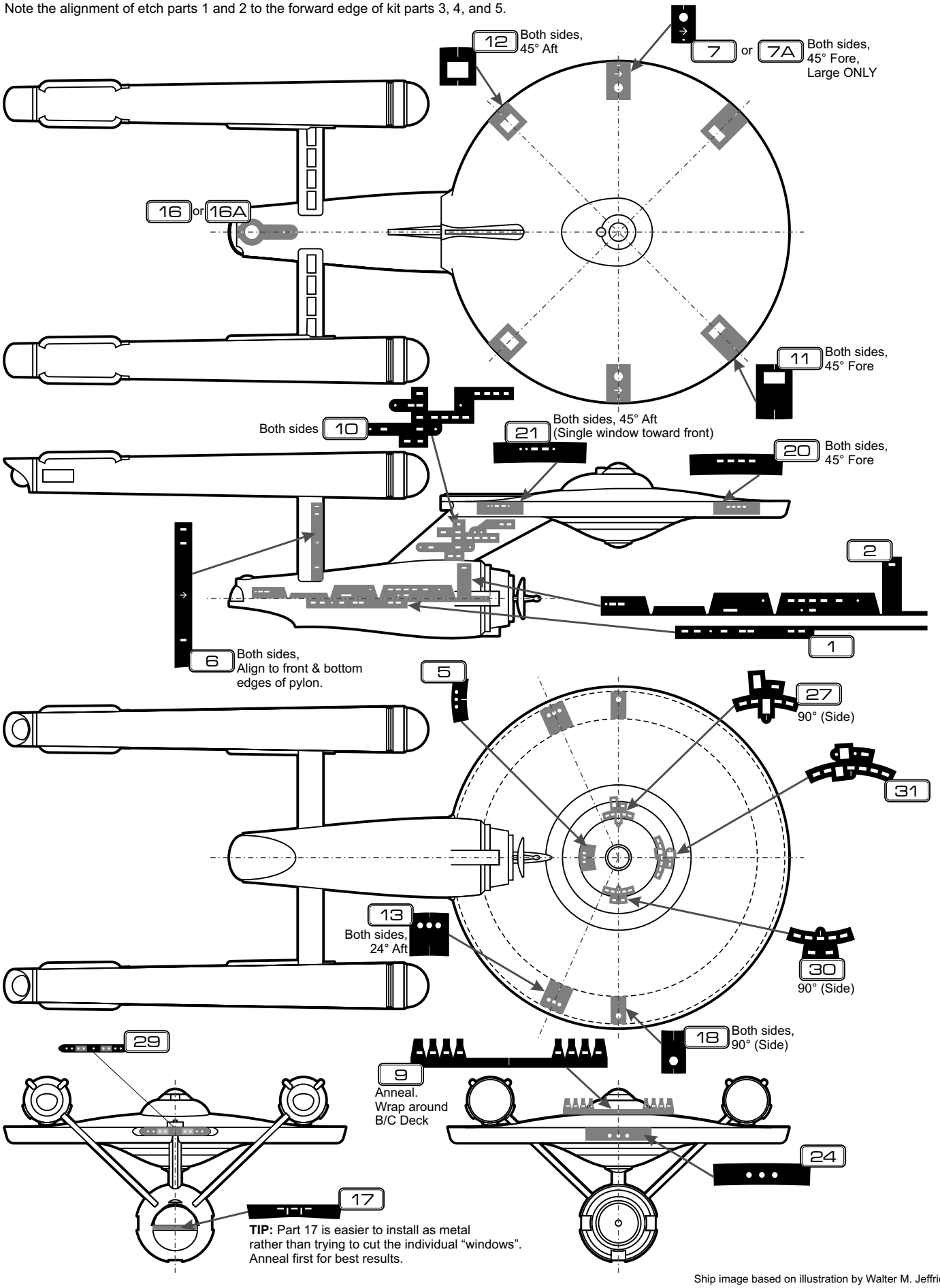
Note the alignment of etch parts 1 and 2 to the forward edge of kit parts 3, 4, and 5.



Ship image based on illustration by Walter M. Jeffries.

SECOND PILOT

Note the alignment of etch parts 1 and 2 to the forward edge of kit parts 3, 4, and 5.

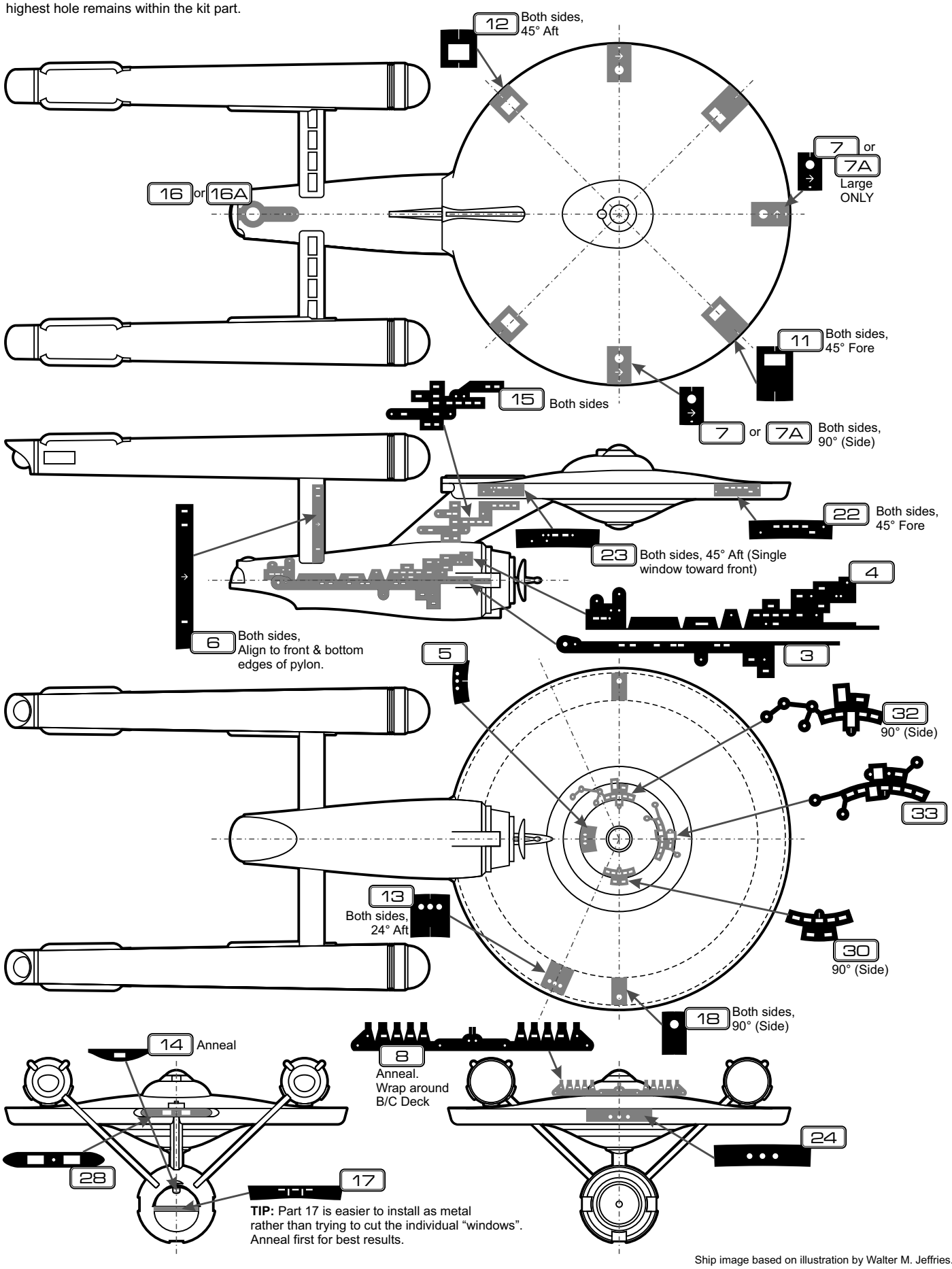


TIP: Part 17 is easier to install as metal rather than trying to cut the individual “windows”. Anneal first for best results.

Ship image based on illustration by Walter M. Jeffries.

SERIES PRODUCTION VERSION

Note the alignment of etch parts 3 and 4 to the forward edge of kit parts 3, 4, and 5. Also notice that part 3 extends over the top of kit part 5, though its highest hole remains within the kit part.



Ship image based on illustration by Walter M. Jeffries.