

The Basics Of Paper Modeling, Page 1 of 2

Tools Needed

1. Knife
2. Steel ruler
3. Scissors
4. Tweezers
5. White glue
6. Empty ballpoint pen
7. Markers or paint
8. Cutting mat
9. Inkjet or laser printer
10. Cardstock or heavy photo paper
11. Patience



Techniques

1. Scoring

Scoring is a technique used to make folding easier by pre-creasing the paper along a fold line. The most common method of scoring is to lightly drag a knife blade across the fold line, slicing through the upper layers of the paper. The recommended method is to instead use an empty ballpoint pen or a ball stylus tool to gently compress the paper along the fold lines. This prevents the appearance of unsightly naked edges and makes for a much stronger model.

2. Cutting

Cutting may seem to be a glaringly obvious technique, but a few pointers are essential. For the majority of cutting where paper models are concerned, a sharp knife and a steel ruler are far more precise and efficient than a pair of scissors. Save the scissors for separating individual parts or groups of parts from the rest of the sheet.

3. Edging

Edging improves the appearance of paper models considerably by hiding the naked edges of cut parts. Anything from color markers to soft pencils and various types of paints may be used to edge parts. However, in most cases, matching the color exactly is less of a concern than simply matching the contrast. For most purposes, three or four shades of gray from lightest to darkest will more than suffice.

4. Folding and Gluing

Depending on the thickness of the paper or cardstock used, some parts may be difficult to assemble with fingers alone. In this situation, a pair of tweezers is worth more than its weight in gold. Tweezers come in a wide variety of sizes and jaw shapes, and some of the more exotic shapes are fantastically useful for assembling tiny parts. Tweezers can be used to fold tiny flaps and clamp them in place while the glue sets, as well as making it much easier to attach small parts to other parts.

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Special Notes

1. Gluing Tabs

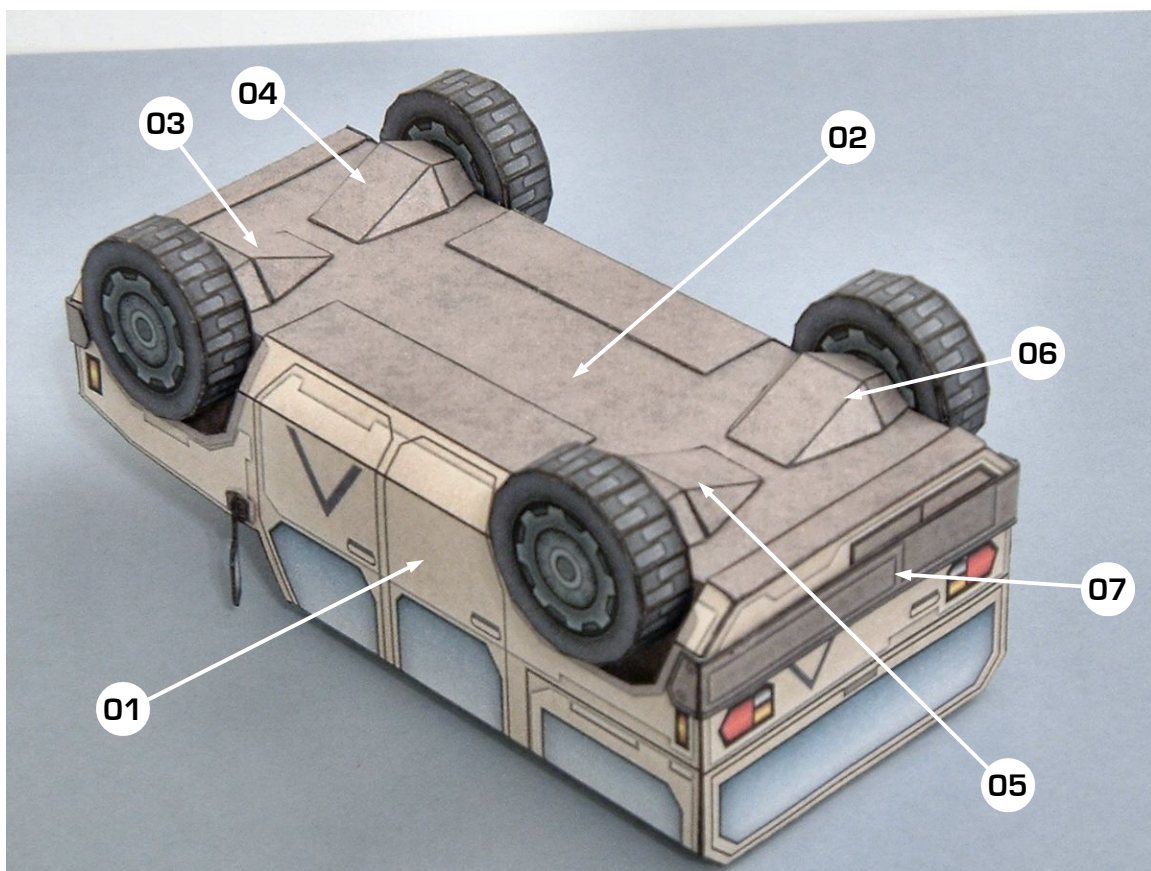
This model includes integral gluing tabs for joining certain parts together. However, the utility of gluing tabs decreases proportionally as the thickness of the paper or cardstock increases. Thick cardstock or paper can be used for printing this model, but it is recommended that you try a test assembly before committing wholly to assembling a model. If the gluing tabs won't fit or otherwise throw off the tolerances of the finished test assembly, leave them off the parts entirely and cut your own gluing tabs out of scrap cardstock.

These separate gluing tabs should overlap both of the parts to be joined, and glued to the unprinted surface along the joining edges of both parts. This is called "backing", and a side effect of this is that parts will fit more or less flush. Backing parts with separate gluing tabs also generally yields better modeling results, but the integral gluing tabs are retained for the convenience of beginners and those who prefer to use thinner media for their paper models.

2. Sealing

In most cases, sealing the model with varnish or other form of spray sealant isn't necessary. However, if you want to add further detail to the model with decals or paint, you may want to seal the model with several light coats of a waterproof glossy clear sealant first. This will protect the model from a moderate level of moisture, and the smooth surface will facilitate the application of decals. You can also apply a final coat of a matte clear sealant to kill the gloss afterwards. Keep in mind that the simple act of sealing a model does not necessarily render it waterproof, and that any application of waterslide decals needs to be done with great care.

Assembly Instructions

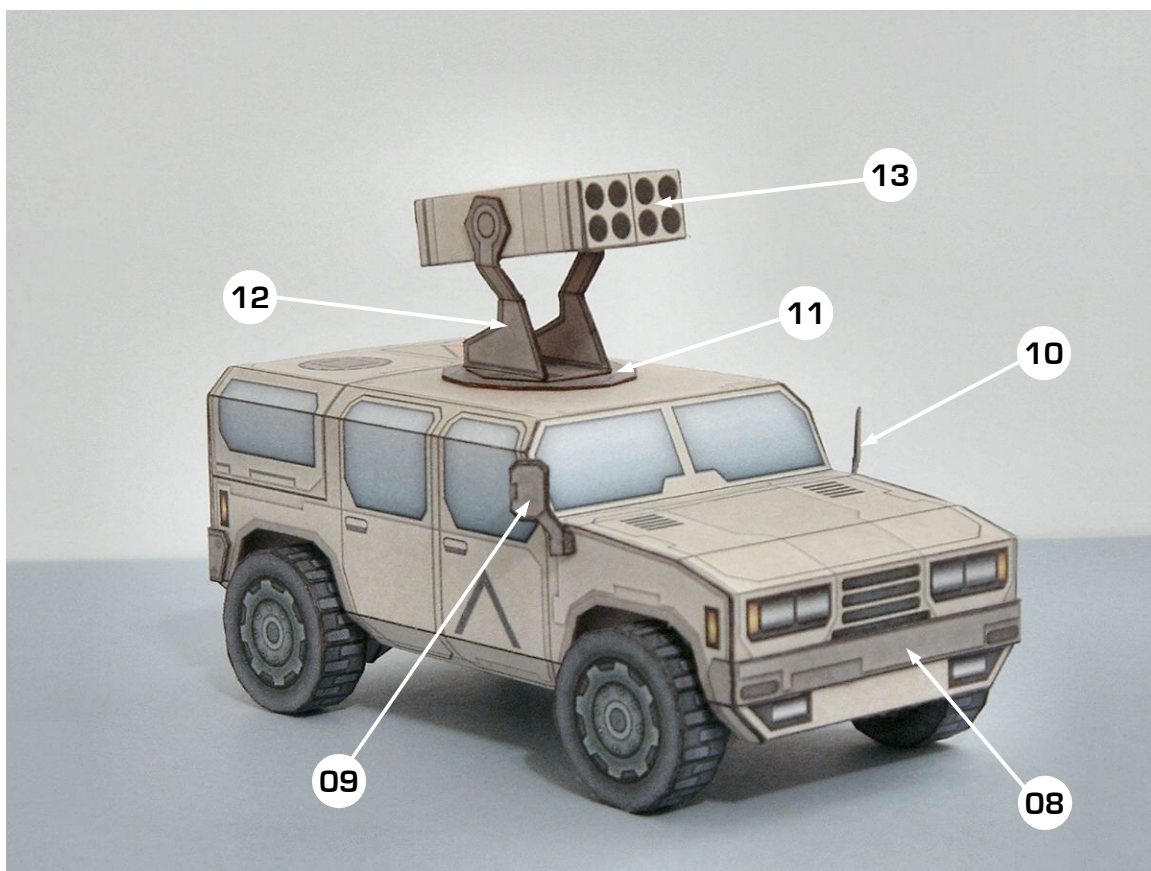


1. Attach the inner body half (Part 02) to the outer body half (Part 01), starting from the rear. Use the lowermost fold of the tailgate to align the inner body half along the centerline of the upper body half, lining up the edges of the inner body half with the outer edges of the tailgate. Ensure that the walls of the inner body half are straight vertically, and apply glue only to the front and rear edges of the inner body half for the sake of convenience. Fold down the sides of the outer body half last. You may also want to pre-fold the outer body half without gluing before starting this step.

2. Assemble four wheels from the Small Vehicle Wheels Type 1 (Western) accessory frame. Glue these wheels to the inner body half so that there is an equal amount of space between the edges of the wheels and the rims of the wheel wells, and aligned vertically so that the lowermost edges of the inner body half bisect the wheels across their horizontal center. When all of the wheels have been added, assemble the axle shrouds (Parts 03, 04, 05, and 06) and glue them flush to the bottom of the inner body half as shown in the photo above.

3. Glue the front bumper (Part 08) and the rear bumper (Part 07) to the main body of the vehicle as shown in the photo above and the photo on the next page. You may wish to laminate both bumpers to an extra layer of scrap cardstock for added dimension. Glue the mirrors (Parts 09 and 10) in the appropriate locations on the front of the vehicle as shown in the photo on the next page.

Assembly Instructions



4. If you are doing the Utility configuration, the model is now complete. If you are doing the Police Classic variant, glue the siren rack (Part 17) to the upper front of the vehicle's roof in a location that suits you, and the model will then be complete. If you are doing a weapon carrier variant, move on to Step 5.

5. This model comes with optional parts for the weapon carrier configuration. Three weapon fits are possible: a roof mounted missile launcher pod or a remote station equipped with either a heavy machine gun or an automatic grenade launcher. To equip the vehicle with any of those systems, glue the weapon cradle (Part 12) to the weapon ring (Part 11). You may wish to laminate the weapon ring to one or two layers of scrap card to give it additional dimension. Mount the cradle and ring assembly to the roof of the vehicle in a location that suits you.

6. If you want the missile launcher platform, glue the missile pod (Part 13) to the weapon cradle as shown in the photo above. If you want to equip the vehicle with a heavy machine gun or an automatic grenade launcher instead, glue either the heavy machine gun (Part 15) or the automatic grenade launcher (Part 16) to the port on the remote station (Part 14), next to the sensor port. Glue the completed remote station to the weapon cradle, with the sensor port on the right side of the assembly. The model is now complete.