

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.

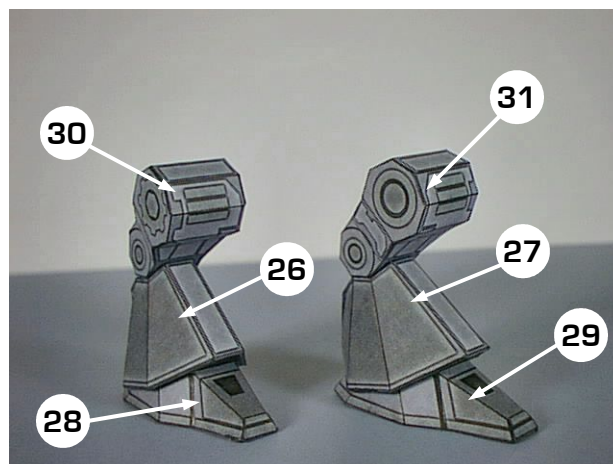
2. Sealing

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: Page 1

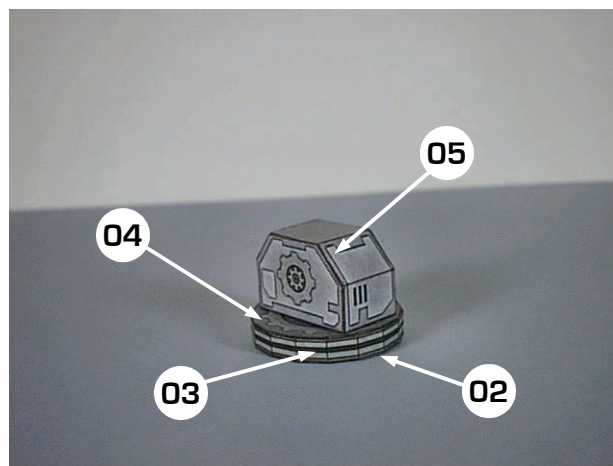
Suspension Unit: Legs

1. Glue Parts 28, 26, and 30 together to form the right leg unit.
2. Glue Parts 29, 27, and 31 together to form the left leg unit.



Suspension Unit: Hip Block

1. Glue Parts 02, 03, and 04 together to form the hip rotator disc.
2. Glue Part 05 to the bottom of the hip rotator disc to form the completed hip block.



Suspension Unit: Final Assembly

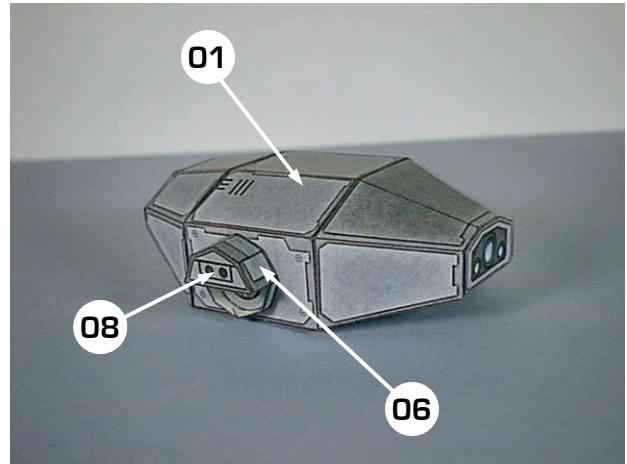
Glue the left and right leg units to the hip block to complete the suspension unit assembly.



Assembly Instructions: Page 2

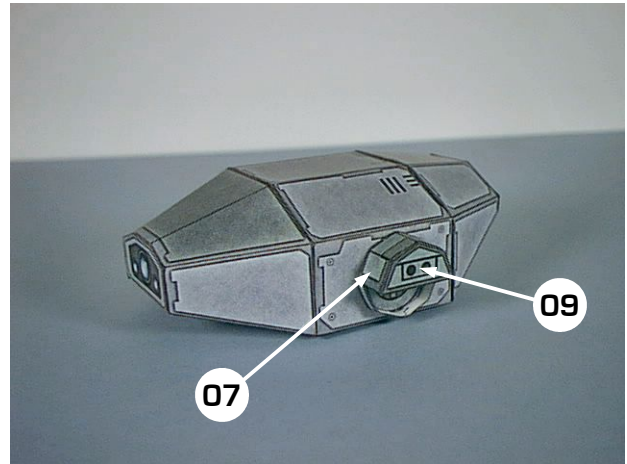
Main Chassis

1. Part 01 forms the torso unit. Glue Part 06 to Part 01, ensuring that Part 06 maintains its cylindrical shape.
2. Glue Part 08 to the upper half of Part 06 to close off the right shoulder unit.



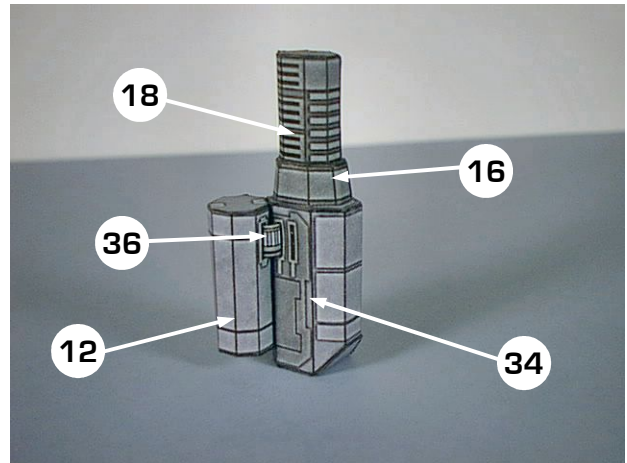
Main Chassis, Continued

1. Glue Part 07 to the torso unit in the same manner that you added Part 06 in the previous step.
2. Glue Part 09 to close off the left shoulder unit in the same manner that you added Part 08 in the previous step.



Weapon Units: Rotary Cannon Pod

1. Glue Part 12 to Part 34 to form the combined ammo drum/weapon pod unit. Before doing this, you may want to slice out the opening on Part 12 and the uppermost opening on Part 34.
2. Snake Part 36 into the openings on both Part 12 and Part 34 to form the ammo feed belt.
3. Glue Part 16 to the front of Part 34 to form the rotary cannon housing.
4. Glue Part 18 to the front of Part 16 to complete the right side rotary cannon pod.



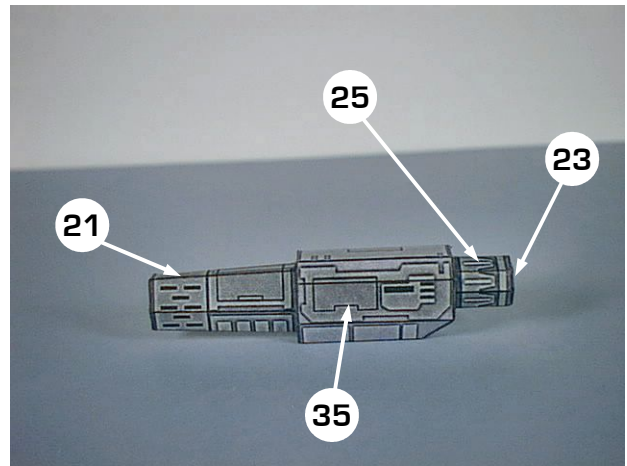
Assembly Notes and Tips

Weapons Systems: This model comes with mirrored weapons sets. To build the left side rotary cannon pod, use Parts 32, 13, 17, 19, and 37 in the same assembly process outlined above.

Assembly Instructions: Page 3

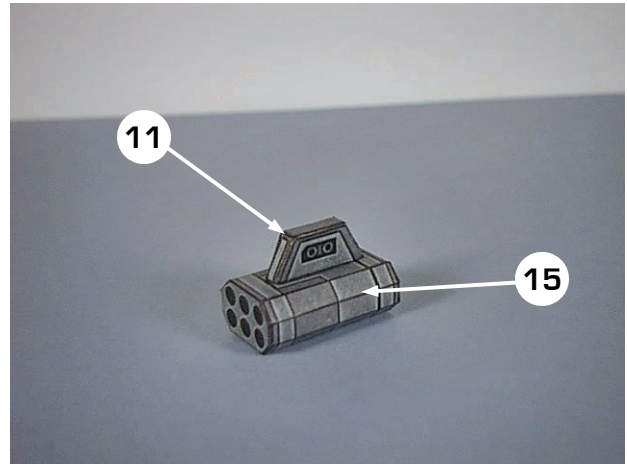
Weapon Units: Directed Energy Weapon Pod

1. Glue Part 21 to the front of Part 35 to form the left side DEW pod.
2. Glue Part 25 to the rear of Part 35, and close off Part 25 with Part 23 to form the radiator unit.



Weapon Units: Antitank Guided Missile Pod

1. Glue Part 11 to Part 15 to form the left side ATGM pod.
- Optionally, you can build a second pod for the right side from Parts 10 and 14.



Final Assembly

Glue the right side weapon system to the right side shoulder unit, and do the same for the left side weapon system to the left shoulder unit. The ATGM pods, if any, are to be glued directly to the shoulder wall.



Assembly Notes and Tips

Weapons Systems: This model comes with mirrored weapons sets. To build the right side directed energy weapon pod, use Parts 20, 22, 24, and 33 in the same assembly process outlined above.

Assembly Instructions: Page 4

Final Assembly, Continued

The image to the right clarifies the placement of the left side parts which were occluded in the previous image.

