

Skyraiders #1



CED48095
CED72095

clear topcoat.

General Notes

- Removable armor plate was added as the result of combat losses in Korea and was added as retrofit kits to the AD-4s (and presumably AD-3s, if any were still flying combat) starting in 1952. The AD-6 and AD-7 were built from the beginning to accept the bolt-on armor plating. Rausa's book has an excellent description of how and why the armor plating was developed and the subterfuges involved in getting it applied to the fleet's aircraft.
- Note the different antenna configurations on the various aircraft.

AD-4NA, VF-194

- These birds were AD-4NAs (AD-4N night attack aircraft with the equipment for the equipment operator removed; functionally equivalent to standard AD-4s). They had the "car doors" on both sides of the fuselage, and neither aircraft had yet been fitted with the bolt-on armor plating. To accurately model these aircraft, use Cutting Edge Modelworks CEC48119 Skyraider Non-Armor Conversion (see below).

AD-6, VA-85

- This was an absolutely stock AD-6 with armor and the standard aluminum bucket seat (not the Yankee seat).
- These planes also served as refuelers in the Med in the early 1960s.

A-1H, Camouflage Test VA-115 Bird

- This scheme was part of a Navy camouflage tested on the USS Constellation and USS Kitty Hawk off Vietnam in 1966. It has been reported that water-based paints were used and the schemes were removed before the end of the cruise.
- Undersides were standard ANA 511 Insignia White. While there has been some discussion of the exact shades used for the topside colors, contemporary documentation indicates FS 34102 and FS 34079 were used, so that's what we recommend.
- This plane had the standard aluminum bucket seat (not the Yankee seat).
- Use standard size (large) insignia for upper left and lower right wing (see decal CED48099, Skyraider Stencils & National Insignia) and the small (15") national insignia on this sheet for the fuselage.

AD-6, AES-12

- This aircraft was painted with International Orange paint; it has been reported that some aircraft used Fluorescent Orange, but we cannot confirm this. In any case, the orange paint was extremely unstable and faded, spotted, ran, and generally looked like hell within a very short time. So, feel free to weather the orange areas!
- This plane had the standard aluminum bucket seat (not the Yankee seat).

Applying the Decals

You probably already know all this stuff, so feel free to use your regular process; however, if you're new to aftermarket decals, here goes:

- Generally, use the Microscale Finishing System. We don't recommend extremely strong decal solvents such as Solvaset.
- Your model must have a smooth, glossy surface, as decals won't adhere well to matte surfaces. Use gloss paints or your favorite clear gloss overspray over matte or semigloss paint.
- Cut each subject out without trimming off the slight excess film (this helps the decal film disappear when dry).
- Put the decal in warm water that has a drop or two of liquid dishwashing soap or photo-flo for 10 seconds.
- When the decal will slide off the backing paper without forcing it, apply it to the proper position on your model. Slide the backing paper out from underneath.
- Gently blot off excess water and smooth out bubbles under the decal surface. If you wish, carefully brush on a mild decal softener such as Micro-Sol.
- When all decals are completely dry, gently wash off all excess decal adhesive.
- Finally, overcoat your model with a good quality gloss coat, followed by your choice of matte or eggshell

Bibliography

Original Skyraider photographs.

Air War over Vietnam, Vol III, by Dana Bell. Warbirds Illustrated No. 21, Arms & Armour Press, 1983.
Douglas A-1 Skyraider, by Robert F. Dorr. Osprey, 1989.
Douglas A-1 Skyraider; Warbird Tech Volume 13, by Kris Hughes & Walter Dranem. Specialty Press, 1997.
Douglas A-1 Skyraider, A Photo Chronicle, by Frederick A. Johnsen. Schiffer, 1994.
Douglas Skyraider, by B. R. Jackson. Aero Publishers, 1969.
Skyraider, The Douglas A-1 "Flying Dump Truck," by Rosario Rausa. Nautical & Aviation Publishing, 1982.
Skyraider in action, (Aircraft Number 60), by Jim Sullivan. Squadron/Signal, (no date).
The A-1 Skyraider, by Steve Birdsall. Arco, 1970.
Numerous magazine articles from Scale Aircraft Modelling, AAHS Journal, Koku-Fan, Tamiya Model Magazine, Air Fan, Air Enthusiast, etc.

Note: While many of our reference photos are available in existing publications, Cutting Edge prefers to track down original copies of the photos whenever possible to make our marking and camouflage interpretations as accurate as possible.

Related Cutting Edge Modelworks Conversion Sets

CED48102 AD-1 to AD-6 Super Detailed Cockpit (fits Monogram and Tamiya). Contains an accurate and fully detailed cockpit with the standard aluminum pilot's seat.
CED48103 A-1H/J Super Detailed Cockpit (fits Monogram and Tamiya). Contains an accurate and fully detailed cockpit with the ONLY accurate Yankee Extraction System ejection seat available!
CED48119 Skyraider Non-Armor Conversion. This is a major conversion set which includes new front fuselage halves without armor plate; lower wing center section without armor; AD-3/4 streamlined inboard wing pylons; and clear "car doors" and air intake for the AD-3N/AD-4N (and others).

...and more to come!

FS 595 Color Cross References

(Taken from the IPMS Color Cross-Reference Guide—used with permission). Both the ICCRG and the FS595B color chips "fan deck" are available from Meteor Productions.

ANA 508 [FS 12197] Xtracolor X104, Floquil 818634
ANA 511 [FS 17875] Floquil 818630; Any white paint
ANA 614 [FS 13538] Xtracolor X106, Gunze Sangyo H024/H329, Modelmaster 1707/1708
ANA 620/FS 36440 Xtracolor X137, Modelmaster 1729/1730, Gunze Sangyo H315/325, Pro Modeler 88-0033, Polly Scale 505326
ANA 623 [FS 35042] Pro Modeler 88-0041, Floquil 818638
FS 34079 Xtracolor X110, Modelmaster 1710, Mr Color 309, Tamiya XF58, Pro Modeler 88-0044, Floquil 303143/303243
FS 34102 Xtracolor X116, Modelmaster 1713, Gunze Sangyo H073

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