

# P-38 Lightning



The distinctive twin boom and central cockpit of the P-38 Lightning proved to be a winning combination. Because of its design, it allowed the P-38 Lightning to be adapted to many different roles during WW2. The Lightning was used in all theatres of the war but was most successful in the Pacific. The P-38 helped many pilots become aces including America's top ace Richard Bong with 40 victories. 10,037 P-38 Lightnings were produced of all variants with the J and L models being the most numerous. Many important missions were made in P-38's, probably the most notable was on April 18th 1943 when a group of P-38's set off on a long range mission to intercept Admiral Yamamoto's transport over Bougainville Island. Two Betty bombers, one with Admiral Yamamoto on board were shot down along with two of the six escorting Zeros. The P-38's would be credited with destroying more Japanese aircraft than any other USAAF fighter. P-38's were also used in large number in Europe as well, in fact a P-38 would be credited for the first Luftwaffe aircraft destroyed. After the war many P-38's were scrapped on site as this would be cheaper than returning them back to the US. Today there still exists a few with many in flying condition. The markings included in this kit are from Lieutenant Perry Dahl. Dahl was credited with nine kills.

## P38J Lightning Specifications

Length	37' 10"
Wingspan	52'
Power	2 Allison V-1710-111/113 V-12 piston engine, 1,600 hp @3,000 rpm
Performance	Max speed 414mph
Numbers built	10,037 of all models

# P-38J Lightning



Featuring markings of  
Lieutenant Perry Dahl

## Wooden Semi Scale Model Kit

Easy build sandwich construction

**No special tools required**

**PAINT NOT INCLUDED**

1:66 Scale

FOR AGES 8 AND UP  
**SKILL LEVEL 2**  
Contains One Model Kit

**OSBORN MODEL KITS**  
www.osbornmodelkits.com



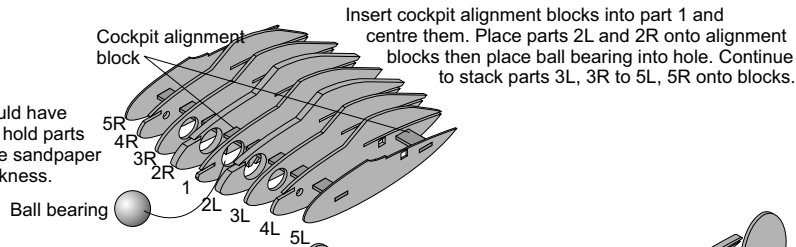
**KIT-6046**

## Building tips:

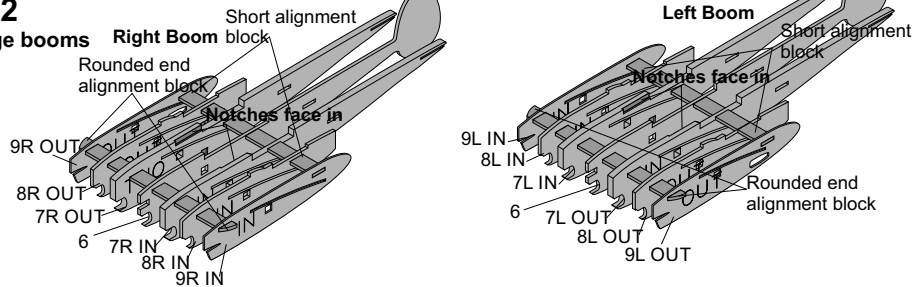
**DO NOT FORCE PARTS.** All parts will be a tight fit. If you find a part is too tight give it a bit of a sanding with 220 grit sandpaper. A hobby knife is suggested to cut the pieces from the part tree but most parts will break free easily. 220 grit sandpaper may be used to remove unwanted burn marks. A white glue may be used for assembly if desired. Any black substance that gets on your hands is non toxic and can be removed with soap and water.

### Step 1 Cockpit

**Note:**  
Alignment blocks should have just enough friction to hold parts in place. If needed use sandpaper to remove a bit of thickness.

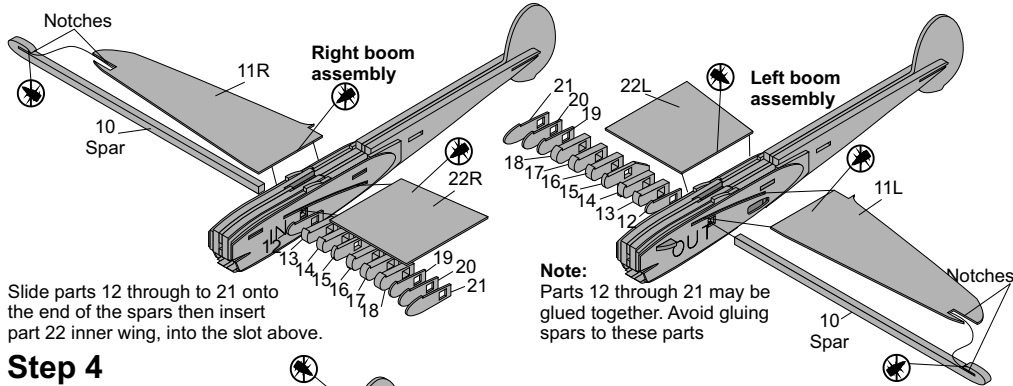


### Step 2 Fuselage booms

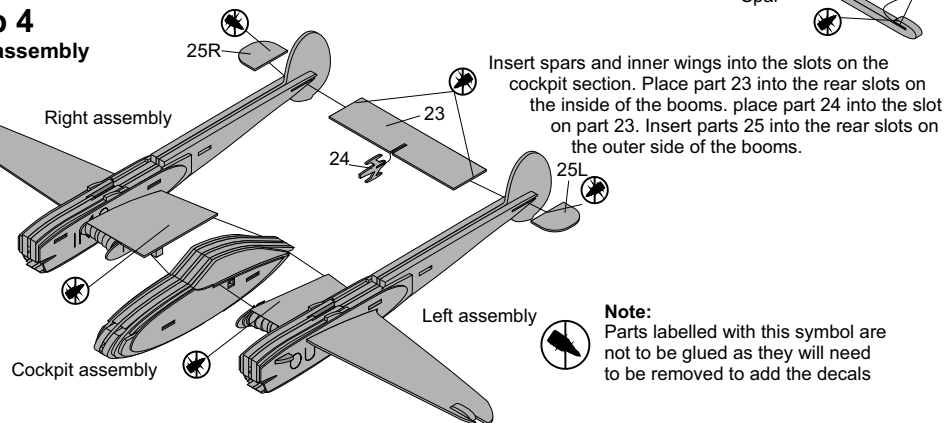


### Step 3 Wings and spars

Place part 11 wing, into the slot on the side of the assembly. Slide part 10 spar, through the square hole below the wing till the notched end of the spar seats inside the notch on the wing



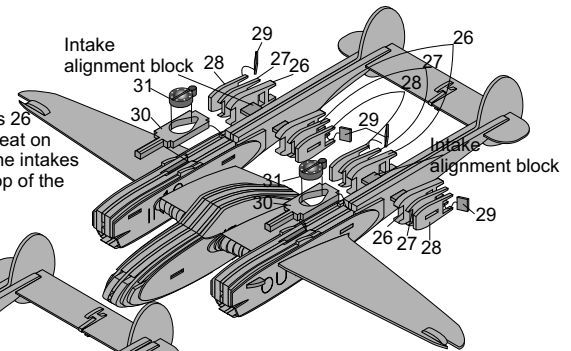
### Step 4 Main assembly



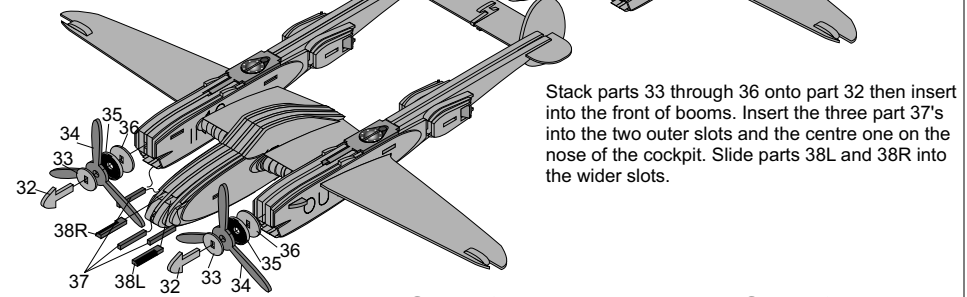
**Note:**  
Parts labelled with this symbol are not to be glued as they will need to be removed to add the decals

### Step 5 Engine intake and exhaust

Slide intake alignment block into slot in the rear half of the booms and centre it. Stack parts 26 through to 28 onto both sides of the block. Repeat on the other boom. Insert part 29 into the rear of the intakes on a 45 degree angle. Place part 30 onto the top of the booms then insert part 31.

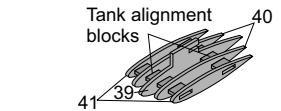


### Step 6 Propellers and guns



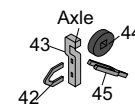
Stack parts 33 through 36 onto part 32 then insert into the front of booms. Insert the three part 37's into the two outer slots and the centre one on the nose of the cockpit. Slide parts 38L and 38R into the wider slots.

### Step 7 Drop tanks



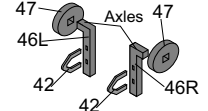
Insert tank alignment blocks into part 39 and centre them. stack parts 40 and 41 onto the blocks.

### Step 8 Front landing gear



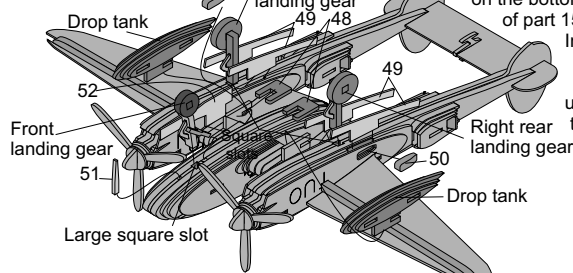
Insert part 42 into the slots on part 43. Slide part 44 onto the axle of part 43. Part 45 is slid into position at the same time as the assembly.

### Step 9 Rear landing gear



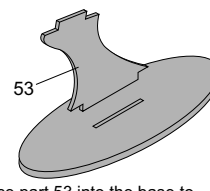
Insert part 42 into the slots on part 46L and 46R Slide part 47 onto the axles of 46.

### Step 10 Finale assembly

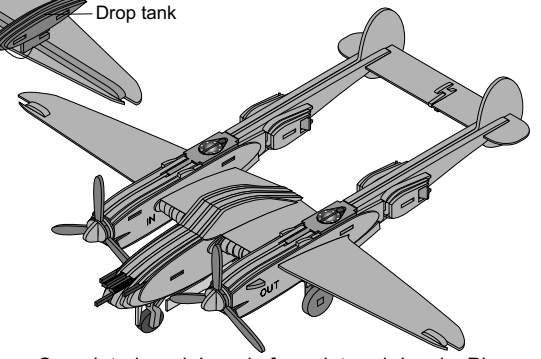


Insert front landing gear into larger square slot under the nose of the cockpit. Place rear landing into the square slots on the bottom of the booms. Place drop tank onto the inside of part 15 and slide part 48 in to lock drop tank in place. Insert parts 49 into the slots beside the rear landing gear. Push part 50 into place on side of boom. Insert part 51 into the small square hole under the nose of the cockpit. Insert part 52 into the slot on the bottom left side of the cockpit.

### Step 11



Place part 53 into the base to complete stand, place model on stand



Completed model ready for paint and decals. Please see the separate sheet for paint and decal instructions.



For small decals you may use a small utility knife to remove them from the backing and place in position.



Peel back the backing enough to allow the decal to go over protruding parts

# Applying decals

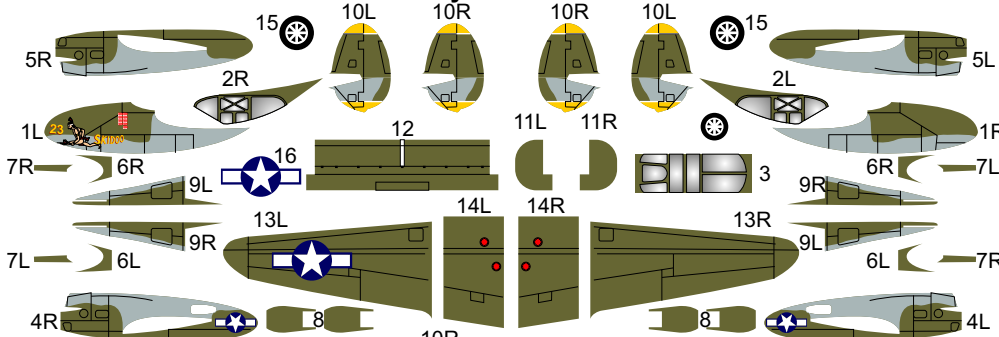
## Tools needed to apply decals

- Scissors
- Utility knife

Make sure your hands are clean before applying decals. Avoid contact with the adhesive as this can cause the decal to lose some of its adhesion. Decals will adhere better to a smooth clean surface so we do recommend painting your model for best results.

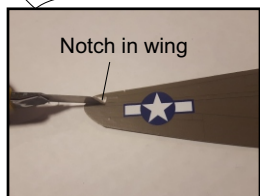
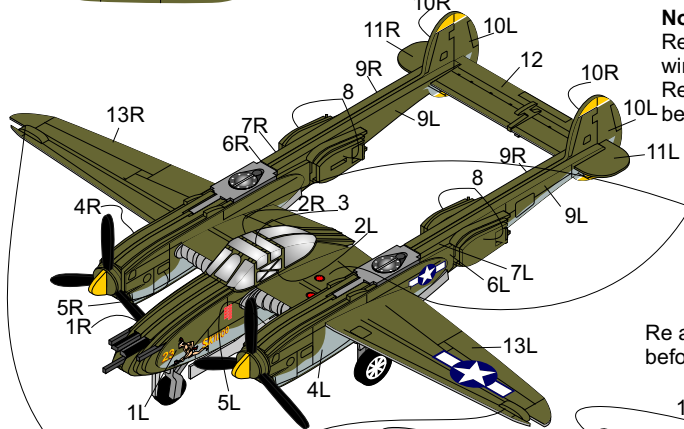
Decals should be placed into position in numerical order. You will need to remove the main and tail wings to apply the side decal.

### Take your time.

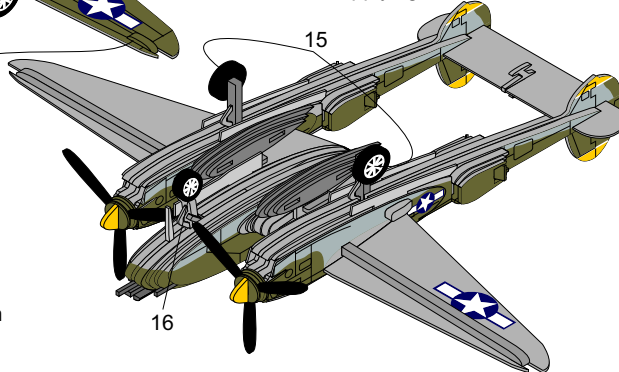


**Note:**  
Remove both inner and outer main wing and spares from nacelles.  
Remove rear tail surfaces as well before applying decals.

Re assemble inner and outer wings before applying decals 14L AND 14R



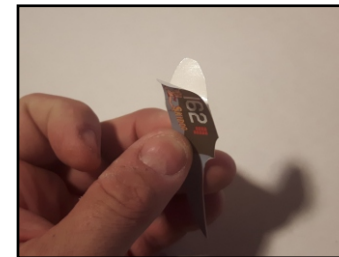
Place decals 13L and 13R into position with the spare removed. cut away the vinyl in the notch then replace spare.



Cut out each decals as close to the edge as possible. Only cut out decals as needed.

### Note:

Paint entire aircraft gray then apply olive green before applying decals.



For the large decals, remove about a 1/4" of the backing and cut off with scissors.



Place the exposed section on the surface making sure that your decal is properly aligned on the part.

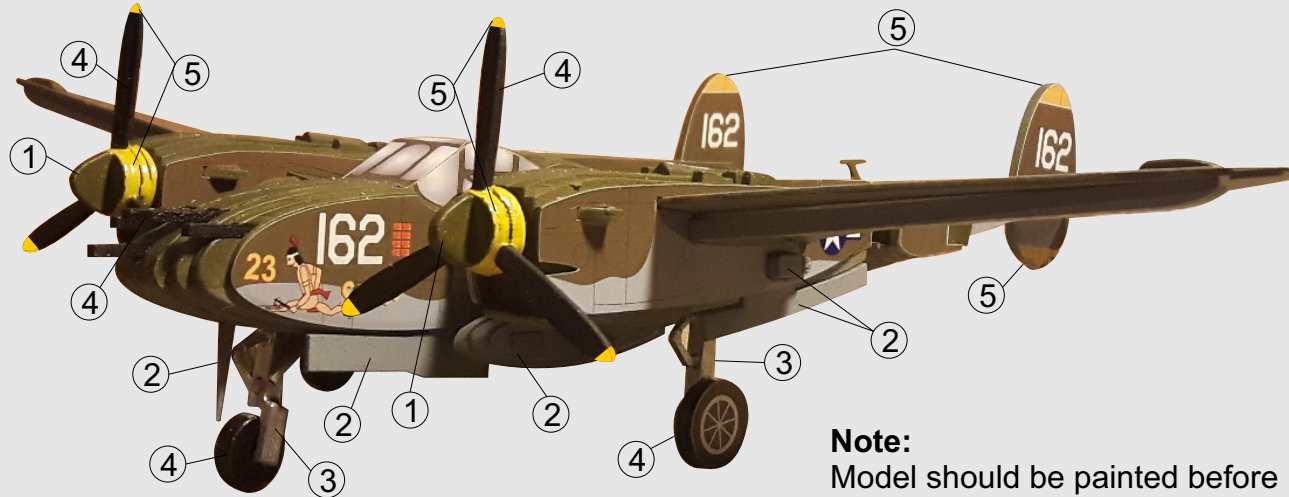


Slowly remove the backing making sure the decal is staying aligned on the surface.

# Colour Scheme of P-38J Lightning

## Suggested colours by Testors paints:

- 1 Olive Drab** 1165  
All upper surfaces
- 2 Flat Gray** 1163  
All under surfaces  
Fuel tanks
- 3 Silver** 1146  
Landing gear  
Superchargers
- 4 Black** 1147  
Wheels  
Propellers  
Guns
- 5 Yellow** 1114  
Propeller tips  
Propeller hub  
Tip of tails



### Note:

Model should be painted before adding decals.

All upper surfaces should be Olive Drab.  
All bottom surfaces should be flat grey.

