Pack 01 | Build Instructions

Your 1:200 scale model of the legendary battleship Bismarck is packed with intricate details which precisely replicate every aspect of this state-of-the-art warship. Each piece has been created using premium quality materials to bring maximum enjoyment during your complete build.

In your first model pack, you will assemble:

STAGE 01: INITIAL PARTS OF THE UPPER DECK
STAGE 02: THE FOREMOST 38CM GUN TURRET
STAGE 03: ON-BOARD AIRCRAFT
   ARADO AR 196
STAGE 04: THE TWO CATAPULTS AND A MOTOR TEST

STAGE 05: THE ANCHOR CAPSTANS AND ANCHOR CHAIN OPENINGS
STAGE 06: THE SECOND KEEL SECTION
STAGE 07: GEARBOX FOR THE BOW ANCHORS
STAGE 08: A SECTION OF THE HULL AND DECK DETAILS
Advice from the experts

Spare screws are included with each part. Occasionally, you may be instructed to keep spare or unused screws for a later stage. Keep these spares in a safe place and label them correctly.

Please make sure you don’t mix up the screws. They look quite similar, but the threads do vary slightly. Using the wrong screws may damage the parts.

When securing parts together using multiple screws, fit each screw loosely to ensure all the parts are correctly aligned before gently tightening them firmly, but not overtight, in the order in which you placed them.

The screwdriver can be magnetised by stroking it with a magnet (fridge magnet, etc.) enabling it to hold the screws and make assembly easier.

If a screw is tight going into a metal part, do not force it as you may shear the head off. Remove it and put a tiny smear of Vaseline, soap or light oil on the thread. That will lubricate it and make it easier to drive home.

During the course of this build, you will receive many pieces that you will assemble immediately – following the instructions in the corresponding stage – and other pieces that you should store safely to one side, for use in future assembly stages.
STAGE 01
INITIAL PARTS OF THE UPPER DECK

COMPONENTS CHECKLIST
1-01: Forward section of the upper deck
1-02: The warping winch baseplate
1-03: Two capstan drums
1-04: Capstan head
1-05: Capstan head lower part
1-06: Two housings
1-07: The bow section of the hull
1-08: Six bollards
1-09: Small hatch
1-10: Large hatch

Note: The official name of the part, which you will find embossed on some of the metal components, is BS-XXX-YY. BS stands for Bismarck, X for the stage number and Y for the part number. For greater clarity, we always use the short form in these instructions. For example, BS001-01 becomes 1-01.

NOTES BEFORE STARTING TO ASSEMBLE

We recommend using these tools to assemble the Bismarck most effectively:

- Cutting mat or card
- Craft knife
- Superglue
- Small screwdriver
- Tweezers
- Toothpicks
- Sandpaper
NOTES BEFORE STARTING WORK

- Cut open the packaging carefully, to avoid damaging any parts. If you use a craft knife, always take care.

- Remove the plastic parts from the frame by carefully cutting through the sprues that connect them.

- Take care that small parts do not fly off when cutting through the sprues that connect them. If you can see any remains of the connecting sprues still attached to the plastic parts you have cut out, remove them using very fine sandpaper.

- Always apply the superglue extremely sparingly! We recommend that you use superglue gel, which can be applied with pinpoint accuracy to the relevant surface using a toothpick.

Quick tips when glueing parts:
- Test-fit the parts before applying glue.
- Keep some cotton buds handy to wipe away any surplus glue.
01. ASSEMBLING THE WARPING WINCH

Take the baseplate of the warping winch 1-02 and the two capstan drums 1-03. Test fit the drums in the winch to see how they fit. Apply a tiny drop of superglue to the small end of each of the capstan drums using a cocktail stick.

Glue the two capstan drums 1-03 to the base plate 1-02.

Glue the capstan head 1-04 firmly to the lower part of the capstan head 1-05 by applying a small amount of superglue to the recessed sides of the capstan head. The inset shows the two parts fixed together. Place it safely on one side, as it will not be attached to the warping winch until a later stage.
02. ATTACHING THE BOLLARDS, HOUSINGS AND HATCHES

Apply a little superglue to the underside of the warping winch 1-02 that you have just assembled and seat it firmly in the large recess in the upper deck 1-01.

The photo shows the warping winch 1-02 firmly glued in position. Glue the two housings 1-06 into the two rectangular openings a little further astern on the upper deck with openings facing the rear of the deck.

Glue the first two bollards 1-08 firmly into position in the large circular openings on the starboard (right) edge of the upper deck.
The next two bollards 1-08 are glued firmly into position at the same place on the port (left) side of the upper deck.

Finally, glue the following parts to the front of the upper deck in the positions shown: the two remaining bollards 1-08, the small hatch 1-09 and the large hatch 1-10. NOTE: the two hatches have hinges on one side. These should be towards the bow of the deck (see arrows on part 1-10).

Completed work
The photograph shows your assembly so far. The bow section of the hull (1-07) will be needed when you come to follow the instructions in Stage 3. Label and store carefully until then.
STAGE 02
THE FOREMOST 38CM GUN TURRET

COMPONENTS CHECKLIST
2-01: Revolving turret housing
2-02: Base plate of the turret
2-03: Connector for barrels
2-04: Motor mounting (upper)
2-05: Two ventilators
2-06: Cradle with base plate
2-07: Clutch shaft
2-08: Motor mounting (lower)
2-09: Ring
2-10: Two gun barrels
2-11: Tension spring
2-12: Electric motor
2-13: Two ladders
PB: Eleven 2 x 6 mm screws

Due to variations in lighting during photography, occasionally parts may appear a different colour.
Keep any extra screws as spares.

01. DETAILS FOR THE ARMoured HOOD

Place the housing of the gun turret 2-01 on your worktop. Take the two ventilators 2-05 and, after testing how they fit, apply a tiny drop of superglue on the shaped end (see inset). Fix the ventilators in place on either side of the housing as shown.

Take the two ladders 2-13. Fix the ladders to either side of the housing by inserting their feet into the small holes. If necessary, secure the ladders with the tiniest drop of superglue. Carefully remove any surplus glue with a cotton bud or similar.
Take the two gun barrels 2-10 and the connector 2-03. Apply a little superglue to the stud at the end of the first barrel and attach it to the connector.

Repeat this process with the second barrel 2-10. When gluing the two barrels, make sure that they are exactly aligned, so they are parallel, following the line of the barrel connector.

Fit the ring 2-09 into the rear of connector 2-03. Have the clutch shaft 2-07 ready. **NOTE:** do NOT glue this or any of the following components.

Insert the clutch shaft 2-07 into the opening of the ring 2-09 as shown.

Fit the tension spring 2-11 over the front of the clutch shaft 2-07 as shown. Have the cradle with base plate 2-06 ready.

Turn the gun barrel assembly over and insert it into the cradle 2-06 in the direction of the arrow. Make sure the gun barrels are pushed in so the clutch shaft is against the vertical edge of the cradle (circled in red).
03. ASSEMBLING THE MOTOR

01

Fit the upper part of the motor mounting 2-04 on the cradle base plate 2-06. A stud on the base of the motor mounting fits in a slot in the base plate.

02

Turn the assembly over and fix the top of the motor mounting 2-04 in place with two PB screws through the cradle base plate 2-06.

03

With the gun barrels pushed forwards, fit the motor 2-12 into the top of the motor mounting 2-04. Make sure the motor is the right way round with the cables at the upper edge of the green board.

04

This photo shows the motor 2-12 correctly inserted into the mounting. The edge of the board with the cables attached is uppermost and the end of the motor fits in the recess in the clutch shaft (see arrow).

05

Have two PB screws ready. Fit the lower part of the motor mounting 2-08 over the upper part 2-04.

06

Fix the motor mountings together with two PB screws so that the motor is held firmly in place. **NOTE:** The motor protrudes at the rear of the assembly and the clutch shaft protrudes slightly beyond the base plate (circled in red).
04. SECURING THE GUN BARREL ASSEMBLY IN THE TURRET

Take the turret housing 2-01 and turn it upside down. Insert the gun barrel assembly into the revolving housing, as shown.

Make sure the gun barrel assembly is inserted correctly so that the two pins on the sides of the cradle fit in the semicircular recesses (see arrows).

Have six PB screws ready. Take the base plate of the turret 2-02 and locate it on the turret housing, bringing the motor cable through the large opening, as shown.

Fit the base plate on the housing and secure it with the six PB screws, as shown. A spare PB screw is supplied. Save it in a labelled container in case you need it later.

Completed work
The foremost 38cm twin turret, referred to as “Anton”, is taking shape. Further mechanical components will be added later.

On German warships, the gun turrets were named “A”, “B”, “C”, “D” etc., going from bow to stern. The German radio alphabet was used to name the turrets (“Anton”, “Bruno” or “Berta”, “Cäsar” and “Dora”).
STAGE 03
ON-BOARD AIRCRAFT ARADO AR 196

COMPONENTS CHECKLIST
3-01: Bow section of hull
3-02: Front strut
3-03: Rear strut
3-04: Two side struts
3-05: Aircraft fuselage (upper)
3-06: Aircraft fuselage (lower)
3-07: Wings
3-08: Engine
3-09: Propeller
3-10: Right-hand float
3-11: Left-hand float
3-12: Control lever
3-13: Pilot's seat
3-14: Machine gun
3-15: Propeller shaft
3-16: Cockpit canopy
3-17: Catapult launch carriage
PM: Three 2 x 4mm screws

01. STARTING TO ASSEMBLE THE METAL HULL

Take the bow section of the hull 1-07 (from stage 1) and fit it on the lower part of the hull 3-01 supplied with this stage.

Fix the two sections of the hull together using two PM screws. A spare screw has been supplied. Keep it safe in a labelled container in case you need it later.
02. THE FUSELAGE, COCKPIT CANOPY AND WINGS OF THE SHIPBORNE PLANE

01. Take the two parts of the fuselage 3-05 and 3-06. Use a cocktail stick to apply a drop of superglue to the studs on the inside of the top half of the fuselage.

02. Gently press the two halves of the fuselage together to ensure that the fixing points remain in contact as the glue dries.

03. Fit the propeller shaft 3-15 by inserting it from the rear so that it passes through to the front of the engine 3-08. Do not glue in place as the shaft should remain free to turn. Have the propeller 3-09 ready for the next step.

04. Holding the shaft 3-15 in place from behind, test fit the propeller 3-09 onto the end of the shaft. Apply a tiny drop of superglue to the end of the shaft and secure the propeller in place. Be careful not to apply too much glue as the propeller should remain free to turn.

05. Apply a little superglue to the tip of the fuselage 3-05 / 3-06, as shown.

06. Attach the engine 3-08 to the front of the fuselage. Note that the underside of the fuselage and the engine are a different colour. Make sure that the parts are aligned where the colour changes (see step 9).
03. THE TWO FLOATS AND THE CATAPULT LAUNCH CARRIAGE

In the cockpit, use a little superglue to stick the three accessories in place as shown: the control lever 3-12, the pilot's seat 3-13 and the machine gun 3-14.

Apply superglue to the two studs at the bottom of the cockpit canopy 3-16 and glue it to the fuselage as shown.

Apply superglue to the two studs on the top of the wings 3-07. The arrows indicate the sockets on the lower side of the fuselage 3-06, where the studs are inserted.

Fix the wings 3-07 to the fuselage base 3-06. Make sure the wings are the right way round. There are two small machine guns on the leading edge of the wings, indicated by the arrows.

Study the next steps to see the difference between the floats 3-10 and 3-11. Take one of the side struts 3-04 and fit the 'feet' into the openings of the right-hand float 3-10. They do not need to be glued.

Insert the stud on the other side strut 3-04 into the sockets of the left-hand float 3-11.
Align the two floats 3-10 and 3-11 as shown. Apply superglue to the two ‘feet’ of the rear strut 3-03 (see inset). Glue the feet into the sockets on the inner sides of the floats beside the side struts. 

Apply superglue to the ‘feet’ of the front struts 3-02 and glue them into the sockets at the front of the two floats. **NOTE**: The side of 3-02 with the small studs (indicated by the arrow) must face forwards.

Check how the ends of the struts on the floats fit into the six sockets on the underside of the plane (circled). Apply superglue in the sockets and fix the struts in place.

The photo shows the struts glued to the underside of the wing. Have the catapult launch carriage 3-17 ready. Its three studs fit into the three circled slots.

Apply some superglue to the three sockets on the underside of the wings and the fuselage. Fix the studs on the catapult launch carriage 3-17 into the slots.

**Completed work**

The first two parts of the bow of the metal hull have been assembled, and the first on-board aircraft is complete.
STAGE 04
THE TWO CATAPULTS AND A MOTOR TEST

COMPONENTS CHECKLIST
4-01: Catapult tracks (x2)
4-02: Wheels (x8)
4-03: Catapult supports (x2)
4-04: First port hull section
4-05: Connector
4-06: Circuit board
4-07: Battery box
4-08: Axles (x 4)
PM: Five 2 x 4 mm screws

01: THE THIRD SECTION FOR THE METAL HULL

Take the connector 4-05 and position it on the hull section 4-04 as shown. Fix in place with a PM screw and put aside safely with the bow hull sections.

NOTE: Store the remaining four PM screws in a labelled container. They will not be needed until a future stage.
02: ASSEMBLING THE TWO CATAPULTS

Take four of the wheels 4-02 and two of the axles 4-08. Push-fit the axles into the back of two of the wheels, so that the ribs on the end of the axles hold them in place.

Take a catapult track 4-01 and insert one of the two wheel/axle assemblies 4-02 / 4-08 into the holes at one end of the track.

Push-fit a wheel 4-02 on to the free end of the axle 4-08. If necessary, glue the wheels in place, but make sure that the wheels can turn.

At the other end of the catapult track 4-01, fit the second wheel/axle assembly 4-02 / 4-08 in the same way as described in steps 2 and 3.

Take the first track/wheels assembly and turn it over. Fit the catapult support 4-03 over the track 4-01, sliding it in place. At the right-hand end, the lips along the sides of the sliding support fit under the raised parts of the track (see arrows).

The photo shows the sliding catapult support mounted on the tracks – the catapult rolls and slides! Repeat steps 1 to 5 with the parts for the second catapult and put both tracks aside safely.
03: TESTING THE MOTOR

01

Place the battery box 4-07 on your worktop. Remove the screw on the lid of the battery box and slide it open.

02

Insert three AA batteries into the battery box as shown. Then replace the lid of the battery box.

03

Plug the cable of the battery box 4-07 into the larger port marked “Power” on the circuit board 4-06.

04

Take the gun turret assembled in stage 2. Insert the end of the cable on the turret into the port labelled “Motor” on the circuit board 4-06 as shown.

05

If you slide the on / off switch on the battery box 4-07, you will hear a salvo and see the guns recoil, simulating the gun turret in action.

Completed work

You have the next section of the metal hull, the catapults are assembled and the motor of the foremost 38cm twin turret has been tested.
STAGE 05
THE ANCHOR CAPSTANS AND ANCHOR CHAIN OPENINGS

COMPONENTS CHECKLIST
5-01: First hull section, starboard side
5-02: Hull section connector
5-03: Two covers for the anchor chain openings
5-04: Two capstan wheels
5-05: Two capstan drums (red and green)
5-06: Two capstan shafts
5-07: Two capstan supports
5-08: Two anchor chain guides
AM Two 2 x 4 mm screws

01. THE FOURTH SECTION FOR THE METAL HULL

Take the hull section connector 5-02 and position it across the lip of the hull section 5-01 as shown. Fix in place with an AM screw.
02. FIT CHAIN GUIDE AND COVERS FOR ANCHOR CHAIN OPENINGS

Take the forward section of the upper deck 1-01. You will also need the covers for the anchor chain openings 5-03 and the two chain guides 5-08. Test the fit of the first chain guide around the hole in front of one of the housings 1-06.

Place the first chain guide 5-08 on the work surface and apply a drop of superglue on the two small pegs on the underside (see inset). Fix in place on the upper deck. Repeat the process with the second chain guide 5-08. The main image shows the two guides fixed in place.

Identify the two anchor chain openings (circled in the main image in step 2). Check the fit of the covers for the anchor chain openings 5-03. Apply a drop of superglue to the small pegs on the underside of the first cover (see inset). Glue in place as shown, then fix the second cover in place.
03. ASSEMBLE THE TWO CAPSTANS

01
Take the green capstan drum 5-05, the wheel 5-04, the shaft 5-06 and the support 5-07. Apply superglue to the peg on the underside of the capstan wheel 5-04 and fit it into the hole in top of the capstan shaft 5-06.

02
Turn the capstan shaft over and fit the green capstan drum 5-05 onto the shaft as shown.

03
Push the green capstan drum 5-05 down the shaft as far as it will go. Then fit the capstan support 5-07 onto the shaft in the same way, pushing it down as far as possible.

04
Assemble the red capstan in the same way: first, glue the capstan wheel 5-04 onto the shaft 5-06.

05
Fit the red capstan drum 5-05 onto the shaft 5-06, pushing it down as far as possible. Finally, fit the capstan support 5-07 onto the shaft.

Completed work
Four small parts have been attached to the upper deck, the two anchor capstans are assembled and a connector has been fitted to the hull.
STAGE 06
THE SECOND KEEL SECTION

COMPONENTS CHECKLIST
6-01: Second keel section
6-02: Connector for keel section
AM: Three 2 x 4 mm screws (includes a spare)

01. ASSEMBLY OF THE SECOND KEEL SECTION

Take the bow section 3-01 that you completed with the instructions in stage 3. Test fit the bow section 3-01 and the second keel section 6-01 as shown.
On the inside of the hull, where parts 3-01 and 6-01 meet, fit the connector 6-02 as shown.

Fix the connector in place so that it holds the two keel sections together using two AM screws.

Completed work
The hull of your BISMARCK model has grown. Instructions for further work on the construction of the hull will be given in stage 8.
STAGE 07
GEARBOX FOR THE BOW ANCHORS 1

COMPONENTS CHECKLIST
7-01: Gearbox housing, lower part  
7-02: Gearbox housing, upper part  
7-03: Cross shaft  
7-04: Two anchor chain reels  
7-05: Lengthwise shaft  
7-06: Two anchor chains  
7-07: Two anchor rings  
7-08: Two anchor arms  
7-09: Two anchor shafts

01. CONNECT THE ANCHOR CHAINS TO THE CROSS SHAFT

You will need the following parts: the cross shaft 7-03, the two anchor chain reels 7-04 and the two anchor chains 7-06.
Take one of the two anchor chains 7-06 and fit the ring on the end of the chain over the hub of the wheel at one end of the cross shaft 7-03. The arrow in the photo indicates where it should be fitted.

Take the first anchor chain reel 7-04 and fit it on the end of the cross shaft 7-03 where the anchor chain is fitted. As you fit it, make sure that the anchor chain feeds straight out of the opening in the reel and does not tangle inside the ‘drum’ formed by 7-03 and 7-04 (see inset detail image).

Repeat steps 2 and 3 with the second anchor chain 7-06 and the second anchor chain reel 7-04 at the other end of the cross shaft 7-03 as shown. Again, make sure that the anchor chain feeds straight out of the drum opening.
02. FIT THE CROSS SHAFT INTO THE GEARBOX HOUSING

Place the upper part of the gearbox housing 7-02 on your worktop. Pass the ends of the anchor chains 7-06 through the two large openings in the gearbox housing indicated by the arrows.

Insert the cross shaft 7-03 into the holes in the upper part of the gearbox housing 7-02. The ends of the shaft fit into recesses and the cog on the shaft should be positioned as indicated by the arrow.

03. ASSEMBLE THE TWO ANCHORS

Holding an anchor arm 7-08 as shown, insert a shaft 7-09 through the opening in the arm from below, using tweezers if necessary.

Attach an anchor ring 7-07 to the eye of the shaft 7-09. Repeat these steps (01 and 02) to complete the second anchor.

Completed work
The two bow anchors have been assembled. The first stage of the gearbox assembly is completed with the cross shaft connected to the anchor chains and fitted into the upper part of the housing.
STAGE 08
A SECTION OF THE HULL AND DECK DETAILS

COMPONENTS CHECKLIST
- **8-01**: Second starboard hull section
- **8-02**: Two roller fairleads
- **8-03**: Guide for bow anchor
- **8-04**: Two attachment points
- **8-05**: Two anchor brackets
- **8-06**: Two platforms
- AM Seven 2 x 4 mm screws

01. ASSEMBLING SECTIONS OF THE HULL

Take the first starboard hull section **5-01** (supplied with stage 5) and fit it to the second starboard hull section **8-01** so that the raised screw socket on **8-01** fits into the hollow socket on **5-01**.

Check that the two parts are completely flush and fix together with an AM screw.
Take the assembled parts 5-01/8-01 and fit to the parts of the hull assembled earlier. The upper edge of part 5-01 should be aligned with the bow section of the hull, as indicated by the arrow.

Fix the hull sections together with five AM screws at the points indicated.

02. FURTHER DETAILS FOR THE FOREDECK

Apply a little superglue to the underside of the anchor guide 8-03 (see inset) and fix in place at the bow of the deck 1-01 as shown.

Apply a little superglue to the two pegs on the lower edge of the first platform 8-06 and fix to the deck as shown.

Apply a little superglue to the two pegs on the underside of the first roller fairlead 8-02 and fix in place near the platform as shown.

Repeat steps 2 and 3 to fix the second platform and the second roller fairlead in place.
Check the fit of the anchor brackets 8-05 at the top of the anchor hawses. Apply a little superglue to the pegs on the brackets and fix in place.

At the rear of the forward section of the deck, fix the attachment points 8-04, one on each side, using a little superglue.

**Completed work**
The starboard side of the hull is taking shape. Further details have been added to the foredeck.