

Message started by Martinh on 12. Aug 2011 at 10:45

Title: **Cockpit detailing help please - I'm scale *****.**

Post by **Martinh** on **12. Aug 2011 at 10:45**

Hi all,

I've got this rather nice semi-scale Pilatus B4 that now ready for it's maiden flight.

As it's so nice, I thought i'd give it a stand off scale interior and pilot.

I've already made the instrument panel from balsa and ply and this is now fixed to the removeable canopy (see photo).

I'm now scratching my head about the cockpit sides, floor and seat. I've managed to gather a collection of photos from the internet, including a copy of the original brochure.

I'd like to give a reasonable impression of the original, but I don't think I can spend days and days on a super-scale version.

Any tips for a beginner to scale cockpit building and finishing?

Also, where can i get a reasonable-looking 1/5th scale pilot?

Cheers,

martin

p.s I just noticed that I've put a rev counter on the instrument panel - oops!



Title: **Re: Cockpit detailing help please - I'm scale *****.**
Post by **VinceC** on **12. Aug 2011 at 10:55**

A simple improvement is to spray the inside of the fuselage with grey speckled paint which includes white spots in it

Title: **Re: Cockpit detailing help please - I'm scale *****.**
Post by **Jolly Roger Brown** on **12. Aug 2011 at 11:26**

VinceC wrote on 12. Aug 2011 at 10:55:

A simple improvement is to spray the inside of the fuselage with grey speckled paint which includes white spots in it

...which you can easily find in B&Q, Halfords etc.

Maybe you could do a B4 and after photo. ;)

Rog

Title: **Re: Cockpit detailing help please - I'm scale *****.**
Post by **Martinh** on **12. Aug 2011 at 12:07**

Hi,

Rog, that's actually quite funny.

Grey and white speckled paint is now on the shopping list - cheers for the tip VinceC

Thanks,

Martin

Title: **Re: Cockpit detailing help please - I'm scale *****.**
Post by **Jolly Roger Brown** on **12. Aug 2011 at 19:26**

I'm trying.

At least my wife says I am. ;)

That B4 really does look nice. Such a shame S2G went bust - they made some decent quality budget models.

Rog

Title: **Re: Cockpit detailing help please - I'm scale *****.**
Post by **Martinh** on **12. Aug 2011 at 20:49**

Yes, it's a very nice budget glider. The quality of the wings is very good indeed. I think it was a few years old when I bought it second hand earlier this year.

The kit unfortunately suffered from some silly quality control problems that needed a bit of work to sort out. I think that the reason why the previous owner decided to sell it on.

The main thing that I did was to add a few layers of cloth to the inside of the fuselage, as it was very thin. I also added some carbon tows around the canopy opening, as this seems to be one of the areas that always splits in a heavy landing.

What do you guys think about using an action man type figure for the pilot? There seems to be lots of options at 1/4 scale and nothing at 1/5 scale.

Cheers,

Martin

Title: **Re: Cockpit detailing help please - I'm scale *****.**
Post by **Jolly Roger Brown** on **13. Aug 2011 at 00:07**

I'd noticed the carbon in your photos Martin. A wise move I think.

I'm sure an Action Man would be fine, if a little small (I seem to think they're nearer 1/6 scale... but def better than an empty cockpit in my opinion.

Rog

Title: **Re: Cockpit detailing help please - I'm scale *****.**
Post by **Paul-williams** on **13. Aug 2011 at 12:53**

Martin,
have a look on ebay, also under 1/6 figures or 1/6 dragon figures and you will find a huge array of stuff at reasonable prices - certainly compared to custom made pilots. Generally I think they look OK in 1/5 models and better than an empty space.
You can easily find sunglasses and beanie hats for a few quid.

scales where everyone has the same face.
Paul

Title: **Re: Cockpit detailing help please - I'm scale *****.**
Post by **VinceC** on **13. Aug 2011 at 13:07**

You can also get cheap figures at the toy shops in various sizes.g action men

Title: **Re: Cockpit detailing help please - I'm scale *****.**
Post by **Martinh** on **13. Aug 2011 at 19:23**

The action man type sounds like and good option - I'm going around my mum and dad's tomorrow evening and I think my old action man may be lurking in the their loft somewhere.

Cheers,

Martin

Title: **Re: Cockpit detailing help please - I'm scale *****.**
Post by **Martinh** on **25. Aug 2011 at 17:51**

Hi all,

I managed to find a civillian action man at a car boot and am ready to go. Below is a picture of him sitting in his new office - I think he looks great.

I've mow measured the wing and tail incidences and have found the following:

Wing root incidences **1 degree difference from left to right** wing.

Left wing 1 degree of washout from root to tip - hooray!

Right wing **1 degree wash in** from root to tip.

Wing to **stabiliser incidence (decalage?) 0 degrees**

So, not good then.

I'm going to try heating and twisting the right wing to remove the wash in - I've already had 1 go and it's geting better.

Do you think it's worth matching the incidences left to right and setting the wing to stab ant 1-2 degrees?

Any help would be great,

Martin



Title: **Re: Cockpit detailing help please - I'm scale *****.**
Post by **Robbie_B** on **25. Aug 2011 at 18:20**

Martin,

How are you measuring the wing incidence? LE to TE or across the bottom of the wing?

If it is 0 degrees decalage as measured LE to TE then 1.5 degrees would be better.

You really will need to get both wings the same - 2 degrees difference across the span will require a lot of trim to compensate - not good.

Title: **Re: Cockpit detailing help please - I'm scale *****.**
Post by **Martinh** on **25. Aug 2011 at 18:34**

I've just bought one of those Robart incidence gauges, so it's from LE to TE.

Getting the elevator centred to get an accurate reading is a bit hit-and-miss though.

I think that you are right - it's got to be perfectly rigged, especially for those aerotow take-offs!

I'm just off to measure some more angles-of-dangles with my new toy now :o

Martin

Title: **Re: Cockpit detailing help please - I'm scale *****.**
Post by **Robbie_B** on **25. Aug 2011 at 21:37**

Martin,

A trick I use to keep the elevator centred when using an incidence guage is to bridge the tailplane/elevator gap with two strips of 1.5mm ply, top and bottom at the tips and clamp them with your plastic clamps/bulldog clips whatever. So long as you're supporting most of the guage's weight you're not going to distort the elevator much, if at all.

Title: **Re: Cockpit detailing help please - I'm scale *****.**
Post by **Martinh** on **29. Aug 2011 at 15:57**

Hi all,

I've now reset the left and right incidences to zero degrees and she flies straight!

I think I still need to take some more lead out of the nose to get it to handle exactly as i want, but it's 100% better than before.

Here are some shots from Butser hill, taken by friends Caroline and John yesterday.

Cheers,

martin







Title: **Re: Cockpit detailing help please - I'm scale *****.**
Post by **Martin Tigg** on **29. Aug 2011 at 18:01**

Looking good Martin.
Middle Wallop next ?
Martin

Title: **Re: Cockpit detailing help please - I'm scale *****.**
Post by **Richard A** on **29. Aug 2011 at 22:13**

Doing well Martin - keep at it. Richard.

Title: **Re: Cockpit detailing help please - I'm scale *****.**
Post by **Martinh** on **30. Aug 2011 at 09:58**

Thanks for that - I really thought it was going to be an Ebay job if i couldn't get it sorted.

There's a 50/50 chance of me going to Middle Wallop, there are just so many flying activities going on in September already!

I'll be fitting the tow release this week though, just in case...

Martin

Title: **Re: Cockpit detailing help please - I'm scale *****.**

Post by **Martinh** on **02. Sep 2011 at 11:20**

I just painted my cockpit with the grey/white speckled paint. I'm not sure that i got the right one, as it's very thick and is difficult to get light coats. Anyway, i think it looks great, with a slight texture and speckles. Here's the one I used:



