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# **P-38 Captured**

2.Staffel of Versuchaverband

Oberbefehlshaber der

Lufwaffe, late 1943

# **Step-by-Step Finishing Aircraft**

**By Glenn Bartolotti**



A complete Step-by-Step guide to Painting and Finishing Models and Figures

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# Step-by-Step Finishing Aircraft

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to Painting and Finishing  
Models and Figures



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# Materials Used

The materials I use are very easy to obtain and simple to use. Most are inexpensive and found in most all art supply stores. Over the years I have learned to use these basic materials to obtain finishes that look very realistic. **Consistency** is very important and following each step is also very important to obtain the desired finish.

You will notice that in none of the steps will you see the method of dry-brushing. I do not like to use this method as some modelers do. I prefer a more subtle look in which I feel represents the look of a full scale aircraft.



*I modified the airbrush bottle syphon to fit Testors Model Master paint jars and Tamiya jars so I can spray the paint directly from the bottle without having to mix in a new bottle.*



*Materials used for painting and weathering. In this Step-by-Step Acrylic paints are used to paint the model showing the same results can be achieved with enamel or acrylic paints!*



*I use a basic single action airbrush. Nothing special.*

# P-38 Captured



P-38G, it was operated by 2.Staffel of Versuchsverband der Luftwaffe and used at least twice for reconnaissance duties.



The Lockheed P-38 Lightning was a World War II American fighter aircraft built by Lockheed. Developed to a United States Army Air Corps requirement, the P-38 had distinctive twin booms and a single, central nacelle containing the cockpit and armament. Named “fork-tailed devil” by the Luftwaffe and “two planes, one pilot” by the Japanese, the P-38 was used in a number of roles, including dive bombing, level bombing, ground-attack, photo reconnaissance missions, and extensively as a long-range escort fighter when equipped with drop tanks under its wings.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



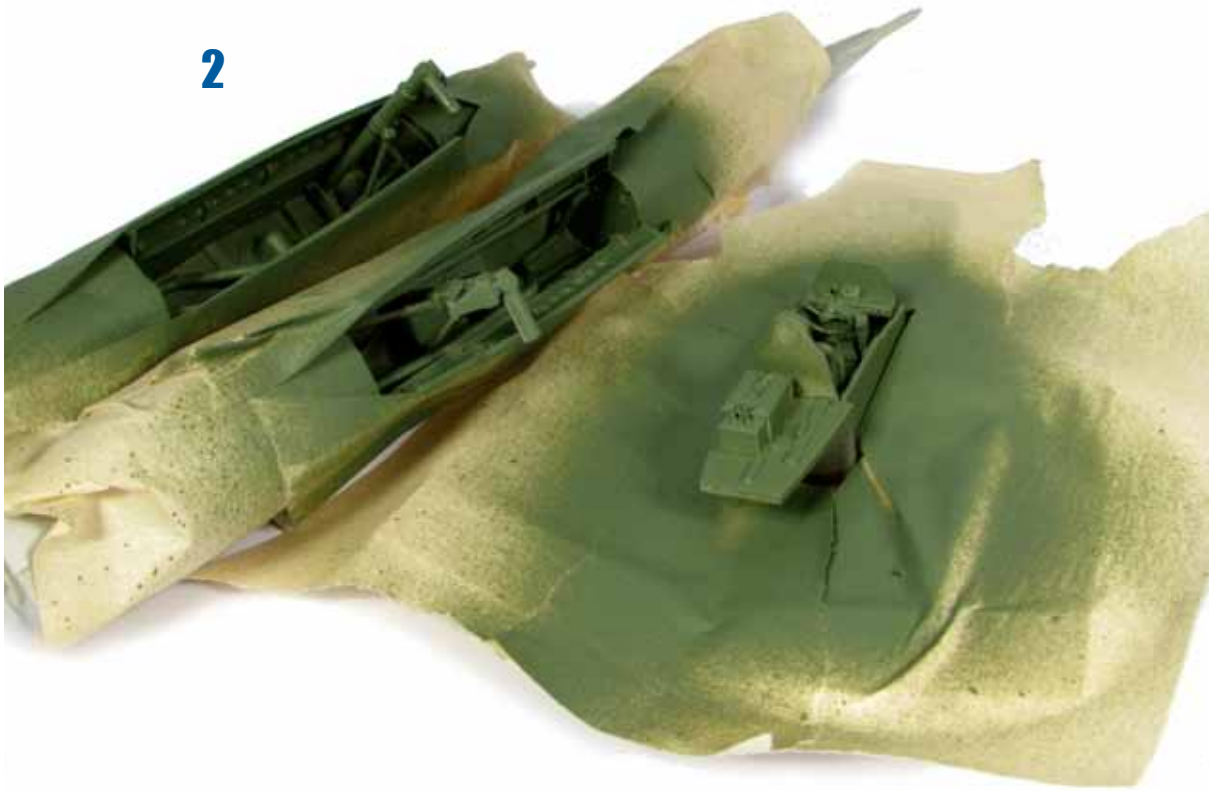
1



1. 1/48 HASEGAWA 09103 P-38 F/G/H Lightning  
This kit features recessed panel lines and good detail,  
plus optional underwing armament.

*I built the kit as the G series with no modifications.*

2



2. The model is partially assembled and  
masked so that where the cockpit can be  
sprayed Zinc Chromate green and also the  
landing bays are sprayed chromate green.



**Green Zinc Chromate**

Available as:

→ Green Zinc Chromate Acryl (F)- 1/2 oz.  
Bottle  
SKU# 4852 Price: USDS 3.69



3



3. Next step The model is assembled and I put tissue paper inside the landing gear bays so that way paint would not go in there. The underside of the model is sprayed Gelb yellow. Its okay if some of the yellow get onr part of the other sides of the model.

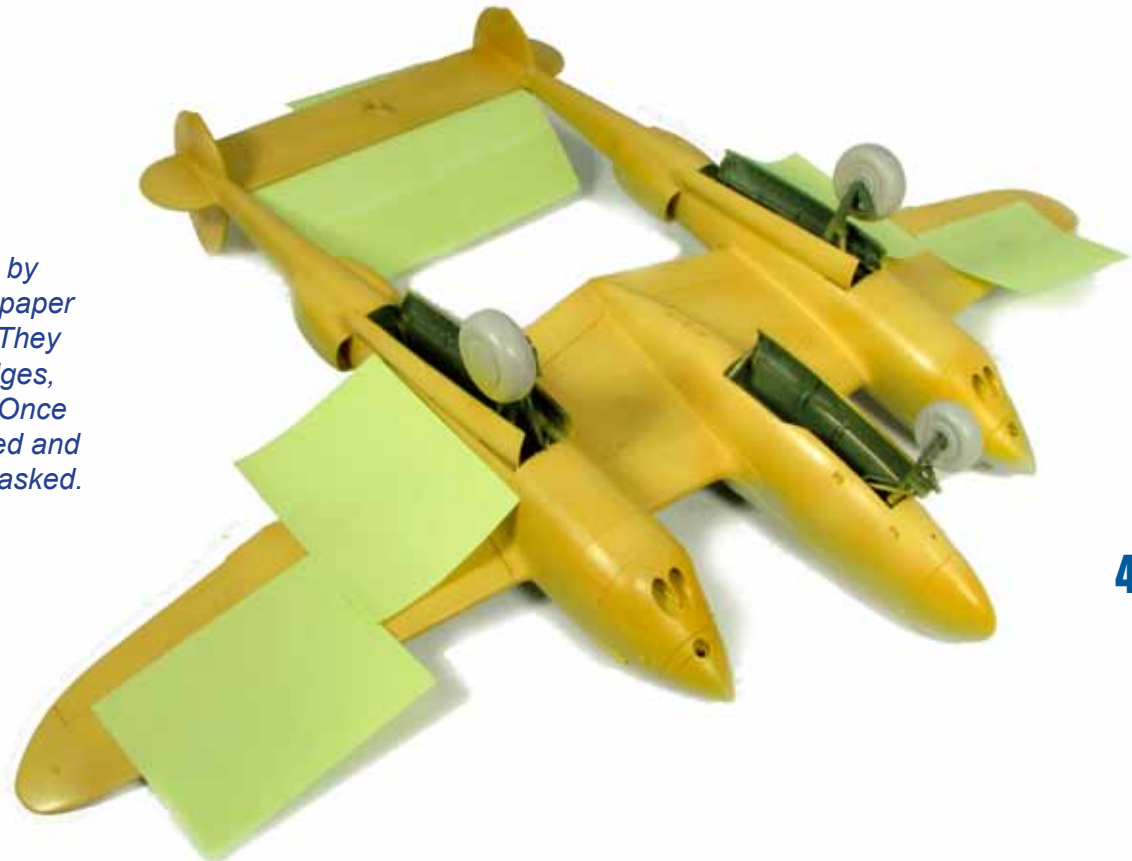


**Gelb RLM 04**

Available as:  
→ Gelb RLM 04 Acryl (SG)- 1/2 oz. Bottle  
SKU# 4771 Price: USD\$ 3.69



4. Next step is to create the faded and modular effects by adding a touch of flat white to the Gelb yellow. Posted paper sticky notes are used to mask off areas of the panels. They are sprayed with mixture of white and yellow on the edges, this will create a modular effect creating light accents. Once one panel is sprayed and dried another panel is masked and painted. Just spray the leading edges of each panel masked.



4



**Gelb RLM 04**

Available as:  
→ Gelb RLM 04 Acryl (SG)- 1/2 oz. Bottle  
SKU# 4771 Price: USD\$ 3.69



**Flat White**

Available as:  
→ Flat White FS37875 Acryl - 1/2 oz. Bottle  
SKU# 4769 Price: USD\$ 3.69

5



5. Next step the tissue is removed and the landing gear this painted flat black along with the tires are all painted Flat black.

6. Next step I painted the cockpit with as much detail as possible and then applied the kit decals for the instrument panel.



6



7



7. Next the underside of the P-38 is masked with masking tape. This takes a little bit of time but must be done to create a good airbrush finish.



8. Next step is to mask the canopy with clear tape. Another tedious task but crucial for a good paint finish. I use a very sharp x-acto knife blade to cut the mask.

8



9. The entire upper surface of the P 38 is sprayed Olivegrun.



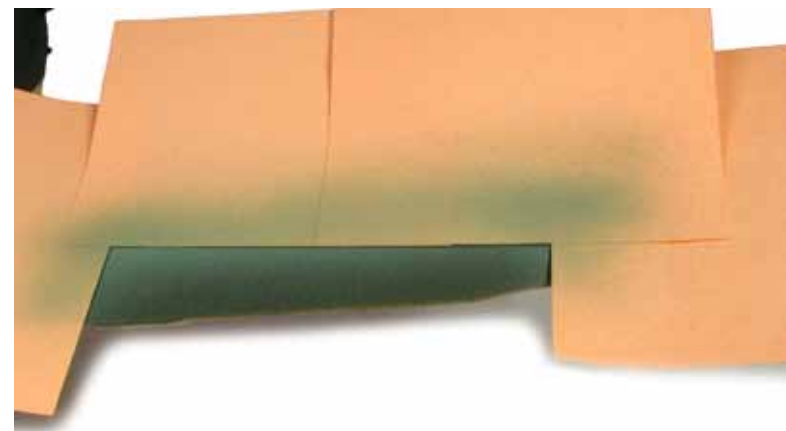
**Olivgrun RLM 80**

Available as:  
• Olivgrun RLM 80 Acryl (SG) - 1/2 oz. Bottle  
SKU# 4790 Price: USD\$ 3.89



9

10. The same as in Step-4 posted note paper is applied to individual panels on the upper surface of the P-38. White is added to the Olivgrun green and is used to highlight the panels. Its important to not cover the whole panel but most of it especially each leading edge. You can experiment on the side of a piece of paper before you airbrushed model.



10



**Flat White**

Available as:  
• Flat White FS37875 Acryl - 1/2 oz. Bottle  
SKU# 4789 Price: USD\$ 3.89



**Olivgrun RLM 80**

Available as:  
• Olivgrun RLM 80 Acryl (SG) - 1/2 oz. Bottle  
SKU# 4790 Price: USD\$ 3.89



11. The decals used on this model are Sky Models number 48-048 1/48 scale P-38 lightning part 1 set. There are a few more sets on the market with the captured decals available also. A gloss finish is applied to the areas that the decals will be applied. Micro Sol is applied to set the decals. When dry the model is given a spray of flat finish.



12

12. Next step is the **wash**. First I brush the model with clean turpentine. I put a dab of Raw Umber oil paint on a pallet, the oil paint is thinned with turpentine on the pallet and then applied to the P-38 panel lines with a small brush. I do not want the wash to coat the entire model, it is controlled just where I want it. This is called a pin wash, apply to all of the panel lines.



Any excess wash is blended away from the panel lines with clean turpentine before the wash dries....be subtle.

13

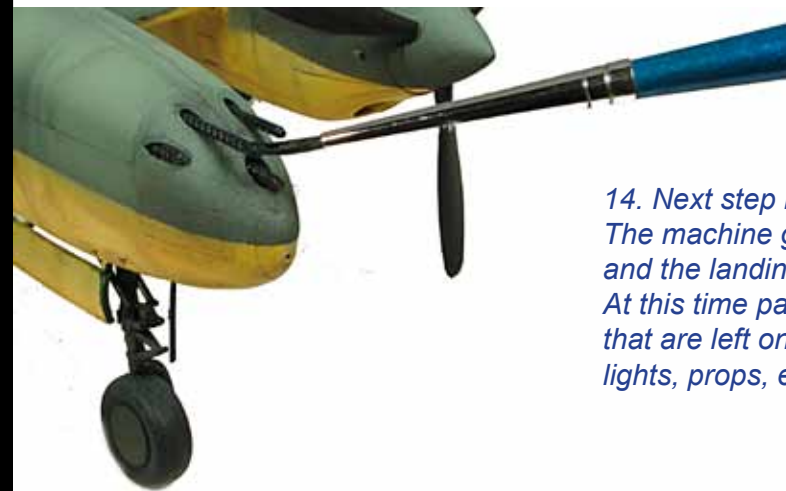


13. Next step is the upper **wash**. This is the same as Step 12 but I put a dab of Black oil paint on a pallet, the oil paint is thinned with turpentine on the pallet and then applied to the P-38 panel lines with a small brush. I do not want the wash to coat the entire model, it is controlled just were I want it. This is called a pin wash, apply to all of the panel lines.



Any excess wash is blended away from the panel lines with clean turpentine before the wash dries.

14



14. Next step is the **detail**. The machine guns are painted gun metal and the landing gear is painted sliver. At this time paint any other small details that are left on the instruction sheet like lights, props, etc.





**Finished Model**



**Finished Model**



**Finished Model**





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by Glenn Bartolotti

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