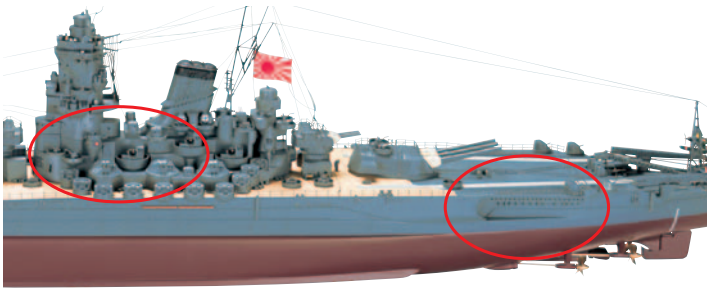
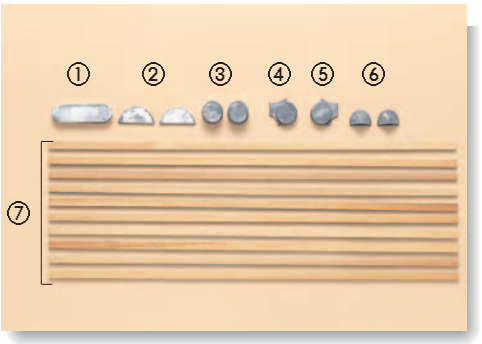
The base of the bridge and strakes





① Base of the bridge
② Base of the bridge x 2
③ Base of the bridge x 2
④ Base of the bridge
⑤ Base of the bridge
⑥ Base of the bridge x 2
⑦ Strakes x 10

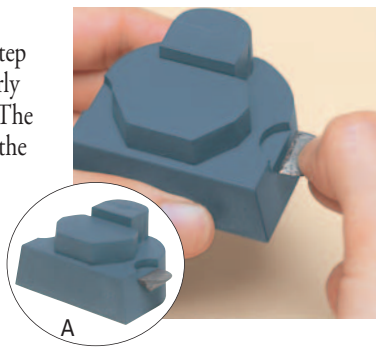
THE BASE OF THE BRIDGE

1 Smooth pieces 1 to 6, using the metal file and grain no. 400 sandpaper. To work the flat parts, wrap the sandpaper around a sanding block. The sides of 1 must form right angles; smooth any bumps with the file.

Recommended tools and materials

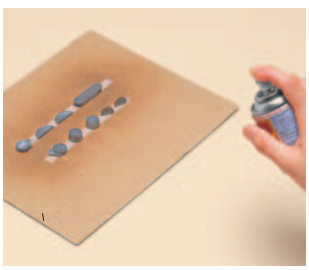
- Fast-drying wood glue
- Metal file
- Sandpaper grain no. 400 and no. 800
- Craft knife
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Putty
- For metal: Super Glue Gel or Two-part epoxy glue
- Metal primer
- Battleship grey model-making spray paint
- Wooden spatula

2 Take the base of the bridge assembled in Despatch 4 (Step 61) and check that 6 fits properly in place, as shown in Photo A. The top face of 6, and the cavity of the bridge, must form a single flat surface.



3 If 6 does not fit properly, smooth the shape with sandpaper grain no. 400. Smooth the side to be glued at an oblique angle, fitting it to the side of the base of the bridge. Work the other piece 6 for the opposite side in the same way. If there are gaps, they can be ignored because they will be covered by other pieces.

4 From a distance of 30cm, give a first coat of metal primer to pieces 1 to 6. The operation will be easier if the pieces are fixed to double-sided adhesive tape.



When using metal primer, ventilate the room well and follow the instructions on the packaging.

5 When the metal primer is perfectly dry, give a thin coat of battleship-grey spray paint from a distance of 30cm. Let it dry thoroughly. Repeat the operation several times, spraying from different directions.

When using spray paint, ventilate the room well and follow the instructions on the packaging.

6 Take the base of the bridge assembled with Despatch 4 (Step 61) and the piece made in Despatch 4 (Step 73). Centre it along its right side, fixing it with metal glue, as shown in the photo.

7 Take what was assembled in the preceding step as in the photo and, on the left side of the complex mounted in the previous step, use metal glue to fix the other part of the base of the bridge, built in Despatch 5 (Step 35).

8 Take what was assembled in Step 7, as shown in the photo. Glue 4 in the lower left corner, and 5 in the upper left corner, as indicated by the two red circles.

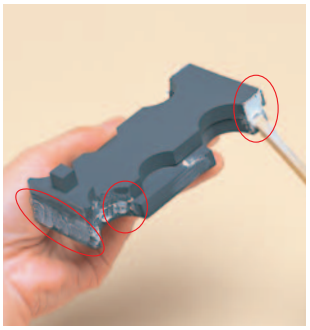
9 Place 3 in the spaces between 4 and 5 and the base of the bridge, and fix them with metal glue. Any gaps will subsequently be filled with putty.

10 Take what has been assembled so far, as shown in the photo. With metal glue, fix the two pieces 6 prepared in Steps 2 and 3.

11 Insert putty in the gaps between 4, 5 and 6 and in those on the bow part of the bridge. Push the putty in with a wooden spatula and let it dry completely, then smooth with grain no. 400 sandpaper. Repeat the operation until the surface is flat and smooth.

12 Hold the piece assembled in Despatch 5 (Step 58), as shown in the photo. With metal glue, fix it on top of the base of the bridge assembled in Despatch 5 (Step 88), aligning the edge of the right side. On the left side, the upper part protrudes 3mm beyond the lower unit.

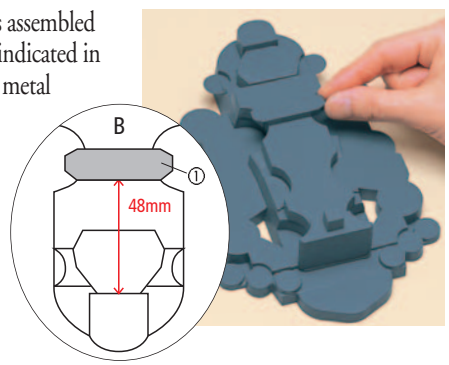
13 If the edges of the two pieces do not align, correct them with putty. The parts highlighted by the red circles in the photo must be flat. Wait for the putty to dry completely, then finish with grain no. 400 sandpaper.



14 Take the part assembled in Step 11, as shown in the photo. With metal glue, fix the part finished in Step 13 on it. Lock in the protruding part of the left edge of the latter on the piece assembled in Step 11, making the outline of the right edge match.

15 Take what was assembled in Step 14, as shown in the photo. Fix 2 with metal glue in the related cavity, making the straight edge of the piece align with the outer edge of the base of the bridge. In the same way, fix the other 2 on the opposite side. Do not worry about covering gaps.

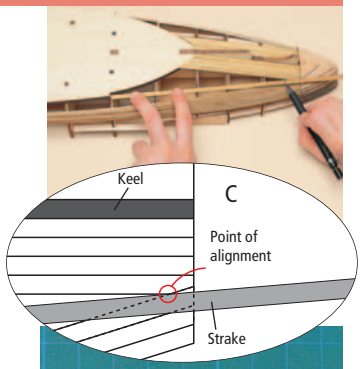
16 Take what was assembled in Step 15, as indicated in the photo. Fix 1 with metal glue in the position shown in Figure B.



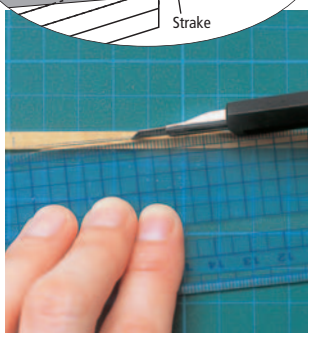
17 With a thin wooden spatula, push putty into the gaps between the pieces of the base of the bridge glued in Steps 14 to 16. When the putty is completely dry, smooth with sandpaper (grain no. 400) to remove any excess.

THE STRAKES

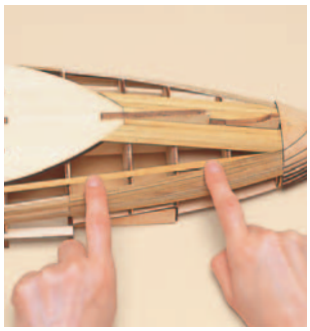
18 Place a strake on the hull towards the stern so that the left edge aligns with the notch of the bottom board of the ship, and the upper one with the point shown in the red circle (Fig. C). Draw a pencil line on the strake.



19 With the craft knife, mark and cut the lines drawn on the strake in the previous step. Keep the surplus material for any subsequent repairs.



20 Smooth the outline of the strake with grain no. 800 sandpaper, so that it fits correctly in the place identified in Step 18, then fix it with fast-drying wood glue.

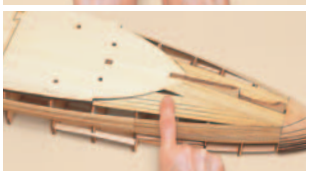


21 Place a second strake so that it fits the first, overlapping the left edge of the bottom board of the ship and the right edge of the strakes already glued. Then draw lines as described in Step 18.

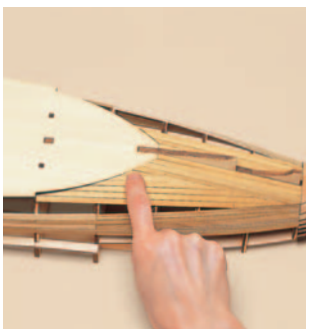
22 With the craft knife, mark and cut the lines drawn on the strake in the previous step. Smooth the strake with sandpaper grain no. 800, so that it fits correctly in the area identified in Step 21.

23 After dealing with the outline of the edges, fix the strake with fast-drying wood glue in the position identified in Step 21.

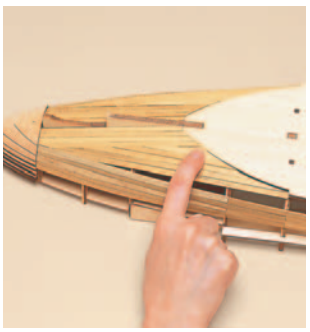
24 Following the instructions in Steps 21 to 23, glue the third strake above the second, and another above the third.



25 Using a piece of left-over strake to fill in the triangle-shaped part of the hull still uncovered. Start by adjusting the shape as described above, then glue.

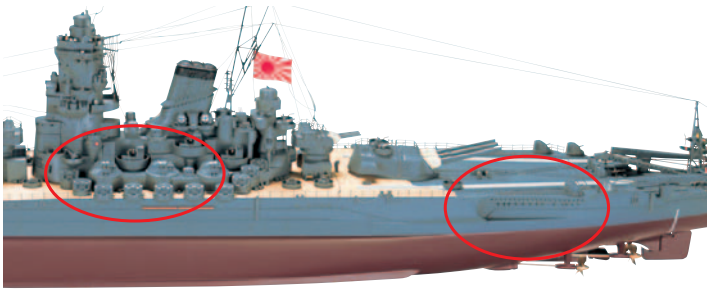


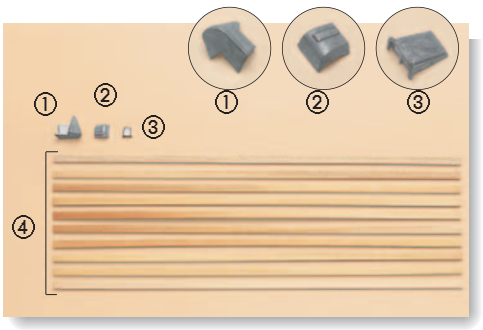
26 Following the instructions in Steps 18 to 26, glue four strakes on the other side of the hull and finally cover the triangle-shaped part of the hull.



COMPLETED PIECES

Perimeter of the base of the bridge and the strakes





① Base of the machine-gun firing mechanism (left)
② Window of the back bridge (left)
③ Grill for ventilation opening (left)
④ Strakes x 10

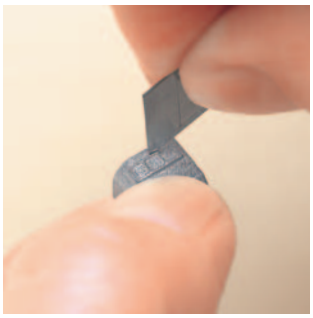
PERIMETER OF THE BASE OF THE BRIDGE

27 Smooth pieces 1 to 3, using first the metal file, and then sandpaper grain no. 400, to eliminate irregularities in the outline.

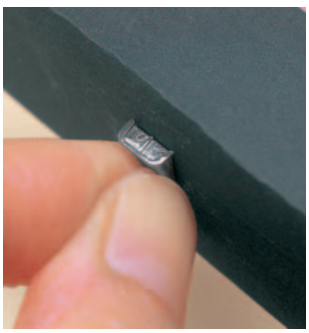
Recommended tools and materials

- Fast-drying glue and wood glue
- Metal file
- Sandpaper (grain no. 800 and no. 400)
- Craft knife
- Pencil
- Ruler
- For metal: Super Glue Gel or Two-part epoxy glue
- Putty
- Metal primer
- Model-making spray paint (battleship grey)
- Matt black paint
- Paintbrush

28 Where it is difficult to reach with sandpaper, use the tip of the craft knife to correct the outline. For a better result, we recommend holding the tip of the blade between your fingertips, as shown in the photo. Take care not to cut yourself.



29 Referring to Steps 36 and 37, position 3. If it does not fit perfectly, file it until it does. Set the flat surface of the piece on the side of the base of the bridge and file it slightly at an angle. It should now fit. Be careful not to scrape the paint off the base of the bridge.



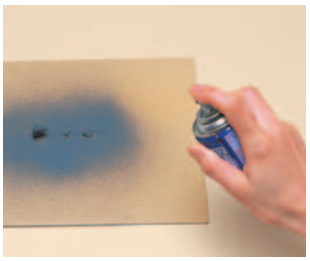
30 Referring to Step 38, identify the position for 1. If it does not fit perfectly, file it until it does. Be careful not to scrape the paint from the base of the bridge.

31 Referring to Step 39, identify the position of 2. If it does not fit perfectly, file it until it does. Be careful not to scrape the paint off the base of the bridge.

32 Now put on a first coat of paint. Begin with evenly spraying metal primer on pieces 1 to 3, at a distance of 30cm. The operation will be easier if you fix the pieces on double-sided adhesive tape.

When using metal primer, ventilate the room well and follow the instructions on the packaging.

33 When the metal primer is completely dry, spray a light coat of paint (battleship grey) from a distance of about 30cm. Wait for it to dry, then spray again several times from different directions.

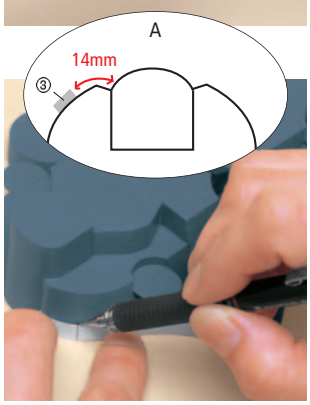


When using spray paint, ventilate the room well and follow the instructions on the packaging.

34 Holding 3, or fixing it with double-sided adhesive tape to a disposable wooden board, paint the two cavities with matt black paint, as shown in the photo.

35 Without moving the piece, paint the three cavities on the upper face black.

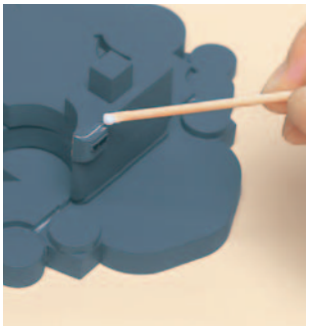
36 Place the base of the bridge as shown in the photo. You must glue 3 7mm from the bottom and 14mm from the end of the projection on the bow side of the base (Fig. A). Measure the 14mm with a strip of cardboard 7mm long. Hold it on the base and mark the correct position.



37 With fast-drying glue, fix 3 on the side of the base of the command bridge which was highlighted in the previous step. With metal glue, fix 1 on the base of the command bridge. Take care that you have the correct orientation when setting the piece.

38 Position the base of the bridge complex as shown in the photo. With metal glue, fix 2 in the position shown on the stern side of the base of the bridge.

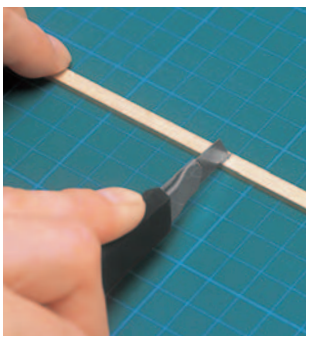
39 Using the tip of a wooden spatula, spread and press putty into any gaps on the base of the bridge and pieces 1 and 3. When it is fully dry, smooth away any excess with grain no. 400 sandpaper folded in four. The puttied parts will be painted later.



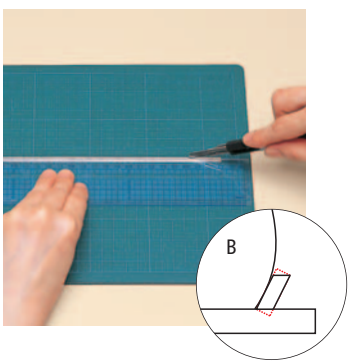
THE STRAKES

40 Take the body of the ship as in the photo, and place a strake 4 towards the middle of the port side. Fit the left end with the strakes already fixed and the lower side on the bottom of the keel. The strake must be glued between frames no. 9 and no. 13.

41 Draw a pencil mark at the midpoint of the thickness of the 13th frame and cut with a craft knife. Be careful to cut slightly at a slant so that, once the strake is glued in place, the end is perpendicular to the frame.

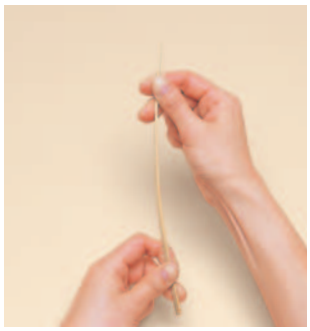


42 Shape the upper surface and lower faces of the strake (Fig. B). First smooth the lower part so it fits perfectly to the bottom of the ship. Placing the strake as is shown in the photo, and following the ruler, cut horizontally with the craft knife without pressing too hard.

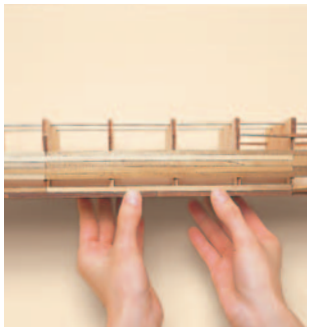


43 Following the cut made in the strake, thin down with sandpaper grain no. 400. After that, finish with a grain no. 800 sanding block, so that the piece fits perfectly to the hull of ship. Proceed in the same way on the opposite side, smoothing obliquely until it fits the flat bottom of the hull.

44 Once the strake is ready, bend it to give it the necessary curve, being careful not to use too much force because it might snap. Wetting with water will make it easier, and it should be mounted once it is curved and dry.



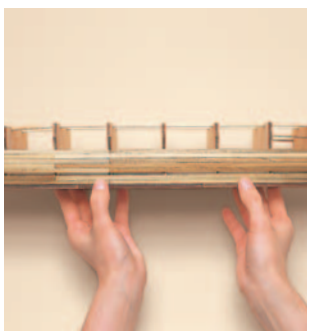
45 Fix the strake with fast-drying wood glue, placing it in the position identified in Step 40.



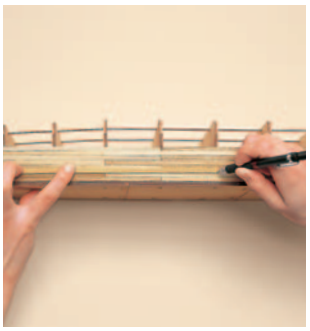
46 Glue the second strake above the first. It must be fixed between frames no. 8 and no. 13. Holding it down, make a mark at the midpoint of the thickness of the 13th frame. Take the strake and adjust its length as in Step 41.

47 After adjusting the length, shape the upper and lower surfaces. Following the description in Steps 42 to 46, thin down the piece roughly with the craft knife, smooth with sandpaper grain no. 800 and give it the required curve.

48 Once the strake is ready, fix it with fast-drying glue in the position described in Step 46.

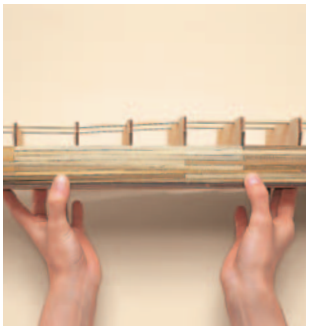


49 Rest a third strake in the gap above the second, between the 5th and 10th frames. Make a mark at the midpoint of the thickness of the 10th frame and adjust the length of the strake, as in Step 41.



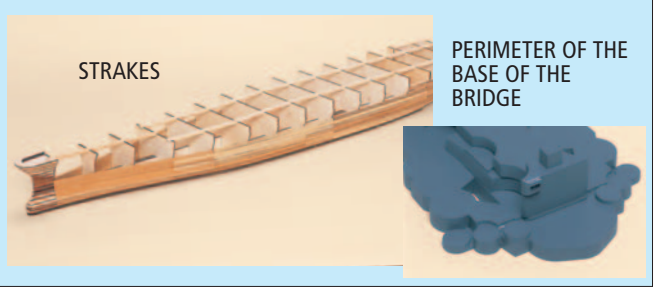
50 After adjusting the length, shape the surfaces by smoothing. To insert the strake correctly, draw a line on it a bit wider than the gap and smooth along the marker. Having trimmed down the strake roughly with the craft knife, finish with sandpaper grain no. 800 and fit it to the hull.

51 Fix the third strake with fast-drying glue.

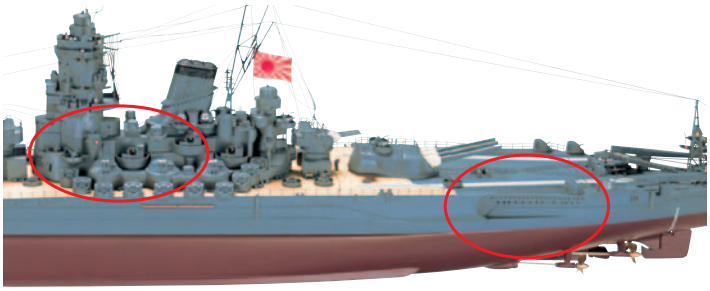


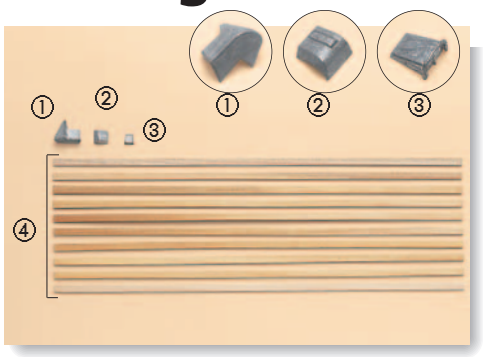
52 Following the procedures in Steps 40 to 51, use fast-drying glue to fix three strakes on the opposite side. Keep the extra four strakes and the pieces of strake left over for eventual repairs and as material for filling gaps.

COMPLETED PIECES



Perimeter of the base of the bridge and the strakes





① Base of the machine-gun firing mechanism (right)
② Window of the back bridge (right)
③ Grille for the ventilation duct (right)
④ Strakes x 10

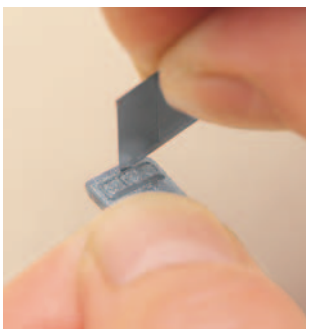
PERIMETER OF THE BASE OF THE BRIDGE

53 Smooth pieces 1 to 3, first with the metal file and then sandpaper (grain no. 400) to eliminate irregularities.

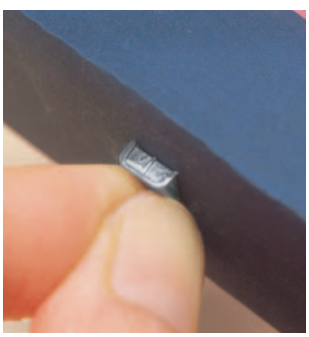
Recommended tools and materials

- Normal fast-drying glue and wood glue
- Metal file
- Sandpaper (no. 800 and no. 400)
- Craft knife
- Paint brush
- Putty
- Metal primer
- For metal: Super Glue Gel or Two-part epoxy glue
- Model-making spray paint (battleship grey)
- Model-making paint (matt black)
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Wooden spatula

54 Where it is difficult to fit the file or the sandpaper, use the tip of a craft knife to clean up the outline. For the best results, we recommend holding the tip of the blade between the fingertips, as shown in the photo. Take care not to cut yourself.

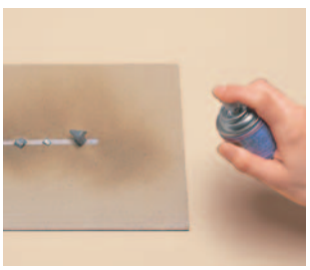


55 Referring to Steps 61 and 62, offer up 3. If it does not fit perfectly, file it until it does. Hold the flat surface of the piece on the side of the base of the bridge and file it with the metal file at an angle. Be careful not to scratch the paint of the base.



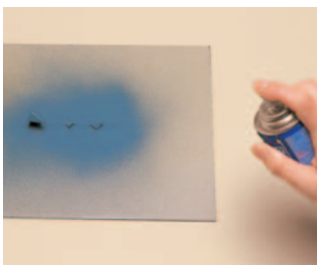
56 Referring to Step 64, identify the position for 1. If it does not fit perfectly, file it until it does. Repeat the process with 2, referring to Step 64. Be careful not to scratch the paint of the base.

57 Spray the metal primer on 1, 2 and 3 evenly from a distance of 30cm. This will be easier if you fix the pieces on double-sided adhesive tape.



When using metal primer, ventilate the room well and follow the instructions on the packaging.

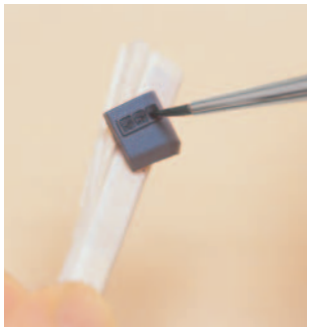
58 When the metal primer is completely dry, spray a light coat of paint (battleship grey) from a distance of about 30cm. Wait for it to dry, then spray again several times from different directions.



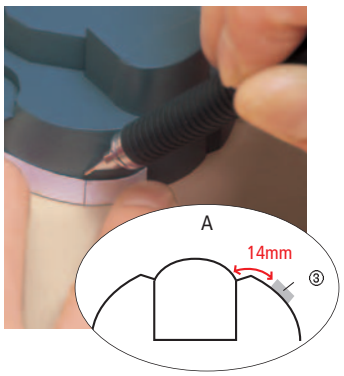
When using spray paint, ventilate the room well and follow the instructions on the packaging.

59 Place 3, as shown in the photo, and paint the cavities on the upper side with model-making paint (matt black). This is made easier by fixing the piece on a stick with double-sided adhesive tape.

60 Place 2 as shown in the photo and paint the cavities on the upper side with model-making paint (matt black). The operation is made easier by fixing the piece on a stick with double-sided adhesive tape.



61 Place the base of the bridge as shown in the photo. You must glue piece no. 3 7mm from the bottom and 14mm from the end of the projection on the bow side of the base (Fig. A). Measure the 14mm with a strip of cardboard 7mm long. Hold it on the base and mark the correct position.



62 With metal glue, fix 3 in the position highlighted in the step above. The side painted matt black must face to the left.

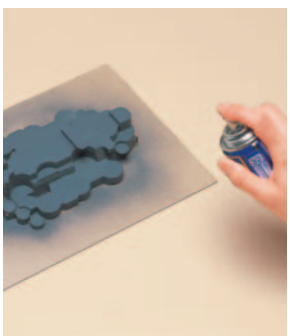
63 Fix 1 on the base of the bridge with metal glue. Place the piece in the correct position, as shown in the photo.

64 Place the base of the bridge complex assembled in Step 63, as shown in the photo. With metal glue, fix 2 in the position shown on the stern side of the base of the bridge.

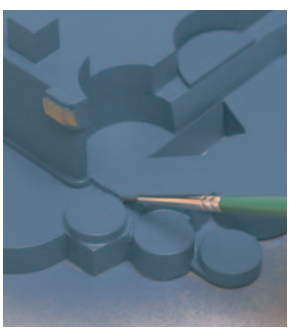
65 Fill any gaps on the base of the command bridge and pieces 1 to 3. Use the tip of a thin wooden spatula to spread and press the putty. When it is fully dry, smooth away any excess with sandpaper folded in four. The puttied parts will be painted later.

66 Now paint the base of the bridge, including the parts corrected with the putty in the previous step. First, cover the areas painted black on 2 and 3 with masking tape. In same way, cover the equivalent parts of the pieces fixed in Steps 27 to 39.

67 Spray a light and even coat of battleship grey model-making paint on the complex prepared in Step 66, keeping the canister about 30cm away. When the paint has dried, spray again several times from different directions, being careful not to go over the same area too often.



68 Once everything is completely dry, check that there are no unpainted areas. If there are, use a small brush for the difficult details. It is easier to spray some paint on a piece of paper and take a little on the tip of a paintbrush.



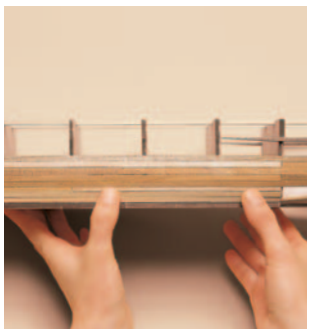
THE STRAKES

69 Take the body of the ship, as shown in the photo, and place a strake 4 on the port side towards the stern, filling the space between those already fitted. Hold the left edge to the 10th frame and make a mark corresponding to the middle of the thickness of the 13th frame.

70 Cut the strake with a craft knife at the mark made previously. Place it again in the position indicated in Step 69, and draw a line in the area that overlaps the strakes already fixed. Draw the line slightly beyond the true measure, so as to completely cover the gap.

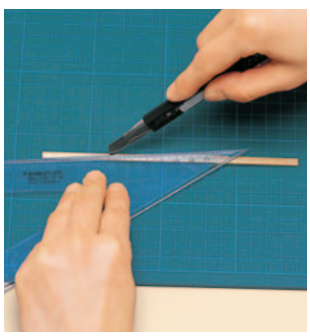
71 After cutting along the line drawn in Step 70, adjust the shape of the strake to make it fit into the position just identified. Smooth gently, checking that the piece fits in perfectly.

72 Fix the strake with fast-drying wood glue.



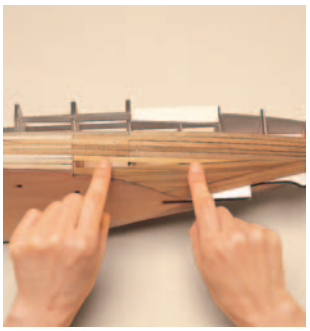
73 Fill the space in the bottom of the ship at the stern with a second strake. First, position it by setting the left edge and the top edge on the strakes fixed previously, as shown in the photo. Draw a line at the point where the right edge overlaps the strakes already fixed.

74 Cut the second strake with the craft knife, following a ruler set along the line drawn previously. Cut slightly wider than the line and correct the shape of the strake with sandpaper grain no. 800.

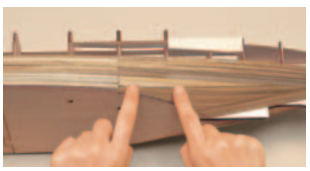


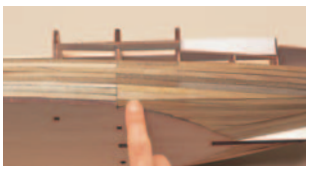
75 After dealing with the right edge, adjust the top edge, too. As shown in the photo, it is easier to use a sanding block.

76 When the strake fits perfectly, fix it with fast-drying wood glue in the position shown in Step 73.

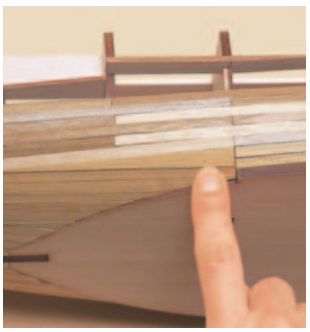


77 Following the instructions in Steps 73 to 76, glue a third strake under the second one you have fixed. In the space below the third strake, add a fourth.



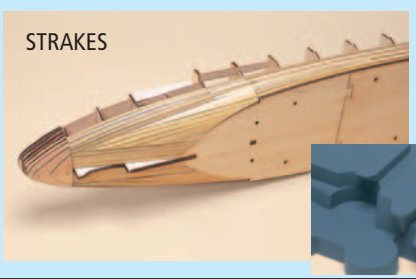


78 Following Steps 69 to 77, use fast-drying glue to fix the four strakes on the opposite side. Keep the extra strakes and all the trimmed pieces to fill any eventual gaps.



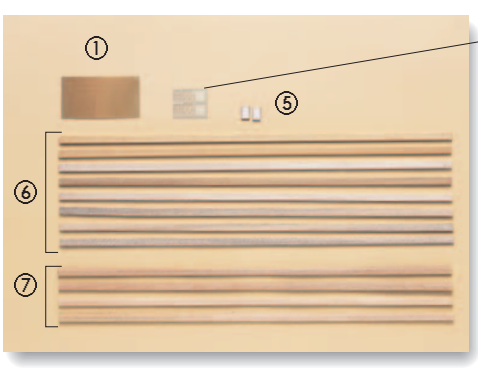
COMPLETED PIECES

STRAKES



PERIMETER OF THE BASE OF THE BRIDGE

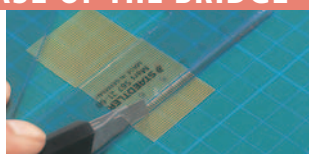
Perimeter of the base of the bridge and the strakes



① Metal mesh
② Engraved plate x 2
③ Engraved plate x 2
④ Brass plate x 2
⑤ Platelet x 2
⑥ Strakes x 8
⑦ Strakes x 4

PERIMETER OF THE BASE OF THE BRIDGE

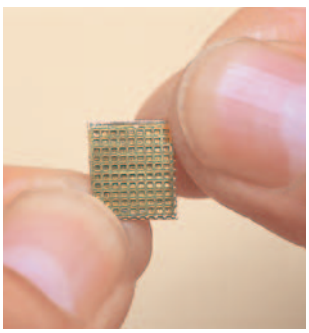
79 With the craft knife and ruler, cut the metal mesh 1 to obtain two rectangles of 9 x 10mm and two of 8.5 x 5.5mm. Then, extract pieces 2 to 4 from the brass sheet by cutting the junction points that hold the individual pieces, as shown in the photo.



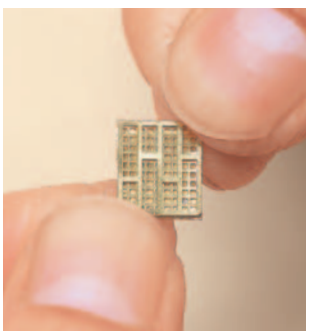
Recommended tools and materials

- Sandpaper (grain no. 800 and no. 400)
- Craft knife
- Set-square
- Fast-drying glue and wood glue
- File
- Long-nosed pliers
- Double-sided adhesive tape
- Putty
- For metal: Super Glue Gel or Two-part epoxy glue
- Metal primer
- Battleship grey spray paint
- Model-making matt black watercolour paint
- Wooden spatula

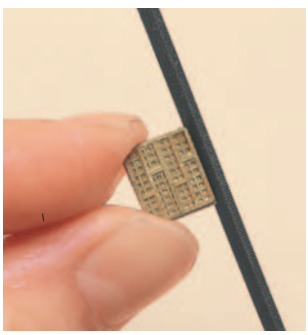
80 With metal glue, fix the large mesh rectangle onto the first piece 4. If the holes in the mesh become blocked with excessive glue, remove it with the tip of the craft knife and then apply a small amount along the edge. Follow the same procedure to glue the other piece of mesh onto the second 4.



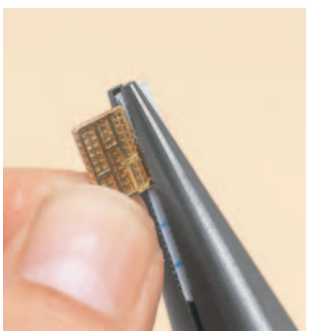
81 Use metal glue to fix a plate 3 onto one of the two pieces assembled in Step 80, as shown in the photo. In the same way, fix the second 3 onto the other piece assembled in Step 80. The two pieces obtained are the port and starboard ventilation duct grilles.



82 Smooth along the left and right sides of the port ventilation duct grille, first with the file and then with sandpaper grain no. 800, removing any irregularities from the edge of pieces 3 and 4. Use the outline of 3 as a reference point. Repeat the operation for the starboard ventilation duct grille.



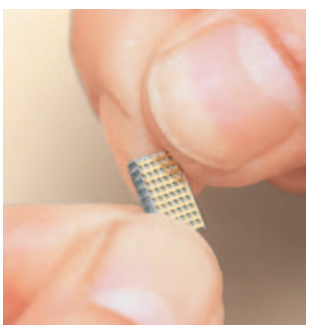
83 Referring to Steps 92 and 93, place the ventilation duct grilles and adjust their outline, following the contours of the base of the command bridge. Use long-nosed pliers to bend the material, as shown in the photo. Be careful not to prick yourself with the sharp point.



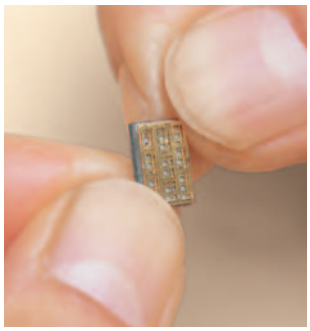
84 Spray metal primer lightly and evenly from a distance of about 30cm on both pieces of 5, having first secured them with double-sided adhesive tape to a suitable surface.

When using metal primer, ventilate the room well and follow the instructions on the packaging.

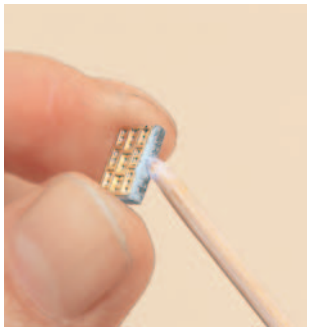
85 Smooth the surfaces of the two 5 pieces with sandpaper grain no. 800. Next, glue a piece of offcut of mesh cut from 1 onto a 5 piece. Be careful not to apply too much glue. Repeat the operation with the second 5 piece and another offcut.



86 Proceed as in Step 81, using fast-drying glue to fix one of 2 on one of the pieces assembled in Step 85. Then smooth with no. 800 sandpaper to remove any irregularities on the edges of the pieces. Repeat the operation with the second 2 and the other assembled piece. The result is the small ventilation grilles.



87 Apply putty on the edge of the port and starboard ventilation grilles and the small ventilation grilles. Sharpen the tip of a wooden spatula and apply the putty in small quantities. When it is completely dry, smooth with grain no. 400 sandpaper to remove any excess putty.



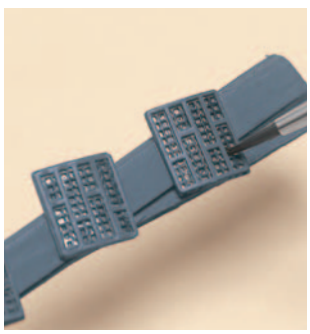
88 Paint all of the ventilation grilles. After fixing them with double-sided adhesive tape, spray with metal primer from a distance of about 30cm, covering the entire surface without blocking the holes in the mesh.

When using metal primer, ventilate the room well and follow the instructions on the packaging.

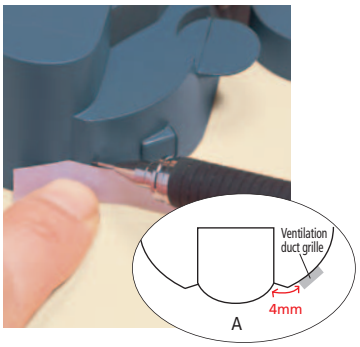
89 When the metal primer is completely dry, spray a light coat of battleship grey paint from a distance of about 30cm. Once dry, repeat the operation several times and from different directions.

When using spray paint, ventilate the room well and follow the instructions on the packaging.

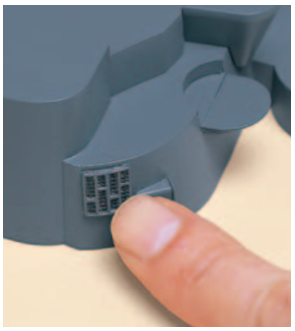
90 Paint the cavities of the pieces of the ventilation grilles 3 of the port and starboard side and the small ventilation grilles 2 with model-making watercolour paint, mixing equal proportions of matt black and the battleship grey paint. A thin rod or toothpick may make it easier.



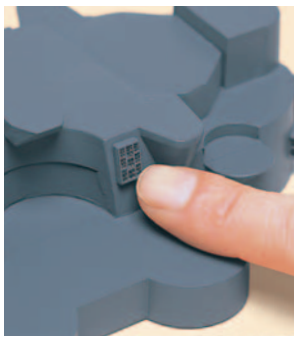
91 Hold the base of the bridge as shown in the photo and place the port ventilation grille 9mm from the bottom and 4mm from the end of the projection on top to the base (Fig. A). Measure the 4mm from the end of the projection with a strip of cardboard 9mm long. Set it against the base and make a pencil mark in the correct position.



92 Use metal glue to fix the ventilation grille on the side of the base of the command bridge in the position highlighted in the previous step. Similarly, fix the starboard ventilation grille on the opposite side.

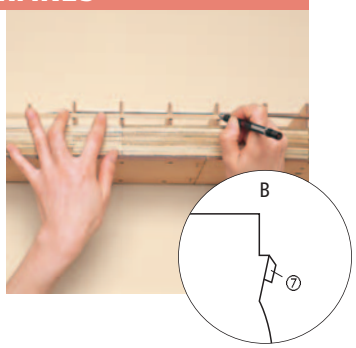


93 Use metal glue to fix a grille of the small ventilation duct in position on the base of the command bridge, 1mm from the top and the left edge of the base of the command bridge, as shown in the photo. In the same way, attach the other small ventilation grille on the opposite side.

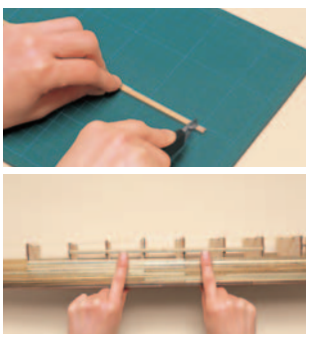


THE STRAKES

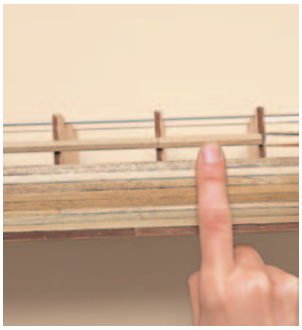
94 Position a strake 7 on the starboard side from frames 6 to 12. Rest the left end at half the thickness of the 6th frame, so that the upper edge matches with the point shown in Figure B. Make a pencil mark corresponding to half the thickness of the 12th frame.



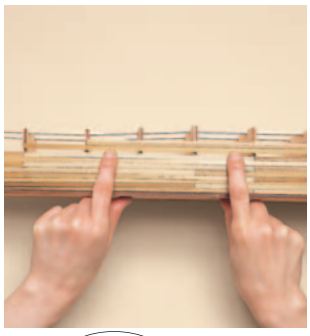
95 Take the strake and, with the craft knife, cut it at the pencil mark. Use fast-drying wood glue to fix it in the position identified in the previous step.



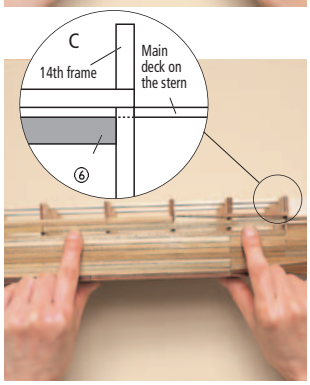
96 To the right of the strake fixed in step 95, set another strake 7 between the 11th & 12th frames. Proceed as in steps 94 and 95, adjusting the length and fitting it to the hull. Then, fix it with fast-drying wood glue. Keep any leftover pieces of strake for repairs that may need to be done later.



97 Under the second strake fixed in Step 96, position a strake 6, from frames 5 to 10, as shown in the photo. Following Steps 94 and 95, adjust the length and fix it with fast-drying wood glue.

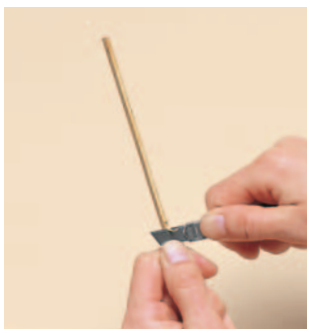


98 Position a second strake 6 to the right of the one fixed in the previous step, from the 10th to the 14th frames. Make the upper edge fit strake 7 and fit the righthand end exactly as shown in Figure C. Adjust the length as explained in Steps 94 and 95 and fix it with fast-drying wood glue.

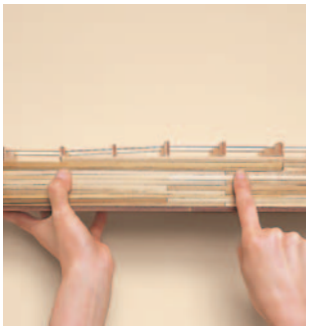


99 Under the strake 6 fixed in Step 97, position a third strake 6 from the 5th to the 10th frames. After adjusting the length, place it against the hull and mark the shape of the gap on it. Roughly trim the shape of the gap, leaving a fair margin.

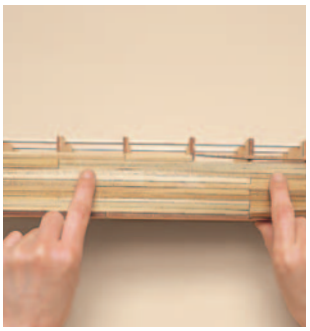
100 Shape the strake with the craft knife, following the pencil lines. Proceed to remove material a bit at a time, following the line of the hull to shape the strake correctly. Then smooth with sandpaper grain no. 800 to define the line with greater precision. Be careful not to cut your fingers. Always cut away from yourself.



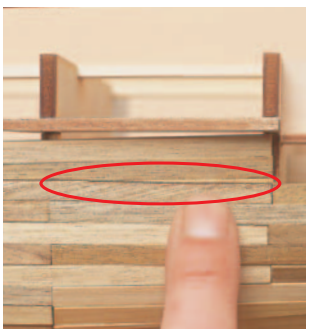
101 Smooth the underside of the piece previously worked. Once it fits perfectly, apply fast-drying glue and fix it.



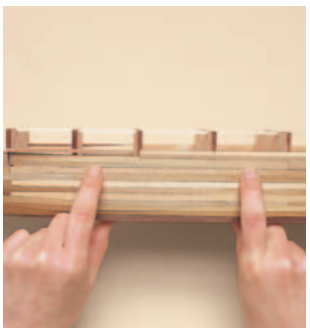
102 To the right of the strake 6 fixed in Step 101, glue a fourth strake 6 between the 10th and 14th frames. Adapt the shape of the strake by following the procedures in Steps 99 to 101 and fix it with fast-drying wood glue.



103 If gaps remain near the 13th and 14th frames under the strake 6 fixed in the previous step, fill them by using the bits of strake left over from previous steps.

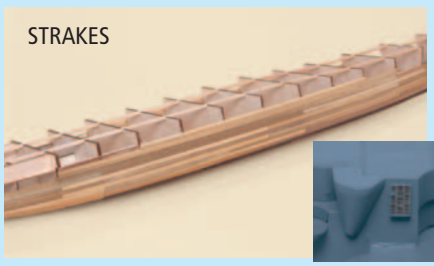


104 Fix the remaining two strakes 7 and the four strakes 6 on the opposite side, following the procedure outlined in Steps 94 to 103.



COMPLETED PIECES

STRAKES



PERIMETER OF THE BASE OF THE BRIDGE