

MESSERSCHMITT Bf109G-6 1/48 Hasegawa



By Mike Hanlon

First released in the early 90's the Hasegawa 109G-6/G-10/G-14/K-4 series of kits has their origins in the earlier 109F/G-2 series of the late 1980's. As such, the kits do not provide the level of detail one expects to find on more recent releases.

Actual construction begins with the ten-piece interior. True Details makes an inexpensive resin replacement for this kit, but I chose to use the kit parts. My only addition was color-etched seat belts from Eduard. The interior was painted RLM 66 given a wash of Burnt Umber oil paint and dry-brushed with Neutral Gray. The rudder pedals were painted with a silver pen. While a decal is provided for the instrument panel, I chose to paint it and highlight the details with Prismacolor colored pencils. This is a very quick and effective method. Simply paint the instrument panel in RLM 66, paint the gauges with black, once dry you can pick out the details in the appropriate colored pencil, usually white, silver, yellow or red then apply a drop of Future to each gauge to simulate the glass. Mistakes can be wiped off with a Q-Tip and redone. Each gauge was then sealed with a drop of Future floor wax.

The finished cockpit and instrument panel are inserted from below, so the next step is to assemble the fuselage halves. Take care to preserve the fuselage seams behind the cockpit; these were real panel lines on the actual aircraft. The wings and tail planes can be added next and very quickly you have a model ready for paint.

The JG 53 aircraft I chose is painted in the standard Luftwaffe scheme of RLM 74/75/76 with an RLM 23 Red Reich Defense band and white rudder. I used EagleCals sheet 41 for the markings. Later releases of this sheet show the underside of the engine cowling to be yellow, my earlier sheet omitted this detail.



All painting was accomplished with acrylics, the RLM 74/75/76 came from Xtracrylics; the Reich Defense band from Gunze Sangyo and spinner and rudder were painted with Tamiya acrylics. Once the paint had dried, I sealed the model with Future floor wax and applied an oil wash of Windsor Newton Raw Umber.

As previously mentioned, the decals came from EagleCals and went on without a hitch.

Minor weathering and a flat coat were all that was needed to finish the model.

Although simpler in construction and detail than more recently released kits, the Hasegawa Me109G-6 still gives the builds into an excellent model and no collection of WWII Luftwaffe aircraft would be complete with one or two.



