C-57D Starcruiser Paint Scheme

Introduction

The interior set of the C-57D appears to have been painted in neutral gray tones.
Some interior colors were produced by side lighting with colored filters.
These paints were chosen to recapture the look and feel of Forbidden Planet.

Each deck in this model kit has been molded together with the walls and
bulkheads. The decks are bowl shaped, with partitions. This makes spray
painting a difficult task, so it is recommended to hand paint the interior cabin with
Model Master Acrylic paints.

Use a flat, square brush. [Floquil 3/8 inch Silver Fox works well]
Thin the paint to airbrush density, or a little thinner, using an eyedropper.
[Ethyl rubbing alcohol will do]. It takes about 4 light coats.

For a smoother finish, Clear Flat Acryl can be airbrushed as a final coat.

A paint list is included.

C-57D Starcruiser Paint Scheme

#1 Upper Deck

Underside— Camouflage Gray Acryl 36622

Ceiling Stasis Units—
    outside shell— Silver Acryl   4678
    inner coil—Gold Acryl   4671 with Copper 1151
    center hubs— Silver Chrome Trim   2734

Floor— Leather Acryl 4674 (Brown)

Walls:

Outside— (Circular)— Radome Tan Acryl FS33613
       (End)—Camouflage Gray Acryl
Inside—

Circular wall behind console (12 o'clock)—
Rot RLM 23 Acryl (Red) + Clear Flat Acryl 12015

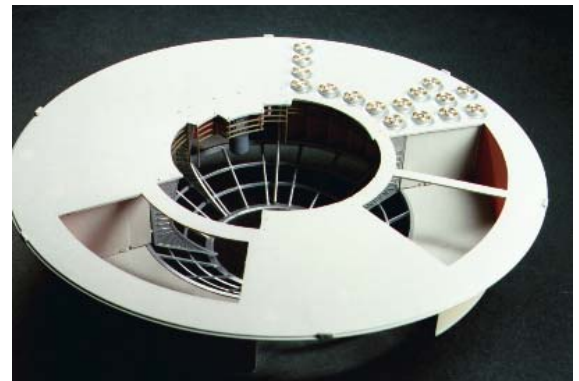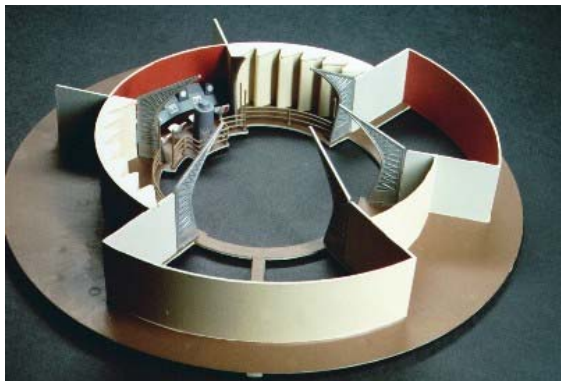8 o'clock circular wall—Rot + Clear Flat

4 o'clock circular wall (by symmetry)—Rot + Clear Flat

End walls adjacent to 4 o'clock and 8 o'clock—
Camouflage Gray Acryl

6 o'clock circular wall (by symmetry)—Radome Tan

Jagged Walls—Radome Tan

C-57D Starcruiser Paint Scheme

#2, 3 Ceiling

Upper surface—Camouflage Gray
Underside—Radome Tan

#4 Instrument Station

Flat Neutral Gray

Lower Panels (3)— Silver Acryl + Clear Flat

Upper Boxes (4)—Flat Gunship Gray

Circular Screens (4)— Light Gray Acryl 36495

#5 Chairs

Silver Acryl—finish with Clear Flat Acryl

Trim
Astrogator chairs (2) and
upper level console chairs (4)—Red stripe (1/16 inch) on back of chairs

#6, 7, 8   Rails

Dark Tan Acryl FS30219

#9, 10 Instrument Station

Dark Gray Acryl

Panel—Silver Acryl + Clear Flat

#11 Dome Supports

Silver Acryl

Shaded areas-- Flat Neutral Gray

#12 Upper Deck Dome

Camouflage Gray

Struts—Silver Acryl

#13 Lower Deck

Outside Circular Walls—Radome Tan

Inside Circular Walls—Radome Tan

End Walls and Radial Walls—Camouflage Gray

Galley Cushion—Rot + Clear Flat

Steel Floor Hatch—Dark Gray Acryl

Bunk Floor Fittings—Light Sea Gray Acryl

Floor Stasis Units—
      outside shell— Silver Acryl   4678
      inner shell—Copper 1151
      centers—Marker Red   2127   [red lights in base with unit on]
            or—Silver Acryl 4678 [unit off]

Floor— Leather Acryl 4674 (Brown)

Floor Circles around Astrogator— Sand 33531 (17060)
(see Stencil & Note 4)

Underside—Camouflage Gray

#14, 16 Bunk Bulkhead

Camouflage Gray

Brackets—Light Sea Gray

#15 Bunk Rack

Light Sea Gray

#17 Bunks

Flat Gull Gray

Trim—Dark Gull Gray

#18, 19 Hatch Crane

Dark Gray Acryl

Extension arm—Silver Acryl

#20 Bulkhead

Radome Tan

#21,22,23   Stasis Screens

Dark Gray Acryl

#24 Galley Table

Dark Tan Acryl

#25 Crew Stations (4)

Flat Neutral Gray Acryl

C-57D Starcruiser Paint Scheme

#26 Chart Monitor

Round Screen—Light Gray Acryl
Circular Rim, Arrows, Crosshairs—Flat Gunship Gray
Square background—Dark Tan Acryl
Poles—Leather Acryl

#27 Bulkhead

Radome Tan

Door Panel—Sand[1]
Concave Panels (4)—Duck Egg Blue
Lights (3)— Silver Chrome Trim   2734

#28 Instrument Panel

Panels—Silver Acryl
Red Trim—Rot + Clear Flat
Poles—Dark Gray Acryl
Small Round Screen—Fluorescent Red
Oscilloscope CRT (3)—Flat Black + Hellgrun RLM 25 (Green)

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#29 Log Station

    Dark Tan Acryl

    Top box front panel—Flat Neutral Gray, with Flat Gunship Gray inset
    Horizontal Instrument consoles—Flat Gunship Gray & Silver Chrome trim
                           Lights—Red

#30 Chart Table

    Table—Dark Tan Acryl

        Charts—Light Gray Acryl 36495
        Instruments—Flat Neutral Gray

#31 Arm Chairs

    Silver Acryl—finish with Clear Flat Acryl

#32 View Screen Station

    Left Panel—Silver Acryl
    Red Trim—Rot + Clear Flat
    Poles—Dark Gray Acryl

    View Screen—Light Gray Acryl
        Inside Border—Flat Gunship Gray
        Outer Shade—Flat Neutral Gray

    Lights & Buttons—Black, White, Hellgrun RLM 25

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#33 Power Station

Camouflage Gray

Tesla Coil—Light Sea Gray
Concentric Ovals—Copper

#34 Astrogator

Table top—Rot + Clear Flat Acryl
Top Center under bubble—Flat White
Charts—Light Gray Acryl, with outer trim Flat Gunship Gray
Consoles—Flat Gunship Gray & Silver Chrome trim
Lower Surface—Camouflage Gray

Inside Bubble "small ship"
Use a 7/32 inch diameter washer for the ship—Fluorescent Red (white primer)
Bolt—70/1000 inch X 9/16 inch—Flat Black shaft + Flat Neutral Gray head
Contained in package: [Hob-Bits Fill 1-72   ½   QTY 5   H832]

#35 Viewer

Flat Neutral Gray

#36 Navigation Plotter

Flat NeutralGray, with Silver on middle extension

#39 Lift Poles (4)

Dark Tan Acryl

#40, 41 42   Robby

Graphite Metallic 2712
Top—wash of Artic Blue Metallic

#43, 44 Ship Hull Sections

See Hull Assembly for assembly of hull sections—warps caused by packing can be straightened out.

Outer Hull—Primer + Testors 1246 Metallic Silver   [see Note 2]

Outside Hull Trim
Outer Rim—1 3/8 inches (35 mm)—Steel B1420 Non buff Metalizer

Interior Hull—Flat Gull Gray   [see Note 3]

Landing Gear Wells
Open Landing Gear Wells (3)— Sand—33531 (17060)

Closed Landing Gear Wells(3)—Flat Gull Gray

#45 Landing Gear Assembly (6)

Open Landing Gear (3)
Exterior & Interior—Metallic Silver 1246

Closed Landing Gear Panels (3)
Exterior—Metallic Silver 1246

C-57D Starcruiser Paint Scheme

Interior—Flat Gull Gray (to match interior hull)
[See Hull Assembly Instructions for installation]

#46 Landing Gear Assembly (2)

Metallic Silver 1246

#47 Stairs

Metallic Silver 1246

#48 Hand Rails

Rails—Marker Red
Base—Metallic Silver

#49 Landing Support Column

Primer + Testors 1246 Metallic Silver   [see Note 2]

#50 Bottom Dome

Optional—Transparent Silver
Mix Future Acrylic Floor Finish with a few drops of Silver Acrylic, and
Airbrush on

Reinforce inside bubble with 6 ½ inch diameter fiberglass cloth

#51 Top Dome

Outside—Metallic Silver 1246   [See Note 2]
Inside—Camouflage Gray

Optional—Transparent Silver
Mix Future Acrylic Floor Finish with a few drops of Silver Acrylic, and
Airbrush on

C-57D Starcruiser Paint Scheme

Paint List

Acrylic Paints

Clear Flat Acryl 12015
Flat White Acryl
Flat Black Acryl
Radome Tan Acryl FS33613
Dark Tan Acryl FS30219
Leather Acryl 4674 (Brown)

Light Gray Acryl 36495
Camouflage Gray Acryl 36622
Flat Gull Gray Acryl   36440
Light Sea Gray Acryl 36307
Dark Gull Gray Acryl   36231
Flat Neutral Gray Acryl 921571004
Dark Gray Acryl   36176
Flat Gunship Gray Acryl 921576004

Rot RLM 23 Acryl (German Luftwaffe Red)
Fluorescent Red Acryl   28915

Silver Acryl   4678
Gold Acryl   4671

Hellgrun RLM 25 (German Luftwaffe Green)

Primer

Tamiya Surface Primer 87042
Rustoleum V2182 gray primer

Enamel Paints

Sand—33531 (17060)
Duck Egg Blue   35622
Marker Red   2127 (Russian)
Silver Chrome Trim   2734
Copper 1151

Spray Paints

Testors 1246 Metallic Silver
Flat Gull Gray   1930

Lacquer Paints

Steel B-1420 Non Buff Metalizer

Robby

Base—Graphite Metallic 2712
Top—wash of Artic Blue Metallic

Glues

1. Model Master Precision Cement #8872
2. Clear Parts Cement (Testors #3515 or Model Master #8876)
3. Ambroid Tac 'N Place (floor stencil tack down)
Note: These glues are highly recommended.

Model Master Precision Cement #8872
Remove paint from one surface, and apply glue to one surface only.
Do not wipe spilled glue! It dries clear, thin, and shiny, and will not warp paint.
Seal visible glue with Clear Flat Acryl

C-57D Starcruiser Paint Scheme

Notes

1. Color is approximately correct hue.
    This shade was chosen to give good contrast with other colors,
    and look right to the eye, for this scale of model.

2. It is recommended to use primer on the outer hull

    If you choose to use V2182 primer for the outside hull, use light spray
    coats [see Note 3], and wet sand the primed finish with 400 grit wet
    sandpaper before spray painting.

    When spraying Metallic Silver paint, use very light spray coats (5 or 6).
    This will leave pigment spots, but smooth paint .

    When dry, buff with a small rag with a few drops of thinner.
    No sealer is required for this enamel paint

3. Due to the large size of model, the interior hull can be primed with
    Rustoleum V2182 gray primer. Use light spray coats.
    Let the primer cure about 2 weeks before applying model paints.

    According to the manufacturer:

    *"The V2182 is intended for use under spray enamels. It may not work well
    under some auto paints or over some spray enamels.*

    *Plastics come in so many varieties I can't give a definitive answer to
    that. Usually it's OK, but the only way to tell for sure would be to do
    a small test application. The two most common problems it can have:*
    1) It might melt the surface a little.
    *2) It might dissolve some chemicals out of the plastic and take a lot
    longer to dry.*

    *Problem 1 would be obvious immediately; 2 would take overnight to
    determine. If the primer is still tacky the next morning, you may not
    want to apply it unless you can leave the piece alone for a week or so to
    let the primer dry."*

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4. **Astrogator Floor Circles**.

   The floor around the Astrogator should be puttied, and sanded with a
   small block before applying the circles.

   Print the floor circle stencil by checking the "Print as Image" setting. This
   will correctly size the stencil at double size. Photocopy the stencil at 50%
   reduction onto coated card stock.. Make at least 6 copies.

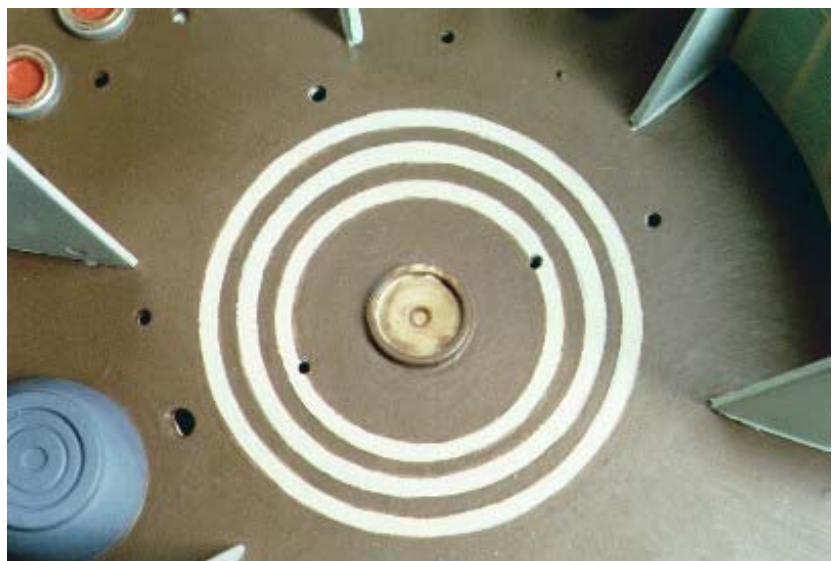   Cut out the center hub, and the inside edge of the first shaded ring.

   Tack stencil onto deck.
   [Use Ambroid Tac 'N Place cement, let it dry clear, then tack down]

   On a second sheet, cut the outside edge of the first shaded ring, and tack
   the outer stencil on to the deck, centered about the inner stencil.

   Paint the ring

   Repeat the procedure for the other two shaded rings.

C-57 D   Stencil
Lower Deck Floor Circles
2 1/4 Inches Diameter
Photocopy @ 50 %
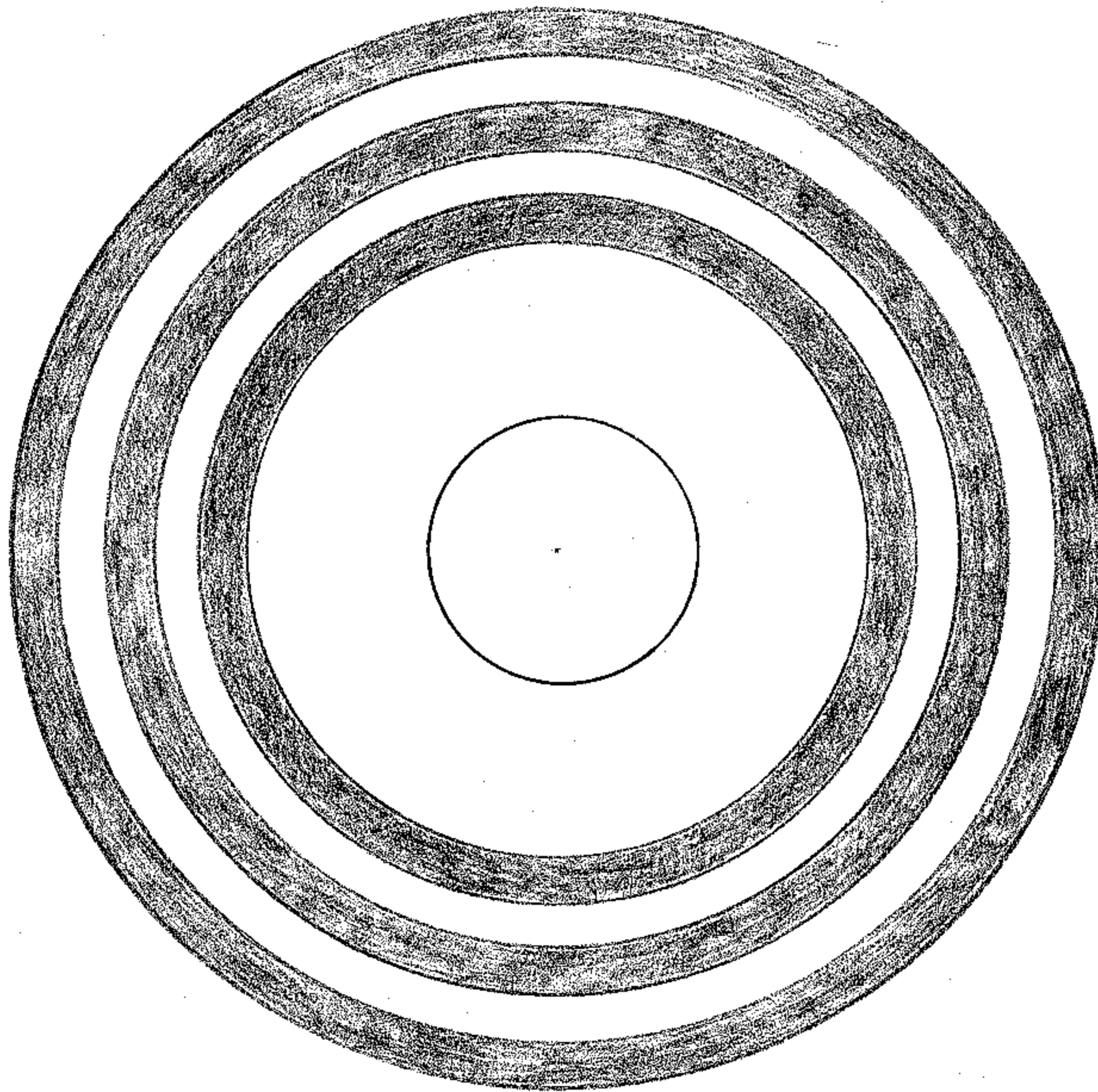
Shaded Rings —   Sand—33531 (17060)

Hull Assembly

Glue

Use Model Master Precision Cement #8872
This glue welds the styrene together, and forms a flexible bond. It has a precision applicator, and is just the right viscosity.

Note: Cyanoacrylate glue does not weld styrene, and is not suitable for this model.

Glue the Hull Sections

The Hull is composed of 12 sections, 6 sections for each upper and lower half.

1. Glue 2 sections together. Feel the outside joint to make sure it is flush, then add office binder clamps to the inside flange. (quarter inch and half inch clamps).

2. Repeat the procedure for the remaining joints.
   Do the same for the other half of the hull.

3. Place each hull half on a flat surface and check the joints.
   If the joints bow upward, then they need to be straightened out.

Straighten out Joints

1. Place the half hull on a table or refrigerator top, with the joint sticking out about 6 inches.

2. Place a boxed cake mix on the joint (edgewise), and also place a box on the 2 adjacent joints to keep the hull flat.

3. Leave it sit a week or two, then check it. It should be straight.

4. Check all the joints and straighten them.

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C-57D Hull Assembly Instructions

Mate the Hull Halves

1. The upper and lower hull halves will mate in 6 different positions. Try all 6 and find the one that mates best.

2. Mate the hull, then place quarter inch office binder clamps on all 12 joints on the outer rim, and let the hull sit for about 2 months.
    This will reform the plastic into a precision fit, and make the hull straight.

3. Place a mark on the upper and lower hull so you will always mate the hull in this same position.

*   While the hull is being reformed, you can work on the interior cabin.
    Important: *These hull halves will **NOT** be glued together, to allow the interior cabin to be removed for display*

*   After the hull has been reformed and forms a precision fit, ***custom work*** will be necessary.

    …There are some structural limitations with this kit that require us to do some custom work…

*   The lower hull has 6 landing wells, with panels to close the alternating 3. The closed panels do not connect well to the hull, so we have to do some custom work to get a flush mount, and add strength.

*   The bottom hull center is flat by design, and supports the entire weight of the model on the lower bubble ring. By itself, the stock hull may sag due to insufficient structural strength.

This is not bad engineering on the part of Polar Lights. Styrene plastic is flexible, which is good for models because it does not break easily. The hull is huge, and the bottom section if flat, so it is hard to attain structural strength using styrene alone without a convex surface.
To add strength, we will need to use cross members and composite materials.
(Plastic beams and fiberglass cloth.)

The alternative would be a 2 piece fiberglass casting—considerably more expensive.

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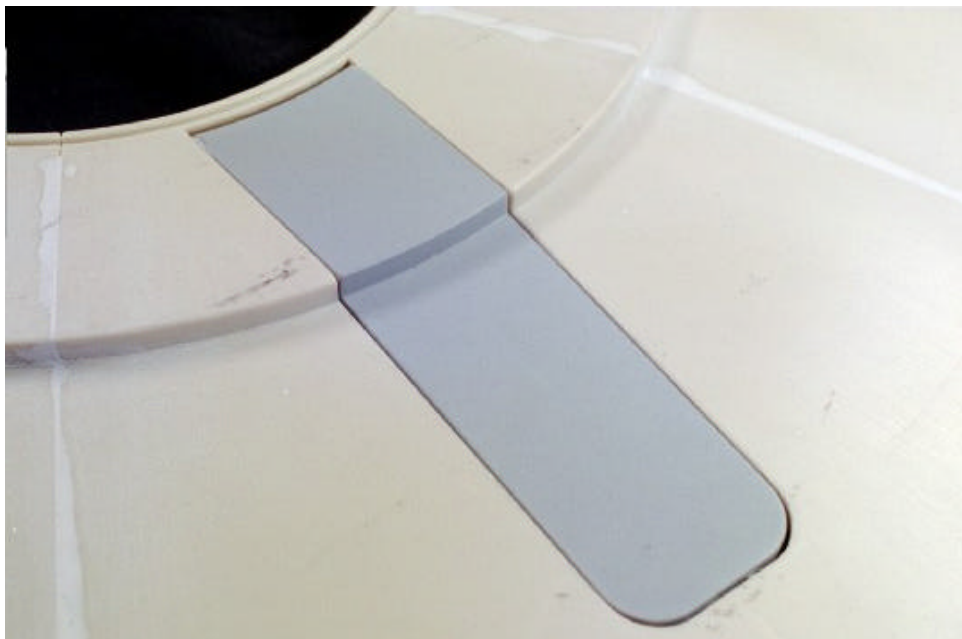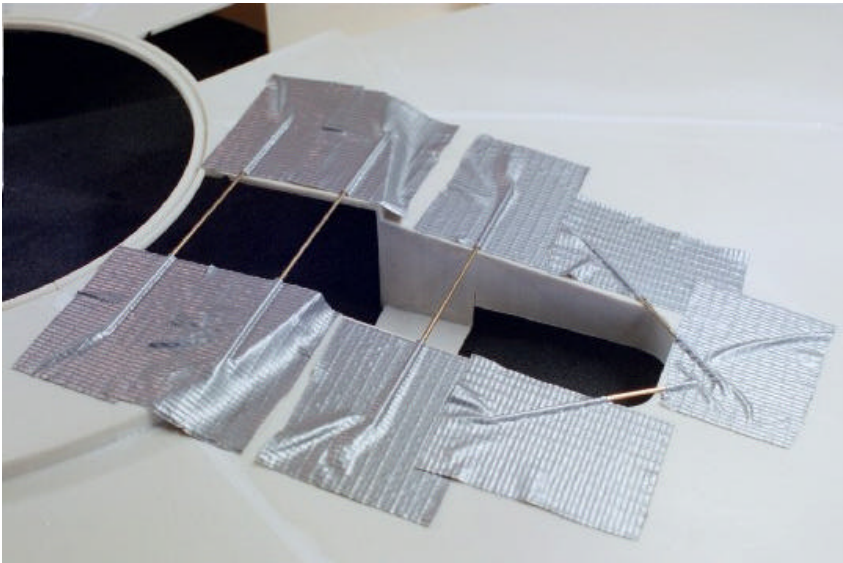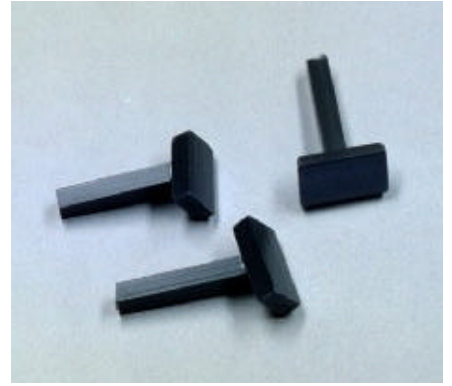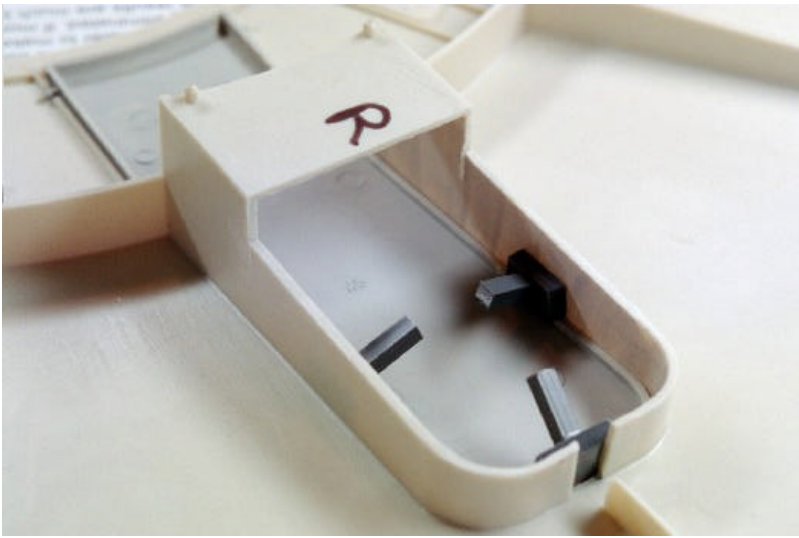
Closed Landing Wells

1. Remove part of the top of the closed landing wells. Leave 1 inch near the center, where the mating pins are.

2. Build "hard points" to connect inside the landing wells, so we can mount the panel flush.

3. Attach brass rods to the outside hull across the closed landing wells using silver duct tape.

4. Flip the hull over, and insert Panel 45 from inside. The brass rods will hold the panel flush against the hull.

5. Place the hard points against the side of the landing well, and rest them on top of Panel 45.

6. Glue the hard points to the inside landing well, but NOT to the lower Panel 45.
   These hard points will later allow us to glue Panel 45 in position with a flush mount.

7. Remove the brass rods.

8. Glue Panel 45 in position.

9. Glue more plastic beams in position against the side well and Panel 45 for extra strength.

10. Use 2 part epoxy putty to fill the gap between the lower bubble ring and Panel 45. *Use masking tape to cover the lower bubble ring!*

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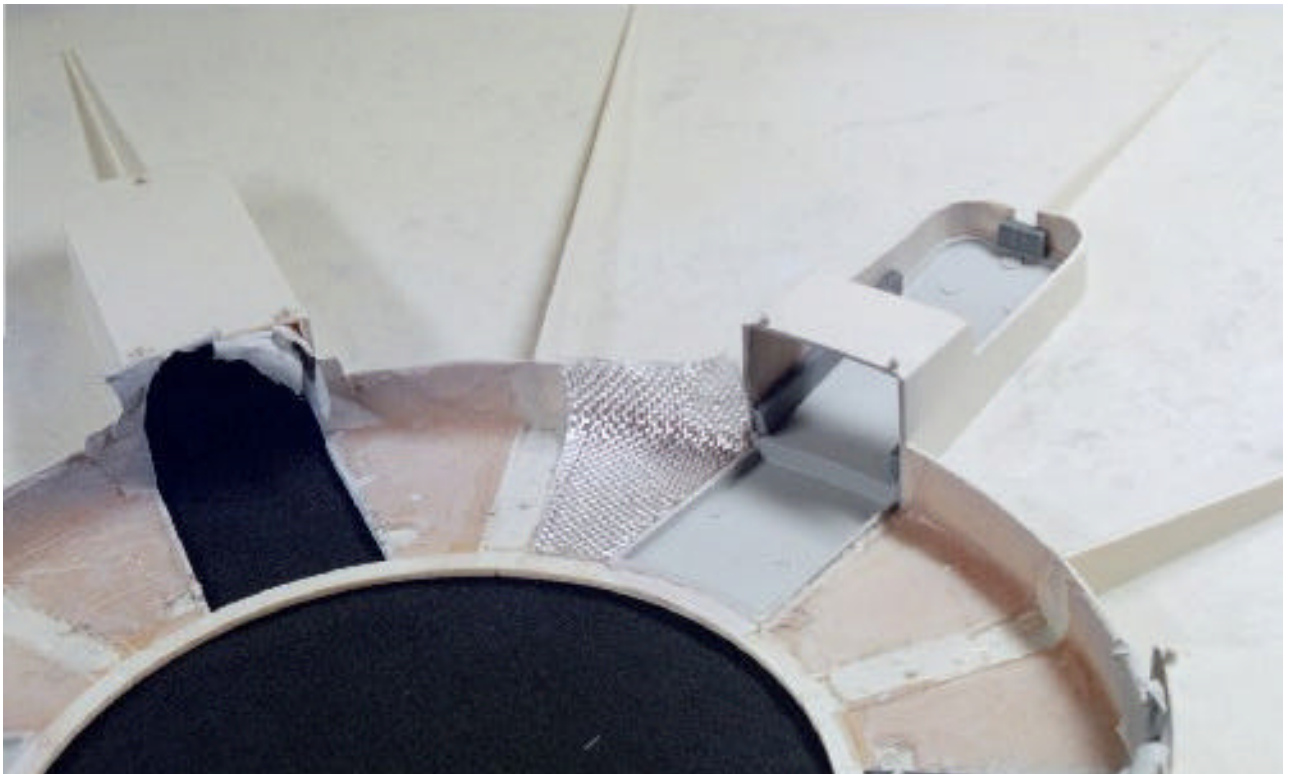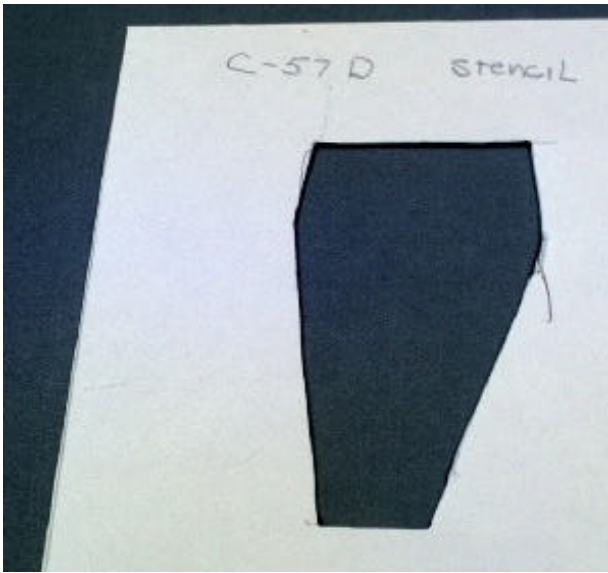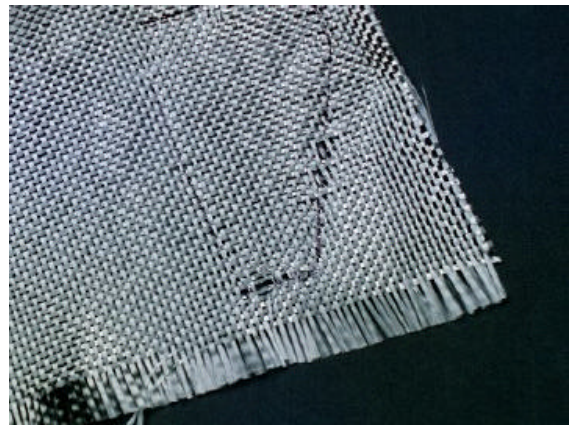
C-57D Hull Assembly Instructions

Bottom Hull Center Fiberglass Sections

Bondo Fiberglass Repair Kit No. 420

- *There are 12 sections to be fiberglass reinforced, 6 sections adjacent to the closed wells, and 6 sections adjacent to the open landing wells.*

- *The two sets are treated differently, so it is recommended to do this with two applications.*

Six Open Landing Wells Cloth Sections

- *These 6 sections have landing gear glued to them, so we must not cover the notches with resin.*

1. Mask off about 5/16 inch square over the landing gear notch, and leave the end of the masking tape sticking out in the landing well.

2. Place the fiberglass cloth in position, and mark the cloth corresponding to the masking tape. Cut out the notch in the cloth with sprue cutters.

3. Do this to all 6 sections, and lay them in place.

4. Mix about 1 ½ ounces of resin with hardener.

5. Soak 1 cloth section in the resin, and let the excess drip off.
   Do not use a blotter! The cloth should be sloppy looking.

6. Lay the cloth into position, and tuck it down.
   The resin should not quite overflow the landing section.
   Excess can be ground off later.

7. Do the remaining 5 sections.

8. After about 10-20 minutes, the resin should form a hard gel.
   Take a razor knife and cut the resin along the borders of the masking tape, then pull up the masking tape. The resin piece will be removed.
   After the landing gear are glued in, the notches can be filled with epoxy putty

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C-57 D   STENCIL

Six Closed Well Cloth Sections

Same as before, except we do not mask and cut the cloth for the landing gear notches.

Note: If the fiberglass sections will not hold in place, then rough sand both surfaces, and glue them back in with epoxy glue. This may happen if you do not use enough resin on the cloth.

Lower Bubble Reinforcement

Reinforce inside bubble with 6 ½ inch diameter fiberglass cloth

Hull Body Work

- The hull seams need to be ground and filled. Follow the procedure:

1. Apply glue to all the inside hull seams (beyond the flanges) Let it cure overnight.
   *This will keep the joints from splitting.*

2. Outside hull seams—use a Dremel grinding wheel, and grind down the outside hull seams, about ¾ inch wide. Grind it so the two sides are even, and a little below flush.
   It should feel like a flat strip against the curvature of the hull.

3. Use masking tape, and mask the area about ¾ inch to 1 inch wide, along the length of each seam.

4. Apply Squadron White Putty to the seam, using an artist paint knife. Use thin layers, maybe 2 or 3 light coats, or use Epoxy putty for the first coat for extra strength
   Prevents bubbles and cracks.

5. Sand the seams to match the curvature of the hull, using small sanding blocks [180 grit, 220, 320, 400]

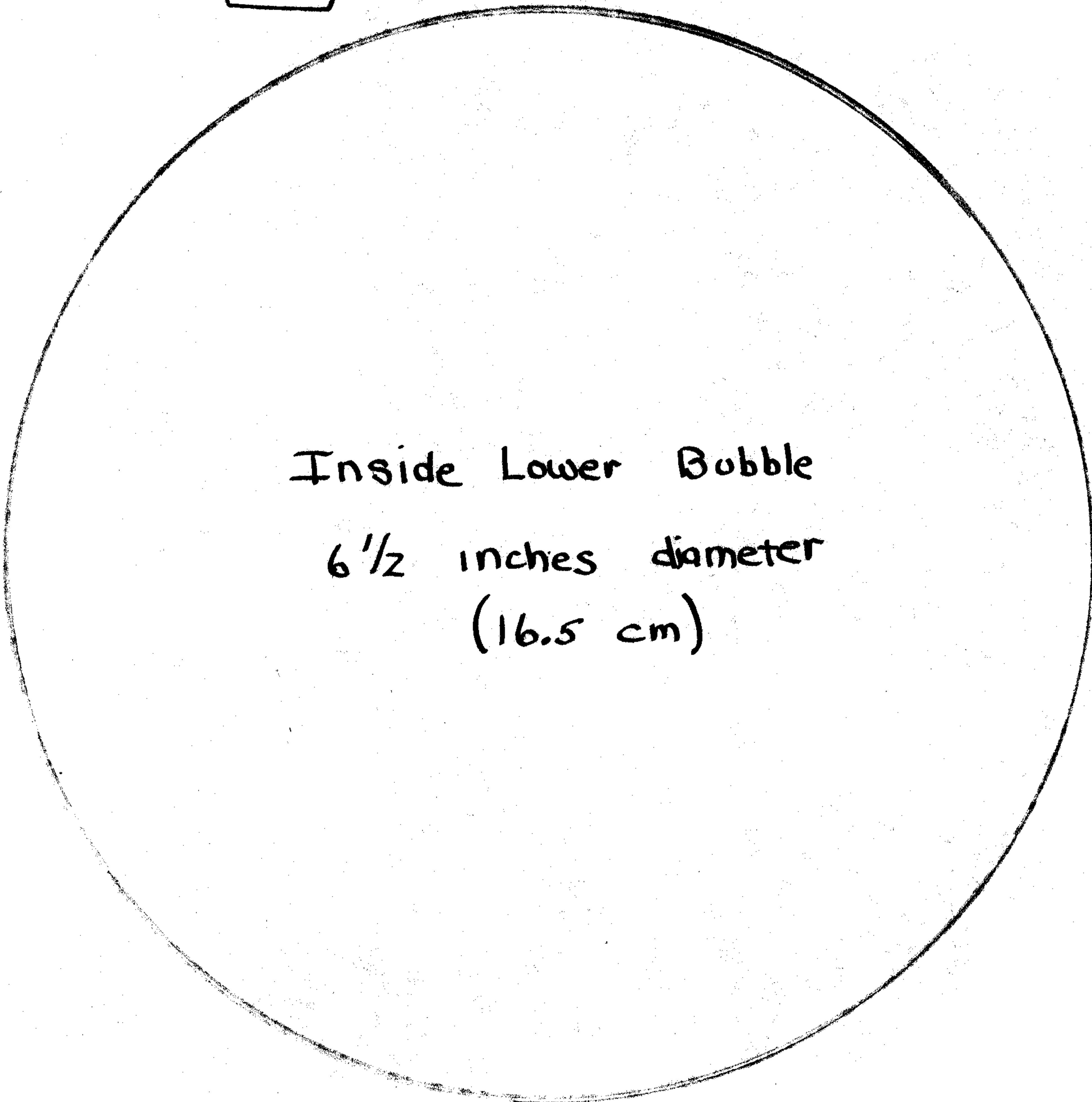http://culttvman.com/bob_perovich_s_c-57d_paint_sch.html

6. The outside hull will have a number of defects that may need some putty and sanding.
   Squadron Green Putty works well for the smaller defects.
   It sands harder and smoother.

7. Base Primer
   The outside hull will need several coats of primer to cover the surface defects.
   Rustoleum V2182 Primer works well for the base coats (Light Gray Enamel)
   Spray light coats, and let it dry about 10 days between coats

8. Wait 2 weeks after the last coat for the Enamel to cure completely.
   Otherwise, it clogs the sandpaper, and is difficult to work with

9. Wet sand the primer with 400 grit wet sandpaper.
   This will produce a beautiful smooth finish.

10. Examine the surface for small defects.
    Use Green putty to fill and sand.

11. Use Tamiya Surface Primer 87042 to spot prime the finish
    This lacquer sands easily, unlike the V2182.
    You can also use Tamiya 87042 as a finishing primer when the surface is ready.

12. Inside Hull
    The inside hull can be primed with V2182, and later painted Flat Gull Gray

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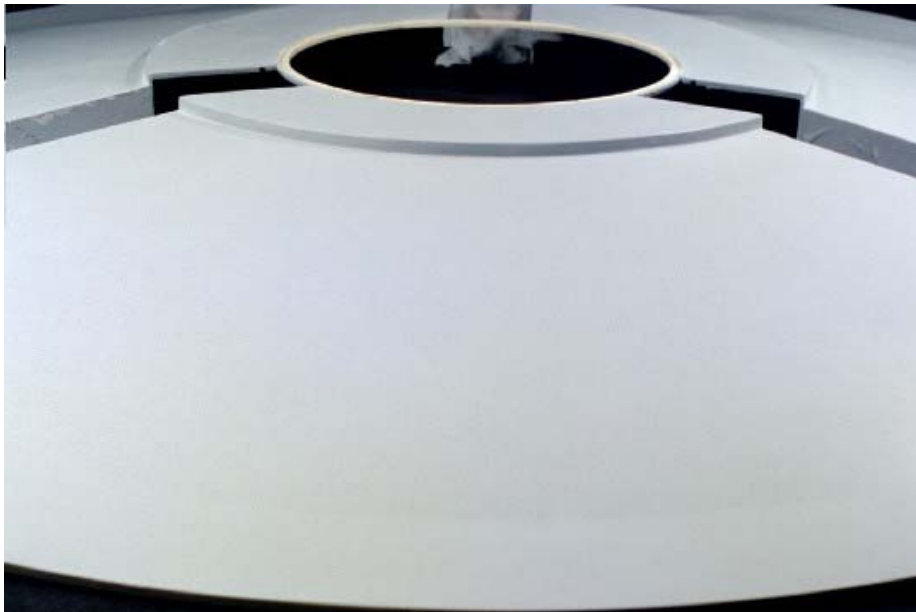
C-57 D Stencil
Fiberglass Cloth Patterns
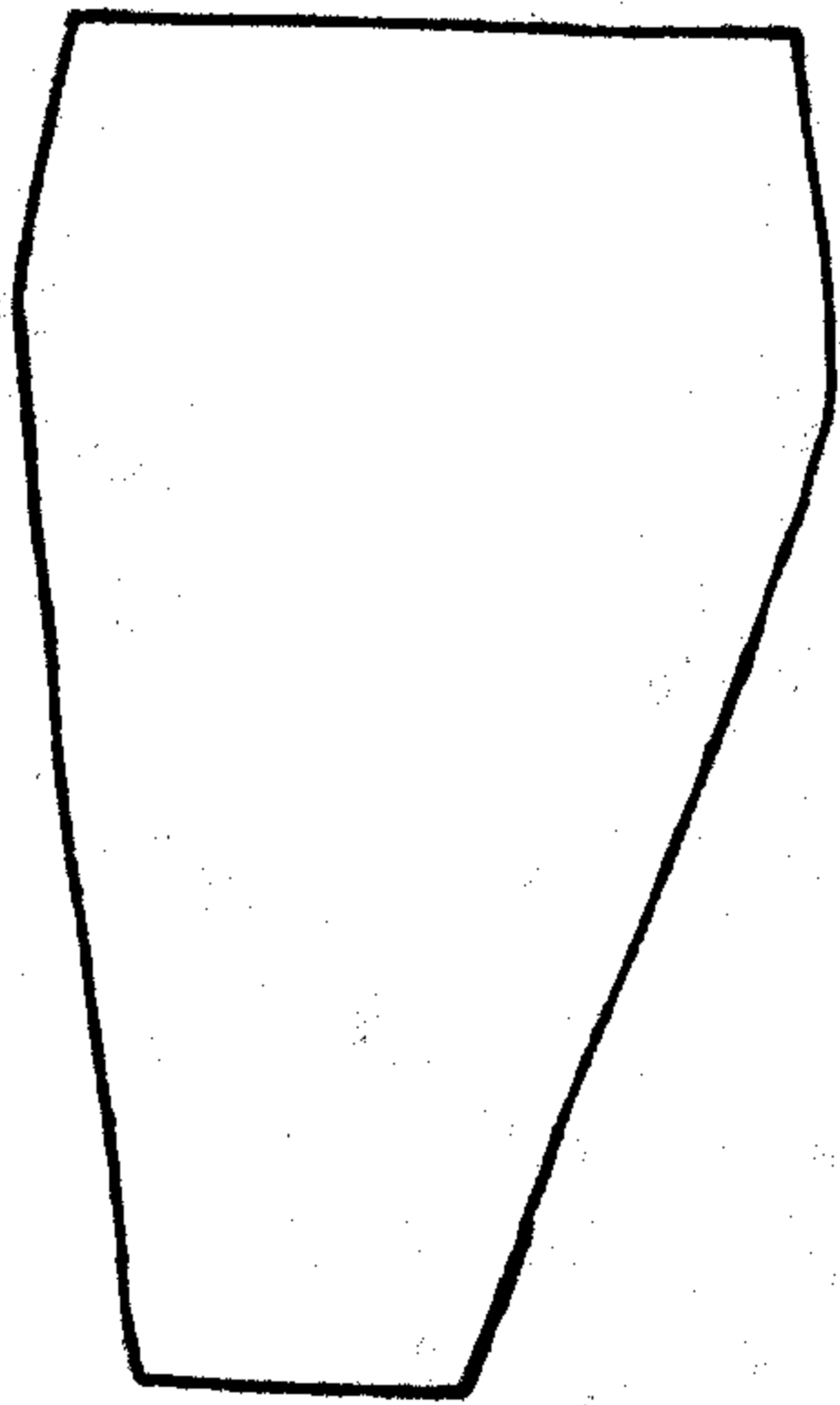
Lower bubble ring

Inside Lower Bubble

6½ inches diameter

(16.5 cm)