

INDEPENDENCE WAR

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Commonwealth Navy C-Fighter



Paper Model

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This model, when printed full size, will result in a 14cm model (roughly 1/125 scale) of the Commonwealth C-Fighter from the classic Independence War computer games by Particle Systems (now Argonaut-Sheffield).

It is based on the original game's real-time mesh and textures, but it has been extensively remodelled and completely re-textured especially for this model.

The C-Fighter consists of ten separate parts. It doesn't matter what order you build them, though I recommend you follow my assembly order.

Cockpit

Parts Guide:

- 1: Cockpit underside rear
- 2: Cockpit underside middle
- 3: Cockpit nose and front underside.
- 4: Cockpit rear
- 5: Cockpit top

Assembly:

1. Take part (3) and fold the bottom most section down, along with the left and right sides.
2. Glue the two flaps of the bottom section to the left and right edges with the air-intakes. (See arrows on diagram)
3. Fold and Glue the small flaps on the top of the part to the adjacent cut-edges. (See arrows)
4. Take part (2) and fold and glue the three flaps of part (2) to the top edges of part (3).
5. Take part (1) and glue the bottom 3 flaps to the top edges of part (2).
6. Take part (4) and glue the flap inside the hexagon to the adjacent edge. It should fold to form a convex 'cap'.
7. Take part (5) and fold the sides down. Glue the two small flaps to the adjacent edges. (See arrows)
8. Glue part (5) to the previously constructed nose and underside.
9. Glue and insert part (5) onto the hole in the rear of the cockpit. Be careful to avoid the cap being inserted too far.

Wing

The wing is fairly simple. Just fold and glue. Note the concave fold on the right side of the part – this is necessary to fit the wing onto the main hull of the fighter.

Stem

Fold and glue into truncated conical shape. Note the concave folds, which give the stem a shield-like cross-section.

Thruster Pod

This looks complicated, but it's pretty easy, especially if you test-assemble it before gluing. Note that it's got an open top with flaps around the edge. This is where the fighter's stem will attach.

Gun

It's advisable to test-assemble this part before you glue it together.

Engine Nozzles

Fold and glue the rectangular strip around the white end-cap's flaps. Then fold down the open end flaps so they form a flat surface. Apply glue, and press the coloured end-cap down on the flaps. I find that placing the assembled part with the coloured end-cap face down on a hard surface, then pressing lightly down on the white end-cap helps fix the end-cap in place.

Barrel

The barrel is similar to the engine nozzles. Note however the convex fold on one of the concave end-caps.

Hull

This is the most complex section, being built three sections of 9 separate parts. Each section is constructed separately, then joined together. There are some concave folds on some of the sections, so make sure you fold the parts the correct way.

Part Guide:

- 1: Middle
- 2: Rear
- 3: Front top
- 4: Front.
- 5: Front left
- 6: Front right
- 7: Front underside left.
- 8: Front underside centre.
- 9: Front underside right.

Assembly:

Hull Front

It's best to build the hull front in four stages, leaving time for the glue to set after each stage before proceeding to the next. Take care that the parts are assembled properly, or you may find the front of the hull looks wonky.

- 1) Bottom of hull front: Take parts (7), (8) and (9) and glue them together. See diagram arrows for details of how they join. Note the concave folds.
- 2) Front of Hull: Take parts (3) and (4) and join them together. Note the concave fold.
- 3) FrontSides: Join parts (5) and (6) to the sides of the top / front hull section.
- 4) Join the assembled hull bottom to the rest of the hull.

Hull Middle

Take the assembled hull front and wrap the hull middle around the exposed flaps, taking care to make sure you have the top of the middle section aligned with the top of the front section.

Hint: The V shaped shadow is the top of the hull, while the shield shaped shadow is the stem location on the bottom of the hull.

Hull rear

Fold the hull and glue the four small corner flaps to the adjacent edges so that it forms a concave 'cap'.

Then insert the hull rear into the open end of the hull. Take care to insert it the correct way up. The top two engines markings are facing the top of the hull.

Missile Launcher

- 1) Take part 1 and join it to the adjacent edge of part 2.
- 2) Take part 3 and join it to the adjacent edge of part 2
- 3) Fold the assembled part into a bevelled box shape, taking care that the small flaps are tucked inside the model.

Top Intake

- 1) Fold part 1 into the top intake. Note the concave fold.
- 2) Fold parts 2 and 3 into small truncated boxes, using the same method as the engines.

Final Assembly

It's recommended you follow this sequence for to assemble the model. If you're in doubt as to which section goes where, then please refer to the parts diagram on page 1 of the model.

- 1) Using the marker on the hull front as a guide, attach the barrel to the hull front. Note that the barrel end with the jutting angle on it is the end that attaches to the hull. This jutting angle should fit over the slope in the top of the hull front, and help you locate the barrel properly.
- 2) Using the marker on the gun-end as a guide, attach the gun end to the gun barrel.
- 3) Fold the flaps on the thruster pod down, so they're inside the pod, and glue them. Then insert the thruster stem (make sure it's the correct way round) into the thrusters pod so the pod fits snugly around the stem. Check the thrusters pod bottom and the top of the thruster stem are parallel.
- 4) Using the marker on the underside of the hull as a guide, attach the top of the stem to the hull bottom, ensuring you have it the right way round.
- 5) Using the engine markings as a guide, attach the three engines to the back of the hull.
- 6) Using the center of the shadow on the left side of the hull as a guide, attach the angled part of the cockpit wing to the side of the hull. It should fit fairly snugly
- 7) Place the cockpit wing end over the cockpit's right warning triangle, and attach the cockpit to the wing.
- 8) Using the top hull markings as a guide, attach the hull intake to the top of the hull, then attach the two small ends of the hull intake to the top intake and the hull, ensuring that they are placed correctly.
- 9) Attach the missile launcher to the right side of the hull. To ensure correct positioning vertically, align the black side lines on the missile launcher and hull, and to align horizontally place the missile launcher so the rear face of the missile launcher is parallel to the rear face of the hull (not the engines – the rear of the hull)