



**MASTERPIECE**

M O D E L S

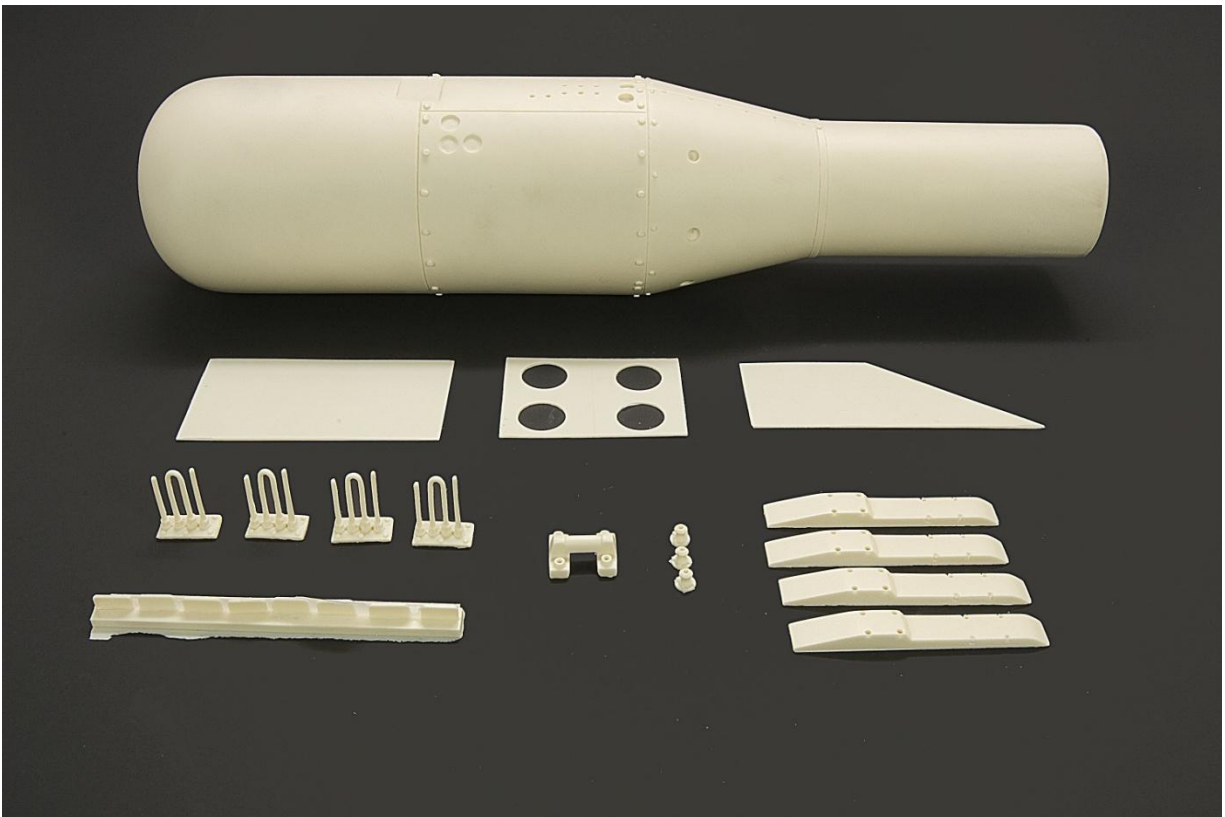


# **“LITTLE BOY”**

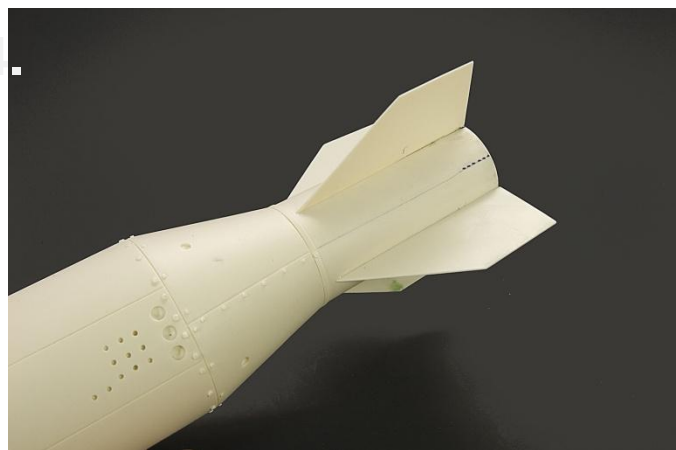
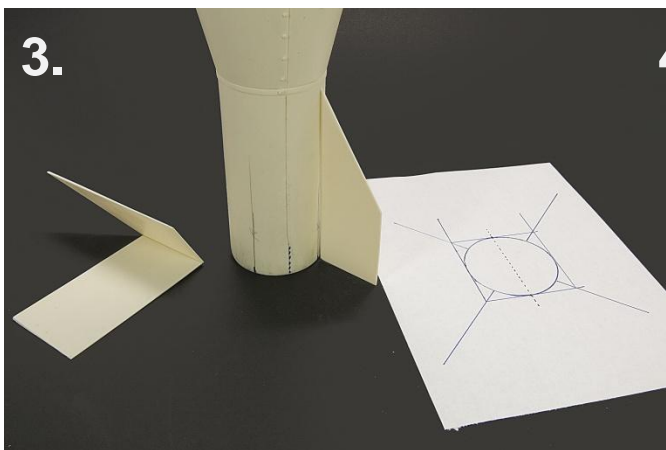
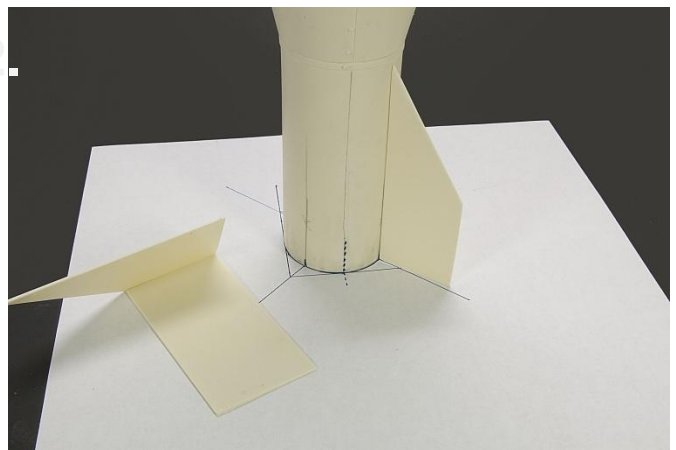
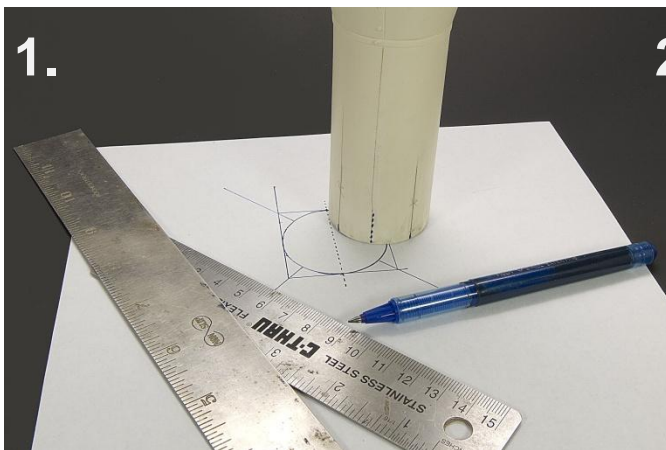
**1/12<sup>th</sup> Scale Resin Kit Assembly Instructions**



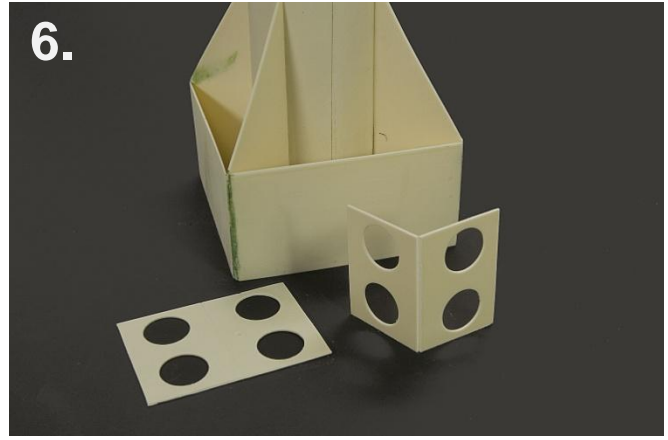
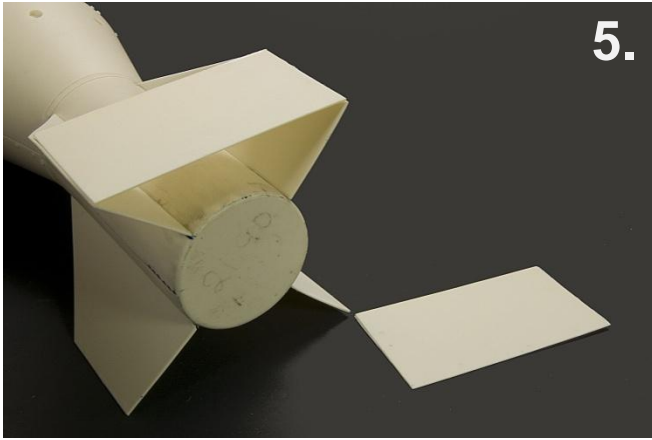
“**Little Boy**” was the codename of the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945 by the B-29 Superfortress *Enola Gay*, piloted by Colonel Paul Tibbets of the 393<sup>rd</sup> Heavy Bombardment Squadron of the United States Army Air Forces. It was the first atomic bomb to be used as a weapon. The weapon was developed by the Manhattan Project during World War II. It derived its explosive power from the nuclear fission of uranium 235. The Hiroshima bombing was the second artificial nuclear explosion in history, after the Trinity test, and the first uranium-based detonation. Approximately 600 milligrams of mass were converted into energy. It exploded with a destructive power equivalent to between 13 and 18 kilotons of TNT and killed approximately 140,000 people. Its design was not tested in advance because the available supply of enriched uranium was very small at that time, and it was felt that the simple design of a uranium "gun" type bomb was so sure to work that there was no need to test it at full scale. The Mk I "Little Boy" was 10 feet (3.0 m) in length, 28 inches (71 cm) in diameter and weighed 8,900 lb (4 000 kg). The design used the gun method to explosively force a hollow sub-critical mass of uranium-235 and a solid target spike together into a super-critical mass, initiating a nuclear chain reaction. So much for historical background, let's look at the model itself:



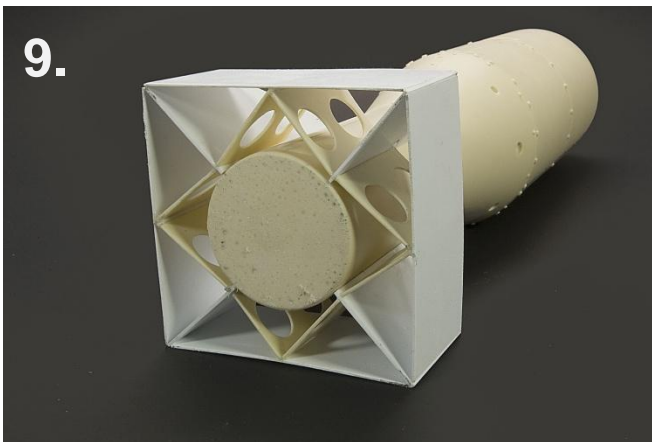
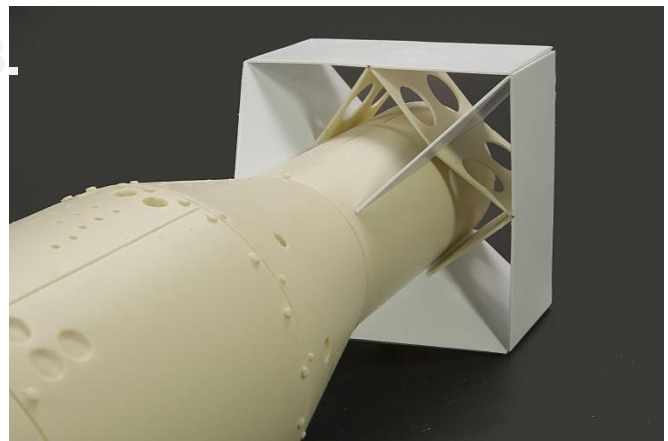
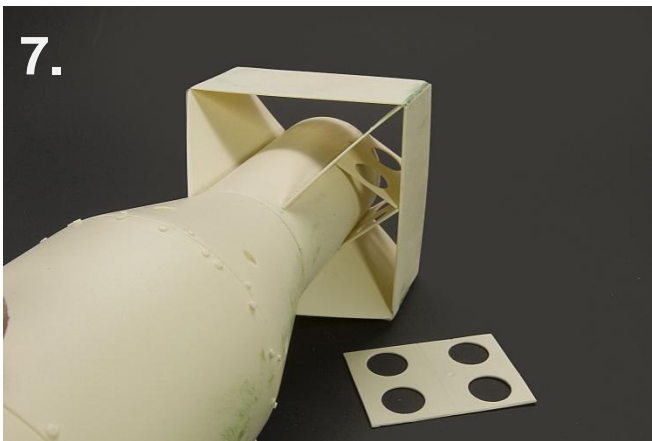
As you can see, the numbers of parts that make up this kit are relatively few. The main component, the bomb, is a single piece of cast resin with excellent panel line and bolt details. The attachment of rear stabilizer fins provides the bulk of the construction efforts. We recommend making a quick template as a guide to help position the fins in the proper locations as shown below.



Once the fins have been placed, the horizontal stabilizers rest on the edge of the fins; butt-joined to one another at the corners.



The last component to the rear assembly is the small interior fins. These fins can be scribed and then cracked to produce a hinge point which attaches to the horizontal stabilizer at the mid-way point as shown above right. The interior edges are positioned to the stabilizer fins 2mm from the bomb itself.



The remainder of the construction is very straightforward and proceeds quickly. One must be somewhat mindful of the placement of the four forward antenna housings; a quick look at the reference materials and a little bolt counting is in order. The location for the top housing is 2 bolts down from the mid-section panel line, while the lower housing is another 4 bolts below.

Small wings are attached along the circumference of the mid-section near the small vent holes. The three fuses were detailed with small wire to replicate the fuse wire seen in period photographs.

Finally, a small cart is also provided in the kit. Not only is this an attractive accessory, but it serves to provide a stable display platform for the bomb. The pictured steps below show how it is assembled using these parts. The final picture shows all the pieces put together in a coat of primer ready for final painting. The last pictures of the finished model are to provide you with a style guide for final detailing.

