

## B-17F Flying Fortress

The Boeing B-17 'Flying Fortress' was one of the U.S.A.'s main four-engine heavy bombers, operating alongside the B-24 Liberator, and the later B-29 Superfortress, in all theatres of World War 2. It's a fact that the B-17 almost never saw its place in history and the defeat of Nazi Germany, as the prototype, known as Model 299, crashed due to pilot error during its evaluation in October 1935. Thankfully, the design had shown such promise during the testing phase, in fact exceeding the requirements of the original specification, that further prototypes were ordered despite Boeing losing the original contract with the United States Army Air Corps. It was this further evaluation that saw the type enter active service in 1938. The actual name 'Flying Fortress' was coined by a newspaper hack who witnessed a roll-out of the machine, bristling with guns and turrets, and Boeing realised that this was the sort of propaganda they needed, and trademarked the name. After the initial prototypes, serial production of the B-17 began with the B-17B variant, and underwent a major revision with the introduction of the ' $E$ '. This type featured a substantially redesigned tail and fillet that featured throughout subsequent versions, giving the B-17 its iconic profile. An extra 10 ft of length was added to the fuselage. Other refinements included the addition of a tail and dorsal turret, and
the addition of a Bendix turret to replace the fixed bathtub type that had graced previous versions. This was found to be disappointing, and was eventually replaced with the Sperry ball turret that became a permanent feature of all future marques.

Differences between the E \& F versions were mostly changes in nose armament lay out, with staggered cheek guns being implemented, and a change in the bombardier's glass nose, although this would vary occasionally between machines, with a number of sub-types and adaptations being fitted. Other changes included engine cowls with rounder forward radius', paddle-blade prop blades and strengthened undercarriage that allowed the internal bomb load to double from 4000 lb to 8000 lb .

The B-17 F was powered by $4 \times$ Wright R-1820 "Cyclone" turbocharged radial en gines that were constantly uprated over the service life of the B-17, and also carried $11 \times .50 \mathrm{cal}$ M2 Browning machine guns, with a twelfth being sometimes fitted in the glass nose. Wingspan was 103 ft 9 in , with a length of 74 ft 4 in . A crew of 10 was typically carried by the B-17.

be careful


GLUE

please wait for afew minutes UNTIL DRY
do not glue

fil hole
A
used colour

(x) make 2 PIEGEs

instantalue for Metal

3 SEQUENCE
OF WORK 2 apply decal

TOGETHER
 DRILL HOLE

optional

marking option

## CAUTION

When using both glue and paint, do not use these near an open flame, due to the flammable properties of these items.
The symbols provided, such as 'X', refer to the basic colours of parts, although a more compre hensive list is supplied for your use for Tamiya, Mr Hobby and AK-Interactive codes.
When removing parts from sprues, take extreme care. Consider correct tools such as Xuron Sprue Cutters
Please check the symbology on the left and familiarise yourself before building this model kit.














77


78



82




## Decals




B-17F-10-B0, s/n 41-24485, DF-A, 324th BS / 91st BG, Bassingbourn, UK, May 1943





## Colour Cuide

| Key | AKInteractive | Gunze/Mr.Hobby | Tamiya |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A: Olive Drab 41 | RC259 | H78 | XF-62 |
| B: Neutral Grey 43 | RC261 | H53 | XF-53 |
| C: Medium Green 42 | RC260 | - | - |
| D: Rubber Black | RCO22 | H77 | XF-85 |
| E: Aluminium | AK479 | MC218 | XF-16 |
| F: Flat Yellow | RC267 | H413 | XF-3 |
| G: Flat Black | RC001 | H12 | XF-1 |
| H: Dull Dark Green | RC230 | H302 | XF-26 |
| I: Gunmetal | RC015 | MC214 | X-10 |
| J: Brass | AK475 | MC219 | X-12 |
| K: Steel | AK476 | H18 | XF-56 |
| L: Light Wood | RC014 | H79 | XF-78 |
| M: Grey | RC296 | H331 | XF-77 |
| N : White | RC004 | H11 | XF-2 |
| O: Light Green | AK11134 | H50 | XF-71:4 + XF-2:1 |
| P: Clear Red | RC503 | H90 | X-27 |
| Q: Clear Green | RC505 | H94 | X-25 |

