## Fokker D.VIII GERMAN WWI FIGHTER 1/48 SCALE PLASTIC KIT

# #8085

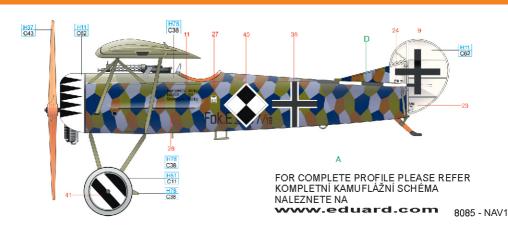


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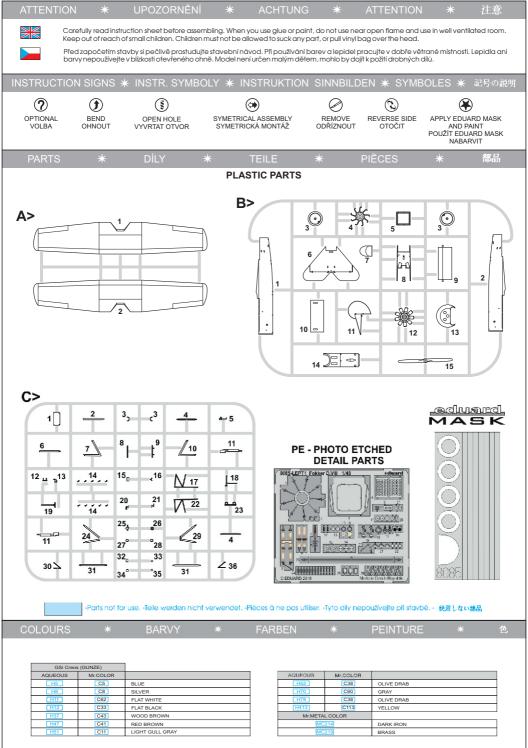
#### INTRO

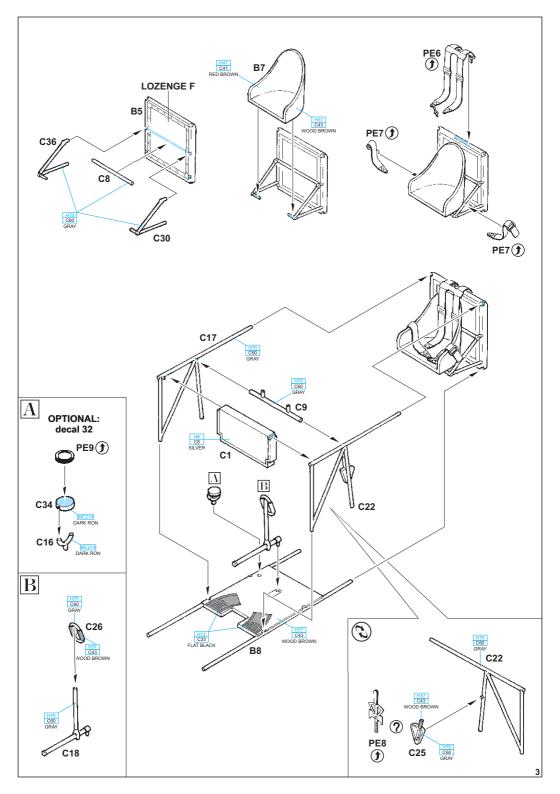
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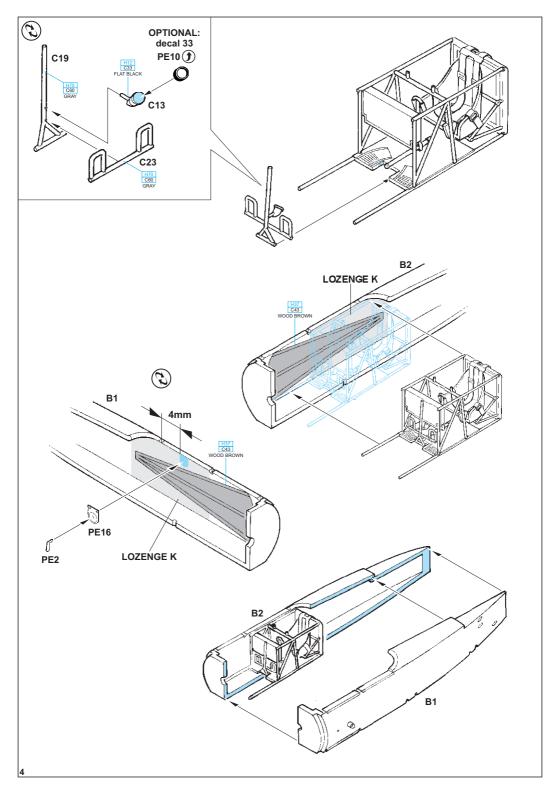
Although Fokker E.V. better known under latter designation D.VIII, still remains one of the most popular World War I fighter, his actual fighting career is surprisingly limited. Most amazing remains the fact, that the fatal problem of this aircarft was caused by the wing, which was, in fact, the main trump of the type. Correctly assembled cantilever wing was extremely strenght keeping, guite low weight. Unfortunately, the first supplied E.Vs didn't have correctly assembled wings...The cantilever wing was a result of the long time Fokker's development. This type of wing was used on V 17 prototype, and was used on V 28 which took part on the Second fighter competition (July 6-14th, 1918), where most experienced German front line pilots chose new fighters for late war service. V 28 was choosen for its excellent flying properties and came into production as Fokker E.V. All together 200 E.Vs were ordered, after all peripeties some 289 aircraft were delivered. E.V saw front line service at August 5th, 1918. Lt.Emil Rolff of Jasta 6 achieved the only reported aerial victory at August 17th, 1918, only one day latter when first E.V's pilot was killed through wing failure. Two days latter, the destiny hunted down him, the wing of his E.V was desintegrated during the flight and he felt. All E.Vs were immediately grounded. The upcoming investigation showed fatal defects in the wing assembly, caused due slack manufacturing process. In the result, the wing structure was re-designed and generally strenghtened. All already produced E.Vs were re-equipped with new wings. Newly produced aircraft were signed D.VIII, and it is believed the E.Vs with new wings were re-designated to D.VIII too. Modified aircraft were back in front line units at early November, which was actualy too late to see a Great war dogfights. Just a few aircraft saw a fight during post war fights, when some served in Freikorps air units. It is sure two pieces were attached to the Freikorps unit in Sachsen. A couple of E.Vs were in newly born Polish Air Force, where they fought against Bolshevick Red Army over Ukraine. A couple of aircraft served in Dutch AF. Single aircraft were tested in USA and Italy, an nonspecified number was pased on French, when some of these aircraft were latter sent to Canada. This kit represents orriginal Fokker E.V. Although E.V is pure monoplane, you can find two wings in the kit. They are differently designed. There is a classic plastic kit wing, with a smooth surface with panel lines only. The second one is newly styled model wing with bumped surface, immitating the actual characteristic plywood surface, which mades the small waves over the inner wing structure. It is just on you which one you will use for your model. The kit contains two sheets of the lozenge decals. Using them, apply the decals in the right step of assembly. Kit also contains the freet of the photo-etched parts. However, the kit is designed to need these parts and if you don't want to use them, or not use them all, it is possible to miss them.

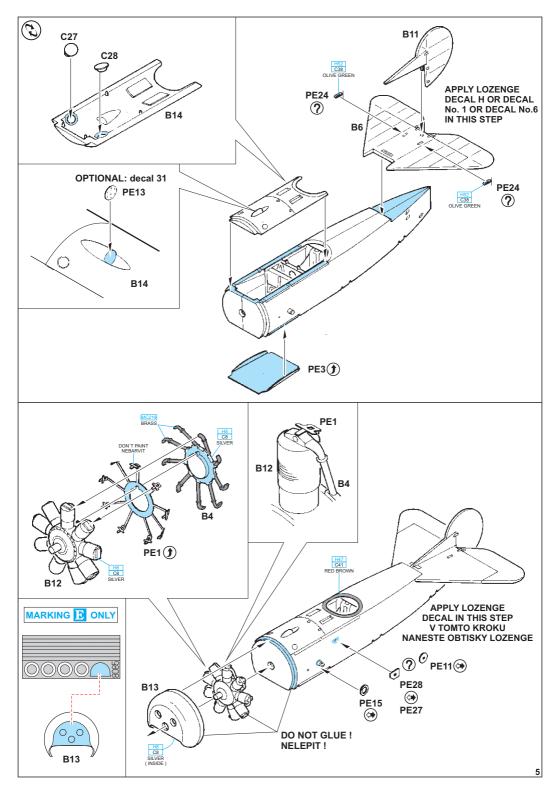


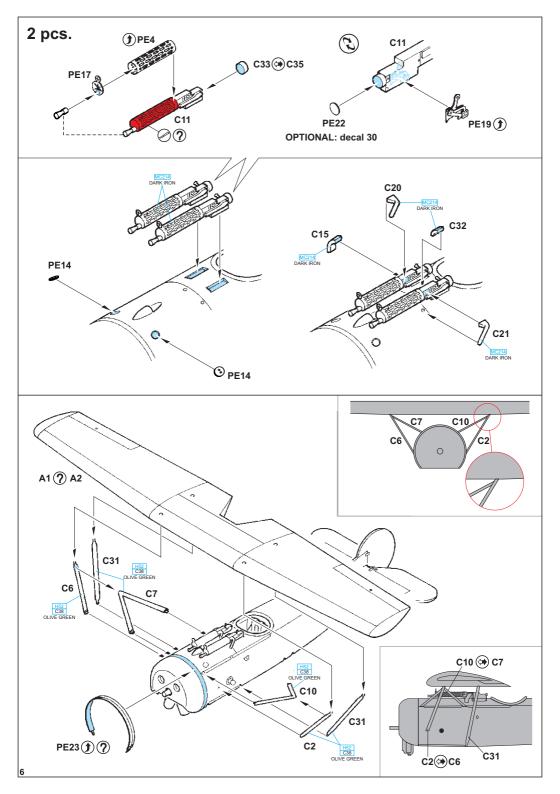
#### 157/18, flown by Gefr. Kurt Blümener, Jasta 6, Bernes, France, August 1918

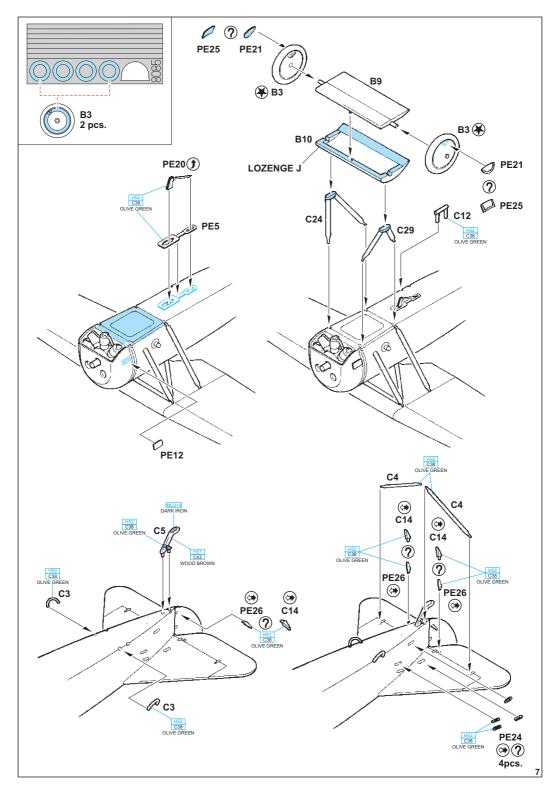


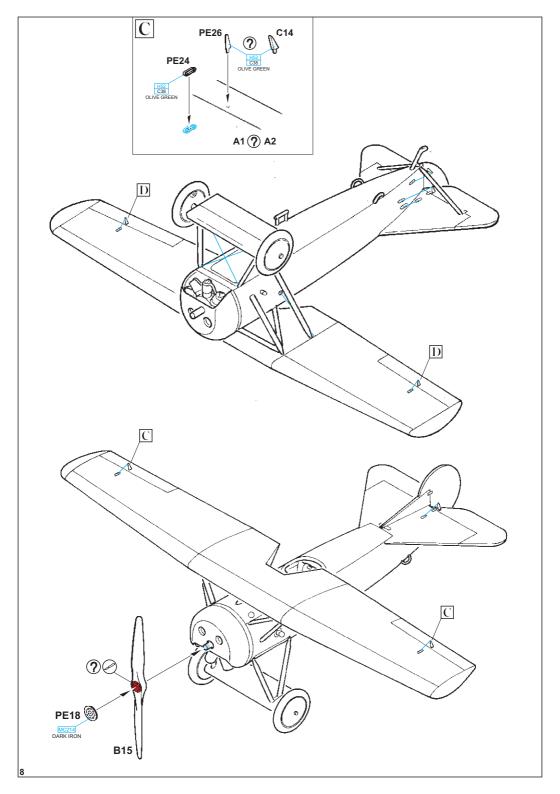






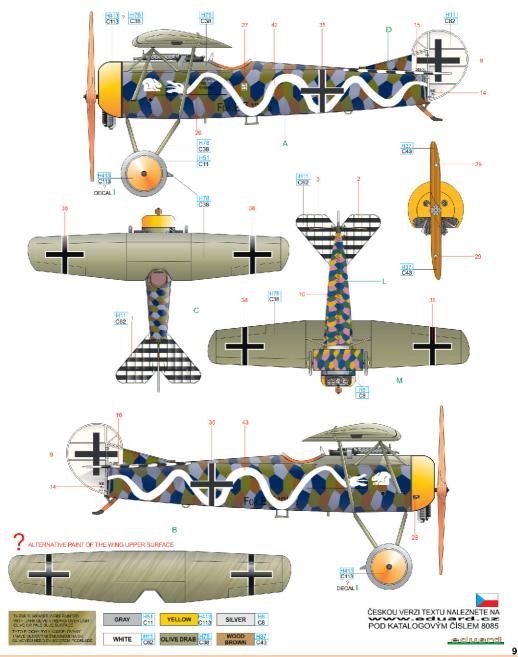






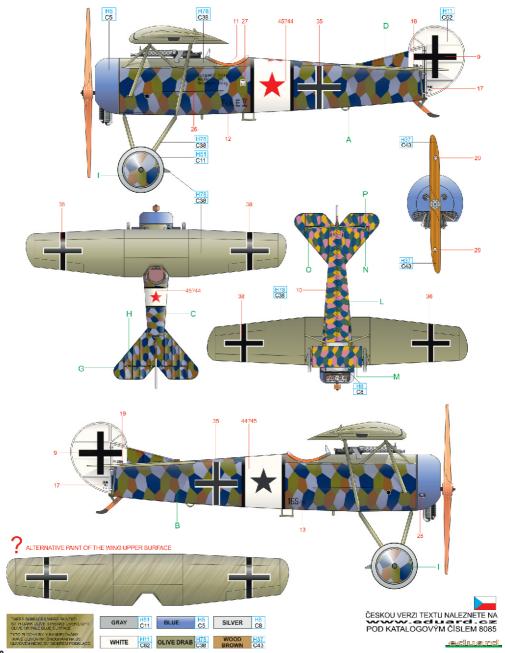
#### A Probably Jasta 8, Mercy-le-Haut, France, October 1918

Ownership of this aircraft remains a mystery. Some sources attach it to a Marine-Feldjagstaffel. Aircraft within these units, however, had their horizontal tail surfaces painted yellow, while this aircraft was adorned with stripes. This leads us to believe that the aircraft served with Jasta 8, who marked their Fokker D. VIIs in a similar fashion. Jasta 8 was formed in September, 1916 and was based at airfield (Feldflieger Abtailung) FFA6. It was progressively attached to several Jagdgruppe (JGr) when in March of 1918, Jasta 8 was permanently attached to JGrl, which was commanded by von Bentheim. Among the units most prolific aces was W. Gottsch (20 kills, left Jasta 8 prior to the introduction of the Fokkers into inventory), W. Seitz (16 kills) and R. Francke (15 kills). Jasta 8 compiled a total of 91 victories during the course of the First World War, for the cost of five killed and eight wounded pilots.



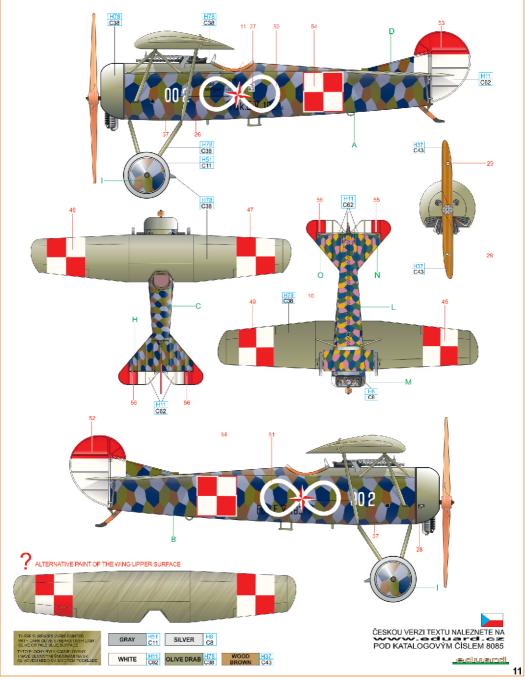
#### B Jasta 36, France, October 1918

On the 14th of February, Jasta 36 became a part of JG III. By spring, it was equipped with the Fokker Dr.I, and these were kept on charge until August, when the unit was re-equipped with a number of Fokker E.Vs and subsequently Fokker D.VIIs. They flew these until September 17th, 1918, when the home field of Jasta 36 was attacked by the RAF. After the attack, there remained only a single airworthy Fokker. New Fokker D.VIIs din't arrive until a week later. Jasta 36 achieved 123 victories through the course of the First World War, for the loss of 13 dead, 15 wounded and two captured pilots. This Fokker may have had a light blue engine cowl - it was an identification marking of Jasta 36, and even the Fokker Dr.Is attached to this unit that have been captured on film show a cowling with a similar tone.



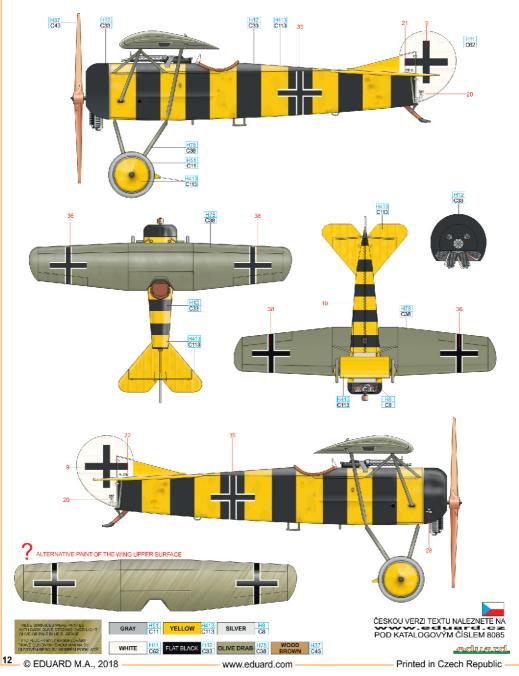
### C 183/18, flown by Cpt. Stefan Bastyr, 7. Eskadra Lotnicza, Polish Air Force, 1919

At the close of the First World War, the Polish Air Force obtained a number of Fokker E.V.s, and these went to Number 7 'Kosciuszkowske' Squadron, and were emplyed against Russian Bolsheviks. Aircraft 183/18 (number 002) was assigned to Cpt. Stefan Bastyr. For this native Teranovan, battle against Bolsheviks was not a new concept. Already as a reserve officer (Lt.i.Res.) of the Austro-Hungarian Air Force, he operated with Flik 10 on the eastern front. On the fourth of June, 1916 as an aerial observer, he shared in the downing of a Russian Farman.



#### D flown by Ltn. Theo Osterkamp, Marine Feld Jagdstaffel II, Belgium 1918

Theodor Osterkamp was born on April 15th, 1892 in Aschersleben and soon after the WWI burst out, he joined German Army. He was later rejected and joined the Navy Air Force where he fought as an MFFA2 observer flying above the Belgian coast. In 1917, he graduated from fighter pilot school and from April 14th, 1917 he joined MFJ I. On March 2nd, 1918, he was appointed a commander of newly established MFJ II, which he lead till the end of WWI. The total count of his enemy aircraft shot downs was 32. He joined the Air Force once again prior to WWII. First he trained junior pilots for JFS 1, later he became commander of JG 51. From July 19th, 1940 till the end of war he served on various military staff posts. He died in Baden-Baden on January 2nd, 1975.



#### E 157/18, flown by Gefr. Kurt Blümener, Jasta 6, Bernes, France, August 1918

Jasta 6 was officially established on August 25th, 1916. On June 26th, 1917, it fell under the command of Richthofen's Jagdgeschwader Nr. I and became part of the "Richthofen's Flying Circus ". On August 5th, 1918, Jasta 6 got several new Fokkers D.VIII; the unit was stationed within the French territory – at Brenes Airfield. Within a short period of time, several severe defects of the plane were revealed; these defects caused a number of accidents. The engine oil also proved to be of bad quality. The airplanes were thus withdrawn from use and returned to the producer. After the debacle with Fokkers E.V/ D.VIII, the Jasta 6 returned back to Fokkers D.VII. Gefreiter Kurt Blümener was born on September 8th, 1894 in Berlin. He died on September 8th, 1918 when his parachute failed to open after he jumped out of Fokker D.VIII. Jasta 6 aircraft bore colour marking in a form of black and white bands on horizontal rudder, the same colours applied to canvas that covered the spokes, and the engine cover where they were in a form of little triangles. The fuselage bears a private symbol of the pilot.

