# MiniBrass

RMS TITANIC | STERN PLATING & HULL DETAILS

## **INSTRUCTION MANUAL**

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### **INTRODUCTION**

This photo etch set is created for the Trumpeter 1:200 scale Titanic model. The set covers many important and missing hull details as well as the missing plating under the counter stern. Everything in this set is designed to my best ability. As with everything I do, I always go for accuracy to the best of my ability.

As you work through these instructions you may notice that this is an extensive set with a lot of parts. My recommendation is that you treat it as a kit in its own right. Take your time to get this right, especially with the stern plating. The more determined you are to do a good job with the assembly the better the chances are you will succeed.

For technical questions regarding the assembly of the PE, help can be found in the Facebook groups "Trumpeter Titanic 1/200th model ONLY building tips and tricks" and "RMS Titanic Model Research and Tech".



# **TIPS & TRICKS**

#### Tools

The following is a list of tools that are recommended to have at hand when working with this photo etch set. Most of these tools are essential when building models in general so if you do not own a specific tool it might be worth the investment for the rest of your build as well.

- 1. An X-Acto knife with #11 or #22 blade or PE scissors (essential)
- 2. Diamond files for photo etch (essential)
- 3. A china marker or another pick-up tool (essential)
- 4. Pliers (essential)
- 5. Magnifiers (essential)

#### Cleanup

Never remove PE parts from the sheet by twisting or turning the parts. This will damage them. Always cut off parts using a sharp knife or PE scissors. To get the parts looking accurate, the tags need to be filed or cut off.

#### **Cleaning the parts**

Before parts can be used properly, they should be cleaned as you do with any other model part. This should be done to remove the residue left from the etching process and is essential in helping paint and glue adhere to the parts.

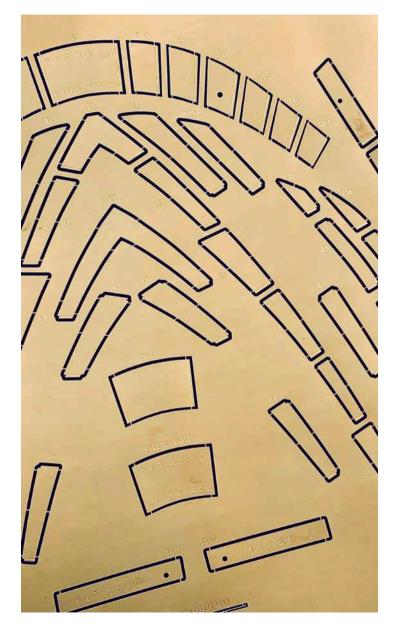
#### Adhesives

You will need to use adhesives that bond well with PE. Usually the recommendation is to use CA glue or epoxy glue. There are many different variants to choose from: thin; thick; slow setting; instant bond; etc. Your choice should be based on your skill level, experience of working with PE and the specific part of the set you are working with. For instance, a small part is easy to glue on with a thin instant bond CA whereas on a larger piece you might find yourself needing a few extra seconds or even minutes to make adjustment before the bond is made.

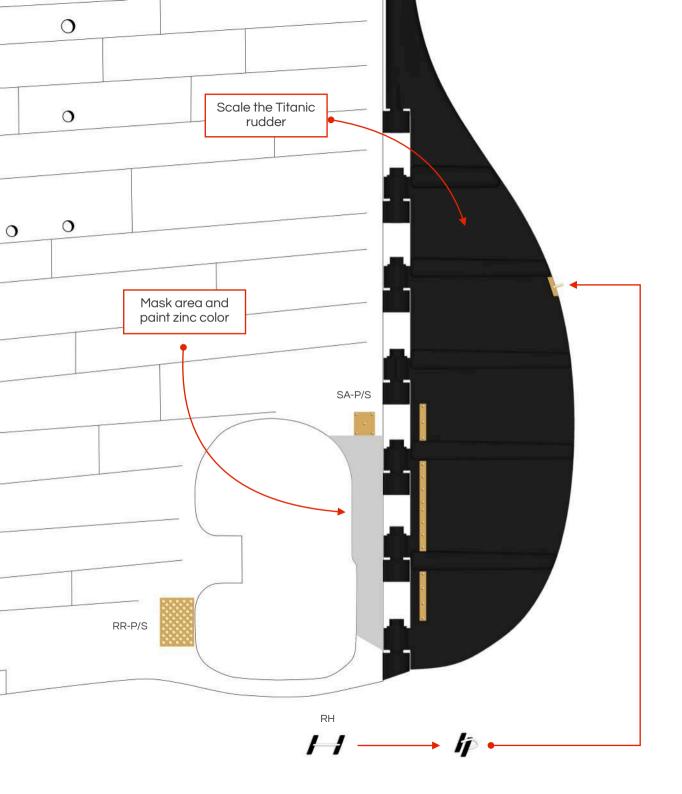
#### Painting

It is highly recommended that you use metal (etching) primer before painting. This will ensure that your final coat of paint adheres to the parts properly. An airbrush will be necessary to get a nice final finish. It is always better to do several light coats instead of one thick coat, especially on parts like these where you have a lot of fine details.





### HULL DETAILS



### **STERN DETAILS**

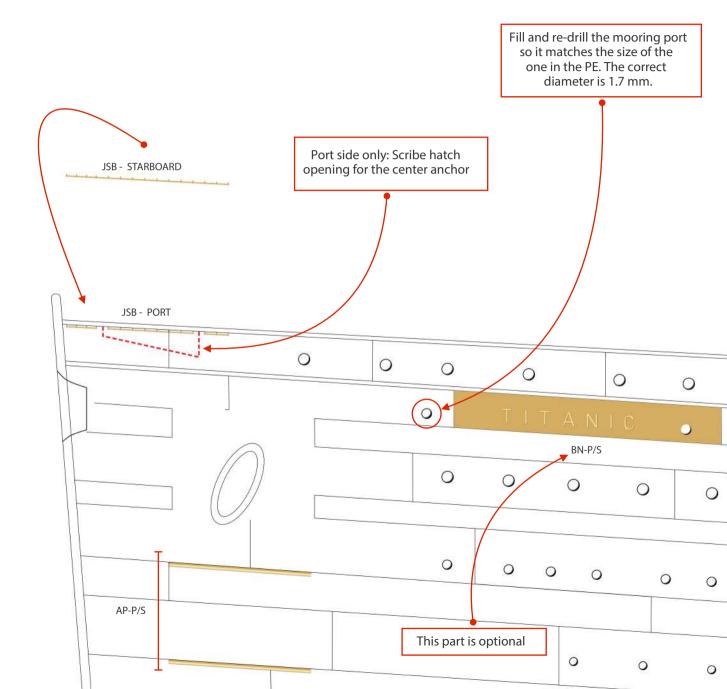
The stern section on the Trumpeter hull is missing many details. This set together with the Scale The Titanic 3D printed rudder correct most of these things.

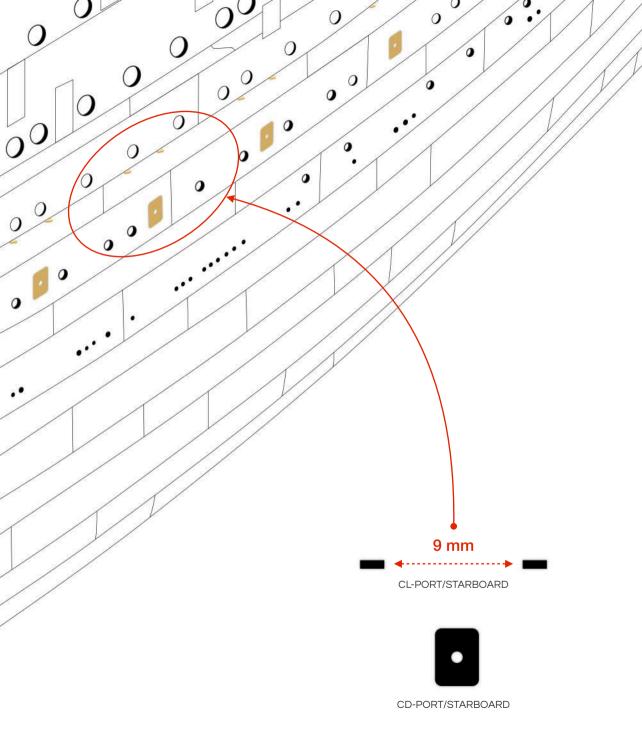
- Cut away the the following parts from the PE sheet:
  - RR-P
  - RR-S
  - SA-P
  - SA-S
  - RH
- Parts ending with P belong to the port side of the model, while parts ending with S belong to the starboard side.
- Attach the parts to the Trumpeter hull and the Scale The Titanic rudder in accordance with the graphic to the left.

### **BOW DETAILS**

The bow details include the name plate, jackstays as well as the missing taper iron for the shell plating.

- Cut away the the following parts from the PE sheet:
  - BN-P (optional)
  - BN-S (optional)
  - AP PORT
  - AP STARBOARD
  - JSB PORT
  - JSB STARBOARD
- Attach the parts to both sides of the Trumpeter hull in accordance with the graphic.





### **COALING DOORS**

The Trumpeter hull already has coaling doors moulded onto the hull. Unfortunately these coaling doors are not the correct shape and size. This set allows you to replace all coaling doors with new ones in brass. Each coaling door also comes with a pair of cleats that are meant to sit over the door. To install these, perform the following steps:

#### **COALING DOORS**

- Remove the existing coaling doors from the Trumpeter hull.
- Remove the coaling doors from the PE sheet. Use "CD - PORT" for the port side of the ship and "CD -STARBOARD" for the starboard side of the ship. There are extra coaling doors included for each side of the ship.
- Glue the coaling doors in the same location as the old ones.

#### CLEATS

- Remove a pair of cleats for each coaling door. Use parts "CL - PORT" for the port side of the ship and "CL - STARBOARD" for the starboard side of the ship. There are extra cleats included for each side of the ship.
- Glue a pair of cleats above each coaling door. The cleats should sit right below the outer strake of Edeck. The space between the cleats should be about 9 mm.

### **GUARD RAILS**

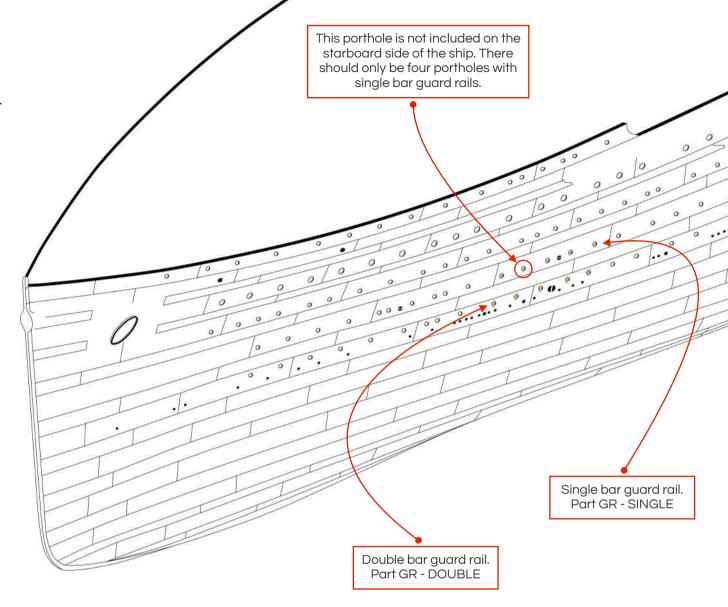
Towards the bow of the ship there are portholes on F-deck and G-deck that should have guard rails protecting the glass. Perform the following steps to add this detail:

Working with one porthole at a time, cut away the the following parts from the PE sheet:

• GR - DOUBLE

OR

- GR SINGLE
- Attach the guard rails in accordance with the graphic. The affected portholes on F-deck had one guard rail while the portholes on G-deck had two.
- Note that there are plenty of extra guard rails included in case you need replacements.



### **CONDENSER DISCHARGE**

The main condenser discharge ports are completely missing from the Trumpeter hull. To add it to your hull, perform the following steps:

- ► Cut away the the following parts from the PE sheet:
  - CD-PORT
  - CD-STARBOARD
  - CD-TEMP
  - MCD-P
  - MCD-S
- ► Fold "CD-PORT" and "CD-STARBOARD" into boxes. These will be the insides of the condenser discharges. Spray the inside of the boxes with black paint and let them dry.
- ► Glue "MCD-P" and "MCD-S" over the open side of the box.
- Mark out the location of the condenser discharge ports on port and starboard. Use part "CD-TEMP" as a template to mark out the opening. Drill a small hole in all four sides of the marked area and cut open using a knife. File the opening smooth.
- ► Insert the condenser discharge into the new opening in the hull and glue it in place from the inside.

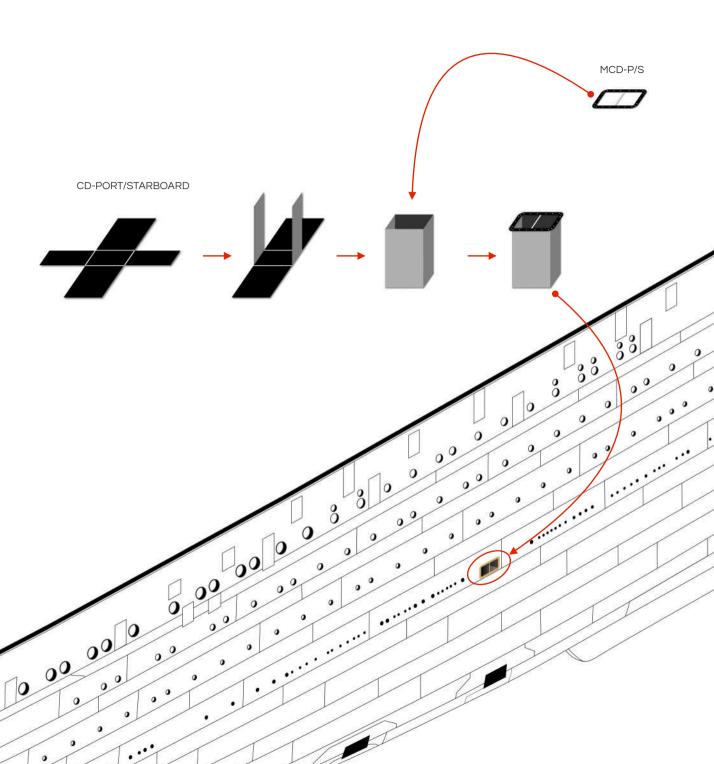
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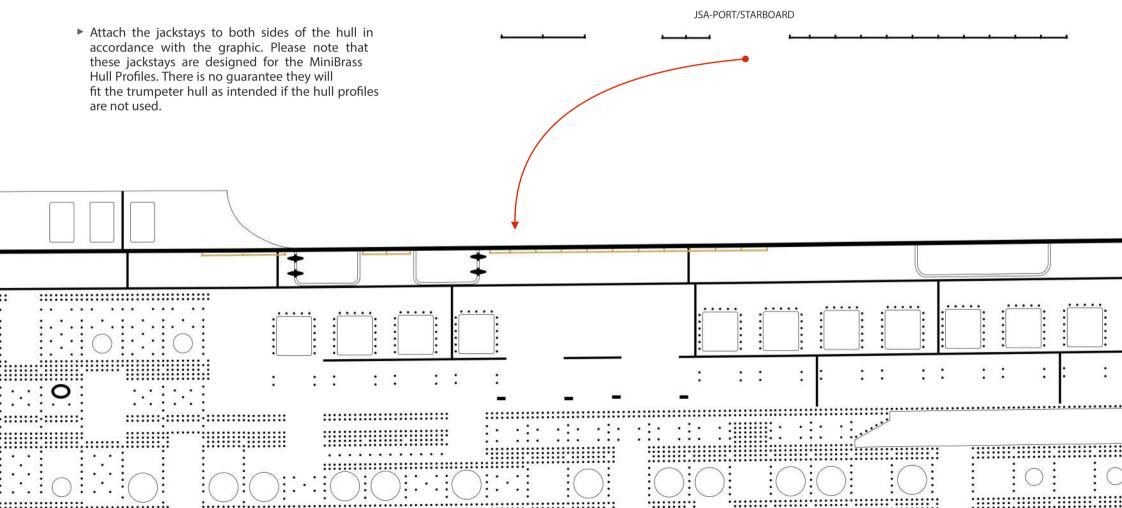
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### JACKSTAYS

Other than the jackstays at the bow of the ship there are also jackstays located on the aft end of B-deck. To add these to your model, perform the following steps:

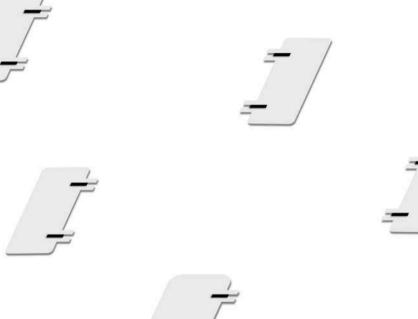
- Cut away the following parts from the PE sheet:
  - JSA-PORT
  - JSA-STARBOARD



### **GANGWAY DOORS**

Included in this set are gangway doors for E-deck. There are three gangway doors for the port side and two gangway doors for the starboard side. These doors are meant to compliment the ones included in the Hull Profiles PE set. Therefore, they are optional. If you want to include these doors, perform the following steps:

- Cut away the the following parts from the PE sheet:
  - E1-P/S
  - E2-P/S
  - E3-P
- The Trumpeter hull has too many doors along Edeck on the port side. Counting from forward most door and aft, remove door #3 and door #5 completely.
- Sand the remaining doors flush with the outer strake along E-deck and glue the new PE doors over the old ones.



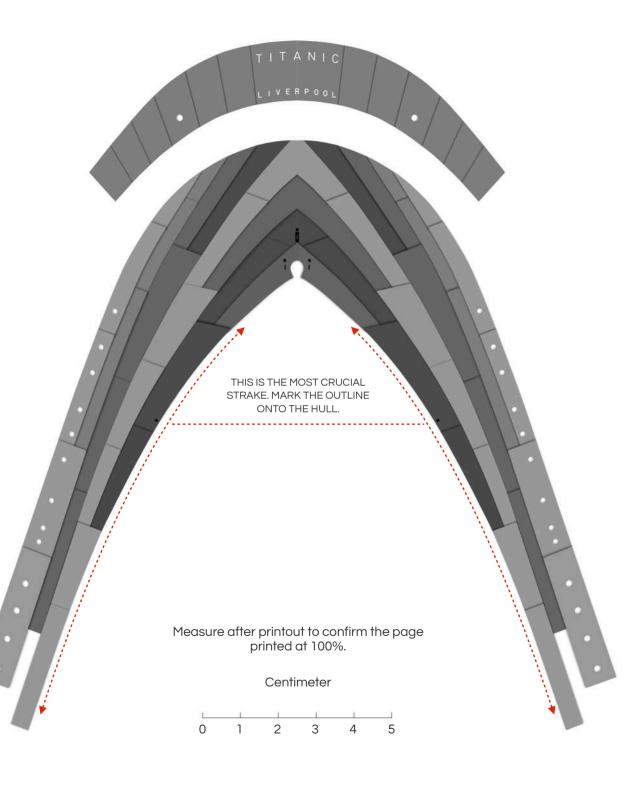
### **STERN PLATING**

## **FIT & LAYOUT**

The first step of installing the stern plating is to understand the fit and layout of the plates, especially how they conform to the Trumpeter model. Perform the following steps.

- Print this page at 100% using regular A4 copying paper (US: Letter size artwork available <u>HERE</u>). Do not scale to fit. (To make sure you printed at 100%, measure the scale using a ruler after printout.)
- Carefully cut out the stern plating artwork using a pair of scissors.
- Place the artwork on the stern of the Trumpeter hull and hold it in place using tape.
- Study how the plates fit on the hull and how the ends merge with the existing plating. Photograph your model from different angles to have as a reference for later.
- With a pencil, mark the outline of the stern plating artwork on to the hull. This will work as a guide for the most crucial strake of plates. If this strake is not placed in its correct location, it will affect the fit of the entire plating.

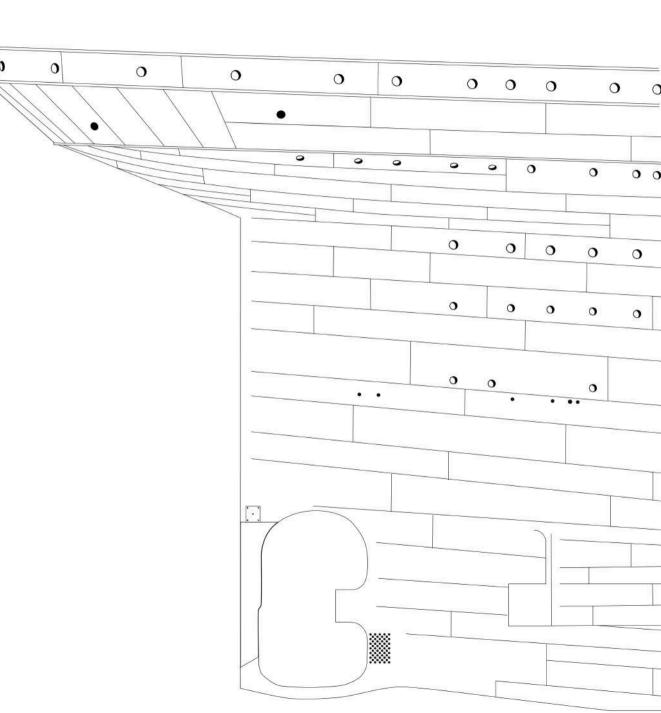
Please note that there are eight plates (SP7/8/9-S/P, E8 & E9) missing from this artwork. These plates are optional and do not need to be test fitted. More information about these plates can be found later.



## **PREPARATION**

Before the plating can begin the Trumpeter hull needs to be prepared for plating. Perform the following steps:

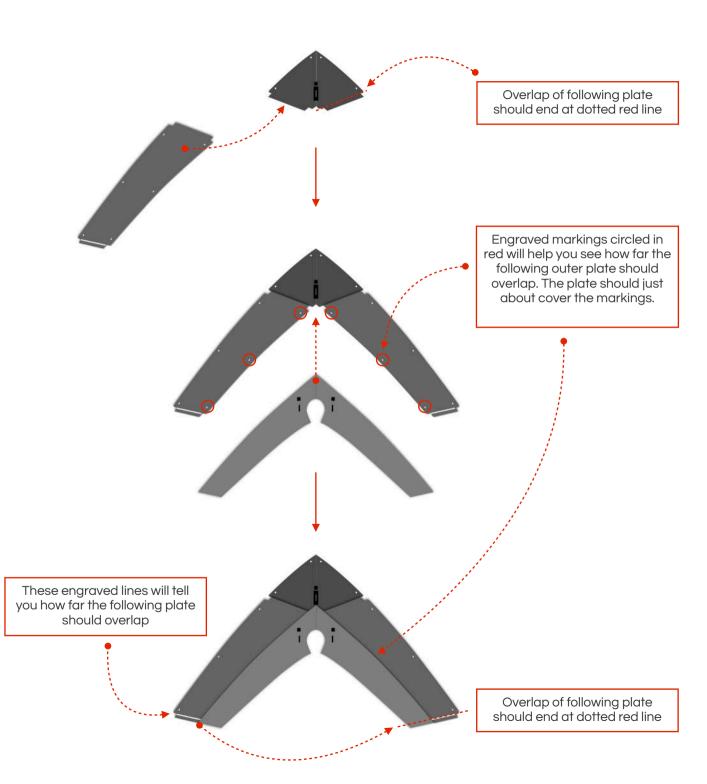
- Use the printed plating template to mark the portholes, mooring ports and the opening for the rudder post. Drill the holes with a larger diameter so the plastic is not visible once the plates are added. This will create an accurate scale effect.
- Sand off any seams from the moulding of the hull.
- OPTIONAL: sand down the existing plating so you get a flush area to work with. Note that this is an optional step. The PE is designed to work over the existing plating and covers it perfectly. If you decide to sand down the existing plating, do not overdo it. Too much sanding might result in a poor fit.
- Clean the area well.



## **PLATING SYSTEM**

The next step is to understand the stern plating is to understand the plating system. Each plate you place will affect all other plates around it. It is therefore important to have a good understanding of how the plating should be done.

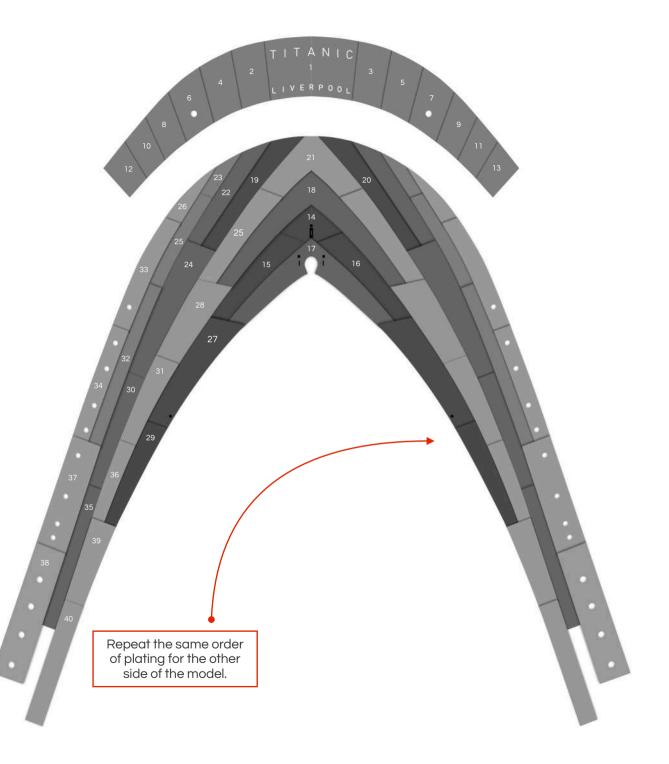
- The stern should be plated from the aft most point and then worked forward, with each plate overlapping the one preceding it.
- Each plate needs to be added in the correct order. This is because the strakes sit on different levels and overlap each other (more on this on the next page). This is usually referred to as in and out plating.
- To help you place the plates with the correct amount of overlaps there are tiny engraved markings on almost all plates. These markings will tell you how far the plates should overlap each other. Please note that these markings are merely a guide to help you plate with confidence. You might need to divert from them in some areas to get a good fit. It all comes down to how accurate your placement of the first plates is.
- Study the graphics to the right in order to understand the plating system.



## **IN & OUT PLATING**

The in and out plating of the stern is a bit more complex than other areas of the hull. You can say that there are four levels of plates. In order to achieve an accurate result the plates need to be added in a specific order.

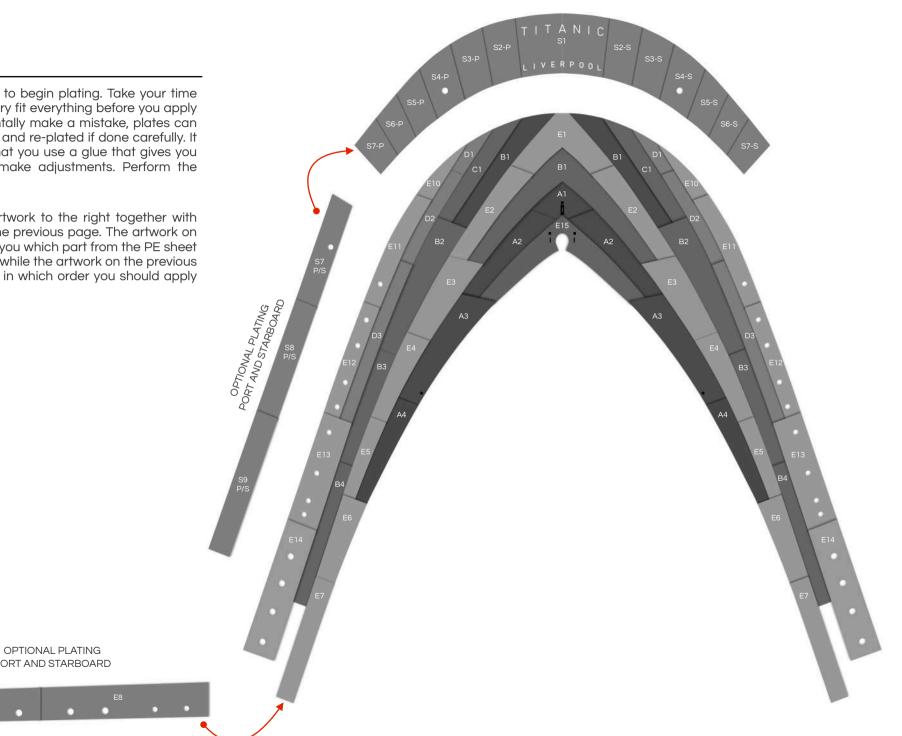
- Study the artwork to understand the relationship between the in and out plates. In the graphic you can see how the plates cast shadows on each other. This will help you see how they overlap.
- To help you plate in the correct order the plates are numbered based on which order they should be placed. Of course, each modeler prefers their own way of doing things so see this as an example. If you prefer doing things another way, please do.



### **PLATING**

You are now ready to begin plating. Take your time and make sure to dry fit everything before you apply glue. If you accidentally make a mistake, plates can be lifted off the hull and re-plated if done carefully. It is recommended that you use a glue that gives you plenty of time to make adjustments. Perform the following steps:

► Work with the artwork to the right together with the artwork on the previous page. The artwork on this page will tell you which part from the PE sheet you need to use, while the artwork on the previous page will tell you in which order you should apply the plates.

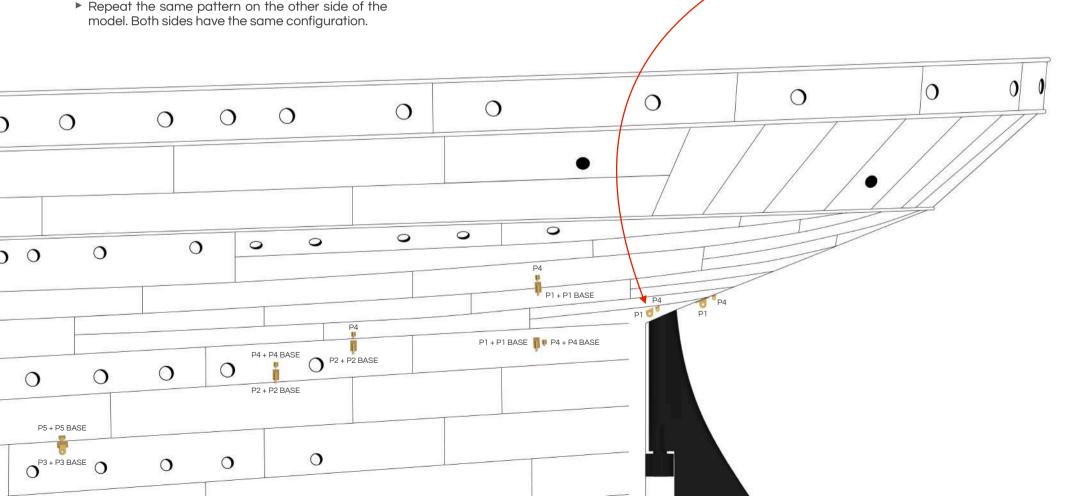


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### **PAD EYES**

The finishing touch to the stern plating is to add the pad eyes that were used during rudder and propeller maintenance. Each pad eye contains two parts - the base plate and the cleat. Some of the pad eyes already have a base plate etched to the plate. Perform the following steps:

- Use the artwork as a guide to place the pad eyes. Not all pad eyes are the same so pay close attention to which part goes where.
- Repeat the same pattern on the other side of the model. Both sides have the same configuration.



This pad eye should be

added without a base

plate.

