

This book contains detailed instructions on building the F-22 Raptor 1/48 scale model aircraft from Hasegawa.

You really need this book to successfully build this model. This model has over 600 kit and aftermarket parts with hundreds of decals. Can any sane modeler keep track of this build? The likelihood of you missing a part or doing a step out of order where you can't go back and fix because it's too late are high. In addition to the kit's instructions, there are 6 aftermarket kits each with their own instruction. Can you imagine merging all of these instructions? Well, I've done that for you and more.

I take the model kit instructions from Hasegawa and break them up into individual steps. I reorder the steps so that the small pieces (antennas, etc.) are assembled last which reduces the risk of damage when building the model. The steps are organized to insert the paint and decal steps in the best spot. I also incorporate Eduard's Photo Etch sets 48619, 48669, 49514, and 49534 along with Hasegawa's QG39 PE set and Wolfpack's Nozzle Set in with Hasegawa's instructions. As most modelers know, it can be tricky to go back and forth between the model kit instructions and the aftermarket kit instructions. I took out the guess work and did that for you. The aftermarket steps are color coded making them easy to skip if you just have the basic model. This book provides a little history of the Raptor, photos of the model kit contents including the aftermarket kits, a detailed list of tools that I used to build this model, along with a list of paints. The actual instruction section contains 1208 steps and 140 plus figures over 194 pages that tell you what to dry fit, glue, and/or paint for each individual piece. Each step instruction shows the source (i.e., either Hasegawa or aftermarket instruction) along with a block to mark that you completed the step. The major instruction sequence for this model is

1. Cockpit
2. Main Weapon Bay
3. Sub-weapon Bay
4. Nose Landing Gear Wheel Well
5. Main Landing Gear Wheel Well
6. Engine Exhausts
7. Engine Intake
8. Join Upper & Lower Fuselage Sections
9. Flaps and Stabilizer Dry Fit
10. Paint Prep with Canopy
11. Camo Paint
12. Decals
13. Exhaust Nozzles
14. Landing Gear
15. Weapons Bay Doors
16. Canopy
17. Pilot
18. Engine Covers
19. Ladder

I provide an index of the individual sprue parts that show where in the book the part is mentioned. This index was a great way to make sure that no pieces were overlooked. Finally, there are several pages of in-process photos with assembly tips and the final photos of my build for reference. This book is a great checklist to make your build go smoothly. Of course, you can feel free to use different tools, paint, weathering, etc. or even add your own diorama. I did a lot

of research and didn't see anything this detailed about a model build. Most articles or videos concentrate on parts of their build or just give a summary review. I wanted to go down to the piece level and take you thru the whole build. Anyway, I hope you find this book useful. See a 16-page sample along with photos of finished models and other books at glennhoovermodels.com.