


Here is some info from Darren about the two hull versions. My instructions convert Pontos to the short hull version in Step 25. If you wish to convert the Academy kit to the long hull version, you'll need to incorporate kit parts B39, B40, and B48 which are listed as unused in the kit's instruction

DB Darren Beebe <beebeaviation@gmail.com> To: Glenn Hoover Thu 2/20/2025 11:44 AM



Glenn, thanks for your response and openness to suggestions. That seems to be a dying mindset these days. I'll try to be brief in my explanation.

The major problem is that the academy kit is a short hull kit while the Pontos is for a long hull version. The odd thing is that Academy includes the parts for the long hull version. Neither Academy or Pontos mention this in the instructions. The parts circled in red are the parts required to make this a long hull B39, B40 and B48.

The short hull ships had the SH-2 lamps II helicopters while the long hull ship had the SH-60B lamps III. The long hull ships were lengthened about 8 feet to accommodate the bigger helicopters. Also they had the rast system (the track like items) on the rear deck. This allowed the helicopters to be winched down in flight during rough seas and bad weather. This deck would not be found on the short hull ships.

That's the reason you had to cut the photo etch to make it fit. I place the blame on Pontos honestly. For the price the charge you'd think that they would provide better instructions. Your books are amazing and I think that you're doing top quality work. I thank you for all the effort you put into them. I find them quite helpful and always look forward to new releases. I hope this helps.

Respectfully  
Darren Beebe

