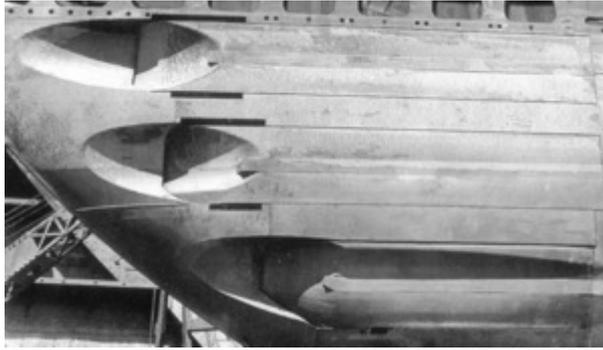


Bow Shutters for GATOs (1:72)

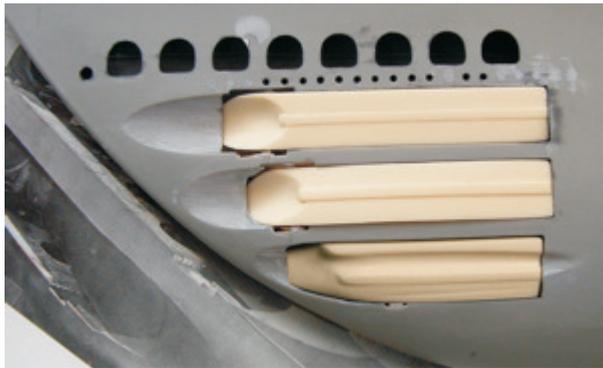
The Revell 1:72 Gato kit, generally accurate, has odd shutters: They are molded as part of the hull and cannot open, they stick out rather than sit-in, and they have in-scale seams about 2-inches (5cm) wide! There were also three major styles of shutter.

AMP shutters correct the kit errors, and are modelled photos and plans. This AMP set is appropriate for Gatos with the scoop or "spoon."

The AMP shutters can be displayed closed (this set), or open (with the added AMP Torpedo Tube and Outer Door set USN-TORTUBE-072). Stern Shutters will be available as an AMP PhotoEtch set (USN-TORSHT-S-072).



Gato Bow - Warship Pictorial 28 - Gato Type Fleet Submarines by Steve Wiper

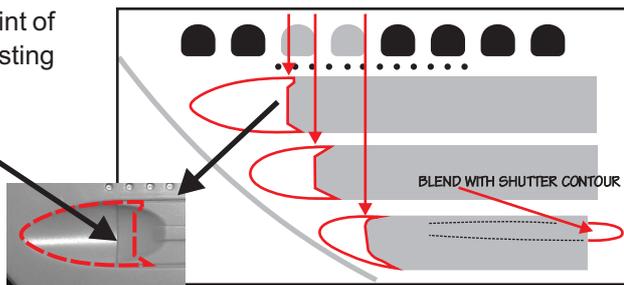


For detailed motion, see: http://amp.roknet/1_72_gato_sets.shtml

1. MARK CAVITIES

Before removing any plastic, mark the finish point of the spoon cavities. This will spill into the existing shutter itself.

Note the "wings" that extend, instead of the kit straight edge. Mark this LARGER and LONGER than you need, and cut back later. Mark with a pencil, using the diagram and photo as a guide. When satisfied, mark again with a permanent black marker.

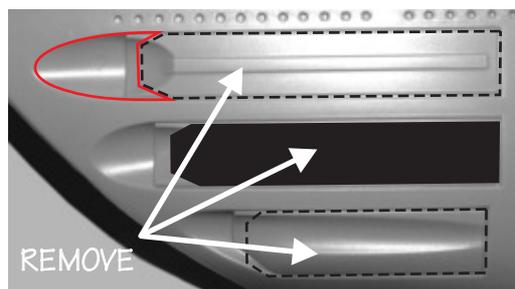


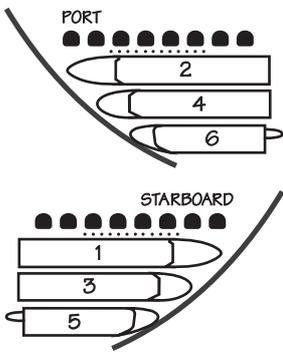
Line up shape with drain holes above (even if your boat will eventually have a different hole pattern).

2. CUT SHUTTERS

Remove the existing shutters, cutting up to the spoon cavity marks you made (STEP 1). Cut LESS all around, and then clean/expand with a file until the AMP resin parts fit each hole snugly. (NOTE: you will not be able to fit the shutters completely yet, so just test the width.)

Cut with a Dremel rotary tool if possible (using the pointy cutter DRE125 or similar), or drill a few small holes to start a slot for cutting manually with an X-Acto blade (#11 recommended).



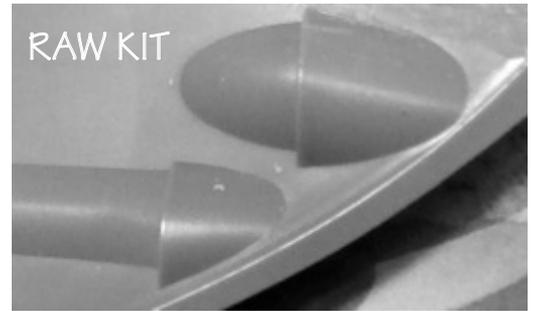


Each shutter is numbered on the end

#5 and #6 are thin so have dots:
5= ●●●●●
6= ●●●●●●

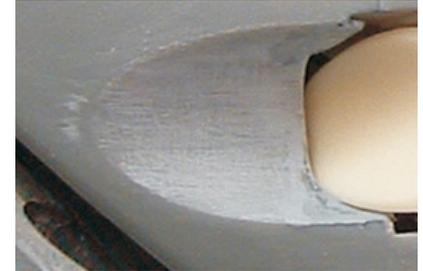
3. THIN BACK OF CAVITIES

Thin down the BACK (inside) of the spoon cavities. This allows the shutter to sit behind almost flush. The actual metal in 1:1 was originally about 1/4" thick at this point, much too thin in scale, so thin down as much as you can to make the shutter sit right.



4. SMOOTH

Smooth away the front stepped remnants of the kit shutter to make the spoon smooth. Reshape slightly as needed, to match photo, and fill with Mr Surfacer or putty as needed.



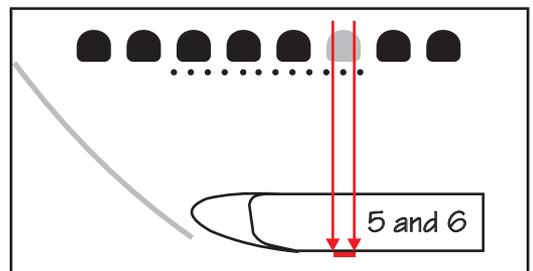
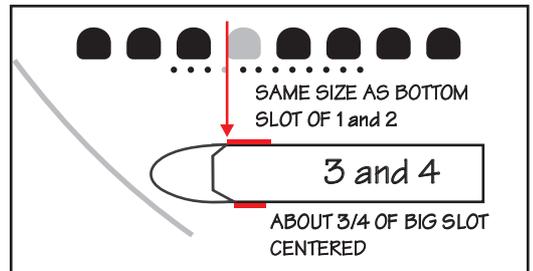
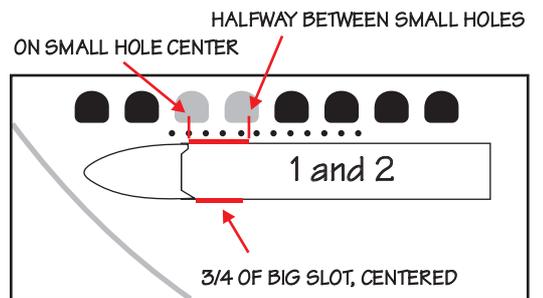
5. CUT LINKAGE SLOTS

For added accuracy, cut out the slots for the shutter linkage. Use the diagram and photo for reference.

Make the linkage from strips of thin sheet plastic and pin heads. (Note that the small drain holes may not be accurate for your particular boat but are a measuring guide.)



Pin heads have to be filed down thin and flat



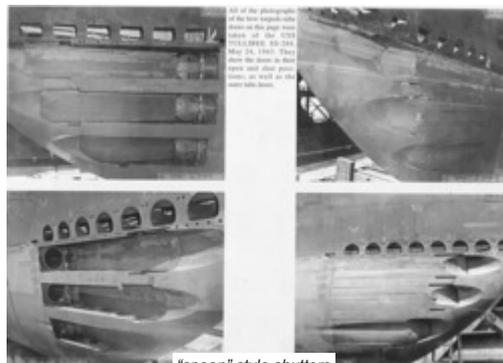
5. GLUE

Glue shutters in place using thin plastic strips/wedges behind. To display a shutter open, use optional AMP set USN-TORTUBE-072 **first**.

WARSHIP PICTORIAL SERIES



www.classicwarships.com



Special thanks to **Steve Wiper** at classicwarships.com for allowing us to use photos from his **Warship Pictorial series #28**. Every WP is a high quality production and a treasure trove of research photos. Steve and his team, in addition to hard work, must have a time machine and/or keys to the warehouse from the *Raiders of the Lost Ark* series, because the information is amazingly in-depth, accurate, and well presented, and not found anywhere else. RUN to the site and buy up the books, because they will be among the best model/history purchases you ever make.