

Metallic Finishes

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It's not as scary as you think!

What you need:

- Tamiya Gloss Black X-1
- Testors Metalizer Thinner
- Floquil Bright Silver
- Q-Tips
- A little patience & practice

I wanted to go over the process again for using Floquil Bright Silver for natural metal. Prepare the model for painting as you normally would. If you have had some rough sanding your next step might be to prime the entire model with Tamiya Flat Black.

Let that dry for a couple of hours or so and then spray it the model with Tamiya Gloss Black. I use Metalizer thinner to thin both blacks and the Bright Silver. You want about 20 to 30% paint to



thinner especially on the Gloss Black and the Bright Silver. When the flat black is dry when spray on the gloss black

and continue to spray until everything is completely gloss. It is important to get a good coat of gloss. This will be the basis for your silver. The Tamiya Gloss Black will be super thin and it'll take several coats to get the model glossy. It will not build up and fill in the panel lines. Now this needs to dry for at least two to four hours. It would be good if you could let it dry over night. Once this is dry, it'll be silver time.



After 1 light coat of black



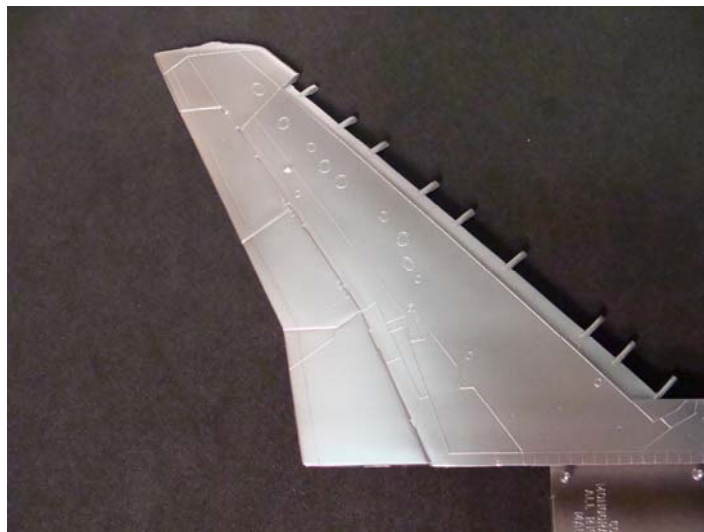
Nice & glossed up!

You could tint the various panels with pastels as I have begun to do. You can also tint panels with Sakura Pigma Micron pens or Faber-Castell Pitt artist pens. Sakura pens are available at most Hobby Lobby Stores. They make them in 12 different colors but Hobby Lobby only seems to have black. They range in size from 005 to a micro brush. I believe

Thin the Bright Silver with Metalizer Thinner and again you want 20-30% paint to 70-80% thinner. Spray light coats until everything is covered. It won't take too long as Bright Silver covers quickly. Bright Silver will dry quickly and within an hour you'll be able to handle it and mask over it if you like.



One coat of Floquil Bright Silver



Faber-Castell has a set of six pens/brush points in various shades of gray available at Hobby Lobby.



Sakura has a website but you should be able to order these pens from any good art supply store. The Sakura black pen 005 tip will fit into the panel lines in most 1/48 scale models. The smallest tip that Faber Castell makes is 01 but you can trim it slightly to fit into the panel lines. Faber Castell makes these pens in a host of colors. They make a dark burnt umber color that is perfect for panel lines. The black from Sakura is not as opaque and you can remove some of it with a dry Q-tip. A damp Q-tip will remove it all. I have used a Blue Sakura brush pen to shade burn panels on an test bed simulating those of an F-100 burn area near the

afterburner. You can use the pen to make a few marks on the panel and then take a dry Q-tip to blend it into the metal. If you've done too much, you can dampen the Q-tip and take it all off. You'll need to over coat the tinted area with

pens are great for oil/fuel/hydraulic streaking. Put a little blob of ink on a panel line and then use a Q-tip to pull the ink along the air flow. If you choose to use the pastels, just scrub them straight into the Bright Silver. You can mask off the panels if you like but it is not absolutely necessary. Scrub the pastels into the silver, blow off the excess and then take a Q-tip or soft cloth and buff them into the silver. If you get a little into area that you don't want shaded, take a damp Q-tip and remove it before you buff it in. No, I don't have stock in Q-tips. I wish that I did sometimes.



Metalizer thinner as it can be fragile. These