

5-Ton Military Wrecker

by John DeRosia

Scale: 1/32

Company: Revell re-release of a RenWal kit

Price: \$26.99

Product/Stock #: 85-7816

Website: Revell

Product Web Page: [View](#)

Growing up, the box art of models sold me first. I was not locked into any specific type model to build. However, big boxes meant big models and that was what I was sort of after. Unfortunately, the kits also came with a big price tag and I could not afford many.

Good old RenWal kits always caught my eye. I built most of them, but the ever elusive 5-Ton Military Wrecker (1/32 scale) from them was not something I could afford or find when I wanted it.

Forward just a 'few' years to the present...I'm still 29 so it seems! This January 2013, Revell re-released the old RenWal molds of their Wrecker. Oh, did I ever jump for joy! And shocking in the age of way expensive kits these days - it was only around \$25. Heaven on earth again!

Sure I had visions of doing 1,001 things to this model to enhance the kit. But two things prevented that. First (1st), I was real sick with the flu/cold stuff going around.



Second (2nd), I was real sick with the flu/cold stuff going around. Therefore, my brain functioned - but on a limited basis.

You ask my wife. She will tell you that's how I am 365 days a year - rats! I kind of sort of probably didn't want to do too much extra to this model due to my limited brain waves.

Typically when I'm sick, I don't feel like doing much - no energy, no enthusiasm etc. But this kit sparked something in me, because I worked on it every evening in the first part of February. I must have rested enough during the days sleeping and reading.

In four nights, I was done and brought it to the Saturday IPMS meeting. I do not recommend being sick to complete a

model. But let me tell you - this went together just right. Considering that the molds are 50 some years old (and I'm still 29 remember!), mine was almost flash free. A little trim here and there for parts - nothing major. Sure there were sink marks, but you could not see 99% of them.

I did paint in stages as I assembled the Wrecker, using my good old major thin OD green hand brush method. I keep the strokes to a minimum, and you can see the plastic, sort of, in places. No big deal because my black wash and weathering covers the rest at the end. The decals were superb!

This kit comes with an engine and removable hood. If anyone wanted to, and I am sure someone will, this will be a

great kit to super duper detail. The crane boom itself is movable, but I found out that when it is painted - forget it. No movement. I just decided to model mine in place.

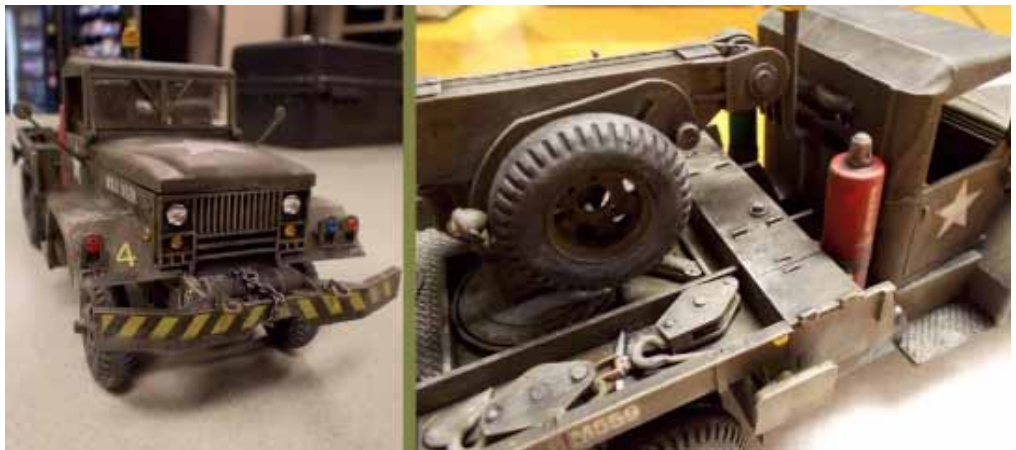
The vise and four sets of blocks and tackle are to die for. I can't tell you how many times I've made truck projects where I needed a good block and tackle with a good hook. Boy - I'd buy a few more kits just for these items.

I added four extra things to the kit (see picture) - but nothing out of the ordinary.

The oxy-acetylene bottle just didn't look right being glued in. I mean they do have bumps in the roads in the field right? I made very simple paper rings and used spare plastic angles to represent a sort of bottle tie-down. Kite string was just right for the boom cable.

And so it went. In four evenings, the model came together and looked just like I had envisioned it way back then. I'm already thinking of companion trucks of the same kit to model (troop carrier, command center, etc...).

If you like these sorts of rigs, you can't go wrong with this kit. My hat's off to Revell/RenWal for the



re-issue - and the great price for most people to afford to get one.

Build your own, keep it simple, or add extra to your hearts delight...

You will not become a 'wreck' building this Wrecker. Have fun and enjoy building



Renwall - Revell Wrecker
Re-Issue 1/32 Scale
4 nights in a row to complete
(approx 15-20 hours tops.)
98.34562 % out of box
Feb 2013

The only extras:

1. Paper loops and angle plastic to support the oxy/acetelyene bottles.
2. Moved vice to rear area.
3. Gemstones for lights
4. String / chain for winches
5. Over cab emergency orange beacon

