Armored Cruiser Ochakov - Russian Imperial Navy

Built in 1905, Ochakov and its three sister ships (Bogatyr, Oleg, Pamiat Mierkurija) were typical examples of the protected cruiser of the Victorian Era. The class of protected cruisers differed from the class of fully armored cruisers in that protected cruisers lacked an armored belt on the hull sides. Like armored cruisers, they had an armored deck and in some cases armored mine gun turrets. That they were typical is not a surprise, noting that the name ship of the class - Bogatyr - was built in the British shipyard Vulcan. As an interesting fact, it should also be added that the ship bore three names during its existence. Commissioned as Kagul, it changed its name in 1917 to Ochakov (after the ship was seized by Bolsheviks) only to change its name to General Kornilov in 1919, when the ship was captured by the Russian "White Army". During most of her career the ship operated as part of the Russian Black Sea Fleet.

Characteristics:

Displacement	6645 t	Twelve 152mm guns (2x2 and 8x1)
Length	132 m (433 feet)	Ten 75mm guns (10x1)
Beam	16.6 m (54.4 feet)	Six 47mm guns (6x1)
Draught	6.3 m (20.6 feet)	Six 457mm torpedo tubes
		Deck armor 70mm (2.75 in)
Speed	23.0 knots	Main turrets armor 127mm (5 in)

The model of the cruiser Ochakov was drawn in 1:250 scale

Assembly instructions

The construction of this kit is rather typical for the model of this size. However, plans were drawn with the assumption that cyanoacrylate glue (super glue) would be used to assemble most of the parts. As a result of this approach, the use of tabs is minimal since super glue provides a strong joint, even for spot gluing where the contact surface of the parts is minimal. Eliminating tabs also creates sharper edges and an improved look of the joints. In some cases (boats, ventilation cowlings) super glue is irreplaceable for connecting parts "under tension". Only for doubling bulkheads, decks and other parts which require reinforcements is using super glue not recommended because of the large evaporation area and the large amount of harmful fumes. In any case, apply safety measures when using super glue.

Materials required to assemble the model are:

cardboard0.8mm, wire 0.8,1.0, 1.2 and 2.0mm, pins, round tooth picks, rigging thread

All parts on sheets #1,2 and 3 should be doubled to the total thickness of 1mm. Glue parts 1A, 1B and 1C on one piece of cardboard, so the round dots on one part match in number the dots on the other. Also, be careful to keep the center lines of all three parts aligned. Place the ready waterline on the working board (stiff piece of plywood or other material at least 23 in long and 4 in wide) and pin it down with push pins or masking tape. Next, glue longitudinal bulkheads 2A, 2B and 2C to the waterline and then glue bulkheads 5A, 6A ... to 17A to the waterline. Deck-parts 4A,4B, 4C and 4D - glue to the top of the created grid (Fig 1). You may use reinforcement tabs made from scrap paper where a stronger joint is necessary. At this point, the decision should be made whether the model is being built as a waterline or full hull model. If it's a full hull model proceed with the assembly of parts 3A, 3B and 3C and the B portions of the bulkheads (Fig 2). If you're building a waterline model, proceed to the installation of parts 5C, 6C and 7C. When all the parts of the full hull frame are assembled and with the model still pinned down to the working board, it is time to cover the underwater part of the ship. First, from thin scrap paper, prepare the assembly tabs and glue them to the bulkheads as in Fig.3. Start to cover the bottom from part 20 which spans from the front of bulkhead 13 to bulkhead 12. Before gluing, dry fit the parts and form them so they follow the shape of the bulkheads as closely as possible. You may need to trim some parts to get a tight fit between elements of the hull. Make small cuts in the assembly tabs to make them follow the shape of the hull.

Glue together parts 33a and 33b and attach to the rear of the hull. Make propeller shafts from a 2mm wire (template I) and roll part 38 over them at one end, making a bullet-like tip. Attach propeller blades to part 38. Roll part 36 in cylinders and glue to part 31 in indicated places. Glue parts 37a around the shafts, and with part 37a bent in the form of the letter V, attach the whole propeller assembly to the hull (Fig 4).

Parts 27 to 32 should overlap the waterline (part 1) by about 4mm. Don't worry if the overlap is a bit smaller or bigger than this, the hull sides will cove it.

Now you can take the model off the working board. The surface of the deck should be flat, without any warping. Glue parts 18c, 5C, 6C and 7C to the bow of the ship. Start attaching the sides of the ship from the bow. Cut parts 40 and 41 out, score on the fold line and fold but don't glue the quarter-deck shields yet (Fig 5). Remember to score and bend all the tabs on parts 40,41,42,43,44 and 45 before gluing the parts to the hull. Next, glue the gun port shields (parts 50,50a and 51) to the deck and the sides of the hull. Now you can glue the tabs of the scored and folded shields on parts 41 to 45 to the deck closing the shields. Fold and glue guns casemates to their respective shields, i.e., part 46a to part 46, part 47a to part 47, and so on. Glue rear shields 48 and 49 around part 19.

Glue parts 19c, 15C, 16C and 17C on top of the rear part of the main deck, and glue parts 18c, 5C, 6C, 7C on top of the bow. Connect parts 18 and 18b and glue the whole deck to the bow. Next, slide the rear deck assembly (parts 48, 49, 48a, 49a and 19) on the rear grid and glue to the deck. Glue the front gun's casemates to parts 18, 40 (left), 41 (right), and the main deck. Put small tabs at the ends of parts 46, 47, 48, and 49. Double parts 54, 55, 56, 58,59, 60a, and glue the corresponding sidewalls around them, i.e. part 54a around part 54, etc. Black bands should always be on the bottom of the assembled deckhouse. Glue all deckhouses to the main deck in the places indicated by the numbers. You may use assembly tabs to increase the attachment surface on the bottoms of the deckhouses (Fig 6). Assemble the 152mm and 75mm guns according to Fig 7 and attach them to the main deck. Use 1.2mm wire for the 152mm guns and 1.0mm wire for the 75mm guns. Paint inside the gun and quarter-deck shields using acrylic or enamel paint in matching color. Six 75mm guns are mounted on columns 73b, which attach to the main deck. Four 75mm guns are mounted on columns 73d - leave those for now, as they will be mounted in upper casemates.

Assemble the ventilation cowls according to Fig 8. Paint the inside of the cowls red and attach them to the deckhouse according to the numbers.

Attach all accessory parts to the roofs of the deckhouses (Fig 6). Install parts 63, 64, 65 and the hatches in the places indicated, since later access to these places may be difficult.

Assemble the funnels according to Fig 6, and glue them to the roofs of the deckhouses. Funnels should be placed so the joint faces the rear of the ship, and the funnels should have some tilt towards the stern. Fold in half and glue the boat supports (87, 88, 89, 90, 91). Then, carefully cut out the supports and glue part "a" to each corresponding support. Glue the supports to the side shields (bulwarks) and deckhouses in the order 90, 89, 88, 89, 91, 89 ,88, 87, 87, counting from the bow. The location of the boat supports is indicated on the roofs of the deckhouses by small white dots. Also use the general plan as a guide.

Using parts 74, 74a, and 74b assemble the front weather deck. Part 74a should be glued around part 74

at the dashed line onboth sides of part 74a. This will produce a 4mm shield, which should be painted on the inside. Assemble the rear weather deck using parts 75 and 75a. Glue both the front and rear weather decks to the bow and stern, so that the casemates of the 75mm guns match the casemates of the 152mm guns on the mine deck. Then assemble and glue in place conning tower 76 and radio room 77. On top of those parts glue navigation platform 78 with railings 78a,b,c and chart house 79. Use Fig 9 to assemble other small parts on the bow. In the same way assemble the parts on the stern, using Fig 10 as a guide.

The small circles on the front and rear weather decks (74, 75) indicate the places where supports made of 0.8mm wire (according to template V) should be glued. The rear navigation platform (117) rests only on those supports, so it is important to keep them at the same height above part 75. Assemble the search light platform using parts 122, 122a, and 122b and glue it to the mine deck between parts 54 and 56 (Fig 11). Fig 11 also shows the winches (131) and the rear part of the mine deck assembly. Figure 12 shows the sequence of the boat assembly. As with the ventilation cowls, with a careful use of super glue you can achieve close to original shape of the boats. Place the boats on the boat supports using the general plan as a guide. Make the masts using templates to prepare parts.

Different materials may be used to create masts - wire, wood or plastic. Place masts according to the general plan - note that the masts, like funnels, should have some tilt towards the stern. Glue anti-torpedo nets' shelves to the hull of the ship (123... 128). Insert nets' booms (template XVI) into the small holes indicated by the white dots on the sides of the hull and paint them black.

Using template XVII make two rangefinders and glue them on top of parts 141. Place the ready rangefinders on the rear and front bridge. The finished model should be sprayed with flat clear laquer, and rigged with thread.