WILHELMSHAVENER MODELLBAUBOGEN

SPITZENKLASSE IM KARTONMODELLBAU

Russischer Minensucher T-371 2. Weltkrieg

Maßstab des Modells: 1:250 Bestell-Nr.: 1273



Technische Beschreibung und allgemeine Hinweise

Die T-371 Klasse ist eigentlich eine NATO-Bezeichnung. In der russischen Terminologie hatte dieser Typ zunächst die Bezeichnung 253 und später 253. Die dringende Notwendigkeit nach Minensuchbooten für die rote Marine entstand nach der deutschen Invasion 1941. In der Ostsee spielte der Minenkrieg bereits seit Beginn der Kriegshandlungen eine besondere Rolle. Die 253er Klasse war ein kleines und einfaches Boot konstruiert für eine Massenproduktion auf kleinen Werften. Im November 1942 war das erste Boot fertiggestellt und begann seine Erprobungsfahrt. Bereits beim ersten Auslaufen geriet der Minensucher unter deutsches Artillerie-Feuer. Das Boot konnte nur durch schnelles Manövrieren in den Hafen zurückkehren bevor, es ganz außer Gefecht gesetzt wurde. 1944 wurde die modifizierte Version mit dem Namen 253L-P eingeführt (T-371). Davon wurden bis 1945 je 145 Schiffseinheiten und danach bis 1955 noch einmal 250 Einheiten gebaut. Viele dieser Boote wurden in den 50 Jahren an befreundete Marinen im sowjetischen Einflußbereich verliehen oder verkauft.

Das Modell wurde nach den Plänen der Klasse 253L-P entwickelt. Bei einigen Teilen wurden die Markierungslinien an den Außenrand der Teile verlegt. In der grafischen Bauanleitung werden die Zeichnungen durch Textergänzungen vervollständigt.

Da es sich um eine Lizenzproduktion der PAPERLAB handelt entsprechen die Linien nicht in allen Bereichen dem Wilhelmshavener Liniencode.

<u>Technische Daten</u> Verdrängung: 147,8 tons Länge: 38 m Breite 5,72 m Tiefe: 1,52 m Antrieb: Dieselmotor mit 480 PS Reichweite: 2,400 Seemeilen bei 8 Knoten Marschfahrt

Bewaffnung: (1945) 2 x 45 mm, 4 x 12,7 mm MG

(c)2004 M Ö W E - V E R L A G S.Wolter KG, D-26382 WILHELMSHAVEN, Rheinstrasse 23 Printed in Germany.

Russian Minesweeper T-371 class *Technical data* Displacement - 147.8t standard, 180t deep load Dimensions - 38.00 x 5.72 x 1.52 m Machinery - 2 shafts 3 Diesels by Superior 480bhp Speed - max. 11.7 normal 9 knots Range - 2400nm/8kts Complement - 25, later 32/37 Armament - 2-45mm/46 (2x1), 4-12.7mm MG (2x2), 12 mines, 10/12 small depth charges, minesweeping outfit

In other publications you might encounter slightly different specifications. I've chosen these based upon available to me data, but I am the first to acknowledge more research should be done. So if you are able to provide any additional information on this particular type of ships I would be very happy to hear from you.

History

T-371 class is actually a NATO denomination. In Russian terminology this type of minesweepers had been originally known as 253 and later as 253L class. The urgent need for the mine sweeping vessels became apparent in the Red Navy after Germany invasion of the Soviet Union in June 1941. In the Baltic Sea mine warfae was massively used right from the very beginning of hostilities. Especially by the Kriegsmarine which was trying to prevent Red Navy from attacking her shipping routes to Scandinavia. In an attempt to immobilize and eventually destroy all the remaining ships of the Soviet Baltic Fleet in her main base of Leningrad, Gulf of Finland was mined on a massive scale. Suffice to say that only in the eastern part of the gulf Germans laid down over 41 000 mines. In such a circumstances leaders in Moscow ordered a new minesweeper project to be developed. Named 253 it was a small and simple design for mass production in the small yards. Straight lines in most of the hull design were adopted. Leningrad yards were to build them but the problem was that by this time Leningrad was the city under siege. There was enough sheet metal for many 253 class minesweepers, what was lacking though is capability of forming it into a correct shape. Especially bow and stern sections proved too complicated to be manufactured in the city were everything was in a short supply and under constant bombardment.

Leningrad team of engineers was ordered to redesign the original project. Thus 253L was born where L stands for the Leningrad. The original design had been enlarged and further simplified. Hull was reworked to adopt straight lines allowing use of flat sections only. In November of 1942 first unit of the class was completed and went in for trials. Right with the first excursion into the gulf when the minesweeper began its first mine sweeping operation she found herself under shelling from the ground based German artillery. Only rapid maneuvering saved her from being destroyed on the maiden voyage and the ship had to withdraw to base.

In 1944 the new enlarged version was introduced code mmed 253L-P (T-371). Again build in Leningrad, about 145 units were completed during the war with a total of approximately 250 when production ceased in 1955. Many were sold or loaned to satellite navies during the 1950s.

The Model

As you have probably noticed all the folding lines have been removed from many parts and moved to their outside. What was left it's a solid line. Remember you should always score all the folding lines before cutting part out.

Whenever the instruction call for doubling it means you should use a card stock of the same thickness or very similar one. If there is need for a thicker card board the instructions make that quite clear.

For the railings you can use available on the market 1:250 scale photo-etched products or you can make them out of wire or glue-starched thread. Rigging can be done by adoption of the fine brass wire (.006") or monofilament.

After cutting part out it is a good idea to color exposed white edges to match as close as you can the printed color. To obtain an exact match it might prove to be very difficult and frustrating so you might rather opt for something close enough. Usually a lighter shade is a better choice than a darker one in respect to printed color.

For more information and tips on building card models there is nothing better than the Internet. You can start from Paper Lab (www.paperlab.com) web site and our Links section.

Happy modeling Darius Lipinski

Majority of the folding lines we are using in our models are of the solid type. No matter if the part should be fold up or down. Based on the artwork lay-out and the assembly instruction this is very obvious. But on many occasions we also use coded lines. In that case the general rule is that we follow Wilhelmshaven's line coding. Although we tend to place our folding lines with exception of solid type on the outside of the part outline.









FIG.28

FIG.30



FIG.32





Alle Flaggstockteile entsprechend der Farbe der Aufbauten einfärben.





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There are three levels of difficulty for the ship boat assembly. Simple as on Fig.23. Medium where 33A is replaced by 33B and 33E is added. Difficult where instead of 33B you should use four separate parts 33D. Oars 33C can be used on any level of difficulty.





FIG.30



FIG.32





All the wires imitating flag poles to be painted with the colors closely matching that of the superstructure.



Life rings 63 and their locations please see back cover images.

















































 $\begin{array}{c} 2N & a+ \\ \hline 37 & \hline \\ 37b & 36 & b \end{array}$









