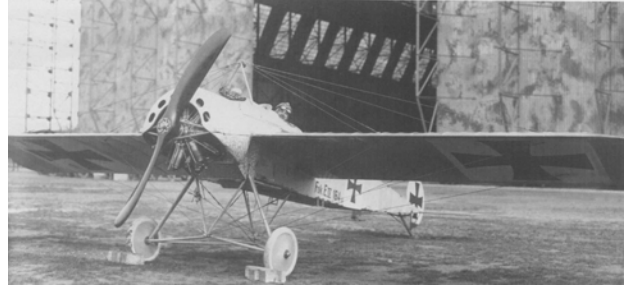


Fokker E.IV Eduard¹ injection kit

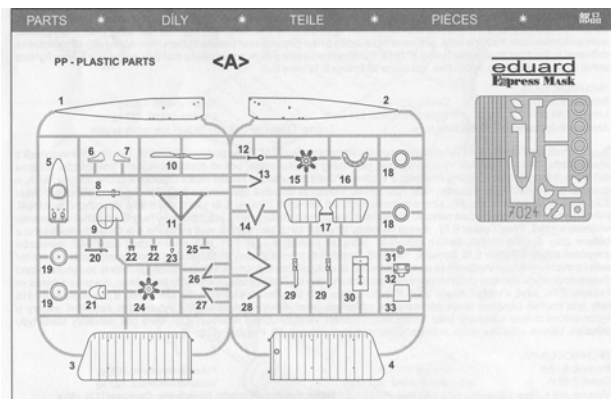
Monoplane fighter

Scale 1:72

The Fokker E.IV, factory designation M.15, was an attempt to accommodate two machine guns on the airplane and at the same time to improve the performance of the E.III by equipping it with a stronger engine, the Oberursel U III of 160 hp with two rows of seven cylinders. However, as this engine was a rotary engine, the gyroscopic effect did make the aircraft difficult to control². It was also fast outperformed by new allied airplanes, so few of them saw active service.



The kit is very complete. It contains all parts, well packed and nicely detailed. The instruction sheet is very extensive and the excellent decals allow for producing three different versions (E.IV 189/16t, the E.IV of Bölcke and a version of the 3. Armee). There are no parts in the kit to model the E.IV armed with three machine guns (only one produced, and not very successful). Painting instructions are complete, and even painting masks are included for those modellers, who want to spray paint their model. The instructions include three-view drawings, which are however not to scale.



E.IV dimensions are reported as in the table below, where the bold printed values indicate those I have used as reference. The fuselage's larger length is only caused by the larger engine. Bruce (ref. 6), Engels (ref. 11) and Leaman (ref. 9) give a three-view drawing of the E.IV.

	<i>Ref.</i>	<i>1:72</i>	<i>model</i>
<i>Span</i>	10.00 – 10.03 m	138.9 – 139.3 mm	139.2 mm
<i>Length</i>	7.50 – 7.53 m	104.2 – 104.6 mm	105.8 mm
<i>Height</i>	2.74 – 2.77 ³ m	38.1 – 38.5 mm	37.4 mm
<i>Engine</i>	Oberursel U III, 160 hp		
<i>Crew</i>	1		
<i>Armament</i>	2 machine guns Spandau LMG 08/15 7.92 mm		

The kit is quite accurately sized.

Building the model

I have met no problems building the model; the instructions guide you easily through the building steps. Small parts have been painted before assembly. I have used the decals for the E.IV of Oberleutnant Bölcke.

Finishing the model

I have finished the model with a coat of satin clear varnish. Wing bracing and warping cables are made from copper wire of 0.09 mm, wrapped around undercarriage struts and pylon. It is rather difficult to apply properly,

as the wire stays bent very easily (it was the first time I modelled bracing wires on a model). I have added no undercarriage bracing. Below some pictures of the completed model are shown.



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¹ www.eduard.com

² The gyroscopic effect of the large rotating mass of a rotary engine effectively put an end to the development of such engines. If the power became too high, the flight characteristics were becoming unacceptable.

³ Bruce (ref. 6) reports a height of 3.07 m