

Fokker D.VI Roden¹ injection kit

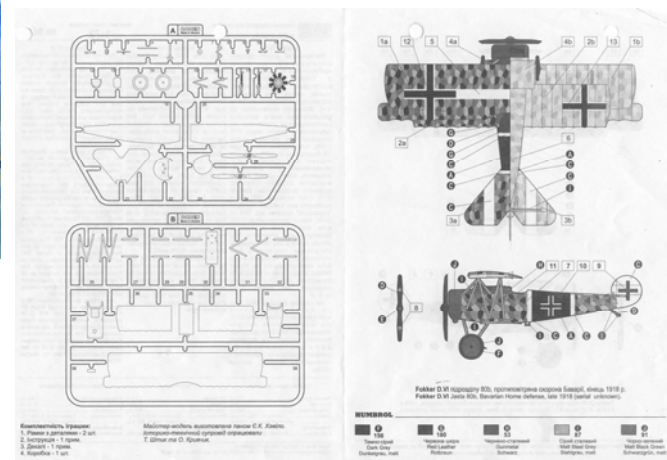
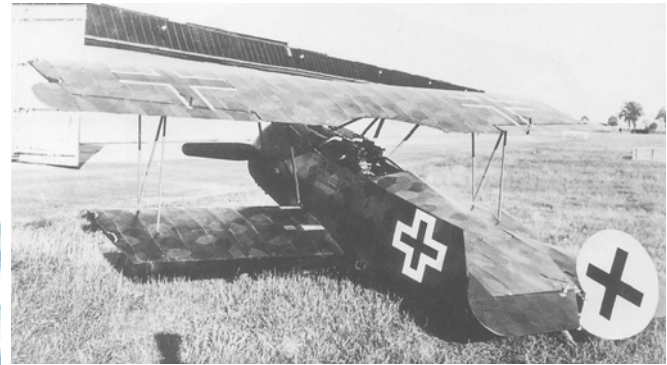
Biplane fighter

Scale 1:72

The Fokker D.VI is the production aircraft based on the V.13/1 prototype. The V.13/1 flew also with the Oberursel Ur III engine of 145 hp. Although its performance was quite good, the D.VI saw little employment as a fighter, as it could not face the competition of its excellent stable mate the Fokker D.VII.



The kit contains plastic parts and an extensive set of instructions and a set of decals and painting instructions for three different versions. The parts are generally of good quality and fit well. However, the injection technique does not allow for a fine reproduction of the finer parts, like the cockpit stairs. The kit would gain in value when parts like that would be photo-etched. The upper wing of the model is slightly bent, and has too much thickness.



Hegener (ref. 5), Weyl (ref. 6), Koos (ref. 7) and Leaman (ref. 8) give three-view drawings of the D.VI. Engels states that the V.9 was the D.VI prototype, and does not even give dimensions for the D.VI production aircraft. For the V.13/1 he gives data that are not at all compatible with what other references say. The plane would have had an even smaller span than the V.9, a fact that is contradicted by the other references and is also not compatible with the larger weight of the Ur III engine, that was implemented in the basic version according to him. This last fact is contradicted by the other authors. Engels' three-view drawing does not show the two-row rotary engine.

	<i>Ref.</i>	<i>1:72</i>	<i>model</i>
<i>Span (upper wing)</i>	7.50-7.65 m (7.20 without ailerons)	104.2-106.3 (100.0) mm	mm
<i>Span (lower wing)</i>	5.81 m	80.7 mm	mm
<i>Length</i>	5.78-6.23 m	80.3-86.5 mm	mm
<i>Height</i>	2.44-2.65 m	33.9-36.8 mm	mm
<i>Engine</i>	Oberursel Ur II, 110 hp		
<i>Crew</i>	1		
<i>Armament</i>	2 machine guns Spandau LMG08/15 7.92 mm		

Building the model

With the excellent set of instructions the model is straightforward to build. Cockpit details and the inside of the fuselage are painted before assembling the fuselage halves. I have not added seat belts. In fact, the only problem occurred when applying the lozenge decals (prior to assembling the top wing). They are easy to apply, but follow the contours rather difficult. At the time of construction I did not use Micro Set and Micro Sol yet, but they certainly are recommended to use for this model. I have made no improvements or modifications to the model. Below some picture of the finished kit.



References

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ⁱ www.roden.eu