



Dunkirk Line

Late Hunt/Aberdare class Minesweeping Sloop 1/700 Scale craftsman's kit from Finewaterline

The late Hunt/Aberdare class were designed during W.W.I having slight internal differences and re-designed superstructure to that of the early Hunts. The confusion over the class name can be annoying when researching these ships, Hunts, late Hunts, modified Hunts, Aberdare class and finally Aberdare group. The one thing that is common to all, is the nickname that they were given "**Smokey Joe's**".

The following ships of this class served at Dunkirk

His Majesties Ships, Dundalk, Fitzroy, Sutton, Kellett, Saltash, Lydd, Albury, Pangbourne and Ross

I have attempted to give the hull a used look, as these were already tired old ships by the time W.W.II broke out. However if you would rather have a smooth finish then coat in Mr Surfacer or similar product and lightly sand down.

Before you commence adding any detail it is best to locate the forward and aft parts of the main superstructure to the hull part and then secure in place with tape. Then using the supplied plastic card cut a piece to bridge the gap and form the rest of the superstructure deck. The card will stand slightly proud to allow for sanding down to make one even deck. Once this has been done you can then remove the tape and work on the hull and superstructure as separate components

Recommended parts to complete

Manufacturer	description	location on plans
WEM	V&W Destroyer p/etch	A
Battlefleet	3 Small/medium vents	B
Battlefleet	3 Assorted winches & windlasses	C
Battlefleet	8 Assorted bollards	D
Niko	1 4" single	E
L'arsenal	1 3"/12lb	F
various	2 whaler's and 1 dinghy	G

All **part** numbers in **bold** refer to the V&W P/etch set by White Ensign

The bridge section is hollow, use ladder stock **part 7** to form the bridge windows. Then cut a piece of the grooved plastic card supplied to form the bridge roof.

The funnel comes with a block at it's base, you will need to cut this down and sand until you have 0.5mm left, this forms the funnel base. There is a location mark on the forward superstructure that indicates the correct positioning for this part.

I could not find anything suitable for the boat deck gratings so would recommend using the supplied grooved plastic card and scribing extra grooves to represent the gratings. Please use the same card to make the bridge wings. The paper template will give you the correct shape and location for both these items.

With the kit are two disks, these are used for the bandstands that carry the forward and aft guns. For the forward gun use **Part 6** and wrap around the outside of the disc to form the correct diameter, with the railings at the bottom to act as supports. Then use two bar railings **part 3** cut down to one, to form the platform railings. The gun spray shield is **part 53**

For the aft gun platform, simply reduce two bar railings **part 3** down to one bar and locate underneath the disc as supports, then repeat this to form the platform railings.

Use both **parts 67** and use as minesweeping davits on the aft quarter, for added depth, replace the base with plastic rod.

Use **parts 44** as bridge wing supports, these will have to be dry fitted to ascertain the correct fit and adjusted accordingly.

Use **parts 49** as ammunition hoists

Parts 56 splinter matting as required

See diagram below for location of door's, hatches and ladder's

Painting will have to be researched but remember these were coal-fired ships and therefore dirty. The main deck was wood with the exception of the focs'l'e forward, which is painted deck grey along with the main superstructure deck. The bridge roof is wood and the WT was either deck grey or corticene.

