RTM

A-20

Soviet Experimental Fast Tank Prototype

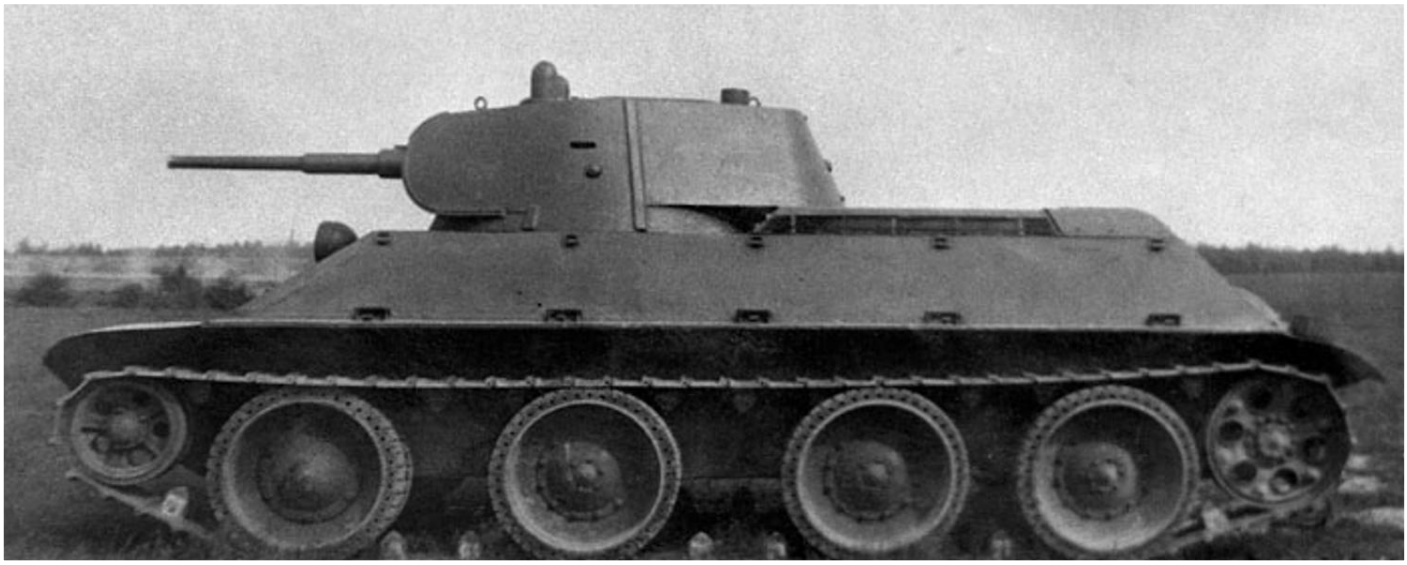
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The A-20 was a 1939 Soviet wheeled-tracked experimental tank developed at the Kharkov Locomotive Plant (Factory No. 183) under Mikhail Koshkin as a successor to the BT series. Ordered in October 1937 as the BT-20, it combined Christie suspension with a convertible wheeled-tracked drive, the new V-2 diesel engine (~500 hp), and early sloped armor derived from BT-IS/BT-SV trials. The sole prototype (completed May 1939) carried a 45 mm 20K gun and two DT machine guns, weighed around 18 tons, and achieved high road speeds on wheels (up to ~75–85 km/h). It was tested extensively alongside the pure-tracked A-32; the latter's simpler layout, better protection potential, and superior armament led to the abandonment of the A-20 in favor of what became the T-34.

Although never produced in series, the A-20 was influential: its sloped armor concepts, diesel powerplant, and overall design lineage helped shape the T-34, while the direct comparison with the A-32 confirmed that the convertible drive's complexity was no longer worth its mobility advantages under contemporary threats. In late 1941 the single prototype was pressed into emergency service during the Battle of Moscow, fighting with the 22nd Tank Brigade (initially in a company drawn from NIBT proving-ground vehicles) in the Pavlovskaya Sloboda area in support of Dovator's cavalry. It was damaged on 1 December, briefly repaired and returned to action, then damaged again in mid-December and withdrawn; its subsequent fate is unknown.

This kit gives modelers the opportunity to build the only A-20 that ever existed.



Attention!

Read before construction:

This model is produced using resin 3D printing technology. As such the assembly process deviates from regular plastic kits.

Assembly Instructions:

Inspect Parts: Check all parts for completeness. Resin parts are printed with support structures that must be removed. Layerlines or other irregularities should be removed using sandpaper.

Remove Supports: Carefully cut or snap off support structures using a hobby knife or clippers. Trim any remaining nubs with a knife or sandpaper for a smooth finish. Heating the parts in warm water will help this process.

Test Fit: Dry-fit parts to ensure proper alignment before gluing.

Glue Parts: Apply a small amount of superglue to join parts. Hold pieces together for 10-20 seconds to bond. Use tweezers for small parts.

Reshape (if needed): If parts are slightly warped, soak them in warm (not hot) water for 30-60 seconds to soften, then gently reshape and hold until cool.

Sand and Smooth: Sand support scars, layerlines or rough areas with fine sandpaper for a polished look.

Prime and Paint: Apply a primer to the model before painting to ensure better paint adhesion.

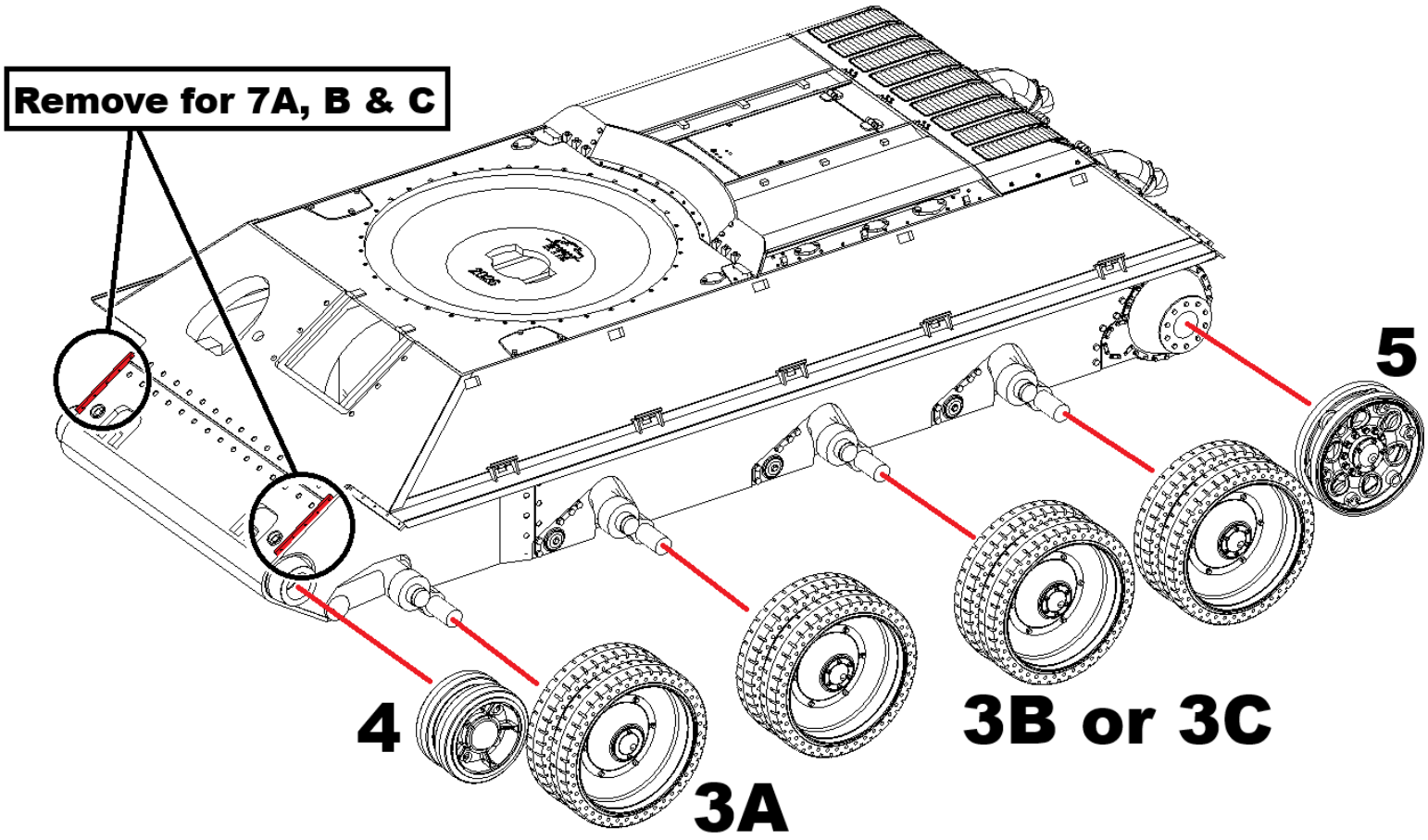
RTM models are produced with empty weld seams and no casting/metal texture. This is done to give the modeller total freedom to sculpt such textures. It is expected that the modeller will apply these textures himself. As such this model is for experienced modellers.

For this particular kit extra attention is needed on the front lower hull surface. This is where most supports were located and should be made smooth using puty and sanding. Tip: Use a ruler to inspect the surface for warping/irregularities

The tracks are fully workable but should be sanded slightly to remove any connection points or layer lines.

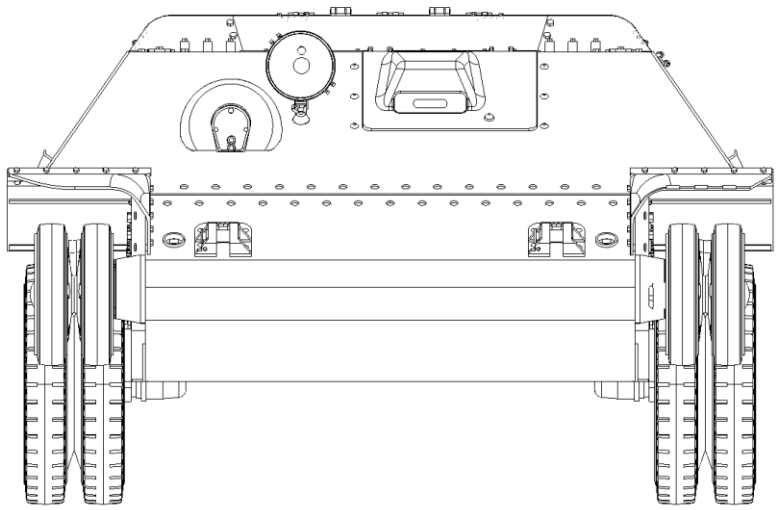
No tools, paints or glue is included in the kit!

Step 1:

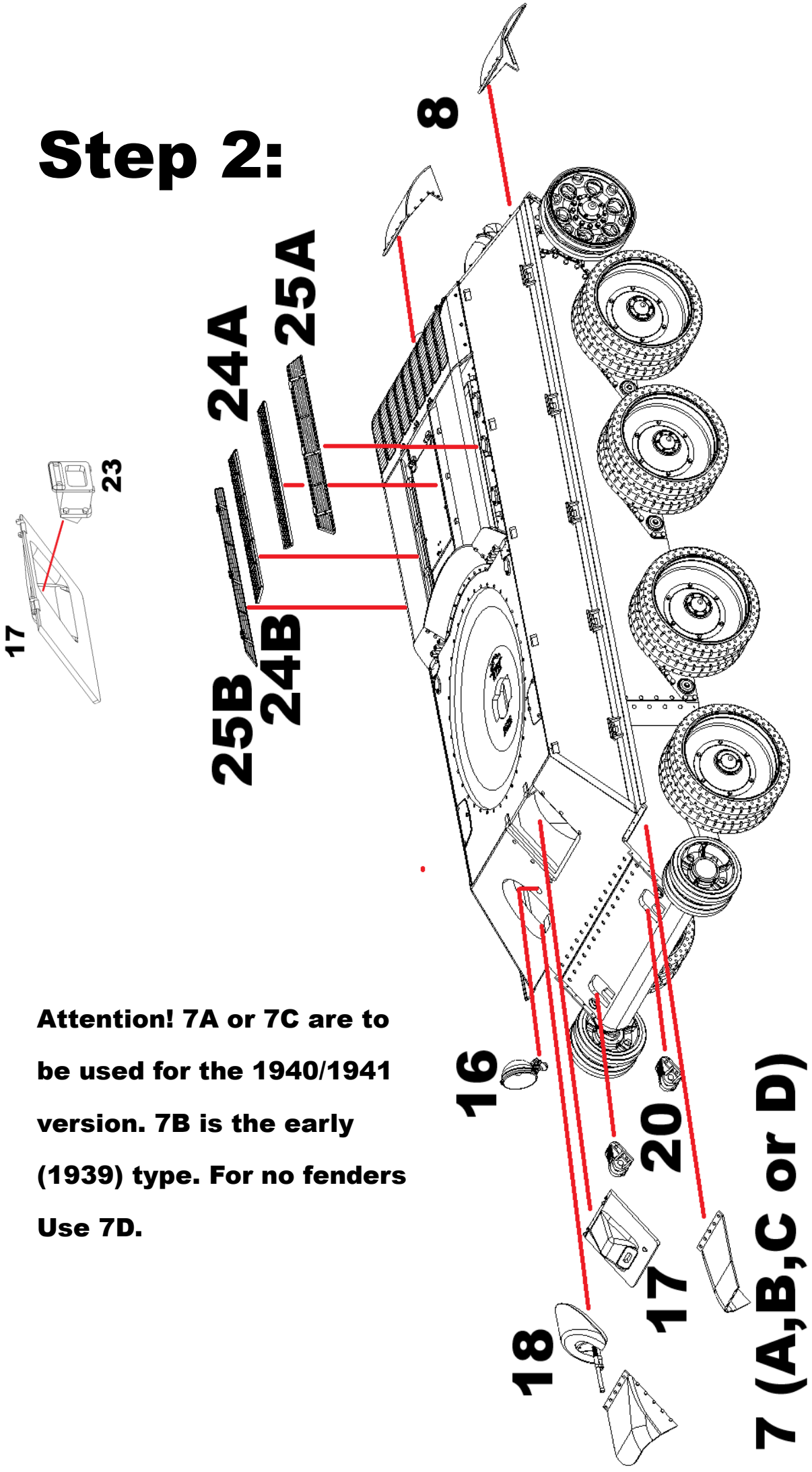


Attention! 3B is the early type (1939) and 3C is the late (1940/1941) type.

Make sure to align all wheels!

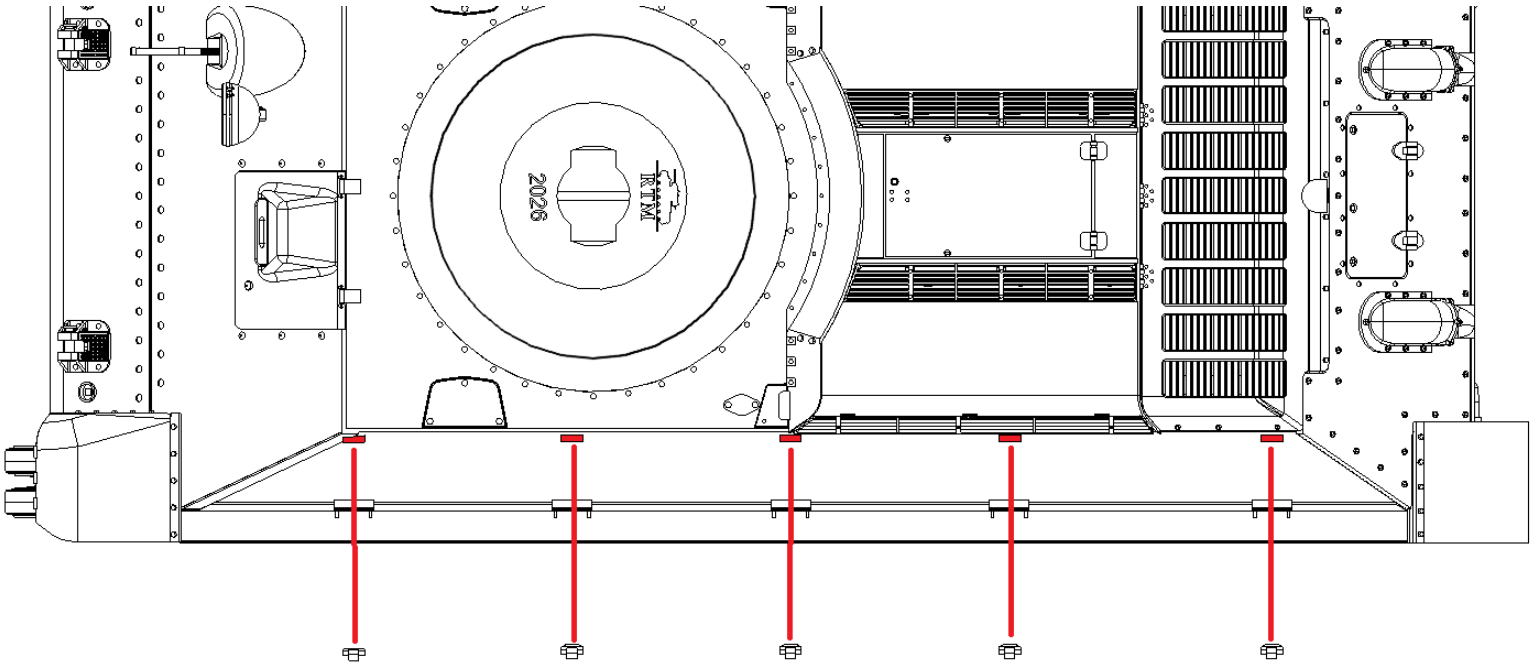


Step 2:



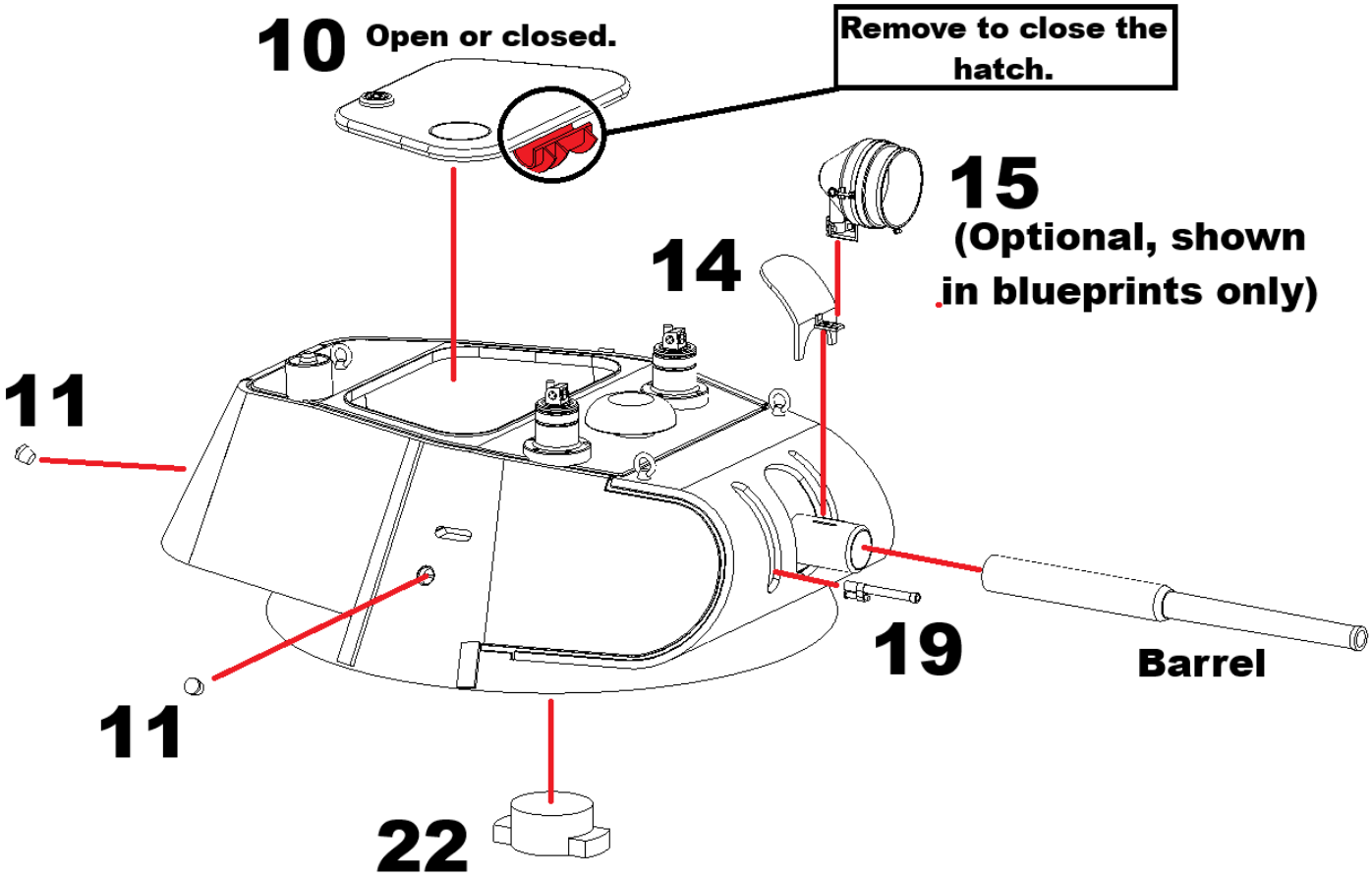
Attention! 7A or 7C are to be used for the 1940/1941 version. 7B is the early (1939) type. For no fenders Use 7D.

Step 3:

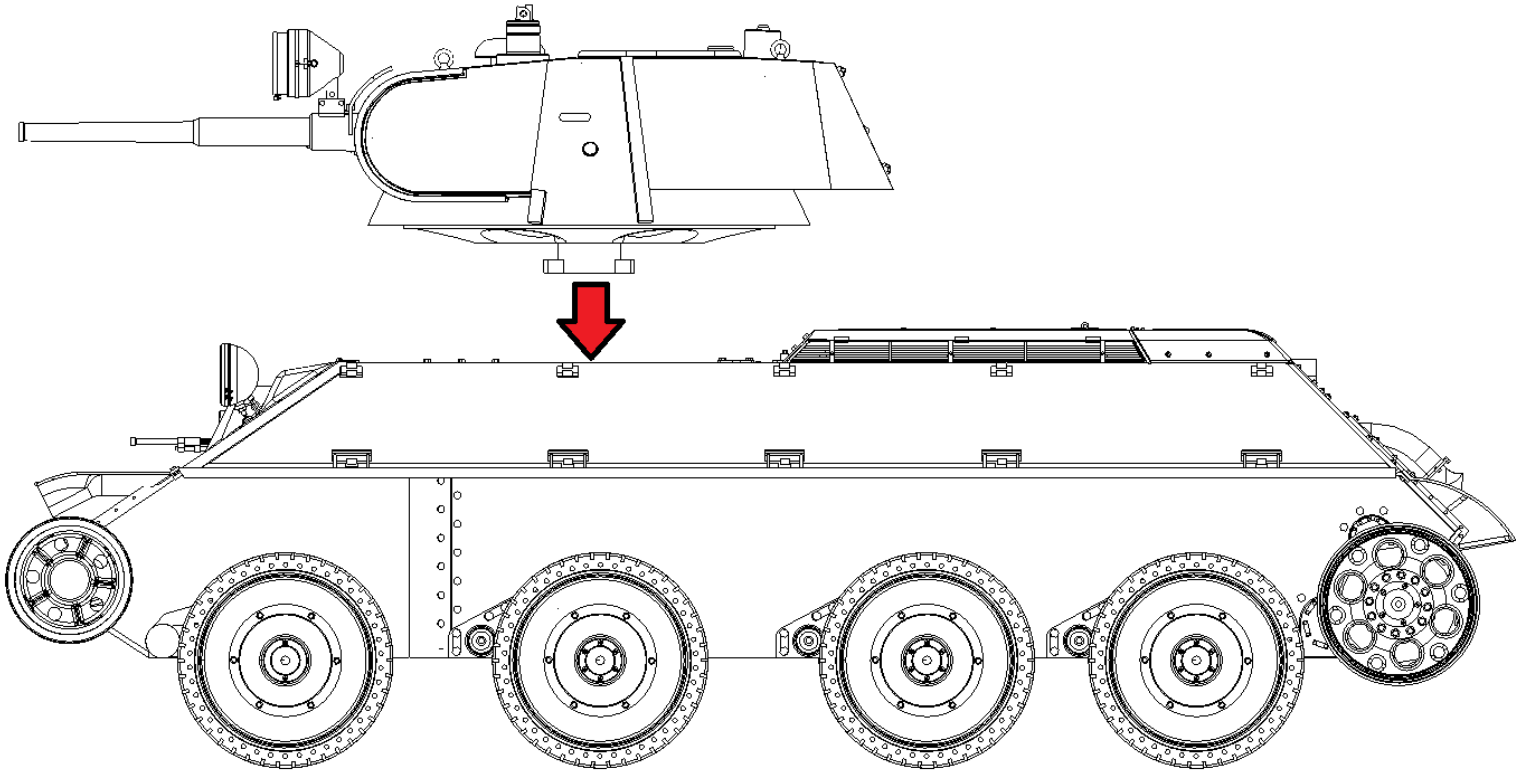


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Step 4:

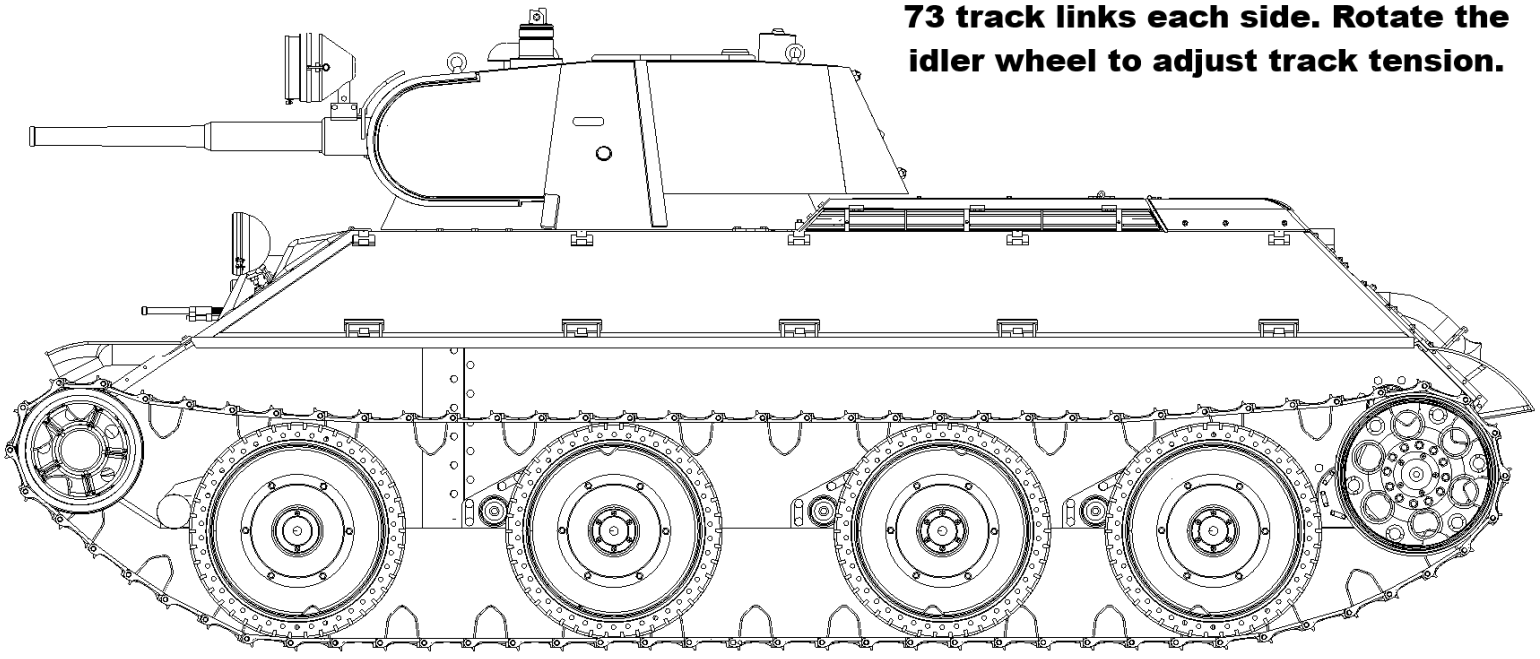


Step 5:



Step 6:

73 track links each side. Rotate the idler wheel to adjust track tension.





A-20 Prototype, 22nd Tank Brigade near Moscow, south outskirts of Pavlovskaya Sloboda, December 1941.



A-20 Prototype, Kubinka proving ground, 1939.



