



Delta III Launcher

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The Delta III is a major upgrade of the venerable Delta series of launchers. The Delta III is significant in that the development work has been paid for without any government money. The Delta III is intended purely as a commercial launcher, rather than one built to government requirements. As of this writing, the Delta III has flown twice, unsuccessfully. It already has commercial orders for 10 flights.

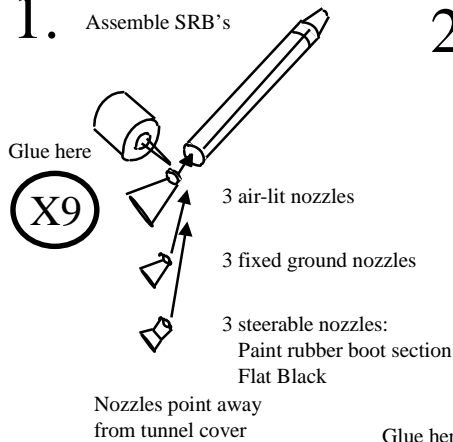
The Delta III is significantly different from the Delta II in that it replaces the second stage with a LOX/LH2 stage of 4 meters diameter, loosely based on technology from the Japanese H-II program. The large-diameter second stage is topped by a large-diameter fairing. The first-stage fuel tank (but not the LOX tank) is also expanded out to a 4-meter diameter, while keeping the same volume. For this reason, the Delta III is actually shorter in length than the Delta II. Payload capacity, however, is increased by 50%.

This kit is a resin kit. It is not up to the standards of professional mass-produced injection-molded kits; on the other hand, there are no such kits of the Delta III. You will need to trim flash off of parts, sand parts to fit, and fill gaps and holes with plastic putty.

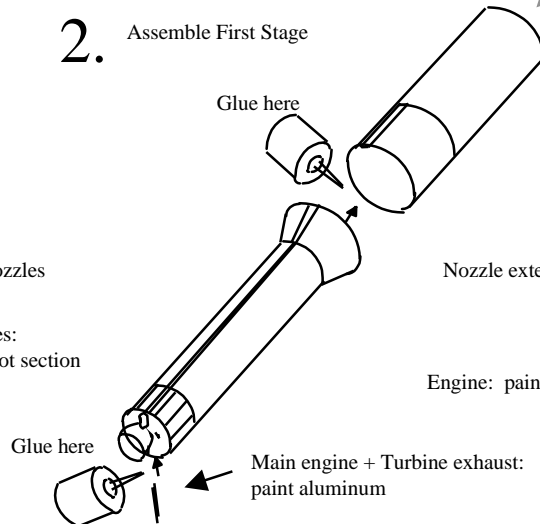
Before beginning, take inventory of your parts. Compare them with the kit instructions, and familiarize yourself with both. Now would be a good time to wash all resin parts in soap and lukewarm water, as this will wash off any "weeping" that may have come off the resin during shipping.

Use of a cyanoacrylate glue (Super Glue) or a fast-setting epoxy is recommended. Plastic Weld will not bond with resin.

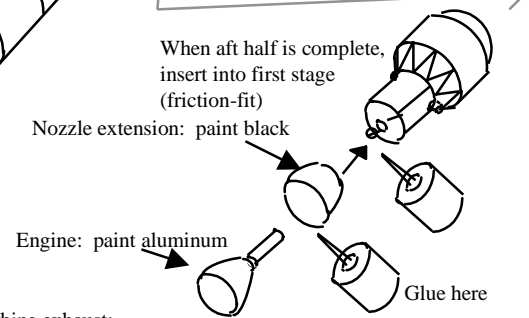
1. Assemble SRB's



2. Assemble First Stage

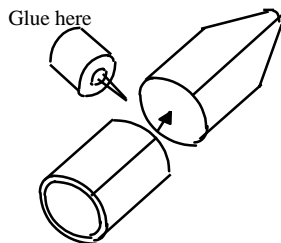


3. Assemble Aft Half of Second Stage (For best results, paint before assembly)

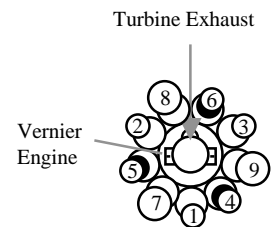
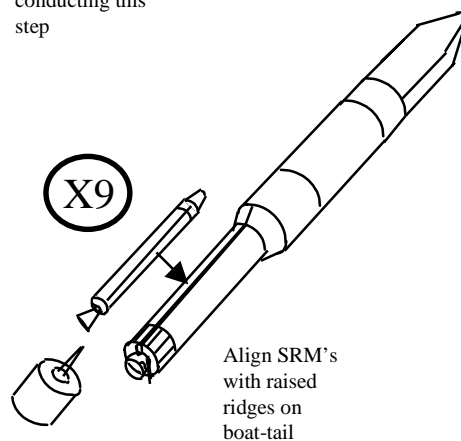


4. Assemble fairing

When complete, friction-fit to Second Stage



5. Final Assembly: NOTE -- For best results, paint BEFORE conducting this step

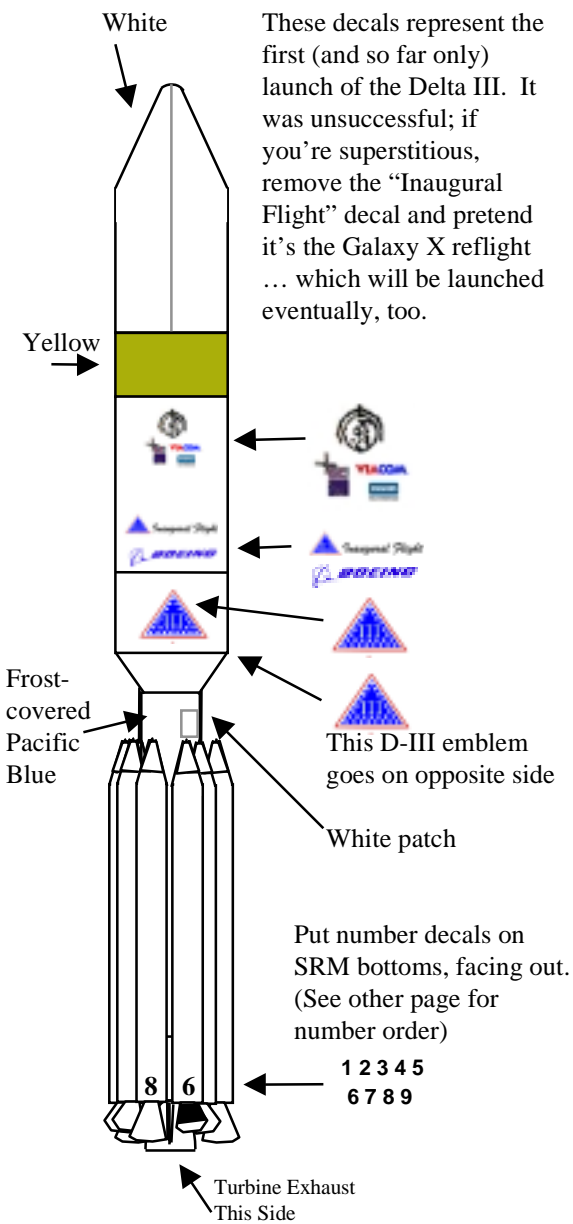


Rear View showing SRM numbering and placement
Large nozzles are #7, 8, 9
Steerables are #4, 5, 6

Delta III Painting/Decal Guide

The Delta III is finished in five colors:

- White -- SRM's, interstage, Engine Bay, and Payload Fairing
- Frost-covered Pacific Blue -- First stage LOX tank.
- Use Testors #52905 to model an unfueled rocket. When the rocket is ready to launch, the LOX tank is covered with frost, and is white. So except for tunnel covers, you can skip this color entirely
- Pacific Blue -- Use Testors #52905 on the tunnel covers on the first-stage flare and fuel tank
- Yellow -- Second stage exterior
- Black -- Second stage nozzle extension, steerable motor flexible boot (the lumpy part; the nozzle tip remains white)
- Aluminum -- First Stage engine, turbine exhaust, vernier engines and interior parts not already listed (second stage engine, intertank interior, etc.)



Turbine Exhaust
Main engine
Vernier engines - aluminum



If you do paint the LOX tank Pacific Blue, make sure to leave a white patch over the avionics package. You can see it here:

