



# Hermes Shuttle

The Hermes, now cancelled, was to be Europe's bid for an independent ability to launch astronauts or "spationauts" into space. The crew of three would fly into space for rendezvous with the international space station, where crew and payload were to be transferred using the tunnel in the rear of the spacecraft. The craft would then undock and return to earth.

Though the project no longer exists, it makes a good "what if" model.

The model can be built either in launch configuration (with radiator panels folded against the Resource Module), or flight configuration (with radiators open).

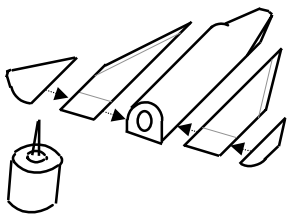
The Resource Module connects to the second stage of the Ariane V model, if you're so inclined.

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 Hermes in 1/144. 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.

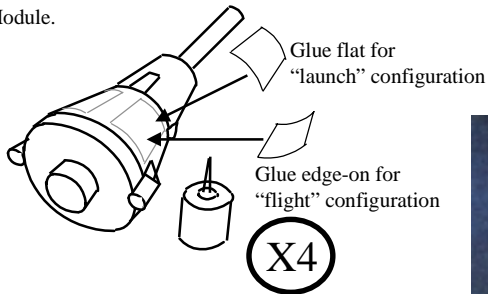
## 1. Assemble wings & fins



Glue all together

## 2. Assemble Resource Module

Before beginning, carefully bend all radiator panels to match the contour of the Resource Module.



The prong on the Resource Module inserts into the back of the shuttle one way only. The Resource Module is jettisoned just before re-entry, so it should almost always be displayed with the shuttle.

## Painting Guide

Colors:

White	Overall color
Graphite	Bottom of shuttle, nose, leading edges, rudders, elevators
Silver	Windows
	Insides of radiator panels (Flight mode only)
	Within the radiator panel lines on the Resource Module exterior (Flight mode only)
	De-orbit motor nozzles (the back of the small protruberances on the rear of the Resource Module)
	Docking tunnel

This is by far the best picture I have of the more-or-less final Hermes configuration. Alas, it doesn't show the Resource Module, but there are no decals there.

It also shows a body flap; the final configuration had none. Rather than making a confusing diagram, I'm going to give you the picture as large as I can; use it as the decal placement guide. Note that each decal in the picture has a twin on the opposite side. Except, of course, for the flag set straddling the centerline.

The seemingly undersized CNES logo may have been a fit of anti-French pique on the part of the artist, but I have reproduced it faithfully anyway.

