

Aftermarket Product Review

1/35 Minor Model Light Armoured US WWII Jeep



Manufacturer: Minor Model

Stock Number: AVM35019

Scale: 1/35

Medium: Photo Etched Brass

Parts: 24

Donor Model: Tamiya Jeep #35219 (Per Minor: It Can Be Adapted to Others)

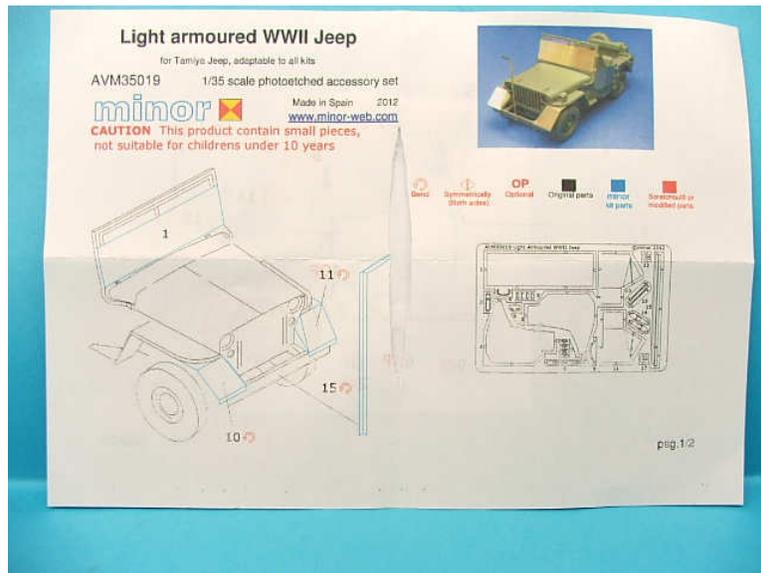
Price: 8 Euros (Approximately \$10.50 USD)

Reviewer: Mac Johnston - Upper Valley Model Club

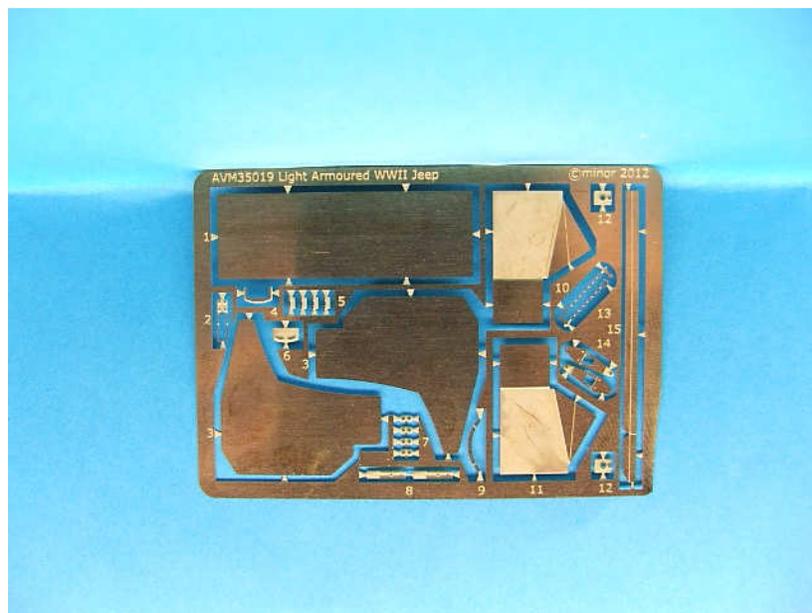
Review Date: October 29, 2013

First Look

Minor's etch set comes packed in a plastic bag with a cardboard reinforcement to keep it tidy and protected. There is one sheet of instructions provided and the set is intended to be used with the tried and proven Tamiya Jeep #35219 model kit offering.



As usual the crispness and detail level of the parts are excellent. There isn't many pieces, 24 to be exact. This etch set provides for outside detail only and is meant to replicate an improvised armor package.



The Build

I started with the aforementioned Tamiya Jeep kit. I built it out of box and only modified it with this etch set. The front fender extensions were a little tricky to fit, but be patient and they will fit perfectly. I mostly followed the instructions as

provided, only deviating a bit to facilitate painting and to limit parts from being damaged. For instance, I waited to install the wire bits until painting as it is something that would be easily damaged or knocked off while building



I then bent the side doors and installed them after I painted the dash because they would make it difficult to work on the front interior area. Next, I primed and pre-painted the rest of the interior and the cowling area so not to miss areas later. This step included painting the inside of the doors. I then installed the hinges to the doors and then glued them to the windshield frame after I painted the framework.



After painting, I cut off the pioneer rack clamps from the Jeep model to install the etch parts. That process mostly went well and caused no major problems. I did have to thin the Tamiya provided plastic axe a lot to make it work with the etch sheath provided. However, It actually looks more to scale and fit well once done. Finally, I remounted the rear view mirror to accommodate the armor plates per a reference photo.

The only step where I had some issues was in my understanding of where to place the roof bow clamps and then bending them to fit the model kit. This issue might be my fault but the hole at the top of part 14 was too small to accept the chain regardless. Part 12 does have the correct hole though. I guessed where to attach the chain (Part 13) using more references.

Of course, since completing this build I have found Jeep photos showing the bows in the altered position (shown below). It shows the clamp and chain nicely; The front roof bow bracket etch part is used as the latch to hold the door shut. I would have really liked to have discovered the photos before working on this set. Of course, that is how modeling goes sometimes.





Finishing the Model

I primed the Jeep with flat black and painted it with Tamiya Olive Drab paint. I then used AK Interactive and Mig Productions for weathering. Finally I used most of the kit provided decals except I replaced the hood decal with an Archer Fine Details dry transfer.

Conclusion

I really liked this set and highly recommend it, especially if you would like to armor your Jeep Model. It replicates another variant to add to the rest of the huge Jeep family. The only issue I had with the build, and again maybe it was my fault, was the rear clamp assembly.

Highly recommended

Thanks to [Minor Model](#) For the Review Sample





