



**MIKE ASHEY PRODUCTIONS
PRESENTS
TRUMPETER 1/32 SCALE P-38L-5-LO LIGHTNING
TAPE UP REVIEW**

The Trumpeter 1/32 scale P-38L-5-LO lightning is an impressive model when completed and a great improvement over the Revell 1/32 scale kit series, which came out in the 1970's.

The cockpit is fairly well detailed, but it can be improved with a photoetch detail set. The kit comes with two complete engines that are beautifully detailed, however the shapes of the propellers are slightly off and should be replaced with ones from a Revell kit or an aftermarket supplier. The landing gear bays and the landing gear are well detailed and the kits flexible tires have no mold lines. The control surfaces and flaps are separate although they will need some tweaking to get them to fit correctly. The completed model will also need a considerable amount of weight added to get it to sit correctly on its tricycle landing gear. There are some void challenges where the engine booms are attached to the wings and where the separate gun access panels halves connect to the fuselage. The engine air intakes on the booms also have some void and fit challenges that will need to be addressed.

The thickness of the plastic is rather thin for a 1/32 scale kit and interior reinforcements and laminations should be added so that the assemblies will not flex, which can cause seams to crack.





