

ModelFiesta Fictional Vehicle Judging Criteria

Note: Every entry is presumed to be accurate. Accuracy will not be considered in this judging evaluation.

1. Construction: Symmetry, Completeness, and Quality

A. Items That Should Be Present.

1. Machine guns, main guns, exhausts, vents, thrusters, etc. have been drilled out/opened up. Tires are flattened to reflect the weight of the vehicle.
2. Parts that are thick, over-scale, or coarse (such as flaps, ailerons, rudders, etc.) have been thinned, modified, or replaced.
3. Modifications and added ordnance match the scale of the vehicle.
4. Added parts (scratch-built, aftermarket resin and photo-etch, etc.) are well integrated into the model. Photo-etched parts that require forming are precisely shaped, and surfaces that require building up to a thicker cross-section are smooth and uniform.
5. Viewable portions of the model's underside have as much detail as the top (trademarks removed, etc.).
6. Clear parts are clear, without fog, scratches, blemishes, or glue marks. Canopy frames are crisply painted.

B. Items That Should Not Be Present.

1. Flash, sink marks, mold marks, ejector-pin marks, etc. Unfilled/inconsistent seams, glue marks.
2. Gaps between parts or that allow a "see-through" effect not existing on the actual vehicle. This includes open intakes and exhausts.
3. Asymmetrical features (flying surfaces, solar panels, ordnance, landing gear, engine nacelles, etc.) that were not present on the actual vehicle. Damaged features should be noted. Flying surfaces (wings, horizontal & vertical stabilizers, etc.) shall be symmetrically aligned with correct dihedral angles.
4. Gun barrels, pitot tubes, etc. that are not aligned or parallel with the centerline of the vehicle.
5. Details/contour/cylindrical cross section that has been sanded off but has not been restored.
6. Panel lines that have been removed during construction have been restored to match the rest of the vehicle.

2. Finishing: Paint, Decals, and Weathering

A. Items That Should be Present

1. Smooth and even paint finish unless irregular surfaces such as non-slip walkways, and screens are being represented.
2. Viewable portions of the vehicle's underside have been given the same attention to finishing as the top. The finishing of the underside of the vehicle is consistent with and complementary to that of the top and sides. Paint and weathering on the ordnance is consistent with the rest of the model. If the vehicle is weathered, normal wear and tear is present.
3. Markings appear to be painted on unless noted. Panel lines should extend through markings appropriately.
4. Weathering, if present, shows concern for scale (e.g., size of chipped areas), is consistent and believable throughout the model, and is in accordance with the operating environment represented. Extreme examples should be documented. Vehicles that have survived atmospheric re-entry shield should show weathering on heat shields, engine nozzles, etc.

B. Items that Should Not be Present

1. Unpainted construction material: plastic, metal, resin, etc.
2. Signs of the construction process: glue, file/sanding marks; fingerprints; discontinuities between kit plastic and filler materials.
3. Debris in the finish: lint, brush hairs, dust, etc.
4. Discontinuities in the finish: Fingerprints, brush marks, "Orange-peel" or "eggshell" effects, "Powdering" or grainy paint in recessed areas.
5. Drips, runs, or pooling of paint or oils. Paint overspray inconsistent with the paint/camouflage scheme due to poor masking.
6. Inconsistent finish sheen.
7. Decals that are damaged, misaligned, silvered, or not smoothly applied to the surface of the model.
8. Decal film. Decals that are thick and create a raised surface on the model inconsistent with the rest of the model.

3. Overall Presentation & Scope of Work.

A. Showmanship: Effort has been made to present the work as art to enhance the display of the model. This can include bases, backdrops, posters, sound effects, lighting, mirrors, and similar attributes of showmanship beyond the kit's contents. The quality of the display must enhance the presentation of the model.

B. Documentation: The description of the entry, subject modeled, and/or the techniques used to produce the entry. The modeler is encouraged to concisely inform the judges of the work, detailing, and research related to the entry that may not be visible or readily-apparent to the judges. This may include photographs and images. The professionalism and conciseness of the documentation will be considered. Documentation is limited to one attachment to the entry form of no more than one 8.5" x 11" page/entry element with a bullet point outline format as described in the ModelFiesta contest rules. Documentation beyond this will not be considered by the judges.

C. Visual Appeal: The ability of the entry to attract and hold the interest of the viewer.

D. Storytelling: The ability of the entry to evoke emotion or convey the life of the subject beyond the subject itself. Entries may have elements of storytelling that should be recognized. The story should be consistent with the documentation presented.

E. Scope of Work. This considers the degree to which the contestant has gone beyond the scope of the original kit with additional detailing and the addition of features. The application of multi-media detailing sets, scratch-building, kit-bashing techniques may be included. It includes exotic finishing techniques. Examples of extra detailing might include:

1. Cables and electrical lines for cockpits, engines, avionics, etc. Instrument faces on panels.
2. Addition of screens, panel lines and rivet/fastener details.
3. Landing gear and ordnance details.
4. Paint Schemes: extremely complex and difficult paint scheme beyond the norm.