

Powerloader from the movie “Aliens” - 1/12 scale

12/03/2011 — Standard Techniques

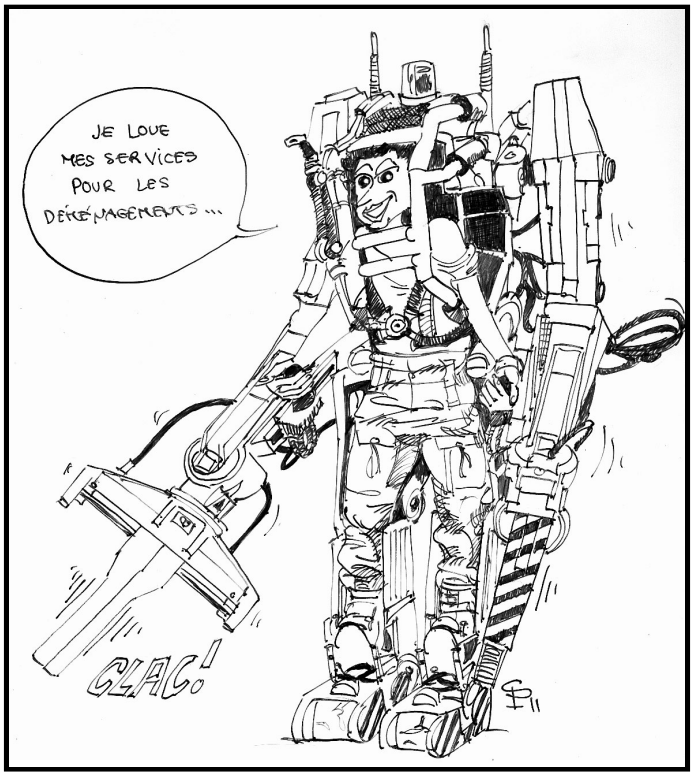


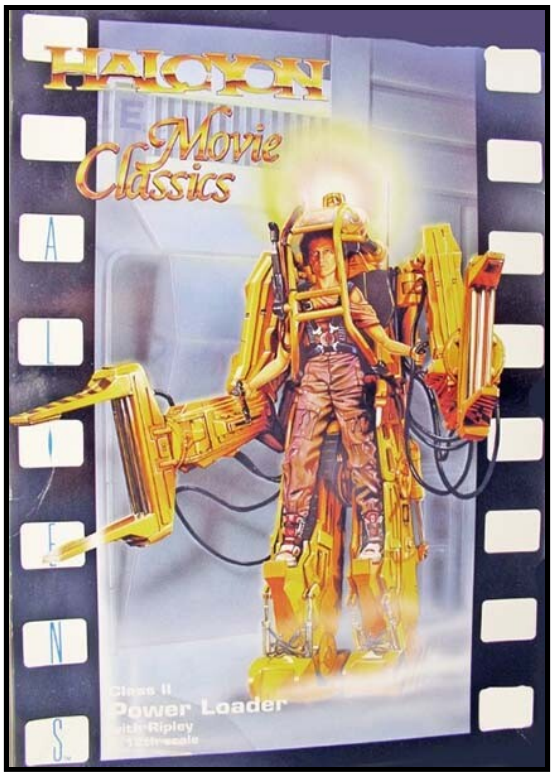
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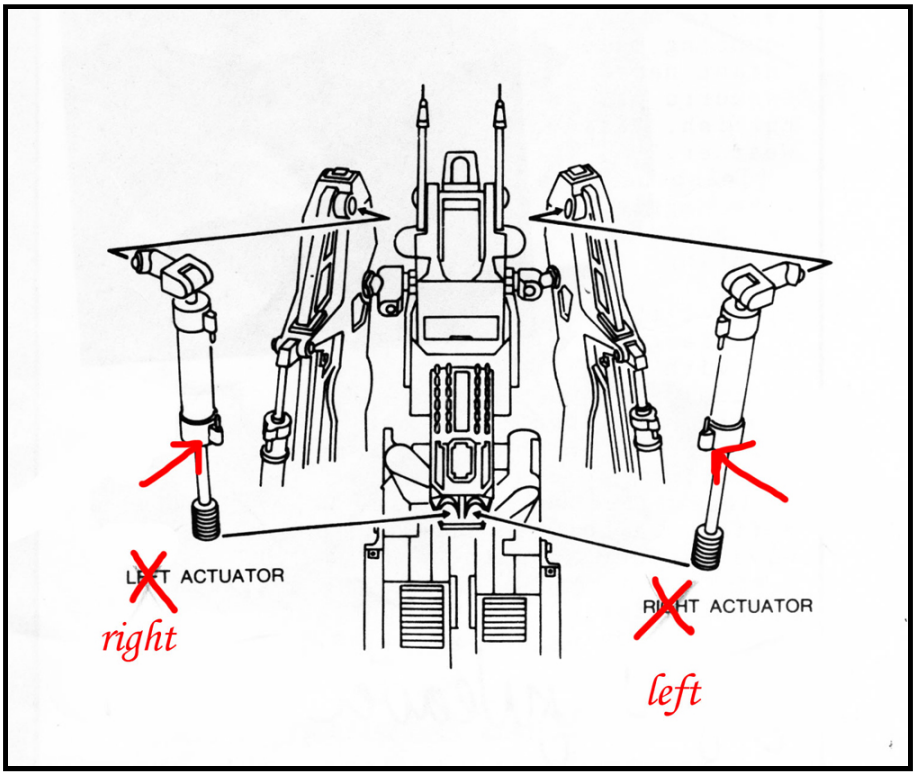
La marque Halcyon a produit il y a quelques années un kit plastique de la chargeuse du film "Aliens" à l'échelle 1/12ème de bonne facture. Seule, la figurine de Ripley manque de réalisme... Une erreur importante à rectifier sur le plan: le montage des cylindres d'hydraulique des bras est inversé....



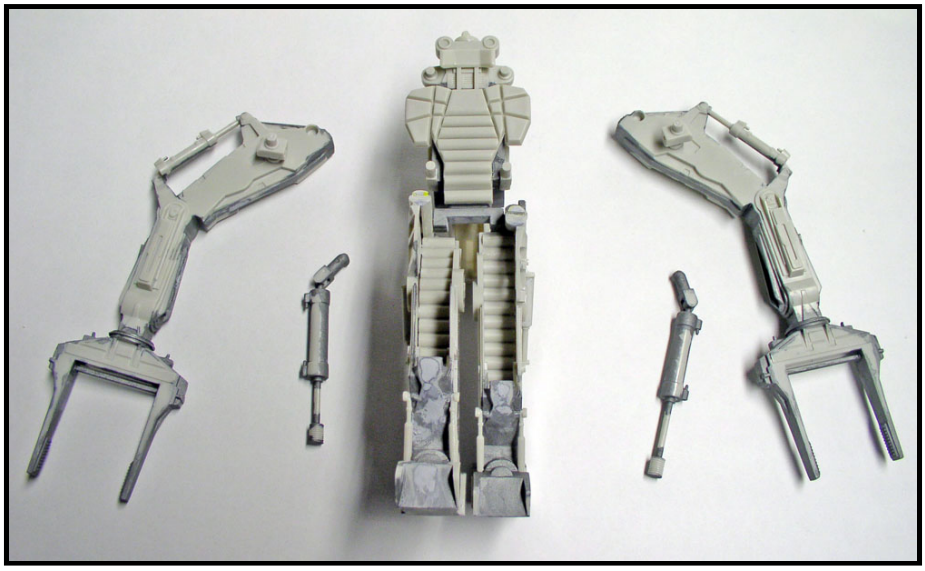


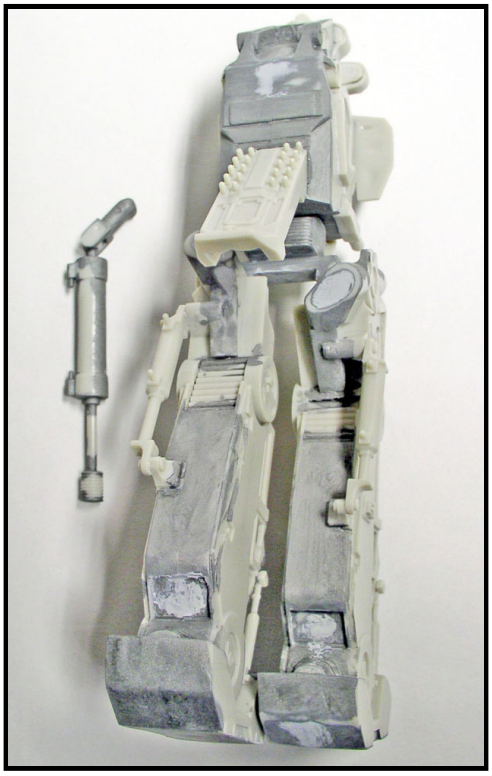


A few years ago, Halcyon released a well-made 1/12-scale plastic model kit of the loader from the movie "Aliens." The only thing is, the Ripley figure lacks realism...



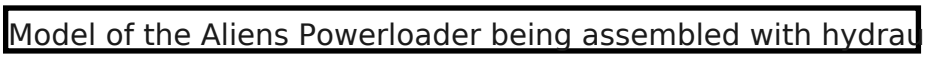
There is a significant error in the drawing that needs to be corrected: the hydraulic cylinders on the arms are installed in the wrong orientation...





First thing:

Glue all the two-part pieces together, then fill the joints. It’s a long and tedious process, but the result is worth it. After an initial sanding, apply a liquid filler to bring out any imperfections and make the joints completely invisible...

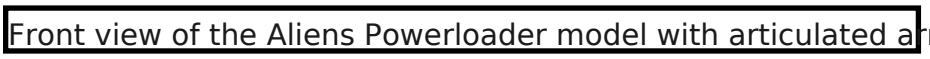


Model of the Aliens Powerloader being assembled with hydraulic lines



Model of the Aliens Powerloader cur

Assembly doesn't present any particular problems, but before gluing the part to its base, make sure Ripley is properly positioned in relation to the craft's legs and arms... Install the main hydraulic lines. Thorough documentation is required...



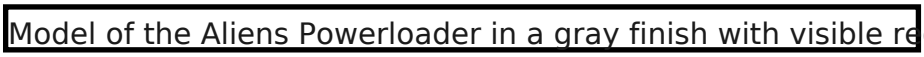
Front view of the Aliens Powerloader model with articulated arms and legs



Close-up of the legs and feet of the

Details that were missing from the model have been added: the hydraulic cables on the landing gear...

We install the photo-etched plate for the protective harness, and two pieces of tubing are cut to accommodate the vertical and horizontal lighting—two lengths of clear plastic...
Electrical wiring not included in the kit is added to the harness, along with the power supply for the flamethrower...
Everything in place—see the photo on the left. All that’s left is to sand down the light tubes...



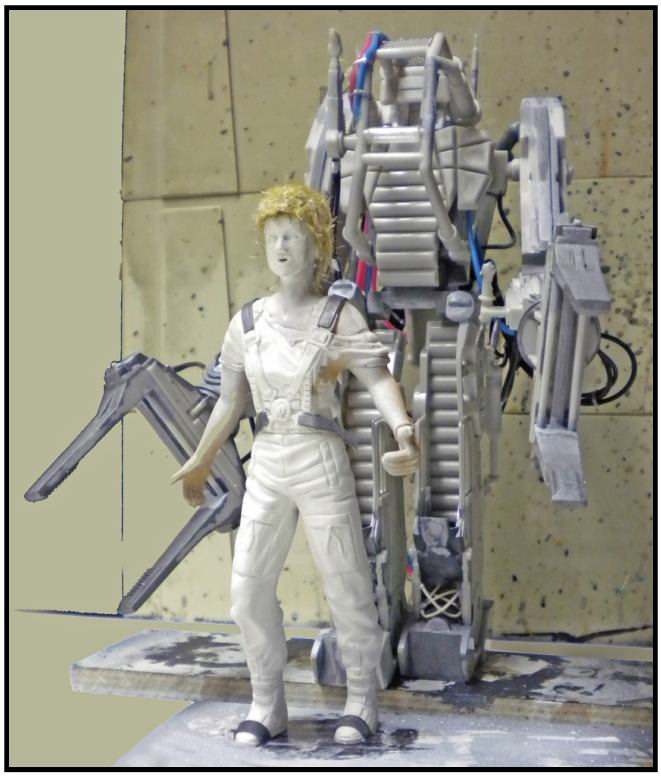
Model of the Aliens Powerloader in a gray finish with visible red and blue hydraulic lines



Front view of the Aliens Powerloade

Four photos showing the final assembly, ready for painting...

The figurine



Ripley figurine in a Powerloader harness, currently being painted

Painted figurine showing profile, de

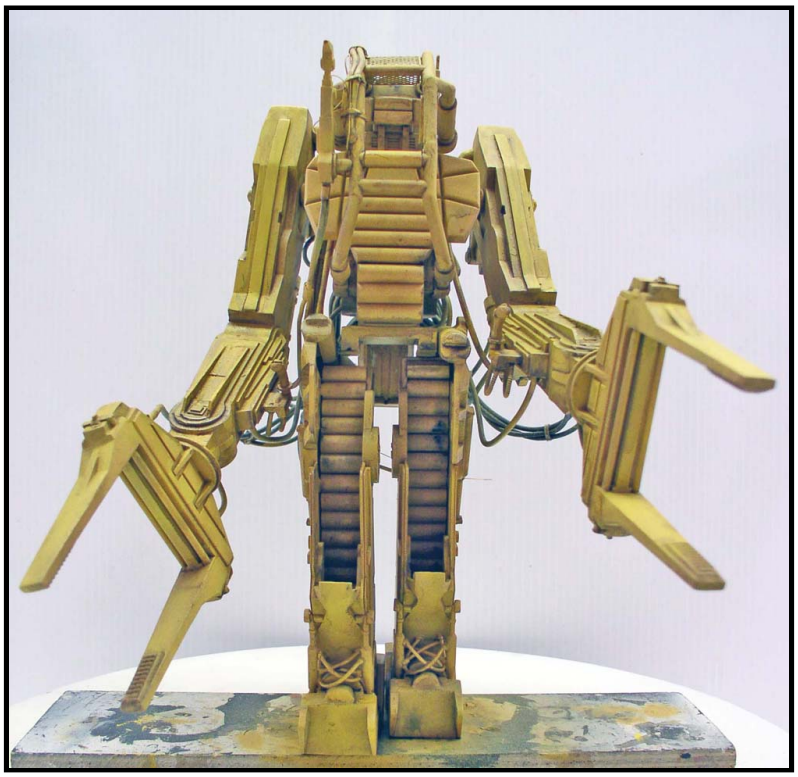




Ripley's current face (the first three photos) has been modified, but even so, since the result was disappointing, it was decided to remove it and replace it with a much more realistic sculpted head...

Painting





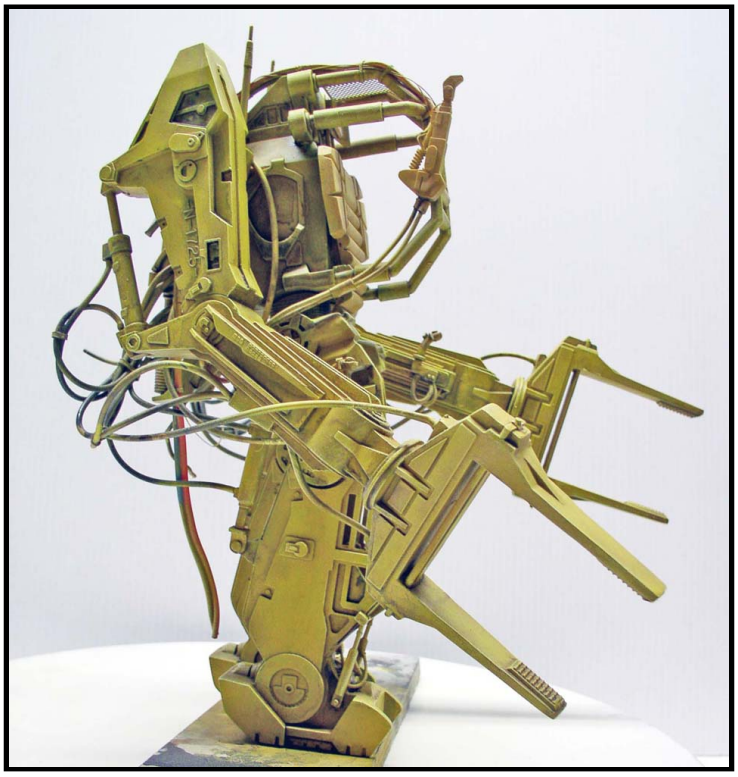
The paint used is Humbrol oil-based paint. The base coat is 63, followed by 69 yellow. Once dry, the part is given a very diluted wash of 33 + 133...

Model of the Aliens Powerloader primed in yellow, mounted on a painted base

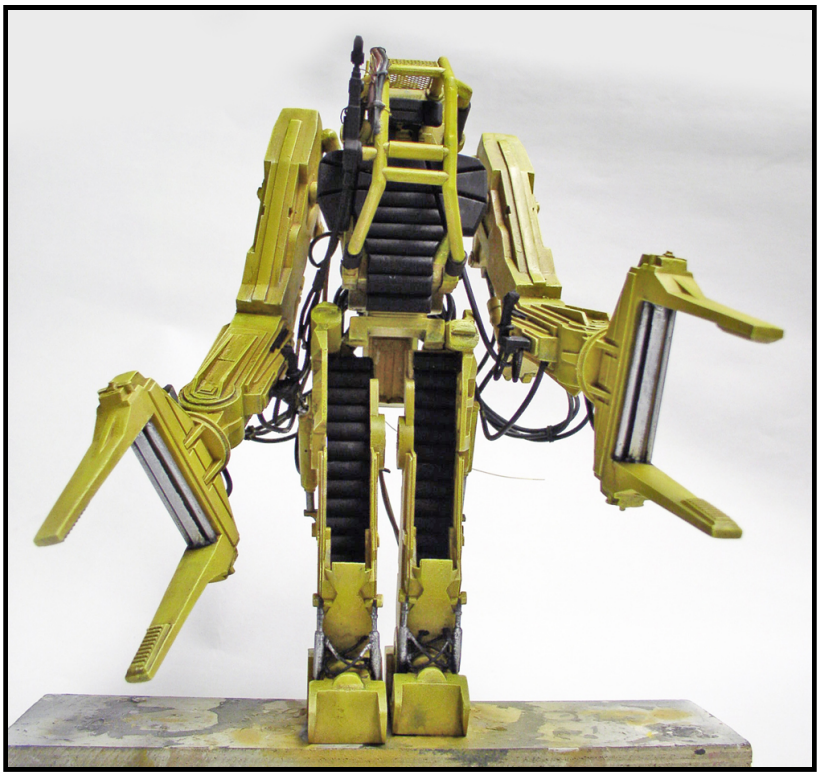
Unpainted Aliens Powerloader mode

Two more views: on the left, the painting; on the right, the shaded juice...

Once it's dry, apply a dry brush using HC6 Marker Yellow mixed with white to soften certain areas...



Another view...



The "seat" is painted in matte black 33. It will then be dusted with graphite powder to give it a faux-leather look...



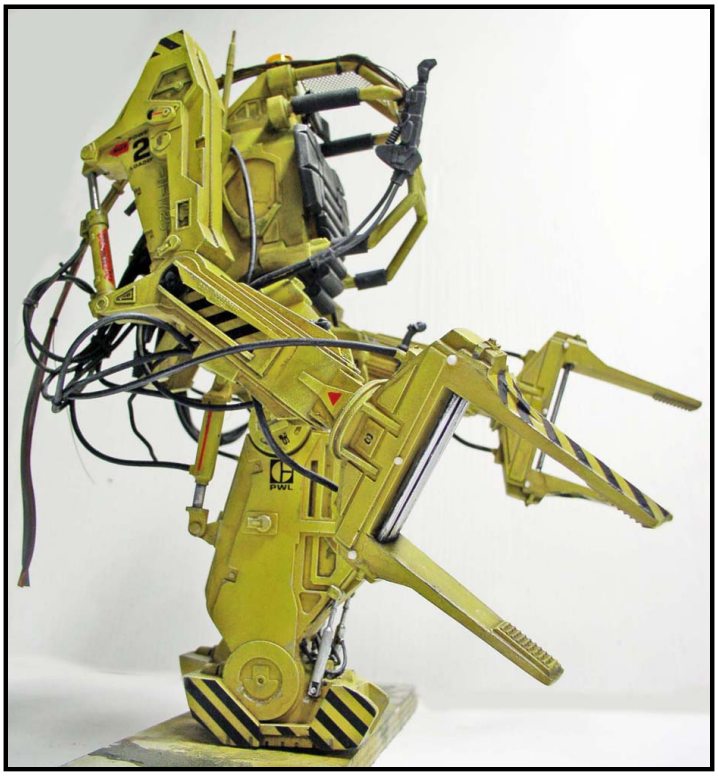
The torch, cables, and metal harness guards are also painted black. They will be dry-brushed with dark and light gray...

The hydraulic rods and certain parts are chrome-plated with Silver 11...

Model of the Aliens Powerloader with a weathered yellow finish. Close-up of the legs and feet area.

Two close-up views of the finished model. Metallic flaking simulates wear and tear on the material but should remain subtle...

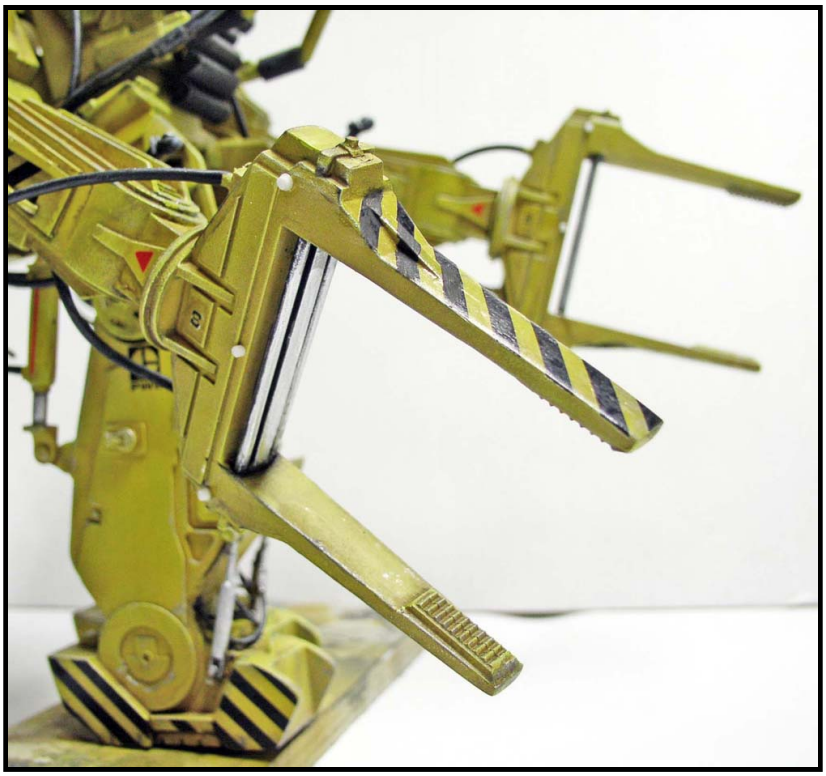
Silver paint is used, toned down with black...



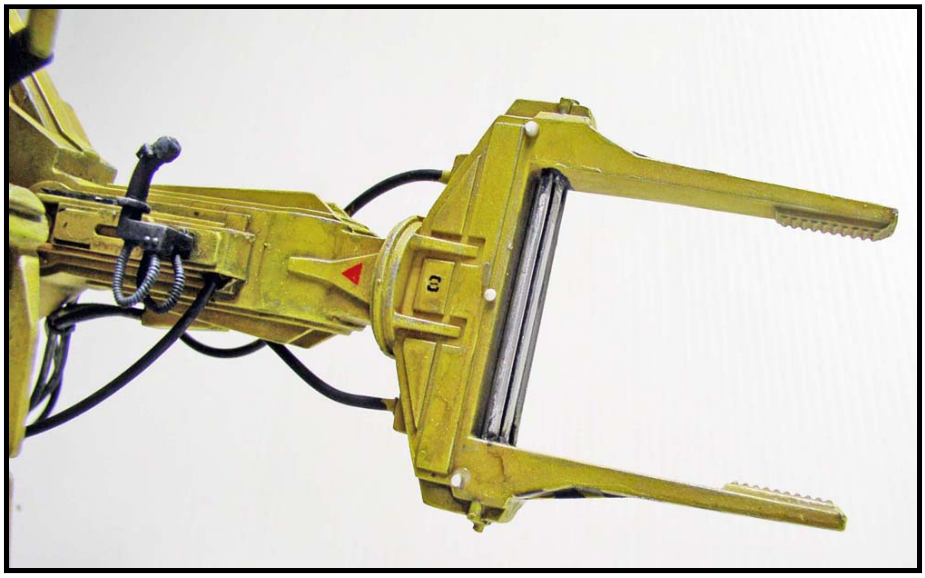
Decals

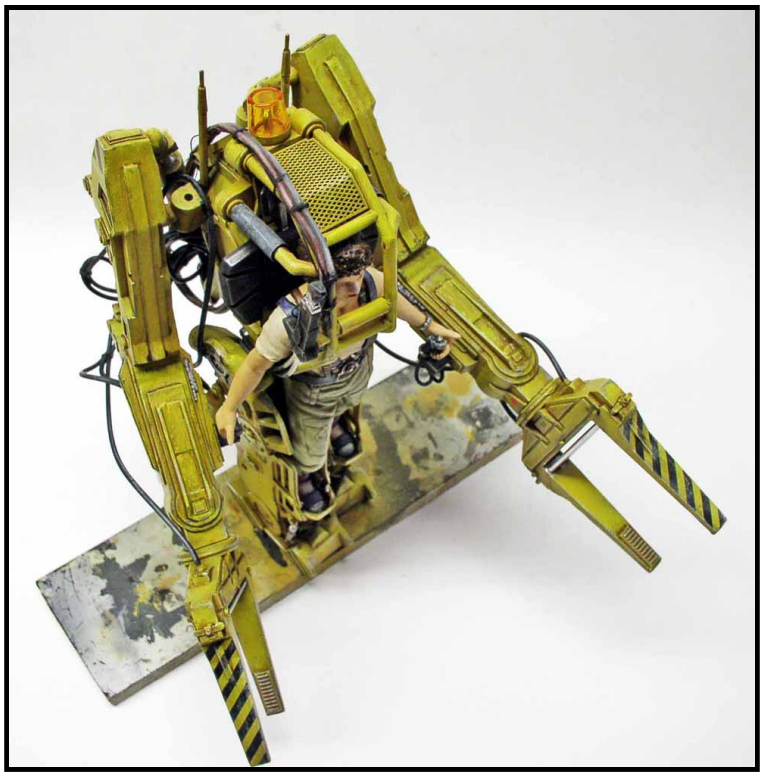
Decals

: There are many of them. Tip: For decals with a transparent film, apply a coat of gloss varnish to the area. Then, once it’s dry, place the decal using Microsol to secure it. After it’s completely dry, apply a coat of matte varnish, and the transparent film will disappear!

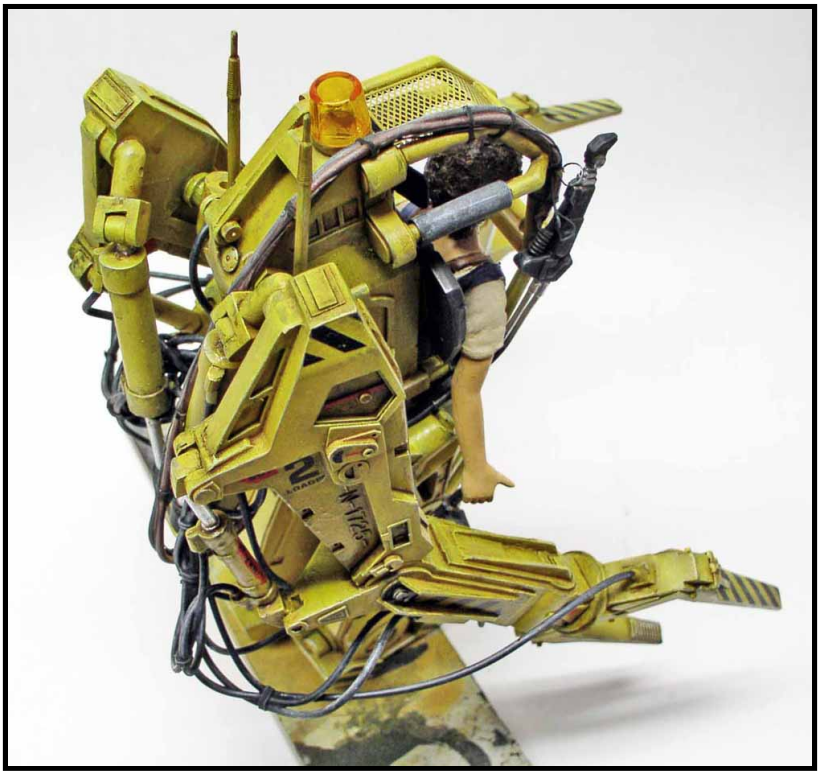


No matter how careful you are, you might still overlook something... For example, these six large bolts on either side of the clamps. They’ll end up being painted and weathered...

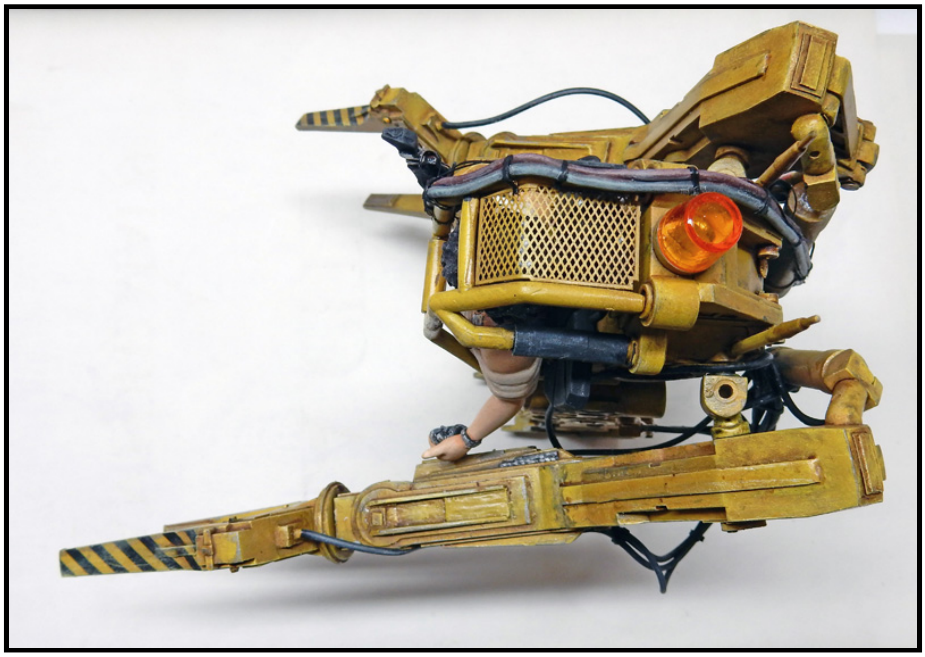




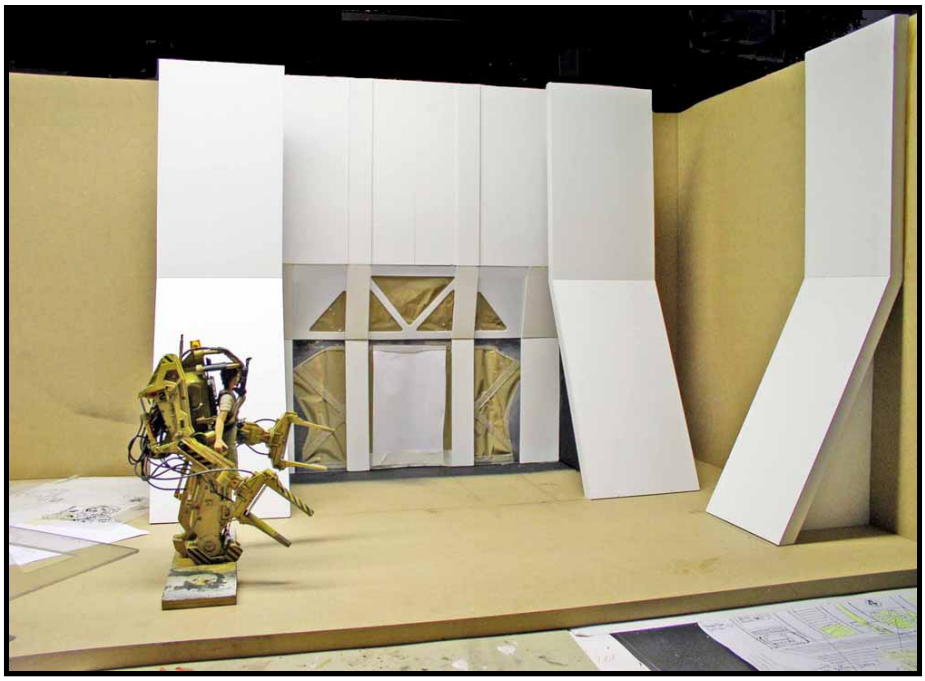
A few photos of the finished model...



Model of the yellow Powerloader from *Aliens*, featuring a pilot









The loader will be included in a scene depicting the Sulaco's cargo hold and the battle with the Alien Queen, which will be the subject of two other tutorials...


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