

HOWTO

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CG125 Japanese
Motorcycle



1/35 SCALE

AK



This article is based on the AK Interactive **AK35027 Honda CG125** from 1977, in which you can choose between two versions to build, with a square headlight or a round headlight.

Additionally, we have the option to mount wheels with a 5-spoke rim or with photo-etched spokes. We can also choose the figure's head to represent a Western man or an Asian man, as this motorcycle has been used all over the world.



The parts are extremely detailed, with some being very small given the scale of the motorcycle. Assembly requires a certain level of skill and is not suitable for beginners, but once completed, we will have a very beautiful piece that can also be enhanced with the necessary wiring for the brakes and additional engine wiring if we are aiming for super-detailing.

The kit also includes an optional front guard and luggage rack, where various equipment can be placed.

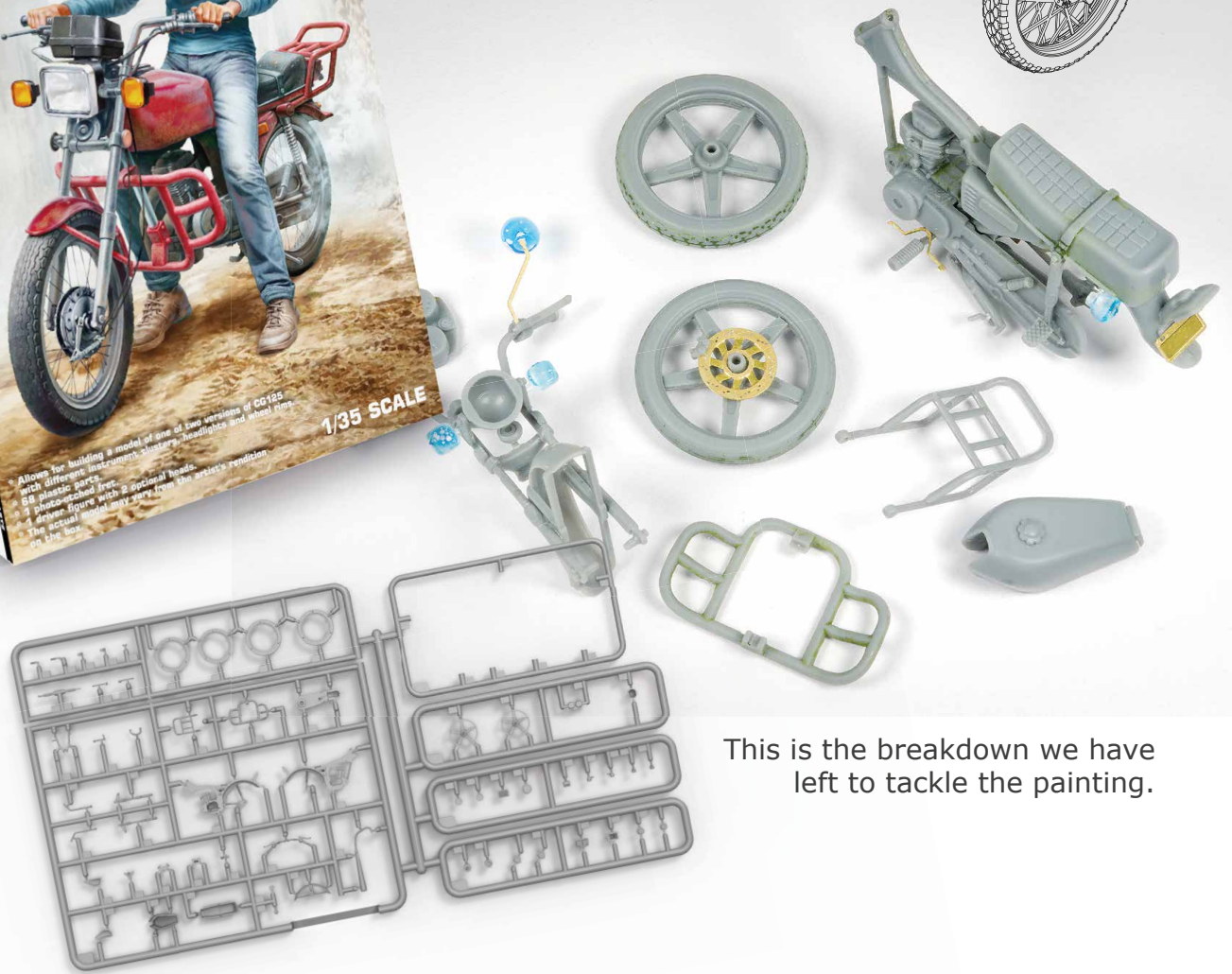
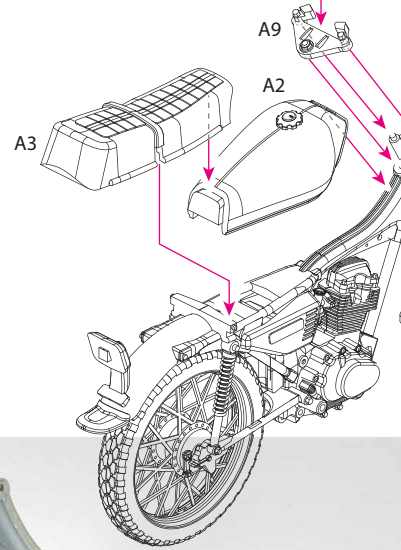


The decals allow for two decoration options, in red or blue, although if we search online we can find multiple variants.





In this example, the kit has been assembled so that the contents can be seen without any additions. We have represented a well-maintained and shiny motorcycle.

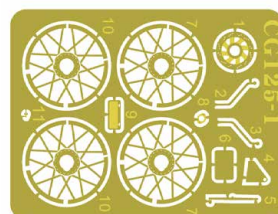


This is the breakdown we have left to tackle the painting.



These photos give a clear idea of the small size of the kit, while also showing its good detailing.

The mirrors, front brake disc, license plate, and exhaust pipe bracket are photo-etched parts included in the kit.





The painting process on such a small piece is quick; we just need to consider how to hold the parts to manipulate them without breaking any of the small pieces that make up the kit, as some are delicate.

We will probably see multiple adaptations and interpretations of this small motorcycle in the future.

Additionally, with just a couple of simple painting techniques, we will see that we can achieve an optimal result with this model.



All the base painting was done with the new **Real Color Markers** without any type of primer. Other paints were used to achieve some later effects.

The airbrush was only used to apply a sealing coat with matte varnish once all the painting work was completed.





The seat was painted with **3GEN** colors and a couple of light highlights. The instructions specify black, but in this case, we decided to use this color after observing some photos.

The entire engine and mechanical area received washes using a mixture of very dark brown oil paint. As always, once applied, we clean and work it with a clean brush, pushing it towards the details we want to emphasize.

We can also add a shiny touch with Engine Grease, but without overdoing it.

Practically, with this simple process, we will give our motorcycle a used and realistic look, and given its small size, it will take less time than writing these lines.



On the fork and fender, we used the same oil mixture, ensuring it accumulates on the front and rear edges.

The final step is to create splatters using the technique of your choice. Ours was to project them with a short, fine-bristle brush and a finger, so that the drops are very small and in scale.

It's advisable to thoroughly offload the brush on paper until you see that the splatters match the size of the model.

Ideally, use more than one tone, so they blend together and create greater tonal variety.



Regarding the figure: it's advisable to have the motorcycle assembled and presented first, and then position the figure on it. This way, you can adjust the hands to fit properly on the handlebars and avoid any unpleasant surprises at the end.

What we did was preassemble all the parts of the figure on the motorcycle, holding them in place with Blu Tack, and then applying glue by capillary action. It's important to let the glue set without removing the figure from the motorcycle, so that no part has the chance to shift out of place.

Once the painting is finished, we assemble the bike and figure, and we now have a beautiful piece for our display case or ready for a scene.

The figure of the rider was magnificently painted by Eduardo Fernández.

