

RAF & Royal Navy special vehicle markings

This set provides special markings for generic use on a variety of RAF vehicle types plus some specific Royal Navy vehicles used During WWII. It also provides alternative, additional or better markings for vehicles included in popular Airfix kits such as the "RAF Refuelling Set", the "RAF Recovery Set" and the Bedford QL. Concerning the markings for specific RAF and RN vehicles, not all the markings present on the vehicles are provided. Markings such as RAF roundels or allied stars may be provided with the kit decals, as in the case of the Airfix RAF sets, or may be found on decal sheets by other manufacturers such as BW Models sets DC 32, DC 49 and DC 50. Where applicable number plates for specific vehicles are provided on the instruction sheet. After printing they may be cut out and applied to the model. All markings provided for printing are 1/76th scale. They can also be used on 1/72 scale models.

Type numbers on RAF vehicles were used from early 1944 and appeared on the nearside (left) door of vehicles. The use of type numbers was discontinued in September 1944 but the numbers already applied remained. Type numbers were specific to types of vehicle, so for instance 3-ton general service lorries were **TYPE 1300** regardless of their make.

Other types included are:

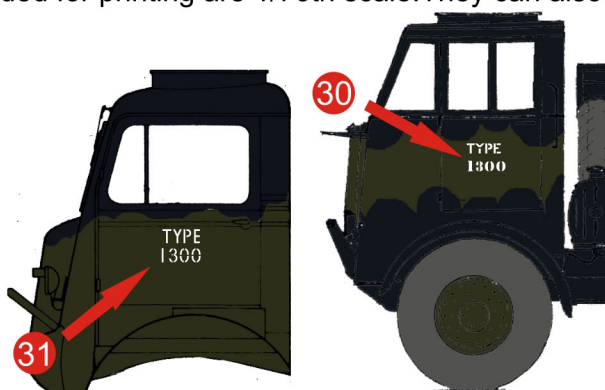
TYPE 1000: Articulated tractors

TYPE 1700: Heavy ambulances

TYPE 2400: Petrol and oil refuellers

TYPE 2601: Light tractors with winch

TYPE 1102: Heavy cranes (e.g. Thornycroft Amazon)



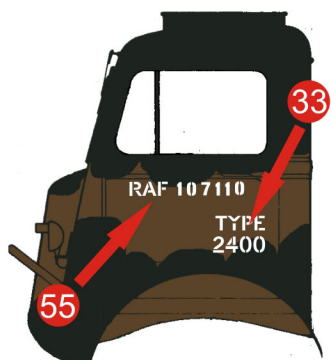
Thornycroft
 Nubian 3 ton GS

NOTE:

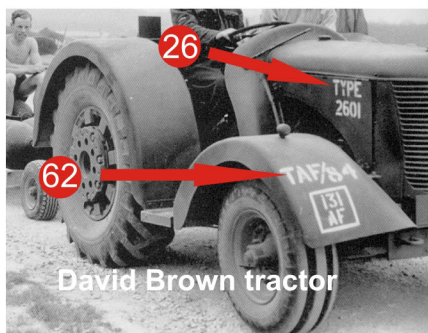
The sketches and profiles provided in this instruction sheet are **NOT** to scale.



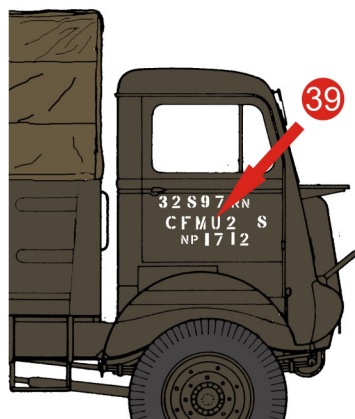
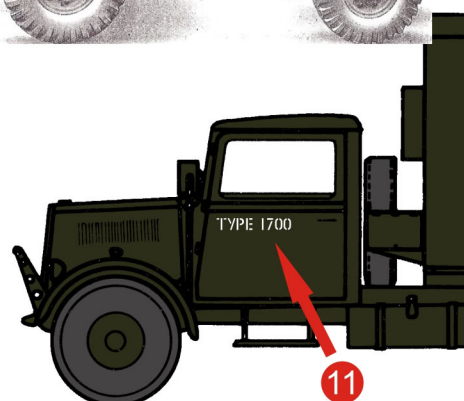
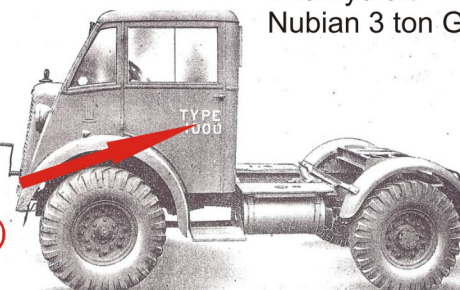
This sign indicates the presence of scale markings. These may be printed on your home printer. After cutting out they can be attached to the model using either White Glue or any other type of glue suitable for paper.



Suitable for Airfix
 Bedford QL refueller

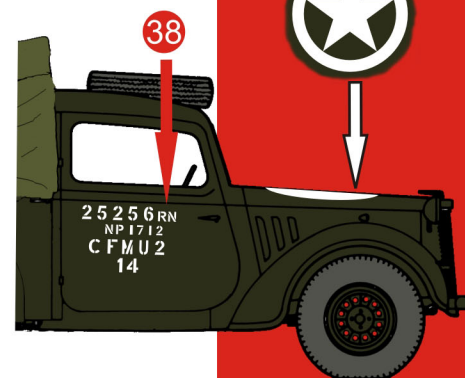


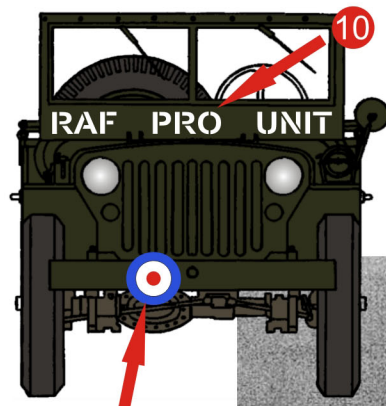
David Brown tractor



Suitable for Airfix Bedford
 QLT roop carrier

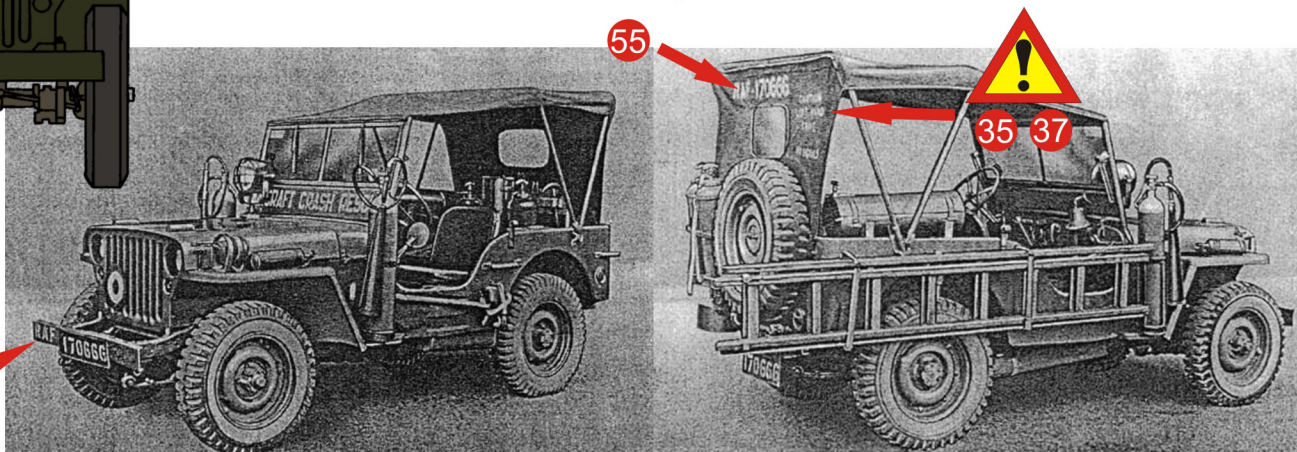
These Royal Navy vehicles served with Coastal Forces Maintenance Unit 2 which followed flotillas of motor torpedo boats up the European coast in 1944/45 moving up with the land forces. Photos of these vehicles can be found in this thread:
<http://www.mapleleafup.net/forums/showthread.php?t=5064&highlight=Royal>
 Based on the time frame the vehicles must have been finished in overall SCC No 15 Olive Drab.



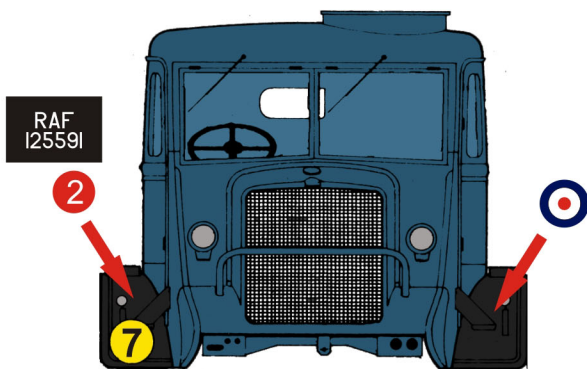
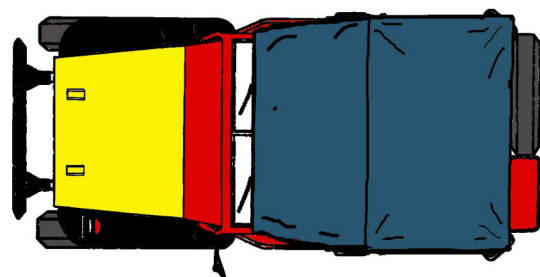


Metal disk with RAF roundel.

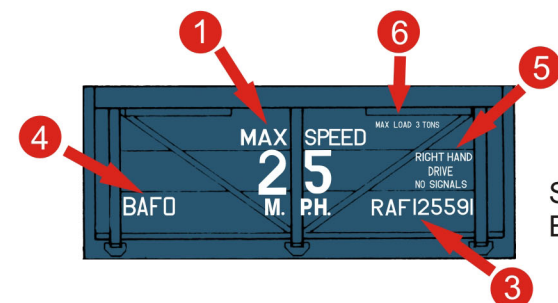
During WWII RAF vehicles were finished in the same camouflage colours as army vehicles in the respective theatre of operations. For NW Europe this was SCC No 2 Brown with black or Very Dark Brown disruptive camouflage, and from late 1944 to early 1945 SCC No 15 Olive Drab. In April 1946 the RAF decided to revert to RAF Blue-Grey with black, chassis, valances and wings for its vehicles. In 1949 it was decided that Gloss Signal Red would be used for fire vehicles.



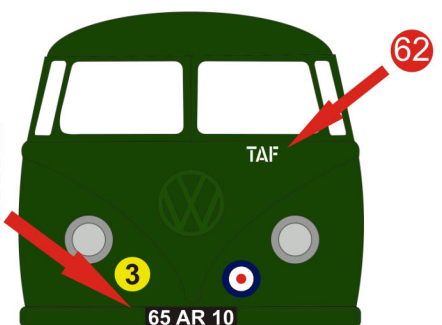
The RAF started using the Jeep as a crash rescue vehicle in 1944, equipped with fire extinguishers and basic rescue equipment. It seems that the equipment varied slightly from vehicle to vehicle. It continued in use until the 1950's when it was replaced by a similarly equipped Land Rover. In 1944 these vehicles were overall olive drab with a white on red sign on under the windshield. After 1949 many had their bonnets painted yellow for added visibility on airfields and some seem to have retained their black painted wings. The colour profiles show the variations possible. No attempt has been made to portray the equipment carried, other than the front mounted bell on "29AA92" which was based at RAF Tengah.

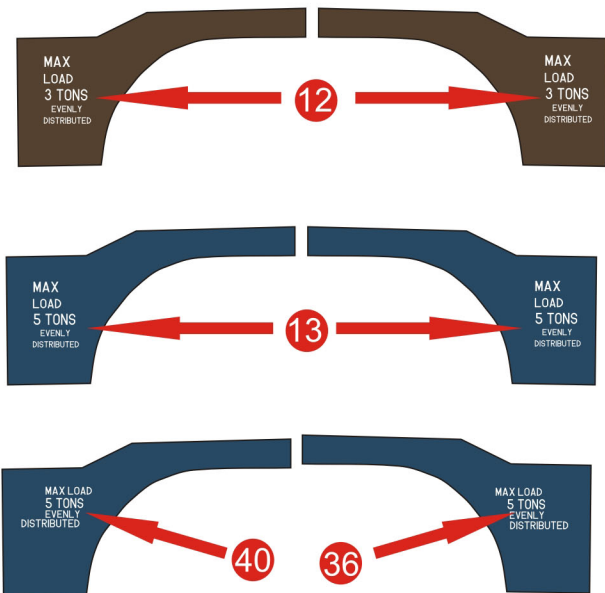


The 2TAF (Second Tactical Air Force) was the branch of the RAF that followed the army into Germany at the end of WWII. In July 1945 it was renamed BAFO (British Air Forces of Occupation), reverting once again to 2TAF in 1951. In 1959 it became RAFG (RAF Germany). The markings on vehicles followed the name changes. From mid 1954 gloss Deep Bronze Green (DBG) was the standard colour for RAF vehicles in Germany, including fire vehicles.



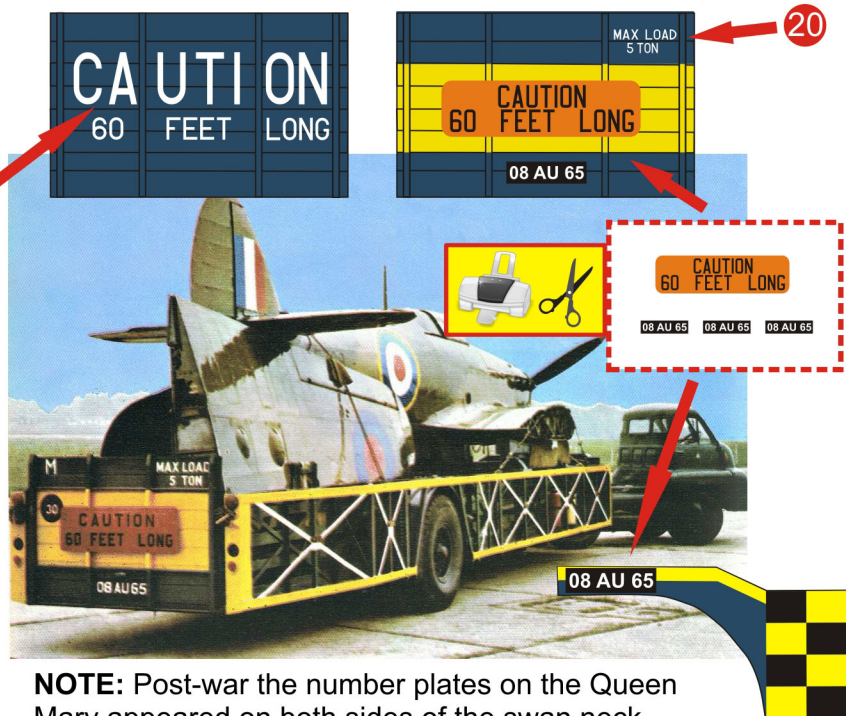
Suitable for Airfix Bedford QL lorry



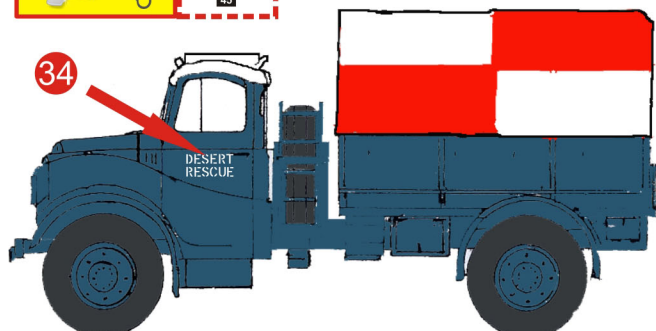


During the war both 3-ton and 5-ton versions of the Queen Mary aircraft recovery trailer were used. These had the same dimensions and looked very similar, differing in detail, the early 3-ton version being of lighter construction.

Post-war a number of these trailers were converted to office trailers and equipped as mobile X-ray units. Each radiography unit was made up of three vehicles. No 1 housed the photographic dark room and clerk's office, No 2 housed the MO's office and a store room No 3 vehicle contained the radiography and waiting rooms.



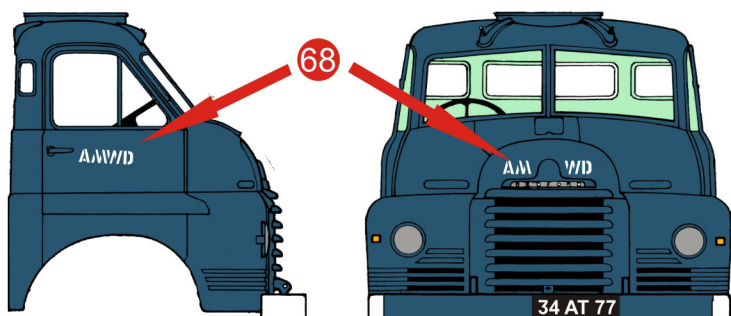
NOTE: Post-war the number plates on the Queen Mary appeared on both sides of the swan neck.



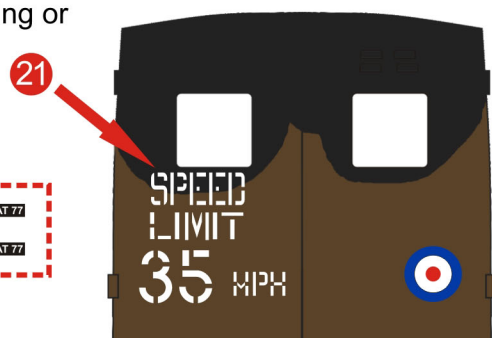
This Austin K9 was used for desert rescue and was equipped with two searchlights on the roof. A large one on the nearside and a smaller one on the offside.



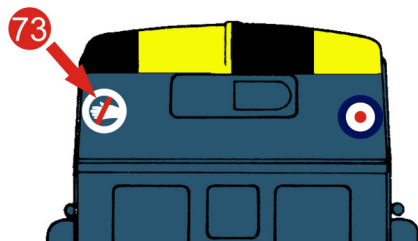
These markings were used on a variety of specialised box-type bodies mounted on variety of vehicles, such as the Austin K6 and the Fordson WOT- 6.



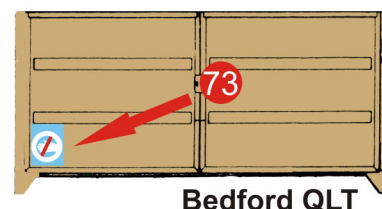
The speed limit of 25 MPH has been seen on 3-ton trucks. For trucks and vans of 15cwt and lower, such as Tillies, or 15cwt house types, the speed limit of 35 MPH has been observed. The modeller may have to cut the decal in order to adjust the spacing or arrangement of the words to fit the vehicle.



AMWD stands for Air Ministry Works Directorate. This Bedford RL was carried a Climax compressor and was seen at Raf Nicosia in 1960. The AMWD marking was also used on other vehicles.

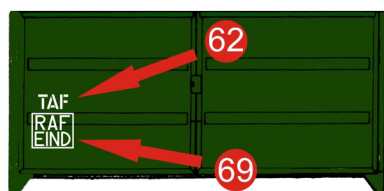


The "NO HAND SIGNALS" sign seems to have been replaced by a marking that could be understood by non English speakers. When applied to sand coloured vehicles it seems to have been applied on a light or mid blue background in order to be more visible. On RAF blue-Grey finished vehicles this background was omitted.



Bedford QLT

Many RAF Airfield Construction Branch vehicles had yellow-black chequered roofs such as this Bedford OX.



Bedford QLT



Post-war it became common for RAF vehicles, especially overseas to carry a station name or the initials or an abbreviation of this name. On fire vehicles this often appeared inside the RAF Fire Service roundel on a dark coloured, blue or black, horizontal stripe. The RAF Fire Service marking is available from BW Models on decal sheet DC 32. The stripe on which the name is applied shall have to be painted on to the model prior to the application of the relevant decal.

The names that appear as abbreviations in the markings are explained below:

BRUG
BUTZ
B'BURG
GEIL K'
G'SLOH
EIND
W'RATH

Bruggen
Butzweilerhof
Bückeburg
Geilenkirchen
Gütersloh
Eindhoven
Wildenrath



BWORTH
SP
K

Butterworth, Penang, Malaysia
Steamer Point, Aden
Khormaksar, Aden



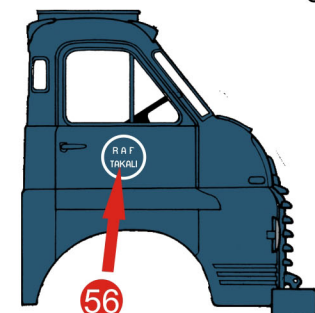
NOTE: The RAF Akrotiri DP1 had a red cab roof



NOTE: These markings should be applied to a black-red-black striped background, which must be painted on to the model.



RAF Police markings are available from BW Models, decal sheet DC 8.



BWORTH
SP
K

Butterworth, Penang, Malaysia
Steamer Point, Aden
Khormaksar, Aden



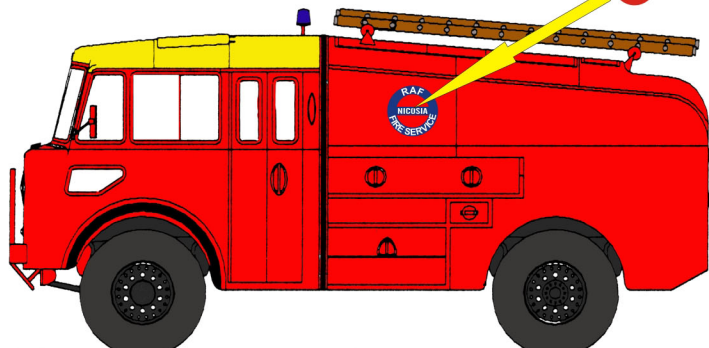
NOTE: The RAF Akrotiri DP1 had a red cab roof



NOTE: These markings should be applied to a black-red-black striped background, which must be painted on to the model.



RAF Police markings are available from BW Models, decal sheet DC 8.



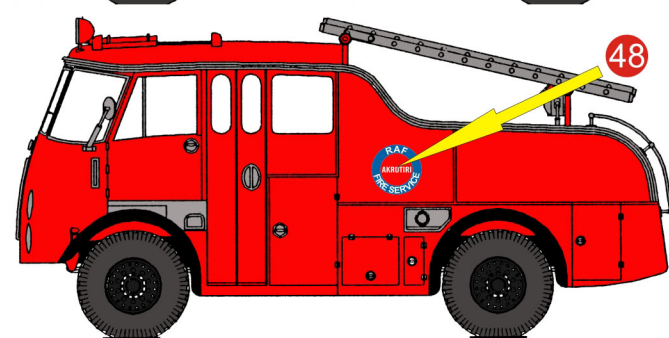
NOTE: The RAF Akrotiri DP1 had a red cab roof



NOTE: These markings should be applied to a black-red-black striped background, which must be painted on to the model.



RAF Police markings are available from BW Models, decal sheet DC 8.



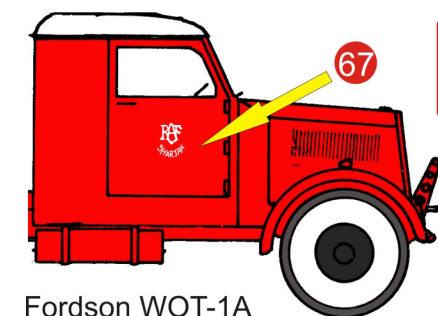
NOTE: The RAF Akrotiri DP1 had a red cab roof



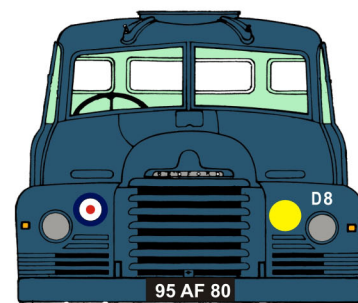
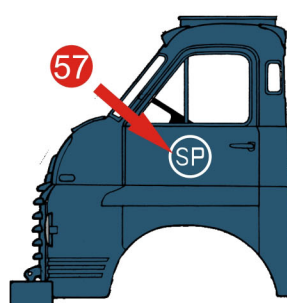
NOTE: These markings should be applied to a black-red-black striped background, which must be painted on to the model.



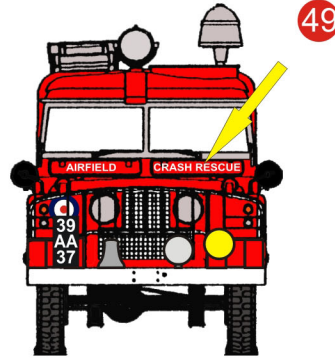
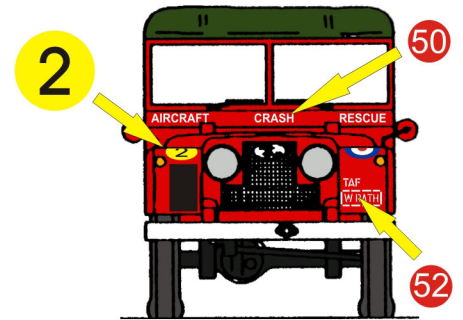
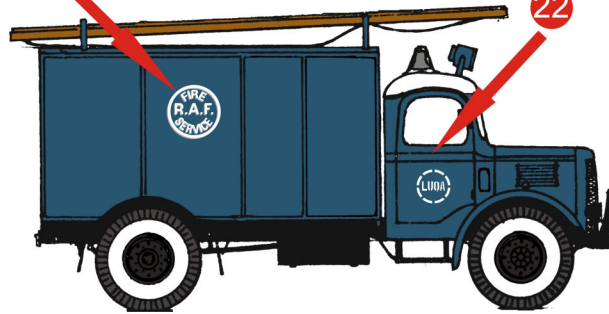
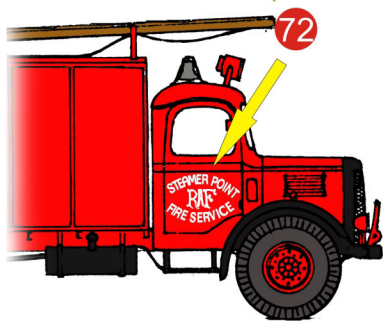
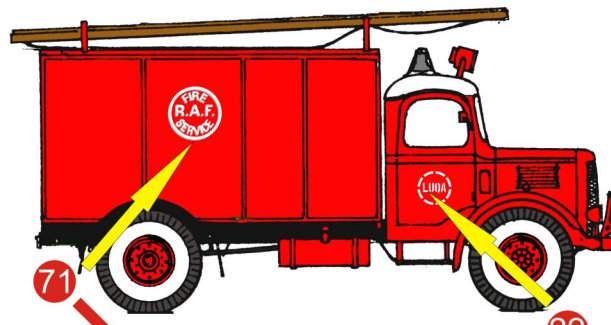
RAF Police markings are available from BW Models, decal sheet DC 8.



Fordson WOT-1A
"Monitor type" crash tender.

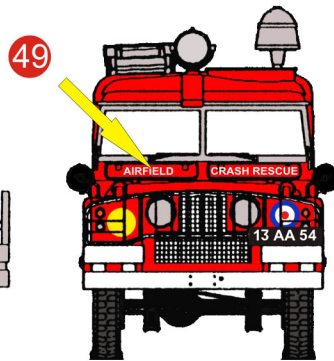


NOTE: These profiles of the Austin K2 Domestic Fire Tender are based on undated b/w photographs so alternative interpretations of the colours are given.

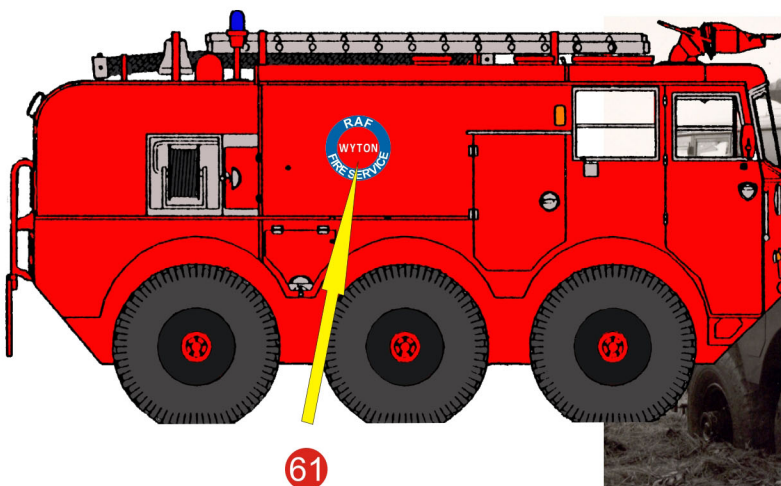


ACRT 1 with civilian spec front bumper and full depth brush-guard.

Markings seen on a US built single-axle GS semi-trailer drawn by a Studebaker US6 tractor.



ACRT 1 with military spec front bumper and brush-guard.



LM72007



This symbol indicates that alternative markings or colour schemes are applicable in this position **OR** that the same marking applies to more than one colour scheme.



These markings have been printed on an ALPS-type printer by DecalPrint.de. The modeller should treat these with extra care and cut as close as possible to the design because the carrier film extends over the complete decal paper.

Many people have helped by providing information and pictorial material which has been used in the preparation of this decal set and this instruction sheet. Some of the drawings that were used as the basis for the colour profiles seen here are by the late M. C. Bell, whose family has kindly given me permission to use.

Many of the plans and photos have also been found on the internet, some on sites which are no longer available. Some profiles provided here are based on such drawings for which I can not trace the origins. It is not my intention to plagiarise anybody else's work or infringe on anybody's copyright. If any of the material seen here is your own please get in touch and I will gladly give all due credit.

Decals printed by: Fantasy Printshop

www.imdecals.gr