

**IPMS CONTEST CRITERIA
"THE BASICS"**

MODELS ARE JUDGED ON THE CRAFTSMANSHIP AND QUALITY OF THE BUILDS, NOT THE DETAILING OR ACCURACY OF THE BUILD. THE FOLLOWING ARE JUDGED:

- 1) SEAMS:** Should be erased or reduced to resemble panel lines. Surface details lost during sanding should be replaced (continuity). Gaps should be eliminated or be "in scale", if appropriate.
- 2) ALIGNMENT:** Symmetry rules! Wings/stabilizers should be at the same levels on both sides (and "ballpark" accurate) Wheels, tires, gear should be vertical or raked equally. ALL tires should be on the ground. Tracks should be level unless depicting irregular terrain on a base. Ordnance, mirrors, and aerals should be properly aligned with the vehicle.
- 3) Mold lines, sink marks, flash, and sprue nubs should be eliminated.**
- 4) Glass and clear parts should be crystal clear, without glue marks, fogging, fingerprints or scratches.**
- 5) Neatness:** there should be no fingerprints, dust, glue spots, or sloppy paint evident inside or out of the model
- 6) Detailing:** If added, it should be at a consistent level throughout the model. Gun barrels, exhaust pipes, and other such opening should be drilled out. Photo-etch should be glued neatly. Thick parts should be thinned to scale.
- 7) PAINT:** should be evenly applied with "scale" over spray (if airbrushed) and NO brush marks if brush painted. There should be no rough areas, or "orange peel"; and all surfaces should have equal sheen or matte finish. Framing on glass should be crisp and neat. Hard edge paint lines should not have paint ridges. There should be no dust or lint in the finish.
- 8) Weathering:** if applied, any weathering should be CONSISTANT, both as applied to the entire model AND within ballpark reasoning of the theater or environment depicted.
- 9) Decals:** Should be neatly applied with no evidence of bubbles, wrinkles, or silvering. Decal film should be invisible for all practical purposes. They should look painted on and should be in proper alignment on the model.