

Dornier Do-228-200 of the World armed/ support forces: PART 3

designed for 1/72 scale: Revell kit #04600 / 4287

India Coast Guard, Italy, Venezuela

HISTORY

The German company Dornier designed a series of light transport and utility propeller aircraft after the Second World War with STOL capabilities like the Do-27, Do-28, Do-28 Skyservant and the longer Dornier Do-228. The Do-228 is twin turboprop utility aircraft that first flew in 1981. There are a few versions with different fuselage lengths with the Do-228-200 series being the longest. It is used in variety of roles and sold to over 50 operators and countries. It was also license manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics (HAL) in India. The latest version flown in 2010 is the Do-228NG with improved systems, TPE331-10 engines with five bladed propeller and glass cockpit.

CAMOUFLAGE AND SCHEMES

There is a large variety in Dornier schemes as used by various World air- and government support- forces. Often configurations varied as delivered with different antennas and systems. So it is strongly recommended to study photos in books and internet to pick a particular Dornier and on websites finding a photo is not that difficult. Particular suggestions of each scheme on this decals sheet are also provided.

The precise scheme colours used by a particular Dornier are often unknown. On the decals sheet there may be some small spare decals. The rear emergency break panel has often red corner markings, these are on the sheet as are propeller markings.

On the decals sheet some "white markings" may be provided separately that need to be combined with other decals on the sheet to form a complete marking, particularly for national insignia. Apply first the coloured marking and on top the white outlined marking, align symmetrical.

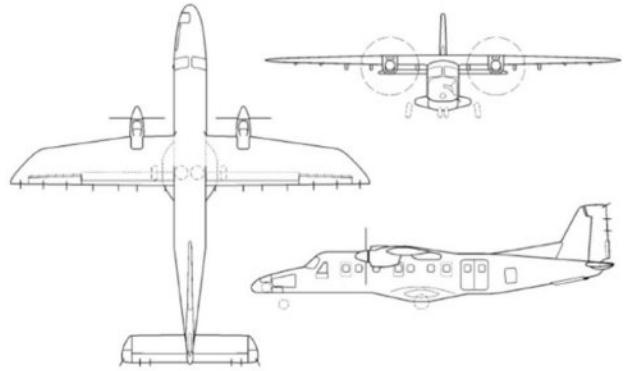
DECAL APPLICATION

The decal sheet has ONE continuous print film, so each decal needs to be cut out with fine scissors. No other prior decal preparation is needed.

Each cut out decal can be applied as usual after soaking it a short while in water. Decals are EXTREMELY THIN, so slide off from the wet backing sheet on a horizontally held GLOSSY model surface. Do not use tweezers! They will fold doubled!

Note that a decal that contains a white section is often split in two parts. To apply the full decal marking, first set the white decal section at correct position and on top of that the coloured section. On the decals sheet you will often see an "arrow" to indicate this way of application (on white surfaces, the white section is optional).

After all decals have been applied, finish the model with your preferred final gloss, matt or semi-matt varnish coats. This will also protect all the decals.



MODEL KITS

In 1/72 scale Revell Germany released 2 Dornier Do-228 kits.

This decals sheet has markings for the **longer Do-228-200** series with Revell kits #04600/ 4287. (Note that the short fuselage Do-228-100 series was also released by Revell a year earlier in 1987 as kit #4239).

The most prominent system on Dorniers used for maritime patrol may be a large search radar fairing below the forward fuselage. This is not provided in the 1/72 kit unfortunately so has to be made from scratch. Making the fairing can be best done with a piece of balsa wood or several layers of plastic card with putty sanded in shape. It is not easy as it needs to be a symmetrical fairing. On the other hand, it is situated below the lower front fuselage so a few imperfections are not that visible on a model.

The big search radar fairing is about 54 mm long at the fuselage joint and 14 mm wide in 1/72.

Other external systems may be a camera turret and long SLAR pods. These are need to be made from scratch when applicable. Sometimes a few bulbous cabin windows are seen on patrol aircraft, these need than to made from scrap or try your spares' box. Same with the landing lights in the fronts of the main gear fairings. Often the nose wheel has a mud cover.

Also check out the smaller antennas and any long wire antenna on the particular Dornier. Often a single long wire antenna is seen running from tail to mid fuselage or a pair of shorter wire antennas.

My website AircraftinPlastic.com can help building your model.

India Coast Guard

Over 140 Dorniers Do-228 of the -100 and -200 series are operated by the India Armed Forces including many turboprops manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) under licensed. A few dozens are flown by the Coast Guard based at several coastal cities.

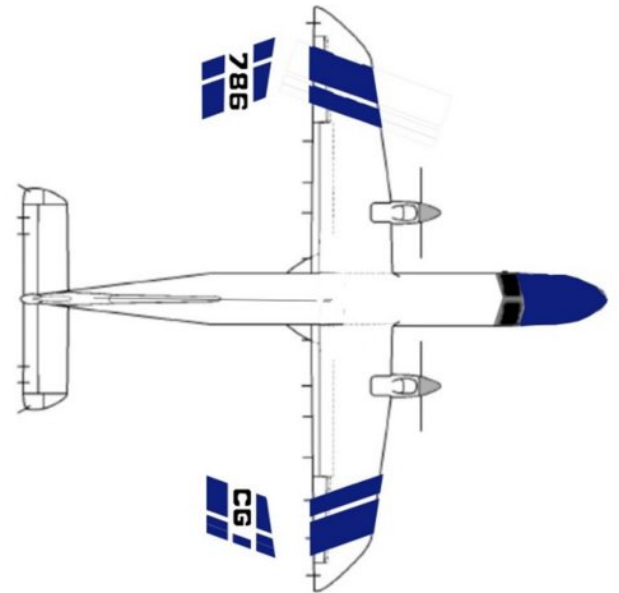
Do-228-201 with the long fuselage coded CG786 is flown by CGAS744 squadron from Chennai/ Madras. It has an attractive scheme of gloss white, lower grey (about FS16492) and blue striping and trim (about FS15180).

It has a large search radar fairing (see notes on first page). It can also be fitted with a SLAR pod at the starboard front fuselage. The rear port door has no window but it seems it also has a few bulbous cabin windows.

No national markings were seen, only India flags and Coast Guard titles and badges. (apply any white decal section and than on top the coloured decal section).

For the blue striping, decals are provided and these need trimming particularly at the rear fuselage and fin. Also for the wings, decal stripes are provided, trim to correct lengths. At the lower wing tips, it is better not yet to fit the flap hinges until after the decals are set.

A long wire antenna runs from tail to mid fuselage and some smaller antennas were also seen. Black outlined cockpit windows and black nose tip and blue upper nose. The spinners are silver/ chrome and propeller blades light grey with yellow-white tips. Red cornered emergency cutting panels (are decals).



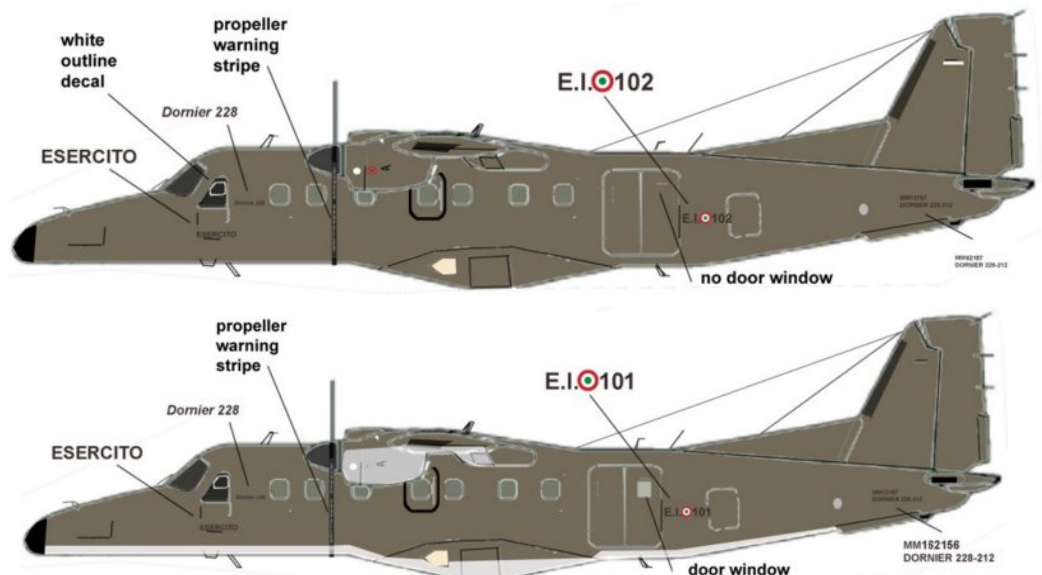
Italy Esercito

In Italy 3 Dorniers are used by the Army ESERCITO no.28 Gruppo squadron AVES from the early 1990s.

Do-228-212 MM62157 c/n 8203 coded EI 102 has an overall colour of what seems to be olive drab (about FS34087). The nose tip is black as are the leading edges of tail, wing and stabilizers. The spinners are black and there are vertical propeller warning stripes.

The second scheme of the Do-228-212 MM62156 c/n 8202 now coded EI 101 is very similar but has lower grey surfaces (about FS36495).

At the wing probably no roundels (but a few decals are provided). The Dorniers have small sliding cooling windows on each cockpit side window (is white outlined decal for both port and starboard sides). A pair of shorter wire antennas and some smaller antennas were also seen. The nose wheel has a mud cover installed.



Venezuela

The Venezuelan Grupo 9 operates a pair of Do-228-212 from 2013 and apparently a Do-228-212NG from 2019. Probably flown by Escuadron 92 "Guajibos" from Puerto Ayacucho in the Amazon.

Do-228-212 coded YV3000 c/n 8211 has an attractive white finish and cheatlines. The rudder colours can be painted (with separate white stars' decal) or applied with the decals. If using the decals, remove the small moulded tail antennas and set the coloured decals (on a white under-surface, the white stars are not even needed).



The cheatlines come in several sections. On each engine nacelle are also smaller cheatline groups. The wing tips seem to have a similar blue colour (about FS15102) as the cheatline blue on lower and upper tip areas with a gold/yellow inside line (about FS13637). (Some extra stripe' lengths are on the decals sheet).

It seems that the outboard sections of horizontal stabilizers are black on upper and lower stabilizer areas (about 70% span to tip). Aft of each engine exhaust is a rectangular black smoke panel on the lower wing. A long wire antenna runs from tail to mid fuselage and some smaller antennas were also seen. Black outlined cockpit windows and black nose tip and anti-glare panel on nose. The spinners are silver/ chrome and propeller blades black with yellow tips. Red emergency exit markings both port and starboard (but no red cornered rear emergency panels).

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