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# TOY CUSTOMIZER

May-June, 1998

#1

Make Your Own

## Captain Antilles

Find out how inside

## Customizing On the Internet

Cutting-Edge

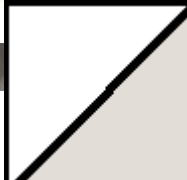
## Customizing Tips



WELL THOROUGHLY CLEAN  
BE PAINTED. PRIMERS NOT  
OR DARK. BRUSH ALL PRIMER  
TO PRIOR TO BRUSH ALL PRIMER  
VENTION. SHAKER. CLOSE CAP  
RIES TO TOUCH. 15 MINUTES  
CAL HEAT. BRUSH ALL PRIMER  
ROOM TEMPERATURE. DRY  
15 MINUTES IF HEAT DRIED. 2  
OM TEMPERATURE. CLEAN  
CLEANER. KEEP OUT OF  
INGESTED. DO NOT  
-A PHYSICIAN

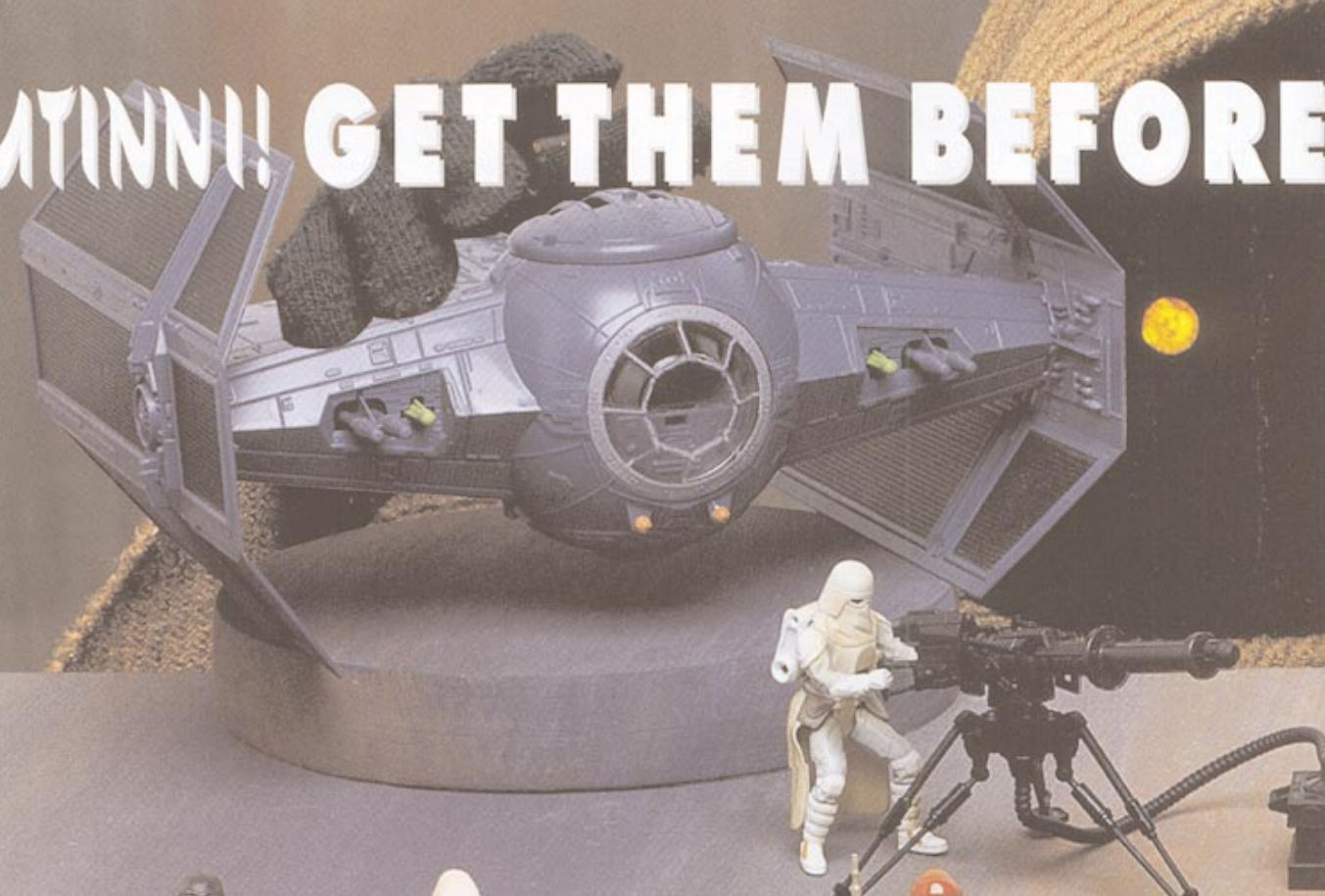
STIR & SHAKE WELL. THOROUGHLY CLEAN  
SURFACE TO BE PAINTED. PRIMERS NOT  
NECESSARY FOR DARK COLORS. PRIMER  
RECOMMENDED PRIOR TO BRUSH ALL PRIMER  
APPLY IN CONVENTIONAL MANNER. CLOSE  
AFTER USE. DRIES TO TOUCH IN 15 MINUTES  
USING ARTIFICIAL HEAT SOURCE OR  
MINUTES AT ROOM TEMPERATURE.

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02





WINN! GET THEM BEFORE THE SCAVENGERS DO.



**BASIC FIGURES**

- Admiral Ackbar
- ASP-7 Droid
- AT-ST Driver
- Ben (Obi-Wan) Kenobi
- Spirit of Obi-Wan
- Bib Fortuna
- Boba Fett
- B'omarr Monk
- Bossk
- C-3PO

- Chewbacca
- Darth Vader
- Death Star Gunner
- Dengar
- Emperor Palpatine
- Emperor's Royal Guard
- EV-9D9
- Figrin D'an
- 4-LOM
- Gamorrean Guard
- Garindan (Long Snoot)
- Grand Moff Tarkin

- Greedo
- Han Solo
- in Hoth Gear
- in Carbonite Block
- in Endor Gear
- Bespin
- in Stormtrooper Disguise
- Hoth Rebel Soldier
- Jawas (2-Pack)
- Lando Calrissian
- as Skiff Guard

- Luke Skywalker
- in X-wing Gear
- in Dagobah Fatigues
- as Jedi Knight
- in Stormtrooper Disguise
- in Hoth Gear
- in Ceremonial Outfit
- Malakili (Rancor Keeper)
- Momaw Nadon "Hammerhead"
- Nien Nunb
- Ponda Baba

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● **Collection - More To Come** ●

- Princess Leia Organa
- as Jabba's Prisoner
- in Boushh Disguise
- R2-D2
- R5-D4
- Rebel Fleet Trooper
- Saelt-Marae (Yak Face)
- Sandtrooper
- Snowtrooper
- Stormtrooper
- TIE Fighter Pilot
- Tusken Raider

- 2-1B Medic Droid
- Weequay Skiff Guard
- Yoda

**DELUXE FIGURES**

- Boba Fett
- Han Solo
- Hoth Rebel Soldier
- Luke Skywalker
- Probe Droid
- Snowtrooper
- Stormtrooper

**VEHICLES**

- A-wing with Pilot
- Boba Fett's Slave I
- Cruisemissile Trooper
- Darth Vader's TIE Fighter
- Dash Rendar's Outrider
- Electronic Imperial AT-AT Walker with AT-AT Driver and AT-AT Commander
- Electronic Millennium Falcon
- Electronic Rebel Snowspeeder

- Electronic X-wing Fighter
- Imperial AT-ST
- Landspeeder
- Luke's T-16 Skyhopper
- Speeder Bike with Imperial Biker Scout
- Speeder Bike with Leia Organa in Endor Gear
- Speeder Bike with Luke Skywalker in Endor Gear
- TIE Fighter



A-wing comes with pilot. Other vehicle and figures each sold separately. <http://www.hasbro.com>



## **TOY CUSTOMIZER**

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## In this issue of **TOY CUSTOMIZER**

May-June, 1998

Volume 1 Issue 1

### **4 Reader Questions**

Is your latest custom job a pain in the ASP? Check out our responses to readers' questions. You might find the answer you need.

### **8 Just for Fun**

Getting too serious with your toys? Have some fun with these recipes for amusing custom jobs.

### **12 Tools of the Trade**

Our resident gadgeteer discusses paints, tools, and other materials that are essential for giving your custom work that factory-made look.

### **16 Captain Antilles: Featured Custom Toy**

This issue we take a look at Aaron Monk's Captain Antilles Star Wars figure. With our step-by-step instructions, there's no reason you won't be able to make one of your own.

### **22 Customizing Resources**

Toy Customizer takes to the Net in search of valuable sites. Our guided tour will open the door to the online customizing universe.

### **26 Interview with Ken Pruitt**

Master Star Wars customizer Ken Pruitt shares with us some of his techniques for using just about anything to make that toy you've always dreamed about.

### **32 Readers' Customs**

Send us pictures of your own work and show us what you (and your custom toys) are made of.

### **36 Calendar of Events**

From toy shows to model shows to toy release dates, see what's coming up in the world of toys and customizing.

### **38 Classified Ads**

Can't find that special something? Check here in our classified ads.

### **40 Why is Star Wars so big?**

Find out why the Star Wars phenomenon captures the imagination of so many toy customizers.



# *Make your own Captain Antilles*



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So you're looking for a great customized Star Wars figure that's fun and easy? Look no further! In this issue, veteran Star Wars customizer Aaron Monk shares with us his personal recipe for making the Captain Antilles figure, which Kenner has never released. Aaron has been making customized figures that fill in the holes in Kenner's figure line for several years, and his experience shows in the quality custom figures that come out of his workshop. Now we're passing Aaron's recipe on to you!

Whether you've never tried your hand at customizing, or you're experienced and hungry for a new project, our step-by-step recipe will tell you what you need to know to make your very own Captain Antilles figure. We'll start by telling you the figures, tools, and paints you need. Then our step-by-step instructions with pictures will show what you need to do. As always, be sure to read through the entire recipe first before you begin. Good luck!

## *The featured custom figure by Aaron Monk*

### *What you need*

Like any recipe, you need to know your ingredients. First, make sure you have these three Kenner figures:

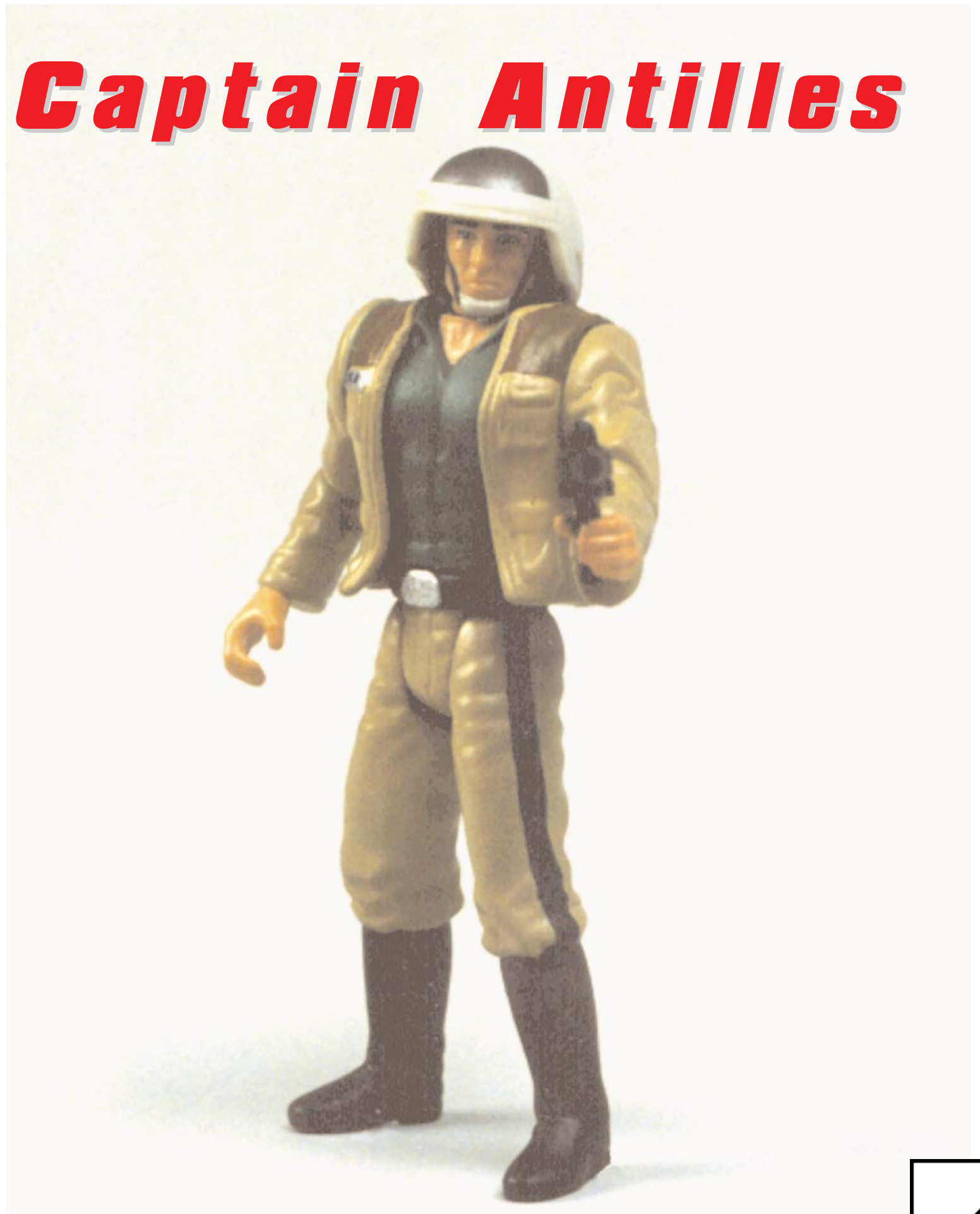
- 1) Rebel Fleet Trooper
- 2) Han Solo in Endor Gear
- 3) Ponda Baba

You'll also need these supplies and tools:

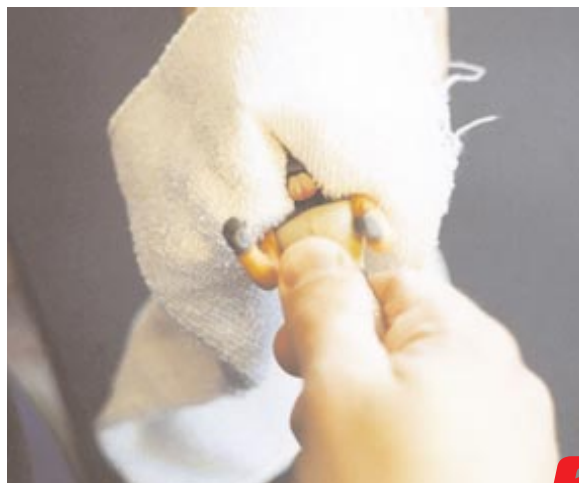
- 1) Razor-blade knife
- 2) Brushes of various sizes for painting
- 3) Super glue
- 4) Spray can of semi-gloss sealant
- 5) Cup of boiling water
- 6) Rag or towel
- 7) Roll of drafting tape (or masking tape).

To give your Captain Antilles figure the right coloring, you'll also need to do some painting. We recommend acrylic (water-based) paints, as opposed to enamel (oil-based) paints. Enamel paints may not dry completely on the soft plastics used in many toys, and your toy might feel sticky as a result. You'll need paints in these colors (you can use the pictures to help you match these colors):

- 1) White
- 2) Black
- 3) Silver
- 4) Blue
- 5) Tan
- 6) Brown
- 7) Olive
- 8) Dark Reddish Brown (optional)







**6**

## **Building the Figure**

Here are Aaron's steps for putting your Captain Antilles figure together. Refer to the numbered pictures to help you along.

### **Step 1.**

Take the vest off the Rebel Fleet Trooper figure.

### **Step 2.**

Take the coat off the Han Solo figure.

### **Step 3.**

Take the jacket off the Ponda Baba figure.

### **Step 4.**

Boil a cup of water in the microwave. You'll need this for the next step.

### **Step 5.**

Being extremely careful not to burn yourself, dip Ponda Baba into the boiling water head first, about waist deep, and let it soak for about 20 seconds.

### **Step 6.**

The plastic of the head should be soft enough now for you to pull it out of the figure's torso. Use the rag or towel to hold the head, since it will be very hot. Pull carefully but firmly, so that you do not pull the post off the head. It's important to use your hands in removing the head, because a pliers or other tool may leave a mark on the soft plastic.

### **Step 7.**

If you look inside the chest cavity, you will see a post connecting the chest to the figure's back. With the razor-blade knife, cut the post in half.

### **Step 8.**

Next, split the torso into two parts by cutting along the seam with your knife. Use the flat-head screwdriver to pry apart the two pieces of the torso. Your Ponda Baba figure should now be in 7 pieces (1 head, 2 arms, 1 front half of torso, 1 back half of torso, 1 vest, and 1 lower body with legs).

### **Step 9.**

Re-boil the cup of water and repeat steps 5-8 for the Han Solo figure. If done correctly, your Han figure should be in 7 pieces (1 head, 2 arms, 1 front half of torso, 1 back half of torso, 1 trench coat, and 1 lower body with legs).



**7**



**8**

### **Step 10.**

Re-boil the cup of water and repeat steps 5-8 for the Rebel Fleet Trooper figure. If done correctly, the figure should be in 7 pieces (1 head, 2 arms, 1 front half of torso, 1 back half of torso, 1 vest, and 1 lower body with legs).

### **Step 11.**

With all the pieces from the three figures, you are now ready to put your Captain Antilles figure together. Get together the following pieces to build your figure: Rebel Fleet Trooper's head, arms, and front and back of torso, Han Solo's arms, and the lower body and legs of Ponda Baba.

### **Step 12.**

Put all pieces in place (except for the vest) and super-glue the two torso pieces back together. If you want the figure's head and arms to be able to move, be careful not to use too much glue. Now your Captain Antilles figure is ready to be painted.

## **Painting the Figure**

Get your paints, brushes, and thinner ready to do some painting. When you are painting, you will need at least two coats of each paint (since acrylic paints can be somewhat thin). Be sure to allow about 10 minutes for each coat to dry. If you don't, then you may smear the paint or get fingerprint marks on the figure.

### **Step 13.**

Paint the pants, arms, and vest (inside and out) Tan.

### **Step 14.**

Paint a Black stripe down the outside legs of his pants. In order to make the stripe as straight as possible, place the drafting tape on the legs as shown and paint between the pieces of tape.

### **Step 15.**

Paint the belt and boots Dark Reddish Brown (if you can't find this color off the shelf, what you can do is mix Red, Brown, and a pinch of Black together).

### **Step 16.**

Paint the shirt Olive.

### **Step 17.**

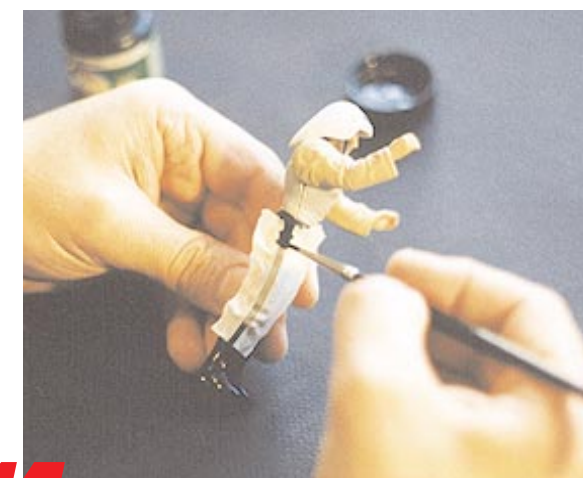
Next, paint the belt buckle and the top of his right vest pocket Silver.



**11**



**12**



**14**





**18**

**Step 18.**

Mix some Brown with Tan. Use this color (a Dark Tan) to paint the shoulders of the vest. In order to get straight lines, use the drafting tape in the same way as you did in step 13.

**Step 19.**

Paint two Blue dots on the Silver block on the vest (this shows that his rank is captain).

**Step 20.**

Once everything has been painted, spray the figure and the vest with the semi-gloss sealant. This will extend the life of the paint on the figure as well as give the acrylic paint (which has a dull finish) a shine that the store-bought figures have. This look is important if you plan on displaying your Captain Antilles figure alongside original Kenner figures. Allow about 20 minutes for the sealant to dry.

**Final Touches**

**Step 21.**

Carefully slide the painted vest back onto the new figure. Do touch-up painting on any places where the paint was scratched off.

**Step 22.**

You may want to lightly respray the figure with sealant, depending on how much you had to retouch the figure.

**Step 23.**

Pat yourself on the back. You're done! Be back for the next issue of Toy Customizer to try your hand at another custom toy.

**Be Creative**

Now that you've tried your hand at our customizing recipe, why not do something with all those left over arms, legs, and heads? See if you can think of a figure that Kenner never made. The secret to customizing is to try new things, so don't be afraid to experiment!

**Did you know?**

It was Captain Antilles' mission to deliver Princess Leia and the Death Star plans safely to the Rebel Alliance. Although Captain Antilles was killed by Darth Vader, his mission was ultimately completed by his droids, R2-D2 and C-3PO. With the help of their new master Luke Skywalker, the droids eventually found their way back to the Rebel Alliance, and the Death Star plans were used to pave the way for the Rebellion's victory. In the end, Captain Antilles became a hero for the Rebel Alliance.

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SW FIGURES	SW	ESB	ROJ	POF	BAG	LSE
Chewbacca	205		40	165		8
Luke Skywalker	375	175				35
R2-D2						15
Princess Leia Organa	275	150				35
Han Solo	145	75		30	22	
C-3PO	205					10
Stormtrooper	225		40			12
Darth Vader	30		95	18		12
Ben Kenobi	275	60		95		14
Jawa	95					16
Sand People	225					14
Death Squad Commander	205	40				12
Hammerhead						8
Power Droid						10
R2-D4						15
Snaggletooth			30			10
Blue Snaggletooth						195
Greedo			95			10
Death Star Droid	105					15
Walrus Man	80					10
Luke X-Wing	105			120	20	12
Boba Fett	050		125			

ROJ FIGURES	ROJ	POF	BAG	LSE
Bib Fortuna	28		20	12
Pile-Yees	25		15	10
Wingate	22		12	8
Emperor's Royal Guard				15
Chief Chirpa	25		14	12
Lando Skiff	35		20	15
Luke Jedi Knight	175			30
Leia Boush'h	45		35	28
Logray	20		12	10
Squad Head	20		16	12
Alasu	35		12	8
Gamborian Guard	20		18	10
General Madine	30		16	12
Nien Nunb	25		12	8
Rebel Commando	25		20	15
Biker Scout	25		20	15
Admiral Ackbar	22		12	8
Nikko	30		20	18
Raatu Skiff	30		20	15
Han Solo Tranch Coat	35		10	8
Teebo	30		65	12
AT-ST Driver	20		12	8
Phine Face	50		14	10
Wicket W. Warrick	28			
The Emperor	95		10	8
Rancor Keeper	20		18	15
Leia in Combat Poncho	45		85	35
B-D6	50		14	10
Paploo	35		45	35
Lumal	45		50	28

NEW = sealed or mint in box  
LSE = loose and complete  
BAG = new in Kenner bag or on damaged card

ESB FIGURES	ESB	ROJ	POF	BAG	LSE
Luke Bespin					22
Bespin Guard White	25	25			10
Rebel Soldier Hoth					8
FX-7	50				8
Han Solo Hoth	65		20	10	
Lando Calrissian	30		10		8
Hoth Stormtrooper					12
Bossk	70				8
IG-88	65				10
Yoda					32
Ugnaught					15
AT-AT Driver					8
Lobot	20	20			10
Dengar	40		15		8
Han Solo Bespin					30
Rebel Commander	25		14		8
Imperial Commander					20
Leia Hoth					25
R2-D2 SensorScope	75				16
C-3PO Removable Limbs	32	90			6
4-LOM	45		25		18
Zuckuss					20
Tie Fighter Pilot					65
Bespin Guard Black	20				8
Cloud Car Pilot					22
AT-AT Commander					12
Luke Hoth					12

POTF FIGURES	POF	BAG	LSE
EV-909	175		95
R2-D2 Pop-up	185		115
Han in Carbonite			125
Warok	50		
Imperial Dignitary	135		85
Rumack			50
Barada	115		45
Lando General Pilot	145		95
Anakin Skywalker			40
Luke Stormtrooper			165
Imperial Gunner	155		
Luke Battle Poncho	150		
A-Wing Pilot			105
Amacassian			
Yak Face			

DOLLS	NEW	LSE
Boba Fett	195	
Han Solo	225	
C-3PO	75	
R2-D2	115	
Jawa	135	
Ben Kenobi	165	
Chewbacca	105	
IG-88	305	
Darth Vader	85	
Stormtrooper	185	
Luke Skywalker	185	
Princess Leia	185	

PLAYSETS & TOYS	NEW	LSE
Death Star	125	
Han Solo	45	
Turret & Probot	55	
Droid Factory	85	
Jabba Throne	85	
Land of the Jawas	60	
Ewok Village	65	
Imperial Attack Base	40	
Phine Faceback	95	
Taun-Taun	30	
Taun-Taun Split Belly	40	
Wampa	25	
Tripod Laser Cannon	25	15
PDT-8	25	15
Electric Toothbrush	115	
R2-D2 Remote Control	95	
Laser Rifle Case	50	25
Darth Vader Case	40	12
C-3PO Case	60	30
ROTJ vinyl case	150	
ESB vinyl case	20	

SHIPS	NEW	LSE
Imperial Shuttle		
Imperial Tie Fighter	45	
Darth Vader's Tie Fighter	55	
Battle Damaged Tie Fighter	45	
B-Wing	250	125
Millennium Falcon		105
Land Speeder	75	25
X-Wing	45	
Battle Damaged X-Wing	45	
Snowspeeder	75	55
AT-AT Walker	145	
AT-ST Walker	45	
Tatooine Skiff		30
Twin-Pod Cloud Car		30
Slave 1	50	
Y-Wing	115	85
Tie Interceptor	195	125
Rebel Transport	125	

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Leia gun \$ 10.00  
Jawa gun \$ 5.00  
Han gun \$ 3.00 (blue or black)

ORIGINAL WEAPONS	NEW	LSE
2-1B staff	4	
4-LOM chest cover	4	
4-LOM gun	5	
AT-ST Driver gun	1	
Bib Fortuna staff	4	
Biker Scout gun	4	
Bossk gun	4	
B-wing pilot gun	3	
C-3PO limbs holder	2	
Darth Vader Saber	6	
IG-88 gun	3	
General Madine staff	3	
Han Bespin gun	3	
Lando Skiff helmet	5	
B-D6	3	
Leia Combat Poncho helmet	2	
Luke Hoth gun	2	
Luke Jedi blue saber	25	
Luke Jedi green saber	4	
Luke original light saber	4	
Paploo staff	4	
Phineface gun	3	
Rancor Keeper hood	3	
Rancor Keeper staff	4	
Rebel Commando gun	4	
Wingate staff	3	
Yoda belt	4	
Yoda orange snake	4	
Zuckuss gun	5	

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3X3	—	1.50	12.33
3X4	—	1.45	12.92
3X5	—	2.00	15.58
3X6	—	2.25	17.43
4X4	—	2.05	15.80
4X6	—	2.80	22.03
4X8	—	3.45	27.03
5X8	—	3.05	23.62
5X7	—	3.90	30.44
5X8	—	4.35	34.14
5X10	—	5.35	41.86
6X4	—	3.10	24.37
6X6	—	4.15	32.61
6X8	—	5.10	39.88
7X10	—	8.30	64.80
8X10	—	8.20	64.35
9X12	—	10.25	80.48
10X12	—	11.60	90.92
12X12	—	13.90	109.10
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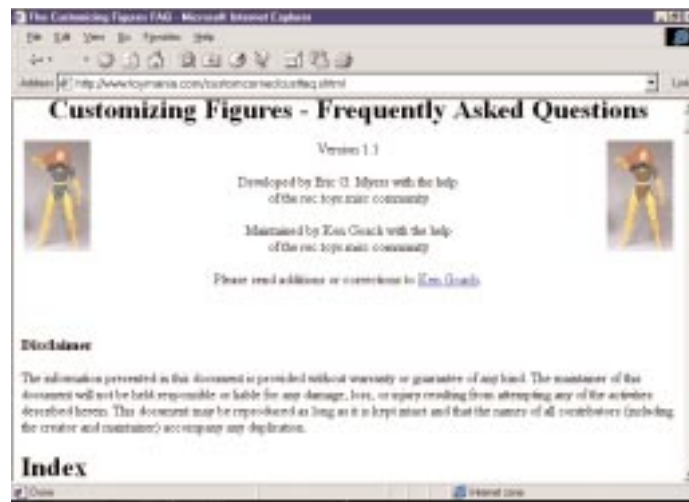
# Customizing Resources on the Internet

In case you haven't noticed, customizers have built a world of their own on the Internet. With the ability to display pictures alongside text descriptions, it's no wonder that there are hundreds of customizing sites. It would be impossible for Toy Customizer to attempt to present to you all of these sites on the Net, but we have found some truly essential sites that will open the doors to online customizing resources. Grab that mouse and get ready to take our customizing tour.

## Raving Toy Maniac: Customizing Figures FAQ

<http://www.toymania.com/customcorner/custom-faq.shtml>

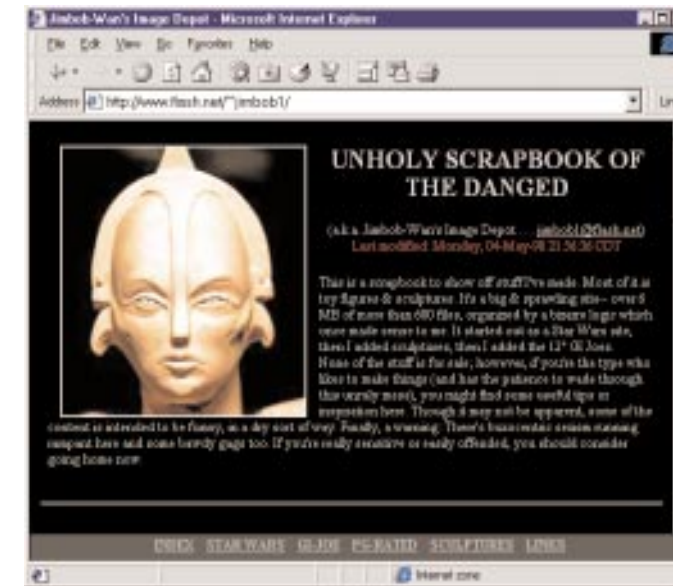
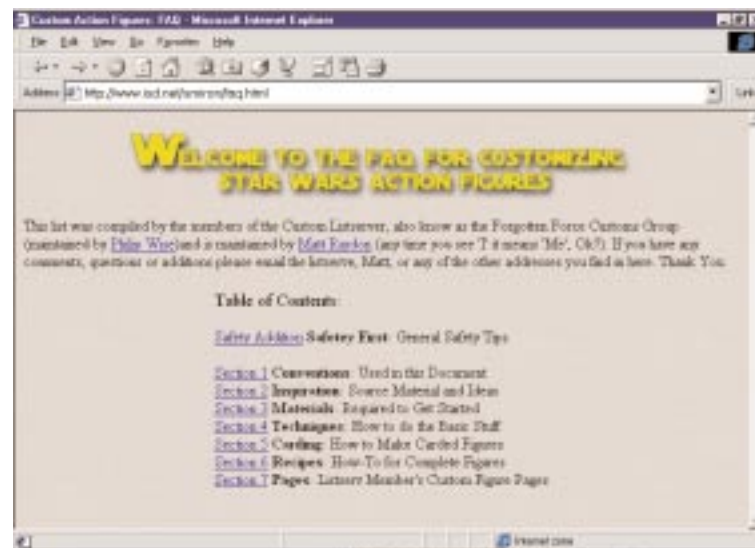
A FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) listing is a series of common questions and answers. For the novice, the FAQ at Raving Toy Maniac ([www.toymania.com](http://www.toymania.com)) is definitely the best place to begin our tour. Here you will find answers to general questions, as well as specifics on painting and sculpting. Novices will be able to get a good feel for many aspects of customizing, and more experienced customizers may find that there's a lot still to learn. But don't get complacent with the knowledge you've acquired; our tour is just beginning.



## FAQ for Customizing Star Wars Action Figures

<http://www.isd.net/smiron/faq.html>

As you come to this next FAQ, you are introduced to a major type of toy customizing—Star Wars customizing. At least 50 percent of the customizing sites of the Net are Star-Wars related, so this is a good place to learn more. You will find links to smaller FAQs on materials, techniques, making custom cards for your figures, and a few custom recipes. The link entitled “Safety Addition” (<http://www.isd.net/smiron/faqS.html>) has some very important safety tips that are a must for anyone handling the tools and chemicals involved with customizing toys.



## The Unholy Scrapbook of the Danged (a.k.a., Jimbob-Wan's Image Depot)

<http://www.flash.net/~jimbob1>

In addition to the unbelievable bounty of customizing information for toy figures of all sorts, site owner Jim Stelling has posted lots of close-up pictures of his custom work. After you have had a look around this site, be sure to click on “Links” in the navigation frame on the bottom of the screen, then click on “Instructional Articles” (if you want to go straight there, the address is <http://www.flash.net/~jimbob1/linkstop.htm>). Once there, you will find articles divided into the following 7 categories: General; Sculpting; Painting; Backer Cards; Miscellaneous; Supplies, Materials, Tools, & Kits; and Resources. Spend some time looking through these articles; you will find excellent tips on how to perform common customizing actions (such as how to take apart figures without destroying them).

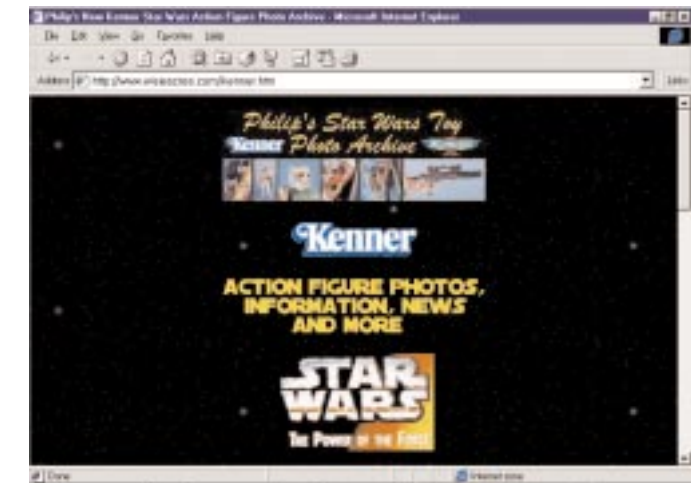
## Philip's Star Wars Toy Photo Archive

<http://www.wiseacres.com/kenner.htm>

Now that you've read enough about customizing, you're probably ready to take a good look at what customizing can allow you to do. Philip Wise, the owner of this site, has collected photographs of several top-notch customizers' creations. You will find a multitude of photographs of action figures and vehicles by clicking on “Custom Action Figure Photos.” You'll probably want to bookmark the page and come back later. There is also a “Custom Dioramas” link, which leads to pictures of customized playsets and settings in which figures may be displayed “in action.”

While on the “Custom Action Figure Photos” page, be sure to click on the link directly under “Customizers' Crossroads.” There you will find a listing of links to other customizing sites on the Net. There are so many to look at that you'll probably need to bookmark this page and come back later.

Click on the “Star Wars Customizers' ListServer Archives” (<http://news2.cyclix.com/archives/customs.html>) while you're on the “Customizers' Crossroads” page. This is an excellent resource of individual articles by different customizers offering how-to tips. The archive contains articles dating back to its inception in October of 1996. What makes this a truly great find is that it is updated weekly, so you know you'll always be in touch with the latest techniques. Novices can also use the archive to “catch up” on older techniques that may have been developed in the past.

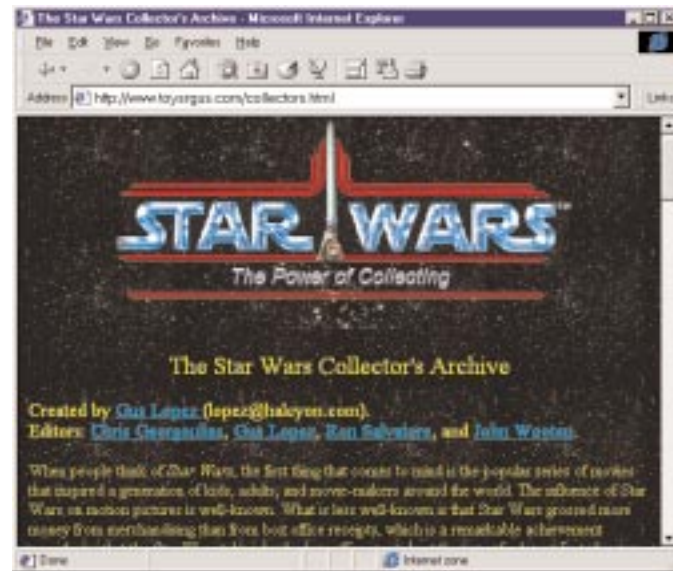




**Star Wars Collector's Archive: Custom Toys and Packaging**

<http://www.toysrgus.com/images-fanmade.html>

Gus Lopez is one of the great Star Wars gurus, and his page on customizing Star Wars toys is a definite must for customizers. The toys on this page are divided into 5 sections: Custom Action Figures; Custom Dolls; Custom Action Figure Playsets, Vehicles, and Creatures; Custom Carded and Boxed Figures; and Custom Packaging. Since most of the customizing sites on the Internet deal with new Star Wars figures, this extensive resource of vintage (those released between 1977 and 1985) Star Wars toys is rare. When you have satiated yourself with a good taste of what's here, bookmark the page and come back later. You might want to click on "Back to Main Menu" at the bottom of the page; this brings you to most impressive collection of Star Wars memorabilia on the Web.



**The Custom Monster Factory**

<http://home.att.net/~bodypartsm>

After seeing such a Star-Wars-heavy site, the Custom Monster Factory is a refreshing look at customizing from a different angle. You'll find sections on Custom Monsters, Science Fiction, Yesterday's Heroes, and Marvel 2099. Some of the figures even have customized backdrops, which can help give you ideas for displaying your own customized toys. Once you've explored the diversity and eclecticism of the figures on this site, come back to the main page and click on "Links." You will then find yourself confronted with links to other unique non-Star-Wars sites. Bookmark the page for later so you don't get lost while surfing.



We hope this brief tour has helped to shed a little light on the vast world of customizing on the Internet. Remember that this is only a fraction of what's out there, and new sites are always popping up on the Net. Now that the tour's over, you might take the time to go back and check out all the pages you bookmarked along the way. By exploring the links on the pages you visited, you'll find more and more on the Internet. You can also visit a search engine and find even more by entering some customizing keywords (*custom, toys, figures*, etc.). With so much to see, you'll probably find something that appeals to your specific interests. If you don't, think about starting your own site and become part of the customizing world on the Web.

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**STAR WARS**  
The Power of Collecting

The Star Wars Collector's Archive

Created by Gus Lopez (lspez@haleyos.com).  
Editors: Chris Swartzman, Gus Lopez, Ron Sabersky, and John Wastan.

When people think of Star Wars, the first thing that comes to mind is the popular series of movies that inspired a generation of kids, adults, and movie-makers around the world. The influence of Star Wars on motion pictures is well-known. What is less well-known is that Star Wars generated more money from merchandising than from box office receipts, which is a remarkable achievement.

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