

KIT MP38 by SHOEI

Who has not heard of the famous company Shoei (not motorcycle helmets!), the very famous company manufacturing very expensive replica airsoft? There are a MG42 and a MP44, which were never matched the level and quality finish. Shoei is a company composed of three persons only, and has a small workshop, which may surprise with its reputation in the world! This Japanese company has a very small shop and you really know to stop there as we pass!

The history of MP38

From 1932, the firm sells the Erfurt Erma Erma EMP-35 (Erma Machinepistol). He was considered the best submachine gun of the time. Somewhat cumbersome for the crews of armored vehicles, the German army Erma asked to study a type of weapon the like, but can fire ammunition identical to that of pistols (9 mm Parabellum) but especially with a folding stock allowing for an easy to use inside vehicles.

After several prototypes via a MP 36 made a few copies, the MP 38 was adopted by the Wehrmacht in June 1938.

Many innovations are being tested on this weapon. First, the use of Bakelite for the shaft and the grip plates; We also, for the first time, a magazine located below the weapon under the barrel, we have an appendix aluminum to build on the edge of a vehicle or by loopholes without exploding figure with hindsight! We also, for the first time, up to 100 and 200 adjustable! Disassembly was also very simple and very fast. The fabrication of MP 38 is mainly realized by machining, which therefore called both a skilled workforce and top quality materials. This resulted in additional costs so if you wanted to achieve a realization of real quality.

The housing is covered long and deep longitudinal grooves for lightening the weapon while providing sufficient rigidity. The hole that can be seen in the magazine housing also contributes to the reduction of MP 38. By extrapolation, one can imagine that a total of 10 to 20 000 MP 38 were manufactured.

The Kit by Shoei

The package is discreet, just the logo of the brand gives emotions! Very neat package, despite the sound of a screw who walks around in the package. The whole is wrapped in bubble-wrap, with a record fine hand-drawn! No need to text, drawings are very explicit! The kit itself is not very heavy, it doesn't react to the magnet test. The assembly is childish, so just a Phillips screwdriver.

It must first disassemble basically the replica (as to change the battery). Unscrew the flash suppressor, remove the entire front (handlebars and handlebar guard, bottom trim) which complements the outer barrel. Unscrew the cap which is right next to the sling with the strap, and unscrew the two screws underneath the reply, that hold the block hop-up + barrel. Disassemble the black plastic cover that is in the loading wells and remove this block by passing through the front, and place it in the new frame. Disassemble the rise (by screw from the bottom), taking care to slide the little that is "force feedback" when changing the position of the increase. Disassemble the button

that is used to attach the charger. Assemble all the kit in the opposite direction, taking up the new frame!

What are the differences with the body of the MP40? First, we note that the body is striped! This gives it a very unique look, and it changes a lot of MP40 smooth (and almost classical in our party Sunday). The magazine button does not screw in its center, like the MP40, but is a screw itself! Note that all parts of this kit are fitted to the millimeter, which justifies the price paid for this kit. An S (Sicherheit) is engraved on the spot where should have been in the hole to block the cocking lever to move it safely. Too bad this rail is not dug, but it would have made very complex making this kit, plus the fact that the battery and Gearbox would be visible from the outside.

We notice a big hole on both sides of the loading wells, which are blocked by the plastic reinforcement on the inside (which is used to jam the magazine). DIYers will be a real hole, to see the hole when no charger is committed, but that would weaken the plastic part. The cocking lever is bent, unlike the 'chess pawn' mushroom shaped the MP40! The cocking lever is also attached with an allen screw, which changes the lever arms of the MP40, secured with Phillips screws, impossible to unscrew without offset screwdriver. And the low quality of the metal of the cylinder head of the game MP40 caused during handling of the cocking lever, the problem is not found on this kit! The breech block lets discover the hop-up, as the version AGM / Cybergun. It is cut in a way that does not touch the screws that secure the rise. Another sign of quality design, it fits once again to the millimeter! And apotheosis is at the level of markings, there are small eagles on the side of the carcass, as the original! Namely, these punches are extremely difficult to find. On one of these punches, we guess the cross, but it is so small it is mentioned that actually displayed. A small "Shoei, Japan" just being in the bottom right of the body, the hidden area by the lower receiver of the MP40. This discretion is appreciated! Once the replica is assembled, there is a very small clearance between the upper and lower receiver. The only two inconsistencies that cannot be changed (DIY experts can probably fix the problem, but it's not within my reach!) Are the shape of the upper body, where we find the markings "MP38" on an original; and the form of chargers, which are not striated. But during the war, everything was possible, and as everything is compatible, customizations are not impossible. So I would suggest a little patina to painting to do, and to strike such serial number markings on the feed shaft and body of MP40 itself.

Some small technical data now: kit price: 180 € + 40 € + 60 € fees customs. We obtain a total of € 280 for this kit. Too bad it's so expensive but the quality is undeniable and appointments, Shoei will, again, not disappointed at all! The kit is composed of: body, cocking lever with the allen screw; specific button of standpipes; an allen wrench and set screw to secure the body to block hop-up. For more information or more pictures, feel free to contact me via my website: www.neo035.franceserv.com.

A big thank you to Tomio from Shoei for his help and kindness!
www.shoeiseisakusho.co.jp/