

# 1971 Gulf Porsche 917 Langheck (Longtail) Assembly and Painting Instructions

## IMPORTANT!! READ THIS BEFORE YOU BEGIN!!

This model kit is cast in Polyurethane resin. If you are allergic to this material, DO NOT handle it. In the normal course of building this kit you will be exposing yourself to various solvents, glues and paints. Good ventilation and eye protection are essential. Please use your head. Just a friendly reminder in the hopes that you'll be with us for many models to come.

### Preparation:

Carefully inspect all the various parts of the kit and dry - fit the parts together, dressing off mold lines as needed. Pay special attention to the window openings as there is a very fine ledge molded in to support the windows. Be careful not to trim this off or fitting the windscreen will be a problem. Thoroughly clean all mold release from all the resin parts with a few drops of bleach in warm water, or a strong solvent. An old toothbrush is very useful for this, but be gentle so as not to damage the small parts.

### Assembly:

This kit is designed in such a way that the chassis and body shell can be built and finished separately. All the parts should be painted before asssembly. You must decide which car you wish to model now as the small naca ducts differ from one to the other and you will have to fill the ones that are not needed. Refer to the photos on page three to determine which ducts to fill, then begin by painting the following:

Chassis , axles , battery box , exhausts and steering wheel : Semi - Gloss Black Dashboard , rear view mirror , small seat and cockpit area : Matte Black Tires : Matte Black with a dab of Gray ( Testors' " Rubber " is very effective )

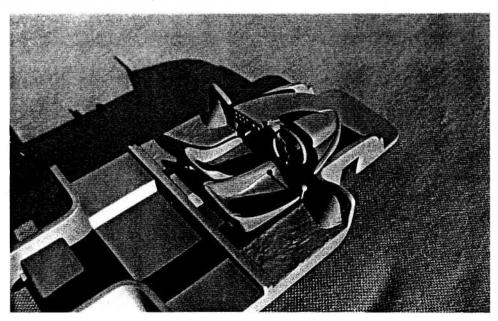
Wheels: Matte Dark Gunmetal, almost Black

Brakes, switch bezels on dash and Shift lever: Bright Silver

Upholstery on sills : Matte Dark Gray Large drivers' seat : Matte Red

First mount the battery box into the cockpit onto the small raised plinth on the passenger side. Then, mount the small seat immediately ahead of it. Be careful to butt the small seat up against the transverse tube on the floor. Next, locate the larger drivers 'seat with the large tab ahead of the forward tab on the floor. The two small tabs on the rear bottom of the seat locate to either side of the rear floor tab. Before you glue the drivers 'seat down, you should locate the shift lever into the small hole provided in the side of the sill. Pick out the switch bezels and warning lights in bright Silver, then add small bits of wire to simulate the actual switches. The corrugated hose is for cold air and appears to be Black in some pictures, Off - White in others. To properly locate the dash to the chassis, drop the body shell into place, and snug the dash up to the windscreen line. Gently lift off the body shell, then glue the dash in place. The steering wheel mounts in the recess provided, and angles to the right and slightly up.

The larger axle goes to the rear, with the smooth side down, the thinner axle to the front with its recessed side down. Don't glue these in yet as you'll want to adjust the sit of the wheels later so that all four touch ground. The brake discs mount with their bosses faced outwards, and remember the calipers should be at the rear of each wheel when done. The fitting of the wheels and tires can now be done, and you will want to pick out the hub-nut in silver while you're there. Fit the exhaust pipes with the square sides of the tab up, into the recess on the back of the chassis. This completes the chassis. The photo below shows the location of the various parts fitted into the cockpit.



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## **Body Shell**

Body shell: Gulf Blue (Testors' 1108 Blue with a few drops of white is a good start & Testors' 1127 Orange for the cabin on car 17) Headlight buckets, window ledges, windscreen wiper assy, body interior, engine fan housing and wing: Matte Black Blinker lights, headlights, number lights and side laplight, gas and oil caps, and tie down latches: Bright Silver Electronic Ignition Modules (4): Gunmetal, highlighted with Silver

To assemble the body shell, begin by carefully trimming the rear underplate to fit snugly to the body shell. Glue the underplate in while sliding it as far to the rear as it will go. Fill the seam with body putty, and when dry, sand smooth. For cleaning up the louvres in the front fenders, fold a piece of fine sandpaper into a thin stip and gently insert it between the louvres. Sand very gently and watch the edges.

Now paint the shell Gulf Blue. When you get the body shell painted and thoroughly dry, Black out the headlight buckets, naca ducts, window ledges and the area inside from the transverse bulkhead forward with Matte Black.

Assemble the engine top / fan housing by gluing the round cup underneath the engine top. This assembly is Matte Black, while it is best to leave the fan the color of the resin it is cast in , adding a wash of dirty paint solvent to highlight the shape. This assembly mounts from under the shell, with the fan forward.

The Gas cap drops into the recess on the drivers side at the doorline. The smaller oil filler cap locates in the recess in the left rear fender. Both these should have their twist grips set fore and aft. The teardrop shaped blinker lights mount next to the forward headlight supports, larger ends forward. Add a dab of amber paint to simulate the lenses. Punch or cut out the lenses for the headlights and glue them into the lights with watered down white or aliphatic glue as this will not cause them to frost or craze. The lights mount in to the buckets with the larger ones at the rear, the smaller at the front. Punches to cleanly cut out the headlight lenses can be made from Brass tubing, rolled against a fine file to sharpen the edge. For the larger headlights, use 5/16 inch (7.62 mm) diameter, and for the smaller lenses use 7/32 inch (5.5 mm) diameter tubing. Cut out the rear window from clear plastic using the template provided, and carefully glue it into the opening. Paint the taillights longside. Red, shortside Amber, and mount them to the pads on the transom of the body shell, Amber sides outwards.

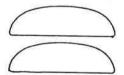
To assemble the windscreen wiper, first cut the pantograph arm from the sheet, then carefully bend down the side plates at the root of the arm. This is touchy work, but a thin metal ruler and small needle nose pliers help greatly. Now look closely at the wiper blades, noting that the actual rubber part is double etched. Gluthe two wipers needed up from the four halves provided, as this will give them the proper thickness. The wiper blades mount to the slim strip with the holes at both ends. The tab on this strip is for hanging the double wiper assembly from the main pantograph arm. Note that the longer side of the strip goes towards the nose of the car. Don't glue these parts until you can mount the assembly to the car with the windscreen in place, as they must be lined up to fit against it. Use a small piece of wire or plastic rod to make the mounting pins for the wiper assembly after you've fitted the windscreen. Note that the wiper sits to the passenger side when at rest

Trim the windows and headlamp cowls out with great care, and they will fit very well, the windshield can be trimmed with about 1/16th inch margin around it and pressed into the opening from inside the shell to glue. The side windows and headlight cowls should be tinted yellow on the insides with Gunze # 91 Clear Yellow paint or similar, thinned out to 95% thinner, 5% paint. These parts were Plexiglas on the real car, but the windscreen itself was clear glass. After applying the decals / transfers ( see page three ), use. White Glue or similar to mount the clear parts and let it dry thoroughly before handling the model. If you wish to open the side vents in the windows, use the templates below to cut out, the vents from clear plastic. Next, lay the side window flat on a piece of masking or drafting tape and trim out the scribed vent window, Very small strips of clear tape make effective hinges.

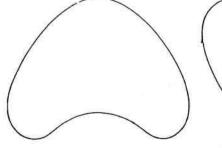
Vent window templates

Rear window templates



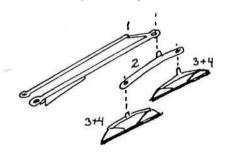


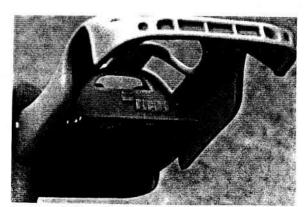
Windscreen template for use with flat stock





Windscreen wiper assembly sketch





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Ignition Module location on bulkhead



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#### Decal s / Transfers :

Locate the decals by referring to the photos below .Decals 3 and 4 go into the front grille opening . Decals 14 and 16 are for dropping into the naca ducts .This will help to avoid mismathced colors . Note that the Gulf-Porsche text sits on a strip of blue showing thru the orange paint on the cabin sides of the # 17 car.





If you choose to model the Siffert / Bell car you will have to paint the teardrop over the cabin , and then apply the black pinstripe around it using decal strips .Work slowly , and it's not that hard to do . I have found it best to paint the orange first , the, after it has dried a few days , pencil the design onto the model and use drafting tape or a similar low - adhesion tape to mask of the teardrop design , completely covering the cabin . Then you can spray the blue onto the model , hopefully giving a clean separation of colors . Add the balck pinstripe in sections and be patient , the results are well worth it .

Make up the two wing tensioners from very thin plastic card and paint them black. They locate to the body at the two small cleats on the rear deck, and are vertical ahen viewed from behind. They should mount to the wing underside about 1/8th inch inboard of the trailing edge. Also not that the number lights are mounted differently from car to car, No. 18 carrying only one at the rear, while No. 17 has two. The Gulf - Posche text is centered in the transom between the two hold down clamps.





Note that car No. 18 carries the Firestone decal at the rear, while the other car does not. Car 18 also uses the smaller red lightning bolt at the kill switch opening.

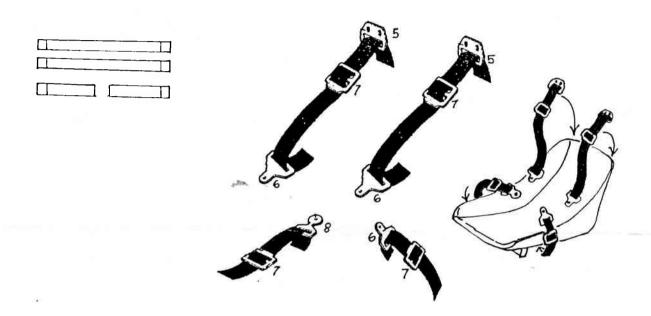


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## Final Assembly

Now that the decals are all on the model , you can mount all the windows and headlight cowls to the body shell . Be careful here . There is really nothing difficult about trimming out the clear parts , but should things go wrong , templates are provided on page two so a new windscreen can be made up from clear plastic sheet stock about . 005 inch or .13 mm thick. Heavier stock will also work , but will resist bending more .

Glue in the rear view mirror offset to the passenger side, and looking at the model photos locate and glue on the four tie-down latches. Fix the assembled widscreen wiper to the model and all that's left is the seat belts. These can be cut from tape or very fine linen cloth to fit the templates below, and the buckles assembled as in the drawing. You can then drape them over the drivers seat, and finally glue the body shell to the chassis at the edges underneath.



## **REFERENCES:**

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Porsche Story, by Julius Weitmann, Arco

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Porsche 917, by P. Hinsdale, Pub.?

Porsche 917, Jeff Allison, Vintage Motorsport mag. May / June 1991

Porsche 917 Super Profile .

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