

'Hunt' Class Escort Destroyer Type 2

H.M.S. BADSWORTH

Resin & Photo Etched Metal Kit in 1/350 scale

History

HMS Badsworth was one of a number of Type 2 Hunt Class Destroyers ordered by the Royal Navy in 1939, to a revised design that was to correct deficiencies that had occurred in the Type 1 Hunts. The Type 2 design had an increase in beam of 2 feet 8 inches which gave the ships a better stability that allowed the original armament to be fitted. The Type 1 Hunts had one of the 4 inch gun turrets removed along with the AA Platform and some of the fittings to reduce top weight following a dockside incident.

HMS Badsworth was laid down 15th May 1940 at Cammell Laird Shipbuilders in Birkenhead and Launched 17th March 1941 Commissioned in August 1941 she joined the Londonderry Escort Group and operated in the North Western Approaches giving much close convoy defence to various convoys from the North Atlantic down to West Africa.

From April 1942 HMS Badsworth was nominated for Arctic convoy duties and found herself busy providing both defence against air attacks and from U boats, on one occasion spotting a periscope and carrying out a depth charge attack.

The end of May 1942 saw Badsworth detached to the Mediterranean and Malta convoys which saw even more action and led to Badsworth coming under heavy air attacks. Being in action against units of the Italian Navy saw HMS Badsworth as part of Force X defending the vital convoys from being sunk. Ironically on her return to Malta, Badsworth struck a mine in the harbour entrance which caused serious structural damage. The damage was so severe that she had to be temporarily repaired at Malta and then Gibraltar, before returning to the UK ship yards for an in depth repair which took until late November.

From January 1943 Badsworth was employed on more Atlantic convoy duties and found herself on a detachment to the Mediterranean again until April when she struck another mine off Bone, Algeria. This time her whole aft end was damaged and had to be beached, from where she was towed to Malta for temporary repairs before being towed back to the UK for more extensive in depth repairs. HMS Badsworth was paid off from the Royal Navy in August 1944 and transferred to the Royal Norwegian Navy. She was renamed as HNoMS Arendal and finally decommissioned from Royal Navy service in November 1944.

From September 1944 as HNoMS Arendal she was based with the 16th Destroyer flotilla at Harwich until after the end of WW2 when she was bought by Norway. She continued a distinguished service with the Royal Norwegian Navy until 1961. She was scrapped in 1965.

Specifications

Length: 279ft 10ins oa. Beam: 31ft 6ins Displacement: 1070 tons standard 1450 tons deep. Speed: 27 knots

Armament: 6 x 4 inch guns in three twin HA/LA mountings.

110 Depth Charges fired from 2 x Mk 1 depth charge rails and 4 x Mk 11 depth charge throwers.1 x 4 barrelled 2 pounder Pom Pom.2 x 20mm Oerlikons in 2 x Single Mountings



This kit contains a mixture of resin and white metal small parts, of which some of the resin parts have been attached to sprues for ease of casting.

Care must be taken when detaching the parts from the sprues, to remove the flash without causing damage. When cleaning off the excess material using files or abrasive paper, it is recommended that a mask is worn as resin dust can be harmful to health if inhaled.











Aft Superstructure Fittings and Searchlight Platform Anchor Assembly 21 4 Once the aft superstructure, resin part 5 has been securely fitted to the main deck aft, fit the 4" gun turret assembly as shown in X position and another further aft in Y position. Fit the main mast pole, metal part 26, to the forward edge of the aft superstructure deck as shown above left. Cut a 15mm length of 0.5mm diameter brass or plastic rod to make a stub yardarm and fit in place centrally under the top cap. Assemble photo etched anchors 21 as shown above. Fit anchors into the hawse pipes each side of the bow, after first drilling out the holes with a 1.3mm drill bit.

5

Shape the railing section, etched part 3, to fit around the aft edge of the Searchlight Platform, resin part 4, as shown above. Fit the Searchlight, resin part 6, to the locating hole in the deck of the platform. Note: This platform also forms the Auxiliary Conning position and has compass binnacle at the forward end within the shielded area. This area may also be added by fitting splinter mating, etched part 46, around the outside of the bulwarks.





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