



1/144 Lufthansa 747-8 60th Anniversary Retro Livery- Build Report

This is a build report for my 1/144 scale model of the Lufthansa Boeing 747-8 in the stunning 60th Anniversary Retro Livery- registration D-ABYT, named "Köln". The project came together through a student sponsorship with V1 Decals, who very generously provided the decal sheet to bring the livery to life. This report covers the full process from print to finished model.



The Print

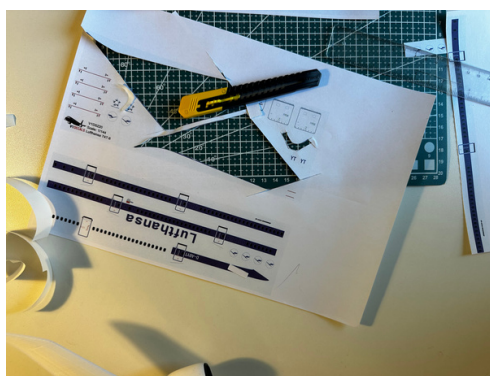
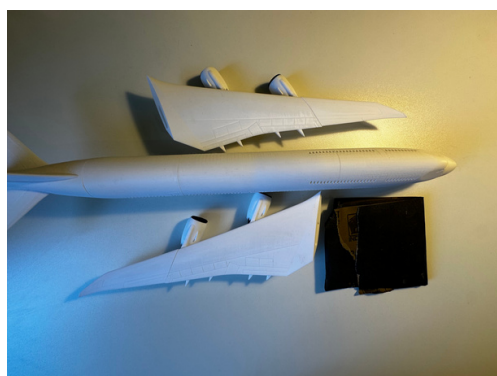
The plane model was printed on my BambuLab P1S in Bambu Lab Jade White filament- chosen specifically because the Lufthansa retro livery sits on a white fuselage, so the base colour of the print would do a lot of the heavy lifting. Getting the print settings dialled in was one of the more advanced parts of the process- wall thickness, layer adhesion, and support placement all needed

careful consideration to make sure the geometry held up reliably across what is quite a large and detailed print for 1/144 scale. A huge thanks to [Timmy Model](#) for the inspiration and baseline CAD behind the project.

Prep and Assembly

Once printed, the model needed a lot of work before it was anywhere near ready for decals. The fuselage sections were assembled and the fit was checked carefully before any finishing work began. Due to tight tolerances, some connector beams were sanded down, and superglue was used to ensure the strength of the joints.

Following advice from V1 Decals, the plane body was sanded smooth and any residue left from the superglue was removed. A flush, smooth surface is an important step before decal application- since the decals are designed for the Revell 1/144 kit rather than a 3D printed airframe, any imperfections in the surface will show through on the finished model.



Decal Application

The decals were carefully cut out- accurate cutting is critical, especially on smaller markings like the registration, logos, and detailing. Any misalignment at this stage is very hard to fix once they're down, so time spent here is time well spent. It's also worth remembering that you only get one chance with decals- there's no going back once they're applied or miscut, so taking the time to cut them right first time is absolutely imperative.

Each decal was carefully positioned section by section, working from the larger fuselage pieces down to the finer details. The cheatline in particular requires a steady hand to keep it running consistently along the length of the fuselage. Once in position, each piece was smoothed out to remove any air bubbles and left to set before moving on to the next.

The Finished Model

The finished model is something I'm really proud of. The retro livery looks fantastic at 1/144 scale, the blue cheatline and the classic Lufthansa crane logo on the dark navy tail ties the whole thing together perfectly.

A huge thanks to Ben and the team at VI Decals for making this possible- the quality of the decal sheet is excellent and I'd recommend them to any airliner modeller without hesitation.

