



# Athena Launchers

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Originally known as LLV (Lockheed Launch Vehicle), then LMLV, now Athena, Lockheed Martin's small launcher is a technical success but a market failure.

The Athena 1 uses a single Orbis motor atop a Castor 120; the Athena 2 adds a second Castor 120 to increase the payload. The proposed heavier Athena 3, with Castor IV strap-ons, will not be built due to the smaller-than-expected launcher market. The Athena 1 and 2 bracket the market claimed by the Taurus, but demand has not been high.

This kit contains decals and parts to model an Athena 1 (Lewis launch) and an Athena 2 (Lunar Prospector launch).

This kit is a resin kit. It is not up to the standards of professional mass-produced injection-molded kits; on the other hand, there are no such kits of the Athena. You will need to trim flash off of parts, sand parts to fit, and fill gaps and holes with plastic putty.

Before beginning, take inventory of your parts. Compare them with the kit instructions, and familiarize yourself with both. Now would be a good time to wash all resin parts in soap and lukewarm water, as this will wash off any "weeping" that may have come off the resin during shipping.

Use of a cyanoacrylate glue (Super Glue) or a fast-setting epoxy is recommended.

1. Assembly: NOT REQUIRED! The Athena models come completely assembled.

## 2. Painting and Decals

Painting: Both are painted an overall Gloss White.

Flat Black: Nozzle interior  
 Small divots on upper stage and the interstage below it.  
 Nicks between tunnel cover segments.

Gold: All inter-stage joints



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