



**The Soviet BT Series  
1932 – 1941**

# Agenda

- Overview
- Original Design Concept
- Development History/Variants
- Production History
- Available Kits

## The BT Series

- *Bystrokhodny Tank* – “High Speed Tank”
- Intended for scouting duties
- Very fast (45mph/72 kph, later 52mph/85kph)
- Very lightly armored (6 – 22mm)
- Relatively well-armed (37mm, later 45mm plus machine guns)

## Design Concept

- Originally a U.S. Design
  - J. Walter Christie
  - Christie Tank Model 1931
- Two were sold to the Soviet Union in April 1930
  - Turret-less tanks plus spares for \$64,000
  - Production, sale and use within the USSR for 10 years
- Sale was not approved by the US Government
  - Smuggled out the country labeled as agricultural tractors

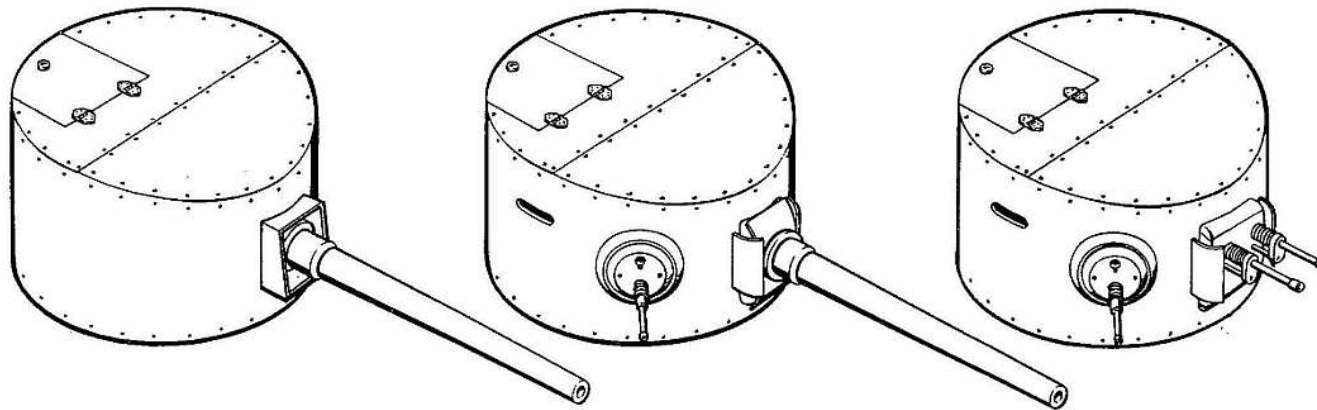


## Christie Model 1931



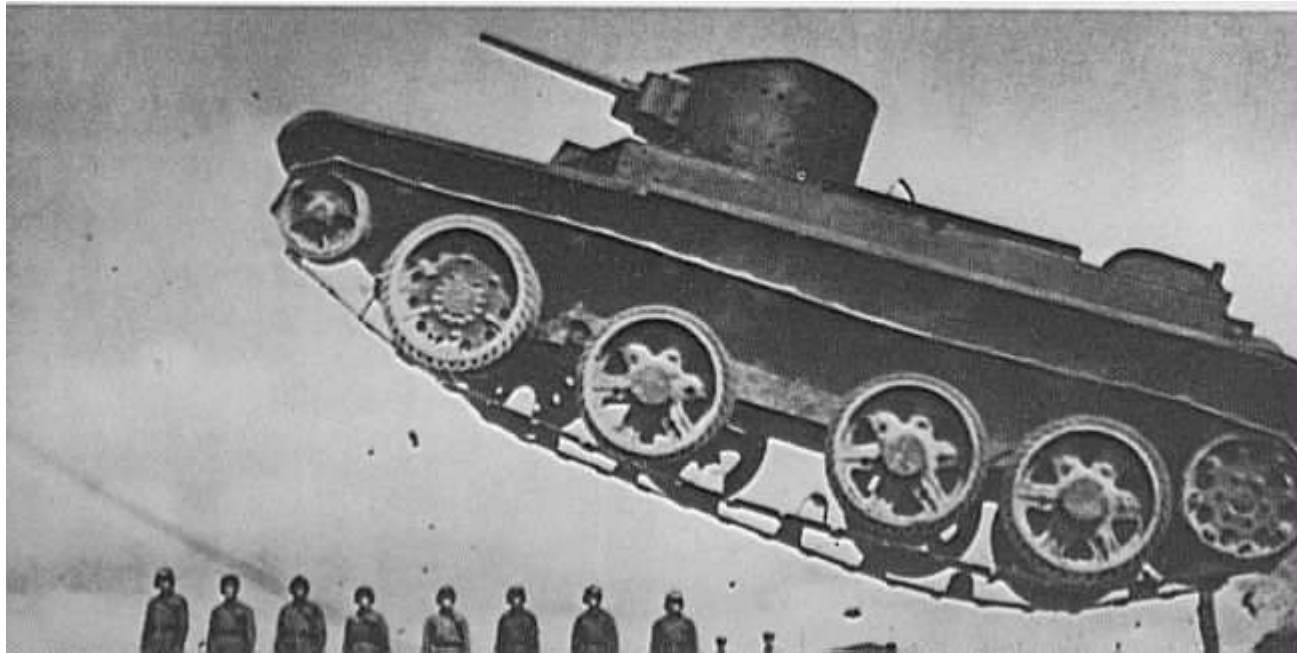
## BT-2

- Christie Model 1931 (designated BT-1) was reworked at KhPZ
- Turrets were added
  - 37mm Model 1930 (B-3) gun
  - 37mm Model 1930 (B-3) gun + one 7.62mm DT machine gun
  - Two 7.62mm DT machine guns



- Engine was changed to the 400hp M-5-400 gasoline engine

**BT-2**



**BT-2**





## BT-2 (Updated w/ BT-5 Road Wheels)



## **BT-3**

- Same design concept as the BT-2
- All plans re-worked to use the metric system
  - BT-1, BT-2 used imperial measurements
- Visually identical to BT-2
  - Often designated BT-2 in official documentation

## **BT-4**

- Experimental design with a partially welded hull
- Three (four?) prototypes completed in 1932
- Armed with two 7.62mm DT machine guns
- Otherwise similar to BT-3

## **BT-5 Model 1933**

- Result of an order to upgrade to the 45mm M1932 (20K) gun
- Simplified road wheels
  - Many BT-2s and BT-3s upgraded with these wheels
- Square nose
- Larger cylindrical turret manufactured by the Mariumpol Plant
  - Ball mounted machine gun
  - Narrow stowage bin on rear of turret
  - Improved ammunition stowage
    - 72 rounds for 45mm gun
    - 2709 rounds for machine guns

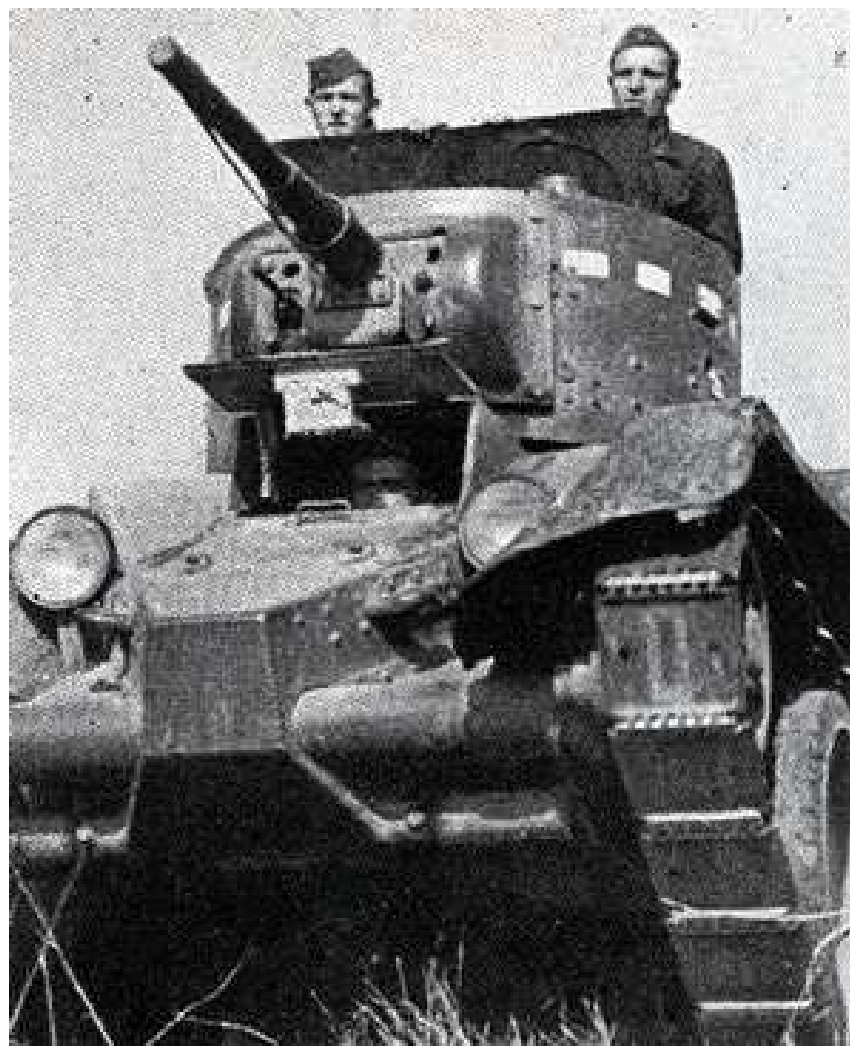
## BT-5 Model 1933



## **BT-5 Model 1934**

- Improved turret w/ bustle manufactured by the Ishorskiy Plant
  - Two square hatches
  - Coaxial machine gun
  - Command variant w/ rail antenna
  - Improved ammunition stowage
    - 115 rounds for 45mm gun
    - 2709 rounds for machine guns
- Some BT-2s, BT-3s and BT-5s upgraded with M-17T engines

## BT-5 Model 1934



## BT-5 Model 1934





## BT-5 Model 1934



## BT-5RT Command Variant



## BT-5 Upgraded w/ M-17T engine



## **BT-5A**

- Artillery variant based on BT-5 Model 1933
- 76.2mm Model 1927/1932 (KT-28) gun

**BT-5A**



## **BT-6**

- Experimental design

## **BT-7 Model 1935**

- Welded hull
  - Rounded nose
- 500hp Mikulin M-17T gasoline engine
  - Revised exhausts
  - Twin exhaust pipes protruding from upper rear hull
- Same turret and armament as BT-5 Model 1934
  - 146 rounds for 45mm gun
  - 2394 rounds for machine guns
- Some BT-2s, BT-3s and BT-5s upgraded with M-17T engines

## BT-7 Model 1935

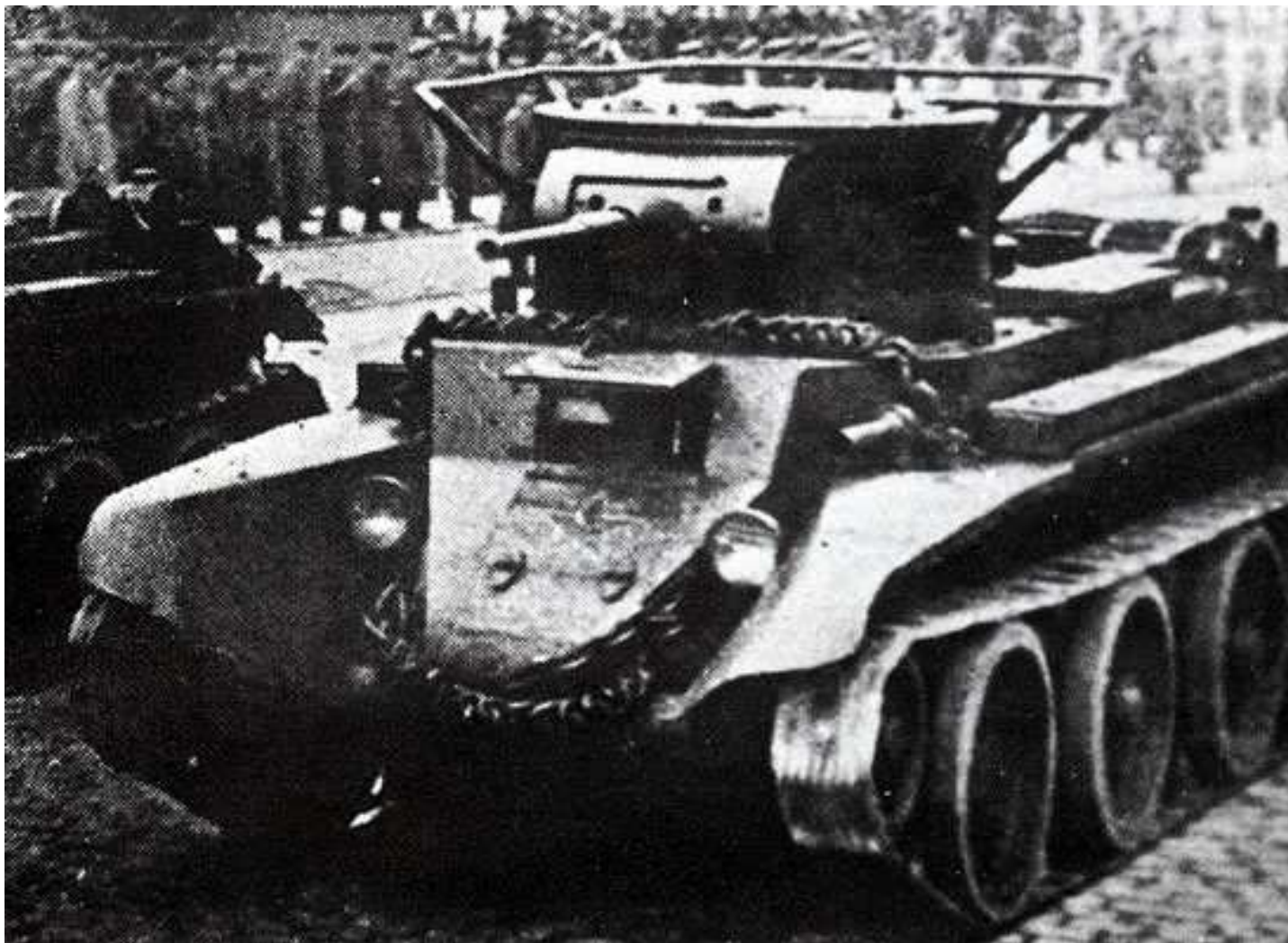




## BT-7 Model 1935



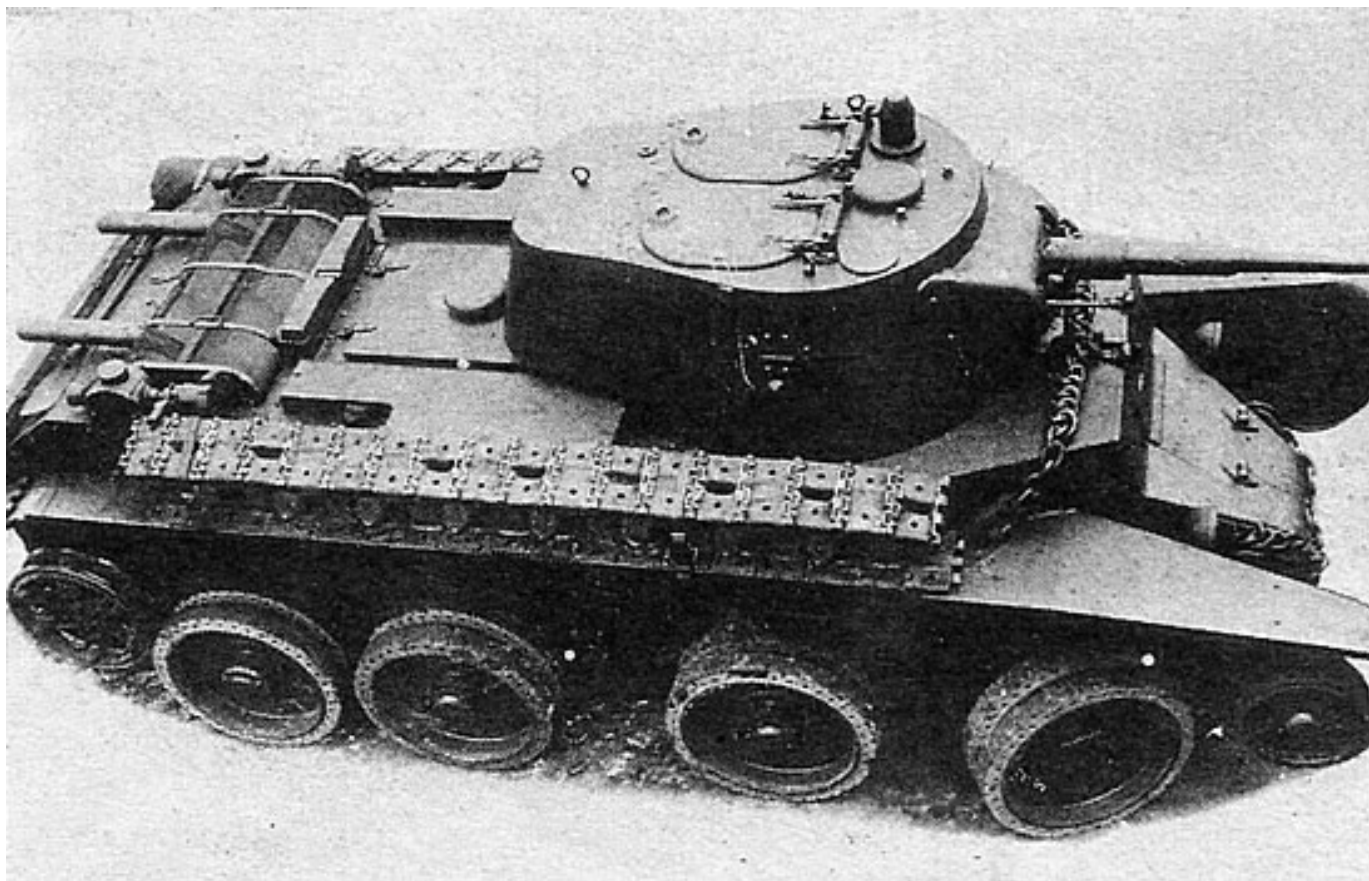
## BT-7RT Command Variant



## **BT-7 Model 1937**

- New tracks and drive sprockets
- Improved turret
  - Sloped armor (22mm max)
  - Twin oval hatches
- Same armament as Model 1935
- Same ammunition capacity as Model 1935s

## BT-7 Model 1937



## BT-7 Model 1937





## BT-7 Model 1937



## BT-7 Model 1937



## **BT-7A**

- Artillery variant based on BT-7 Model 1937
- 76.2mm Model 1927/1932 Gun
  - 40 rounds
- Two ball-mounted 7.62mm DT machine guns
  - 2016 rounds



BT-7A



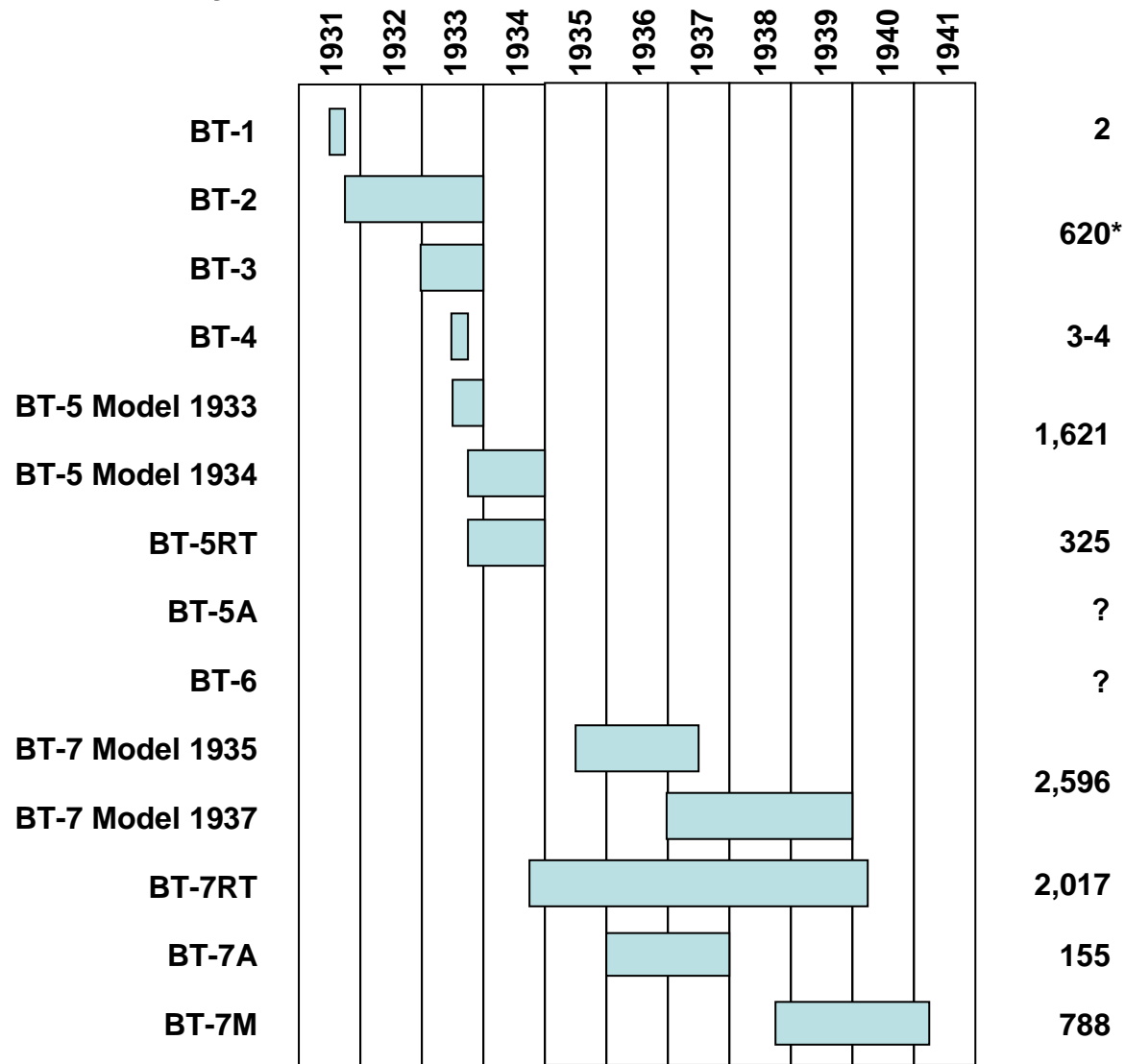
## BT-7 Model 1937 and BT-7A



## **BT-7M**

- 400hp V-2 diesel engine
- New turret hatch w/ P40 anti-aircraft machine gun mount
- Otherwise identical to BT-7 Model 1937

# Production History



\*440 were BT-2 tanks with 37mm cannon and a DT machine gun  
 180 were BT-2 with twin DT machine guns in an elevating mount and a DT in a ball mount

## Foreign Users

- Republican forces in the Spanish Civil War
- Spain (captured during the civil war)
- Afghanistan
- Mongolia
- China
- Republic of China
- Finland (captured)
- Nazi Germany (captured)
- Hungary (captured)

## Available Kits – 1:35 (1 of 2)

BT-1	Commander Series Christie T3 - turret Maquette BT-2 (3565) - turret
BT-2	Maquette BT-2 (3565)
BT-2	Tamiya BT-7 M1935 + Rhino Models BT-5 Converison RAM35005 + Комплект ЗиП (Complete Zip) BT-2/5 Roadhweels 35052
BT-3	Maquette BT-2 (3565) + mods
BT-4	None
BT-5 Model 1933	Zvezda BT-5 (3507) + MR Models conversion kit MR-34
BT-5 Model 1934	Zvezda BT-5 (3507)
BT-5	Tamiya BT-7 M1935 + Rhino Models BT-5 Converison RAM35005
BT-5 with Mariupol Turret	Zvezda BT-5 or Tamiya BT-7 with Rhino Converison with ОРУЖЕЙНИК (Gunslinger?) BT-5 turret, two options OR35AS3508 (welded manlet cover) or OR35AS3509 (Casted manlet cover)
BT-5RT	Zvezda BT-5 (3507)
BT-5A	Zvezda BT-5 (3507) + MR Models conversion kit MR-34
BT-6	None

## Available Kits – 1:35 (2 of 2)

BT-7 Model 1935	<p>Tamiya BT-7 Model 1935 (35309)</p> <p>Eastern Express BT-7 Model 1935 Late Version (35109)</p> <p>Zvezda BT-7 (3545)</p>
BT-7 Model 1937	<p>Tamiya BT-7 Model 1937 (35327)</p> <p>Tamiya BT-7 Model 1935 (35309) + Комплект ЗиП (Complete Zip) Conic turret BT-7 35028</p> <p>Eastern Express BT-7 Model 1937 Early Version (35111)</p>
BT-7RT	<p>Tamiya BT-7 Model 1935 (35309)</p> <p>Eastern Express Command Tank BT-7 Model 1935 (35110)</p>
BT-7A	<p>Eastern Express BT-7A (35114)</p> <p>Eastern Express BT-7 Model 1937 Early Version (35111) + Комплект ЗиП (Complete Zip) BT-7A (35046)</p> <p>Tamiya BT-7 Model 1937 (35327) + Комплект ЗиП (Complete Zip) BT-7A (35045)</p>
BT-7M	<p>Tamiya BT-7 Model 1937 (35327) + Hussar Turret 35023</p> <p>Tamiya BT-7 Model 1937 (35327) + Комплект ЗиП (Complete Zip) Conic turret BT-7 with machine gun and turret (35030)</p> <p>Eastern Express BT-7 Model 1937 Late Version (35112)</p>

## Available Kits – 1:72

BT-1	UM Christie T3 (403) without turret
BT-2	UM BT-2 (302) – Turret w/ 37mm gun + machine gun UM BT-2 (338) – Turret w/ 2 machine guns
BT-3	UM BT-2 + mods
BT-4	None
BT-5 Model 1933	UM Model BT-5 w/ Cylindrical Turret (360)
BT-5 Model 1934	UM Model BT-5 (301)
BT-5RT	UM Model BT-5 (301) + antenna from UM Model BT-7 (1937) (311)
BT-5A	None
BT-6	None
BT-7 Model 1935	UM Model BT-7 (1935) (310)
BT-7 Model 1937	UM Model BT-7 (1937) (311)
BT-7RT	UM Model BT-7 (1937) (311)
BT-7A	UM Model BT-7A (312)
BT-7M	None



**спасибо**