

Capitani Romani Class Cruiser

469' LOA, 47' Beam

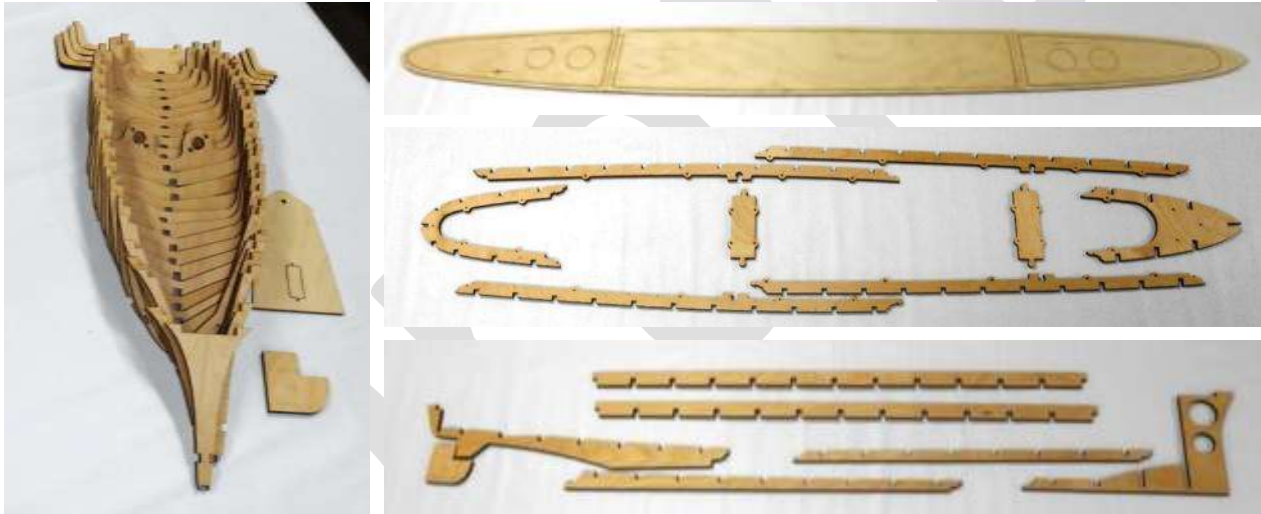
3686 Tons Standard, 5334 Tons Full Displacement

2 Shafts, 41 Knots

Main Armament: (4x2) 5.2"/45 Guns; (2x4) Torpedo Tubes

Ships in class: Attilio Regolo, Caio Mario, Claudio Druso, Claudio Tiberio, Comelio Silla, Giulio Germanico, Ottoviano Augusto, Paolo Emilio, Pompeo Magno, Scipione Africano, Ulpio Traiano, Vipsanio Agrippa. Attilio Regolo and Scipione Africano were transferred to France and renamed Chateaufort and Guichen respectively. Giulio Germanico and Pompeo Magno were renamed San Marco and San Giorgio respectively.

This kit will build a 1:96 scale model of the Capitani Romani Class Cruiser for the Battlestations rule set. It includes a full set of 1/4" ribs, spaced 2" apart, a 1/4" sub-deck, a 1/4" center keel, and a 1/8" deck. Also included is a rudder tray, fill pieces for part of the stern hard area, and two pump keels to form a pump channel.



Start by assembling the sub-deck pieces and the center keel. Glue together with thin CA.



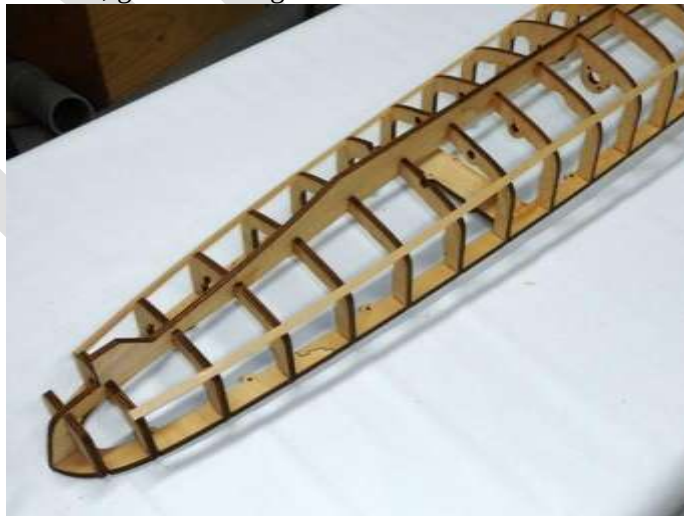
Next, make saw cuts approximately 1/2 the way through the bottom of the sub-deck between each rib notch, from the bow to the first crosspiece. This will help the sub-deck bend to form the curved deck.



Place the ribs in their slots in the sub-deck. Carefully work the center keel into ribs, starting at the stern. As you get to the bow of the ship, turn the assembly over so that the deck can assume its curve. The keel should be flat from the bow to just past the motor mounts. Verify that the ribs are fully seated in the sub-deck and keel and check that the bottom keel is flat and the deck is not twisted. When satisfied with the alignment, glue the pieces together with thin CA. Reinforce each joint with some medium CA. NOTE: if the keel does not stay flat, it is most likely the sub-deck that is pulling it out of alignment. Add some cuts to the sub-deck or make the existing cuts deeper to help the sub-deck bend easier.



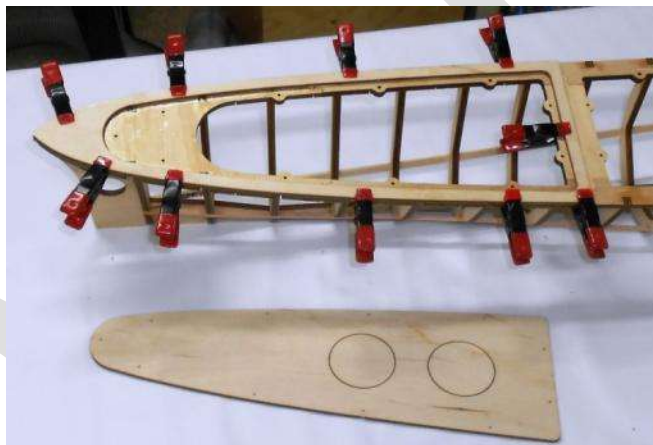
Fit 1/8" x 1/4" basswood stringers into the notches at the side of the hull. Check the hull for proper alignment again. When satisfied, glue the stringers in with thin CA.



Add the fill pieces between ribs 28 and 29. Use scrap plywood, or a fill material of your choice, to fill in the first and last bays of the hull.



Glue the outside of each deck piece to the hull. Use epoxy and plenty of clamps to ensure the deck outline is securely mounted.



Sand the hull to fair the solid areas and to form the sub-keel to the shape of the ribs.



Decide where and how wide you want your pump channel. Shorten the pump keels if necessary and then glue them in place. Once the pump keels are in place, you can cut out the ribs and center keel between them to form the pump channel.

Sheet the bottom of the ship with 1/32" plywood up to the top of the stringers. Do only 2-3 ribs at a time to make it easier to fit the sheeting.

Fill any holes and depressions with spackling. Sand the hull to its final shape. Fiberglass the bottom of the hull with 2 - 4 ounce fiberglass cloth.

Waterproof the hull with spar varnish or epoxy.

Glue the rudder tray into the hull. Use the hole in the rudder tray to align a 5/32" drill and drill through the keel for the rudder tube. Glue in a 5/32 OD, 1/8" ID brass tube for the rudder tube.

Glue a 1/8" brass or stainless steel rod to the rudder for the rudder post. Sand the rudder to an airfoil shape and cover with fiberglass cloth for durability.

Make the stuffing tubes from 9/32 OD brass tubes and 1/4" x 1/8" sleeve bearings. Cut through the bottom of the hull and use the holes in the ribs to align the stuffing tubes. Glue tubes in place with epoxy.

The hatches have precut hold-down holes. You can either use the holes to locate studs if you want prefer thumbnuts, or you can use them to locate 1/4" diameter, 1/16" thick magnets. Using the holes to align a 1/4" Forstner drill bit, drill a hole 1/16" deep in both the sub-deck and hatch. Glue in the magnets, making sure that you have the proper polarity first.

The hull is now ready for sheeting and installation of the controls, propulsion, and armament. Use patterns from <Capitani Superstructure.pdf> to build the superstructure. Below are the suggested setups for the rudder and motors.