



How to publish your AMPS Boresight article

All that you see in Boresight is brought to you by your fellow AMPS members and is easy to do. If you already post images and descriptions of your work on websites, then you are almost there. Capture images, describe what you did in your text and let the editors do the rest. We have no word count or style restrictions. If you commit to a project, there are no time limits; you finish it at your own pace. There's no need for expensive software—the wording can be in the body of an email or even handwritten—but it is preferable to use a word processor like Word. Images are a little more particular as they tell the story for the reader. Read below for details about providing images.

While it is acceptable to send text via email, images consume bandwidth and it's best to create a CD for traditional mail delivery. We also offer an easy, free way to upload photos to a shared server if you prefer.

Please submit unique content to Boresight that has not already published online or in other publications. Text will be edited for correct grammar, spelling and clarity but every effort is made to preserve the original intent of the author.

It's best to provide photos unaltered and at the largest size that your camera will allow. If you want to write captions, then just put them in the text and refer to a photo name.

What features can you use?

- Model Build Reviews
- How-to Guides
- Vehicle References
- Historical/Narrative

It's all up to you. Write an article about something you are interested in, no matter how old the kit is or subject matter.

What about images?

- Include in-progress as well as finished poses.
- Consider some images with the camera posed at fender level with the model—these make good potential front cover shots.
- JPG format preferred, but others are acceptable.
- Use the largest resolution that your camera allows.

- It is preferred that you do not alter the images in any way, including resizing, cropping, color/focus edits, and caption overlays.
- Use a light-colored backdrop behind the model instead of your workbench. Something smooth is better than textured.
- Shoot with your camera on a tripod or stable surface and use the built-in timer so no hands are on the camera when it captures the image.
- Consult your camera's instructions to find out how to adjust its settings for an ISO number of 100, and a high aperture or f-stop number, greater than 12.0 if possible. If the camera has a macro setting, use it.
- Provide many poses from all angles. Zoom in to sections of the model that deserve attention. What would you want to see?
- Provide multiple poses where the whole model is within the frame (including the gun barrel). These poses are potential front covers.

If you need more camera usage tips before starting your article, please ask.

How about the article text?

- Digital is preferred; Word, WordPerfect, Plain Text, Email are but a few. Anything is welcome.
- Do not concern yourself with formatting or style. It will be reformatted to fit the Boresight layout anyway.
- Provide history of subject, if possible.
- Descriptively caption images and key the captions to image file names.
- Provide a list of aftermarket additions, if any.
- Provide a list of reference materials used.
- Hard copy is acceptable as a last resort, if legibly written.
- No word count minimums or maximums, but more is better.
- Writing in "caption style" is acceptable, as long as there are enough images to tell the story as captions. Although this style requires less writing, the number/quality of the images is crucial.
- Always send more than you think is needed and the editors will select images according to what works best in the Boresight layout.

A sample outline to structure your article might look like this:

- Introduction: Briefly describe the subject's history. Any historical significance or interesting deployment/production anecdotes is a bonus.
- Kit Description: What comes in the box and what options are provided? Appraise the parts quality regarding detail and noticeable flaws.
- Construction: Describe the building process you used and why. Mention alterations to the kit, why you did them and most importantly, how you did them. Mention complications encountered and inaccuracies identified. Include mention of clear, resin and metal parts that are part of the kit or aftermarket items added.

- **Paint and Finish:** Mention the overall scheme and its historical context. Name the products used by manufacturer and specific name. Include marking choices and methods used to apply them. Describe weathering techniques used with descriptive details that teach the reader.
- **Conclusion:** Did the model meet expectations? Is it a good value for the cost? Was it enjoyable (or not) to build? How does it compare to other kits like it (if any). Would you recommend it to others?
- **References/Resources:** List references used to help you build the model, including websites. List aftermarket products used, by manufacturer and name, if any.

Remember that AMPS is largely what its members make of it, and that is especially true with Boresight. Please help me make it a great value to its members. I look forward to hearing from you!

Eric Choy
AMPS Boresight Editor