



The LEGO® Pirates Brickbeard's Bounty

Boardiiiiing!

By Iluisgib

Pictures by Iluisgib & LEGO System A/S

Set: Brickbeard's Bounty

Number of Set: 6243

Pieces count: 592

Includes: Pirates 4, 2 Soldiers, Daughter of Admiral, Mermaid, monkey, parrot, shark, 3 guns and pot.

Recommended Retail Price: € 89.95 (USD 99,99)

After thirteen years without landing in the catalogs, pirates are back to our universe, with new models, but reminiscent of those of yesteryear.

I will not do a thorough introduction because in the last number of Hispabrick Magazine, our colleague Javier Campo published an extensive report of this line. I will just point out the different pirate ships that have appeared during the first stage of the Pirates line.

In 1989 the Barrakuda Black Seas appeared, the first pirate ship. It stood out because of the number of minifigs (8) as well as due to its colorful design. The second boat of the saga was the Skull's Eye Schooner. This boat was very different from its predecessor in its color, starting with the sails (from white - red to white - black) and continuing with the contour of the boat where the mix gray - black - yellow disappeared, which became a combination of red - black - white. Finally in 1996 the Red Beard Runner appeared, with a slightly more simplistic and less colorful design. It was the end of the pirates' saga, which disappeared the following year and has popped up only with some re-editions at the beginning of this decade.

The model

I got this model in a slightly special way. It was one



of the sets brought to the last Hispabrick by Jan Beyer, to show the new 2009 sets.

The building experience was also different since it was in the middle of the event, something special that made me dream. I must also admit that I had to build with some speed (though not excessive), which prevented me from enjoying it 100%. But as you can guess, I will not complain ...

Upon opening the box I found the bags with the bricks (numbered for ease building), the hull of the boat, sails and two instruction booklets. As a curiosity, I was surprised that one instruction booklet is read horizontally and the other vertically. I understand that it is because in the first booklet you find the instructions for building the hull of the boat, so it is best to have landscape images.

Assembly

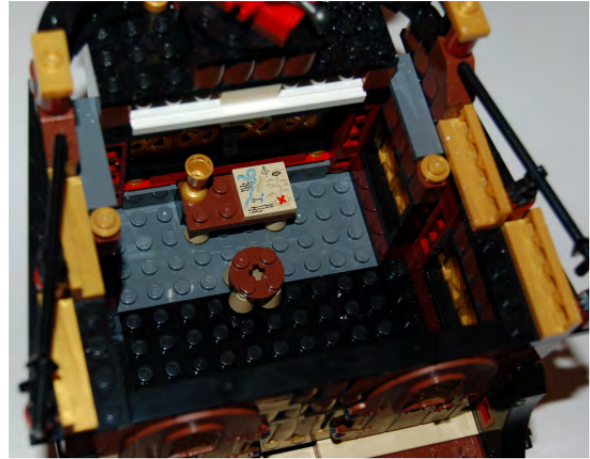
The assembly of the hull is quite simple and, in my opinion, a little weak at its center part. The pieces of this part are connected with 2x4 bricks below and from above they are fixed with the plates and other parts of the railing and the bottom of the boat. During assembly, it broke into pieces several times. It would have been useful to add some holes in the mould for

technic pins (as in the sides, where there are holes and they are used) and give more consistency to the set.

The figurehead is a mermaid with a sword, which gives personality to the boat. Above the mermaid there is a mast holding a sail that is attached to the mast head. This assembly is tilted to adjust it to the bow.

At the base of the hull, 4 receptacles are mounted for 4 cannons (but the set only has 2) and in addition, there are also some boxes to store ammunition. Once the rail is mounted on both sides of the ship, there are four holes where the cannons come out. Each hole has a lid. The cannons are hidden from the outside view of the ship. When the guns have to be used, they have to be pushed forward and then, the lids are lifted. What is also curious is the detail of the gateway where the hostages are pushed into the sea.

In the stern of the ship is the cabin of Captain Brickbeard over what would be the warehouse. Although it is not implemented, you can guess there's an access to the warehouse behind the stairs that give lead to the cabin.. It is very well done and designed in an appropriate size, looking at the



size of the boat. It has two entrance doors and windows at the stern, port and starboard. The color of the windows is very striking (yellow - gold) and the details that make up the outside give a very realistic touch (on the stern there are two crossed swords and a waving flag). The back wall can be opened to get access to the cabin without having to open the roof. The interior of the cabin is a bit poor and limited to one table, a stool, a glass and a map. A bit more decoration (a small closet or a barrel of rum for the exclusive use of the captain) would be appreciated.

The helm and the stern railing are mounted over the cabin, where there is also a cannon that allows you to fire at any boat which tries to pursue Barbrick. In this area there are many details in gold, mixed with brown and dark red, which is very nice.

The ship is complemented with a blue boat, with which two soldiers are trying to recover the treasure and rescue the daughter of the admiral. The boat is fairly simple, but it has a small oil lamp, which proves once more that the designers have taken care of all the details of the set.

The two main masts have the same design. They have a small crow's nest to which a pirate can climb with the spyglass to observe the horizon. The mast

of the bow has a net, to avoid any prisoner escaping. Atop the stern mast is the dreaded pirate flag, indicating that the ship's intentions are not friendly.

Like any pirate ship, there is a monkey, in this case with a banana. The set wouldn't be complete without captain's parrot. I was surprised when i saw the parrot because it is injected with two colours. Rather than print the plumage with pad printing, the parrot has its own colours. As in reality, there won't be two identical parrots from now.

To finish off, there is a new shark piece, much bigger than the previous one. Although it seems that the shark is designed for a younger age group, it is done in his way with intention. If you open the shark's mouth, you can "eat" a minifig, which fits inside. In this way, it's really dangerous for you to walk down the catwalk to the sea ...

The shark fin is designed to fit a minifig and go for a "ride" with it...

The minifigs

There are four pirates. The first is Captain Brickbeard, with his wooden leg, his eye patch, hook and his hat with pirate emblem. The other three pirates have their own personality and clothes.



The two soldiers are dressed with the Governor's uniform, but each one has his own hat, which reveals his rank. One of the hats is pad printed in two colours and it is a new mould.

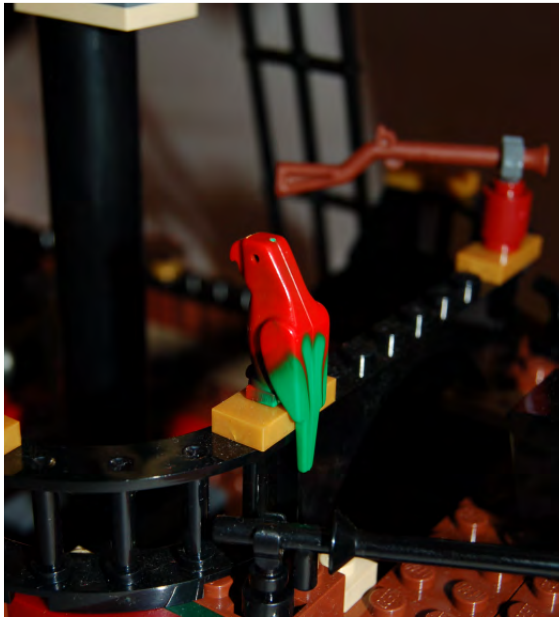
The admiral's daughter has two expressions on her face. She's dressed with a skirt instead of the typical leg (it is a decorated slope).

The mermaid has the typical oyster shells as a bra. The tail is also decorated and she has two expressions on her face as well. In all the minifigs both sides of the torso are decorated. This is something we greatly appreciate,

especially because they have avoided the (increasing) use of stickers.

The set

You can see that the designers have put a lot of affection in the design of the boat. Each of the parts of the ship has some small details, which really makes you enjoy the building. The combination of colours is quite different from boats of yore, which had a more "toy" colour scheme, because various shades of brown, maroon, black and gold are used. The use of golden colour bricks for the decoration is very nice.



The set is very playable. It has the right minifigs to recreate a boarding to rescue the daughter of the admiral. Together with other pirates sets launched in 2009, you can build a very convincing pirate environment.

Let me highlight the shark. At first I was surprised about its size (I thought it was exaggerated). But after some days seeing that its voracious appetite allows it to gulp minifigs, you end up really liking it... Retrieve the Pirates line has been a success, and when you look at the design of the ship, it is confirmed. Now I only hope this won't be a brief return and we will have pirates for a long time!

Thanks to:

Jan Beyer, LEGO® Community Development Manager for provide us this set.
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