

Review: 70705 Bug Obliterator

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Pictures by LEGO® Iberia S.A.



Set 70705 Bug Obliterator
Number of parts: 711
Minifigs: 4

As a die-hard fan of the SPACE line, I promised to do the review of this set, knowing that it has little to do with the Classic Space theme of the late 70s and 80s with the style the theme has obtained from the 90s to today. Different times, different styles, a different colour palette and a different audience.

After the golden years of the theme, LEGO® continued to invest in sets, for my liking, pretty devalued and without the charm of the earlier ones, in the subthemes Futuron, Tron Black, M: Tron, Space Police, Unitron, Spyrus, Insectoids, Space Police II, UFO, Roboforce, Explorians, Ice Planet, Life on Mars, Mars Mission, Space Police III, Alien Conquest and, now in 2013, Galaxy Squad. It is not my purpose to criticize the evolution of the Space theme, I would not be impartial because of the good times I had with the 918 set. To delight you with these wonderful and endearing sets I recommend the reading of HBM 011: "Life in Trans Yellow".

But let's go to what concerns us. In this year 2013, LEGO resurrects the Space theme with the Galaxy Squad subtheme. There are six sets and a polybag (30231) with a five-digit numbering, typical of the new sets of this year. From the simplest, 70700, to the largest, 70705. And as flagship we find the 70705 set, Bug Obliterator, with three separate parts. A spacecraft, a land vehicle and a ... a ... well, you never know. It's a kind of arthropod (probably a bug, it has three pairs of legs) with two pairs of wings. Because the set name calls it "bug", I will call it just that, "bug".

688 parts and 4 minifigs. Of the 4 minifigs, one is an insect-headed alien (reminds me the final phase of the Jeff Goldblum transformation into a fly in the movie "The Fly"). Considering the alien as the bad guy in our story, the other three should be the good guys. One of them looks like a droid because of the shape of the head. The other two wear the typical space helmet in sets since 2010.

Let's start from the beginning: the box. Fortunately, a little smaller than what LEGO has accustomed us to in recent years. The design is extremely attractive to young people, as it shows the battle between the bug and the space vehicles at its peak.

It has 5 well numbered bags. With the first one you build the bug and the first two minifigs (the alien and one of the astronauts). With the second bag you get the land vehicle, and

the last three (3, 4 and 5) are used to build the craft that will fit onto the vehicle.

The construction process doesn't need much comment. The recommended age that is indicated on the box is 8-14, but any child could build it without much problem. Some Technic parts, but nothing complex. I have not seen any technique or parts that stand out. Maybe the new 2x2 inverted tiles, which are used to reinforce the bottom of the craft, or the pair of Tr-Clear



Windscreens, which were first seen in the 9499 SW set (Gungan Sub) last year.

Remarkable the design of the craft that attaches to the land vehicle. Just spectacular. With its variable geometry wings extended and the cockpit moved to the lower part, it could pass for a futuristic fighter jet. To attach it to the land vehicle, the side wings are brought together and the cockpit goes up. The effect of the two vehicles together is great, and provides extra gameplay to the user of this set. It also incorporates a number of the already typical small missiles (formed by a 1/2 Technic Pin with 2L extension bar and a trans coloured 1x1 cone) to add more playability to the set.

The bug carries a capsule or container 2x4x4 Tr-purple to hold and keep any unwary poor minifig that has fallen as a result of its deathly ray fresh and juicy.

Summarizing, this set gives us a bug, a land vehicle, a spectacularly designed craft and 4 minifigs, so any child is guaranteed to have fun. The only "but" is perhaps the amount of stickers, but that is an issue that has been discussed more than enough. However, the minifig torsos are printed, as well as three pieces of the cabin.

Finally, it is true that at this point nothing can bring back the innocence of those Space craft from 30 years ago, but in my humble opinion, LEGO® is right with this new line. You just have to see it through the eyes of a XXI century child to be attracted immediately.



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