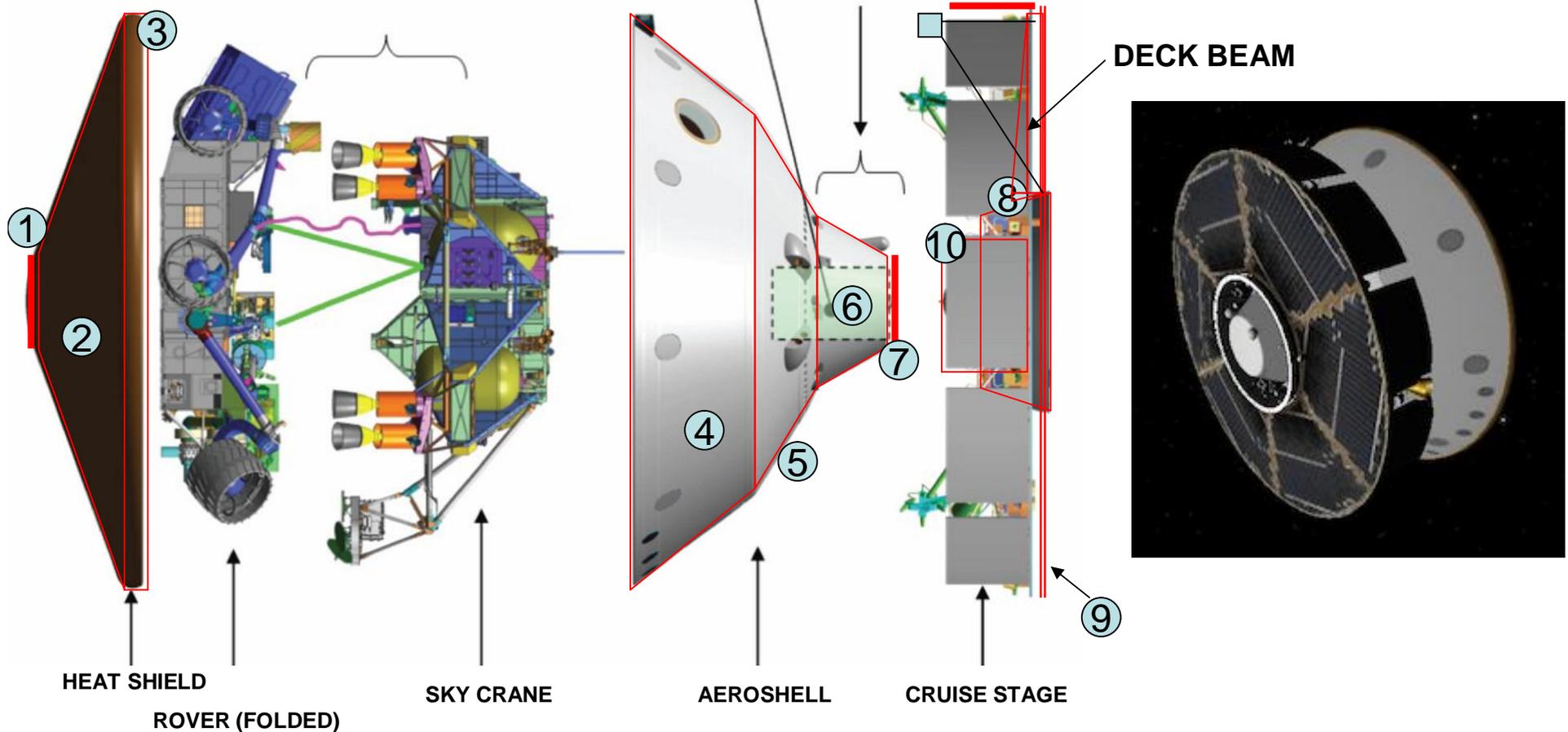


Mars Science Laboratory – cruise stage and aeroshell
 Go 1:48 scale (heat shield 3.7in dia)

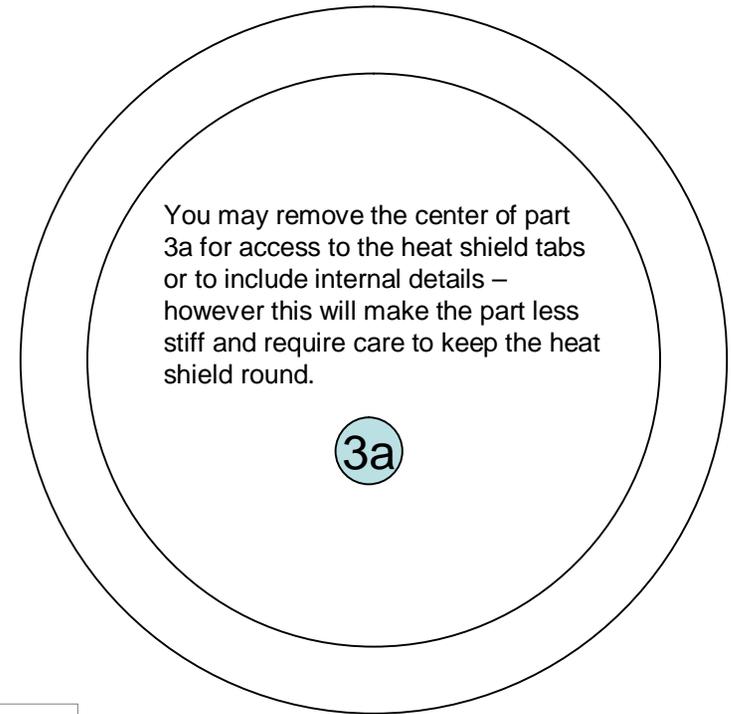
Heat shield dia 4.5m/14.8ft



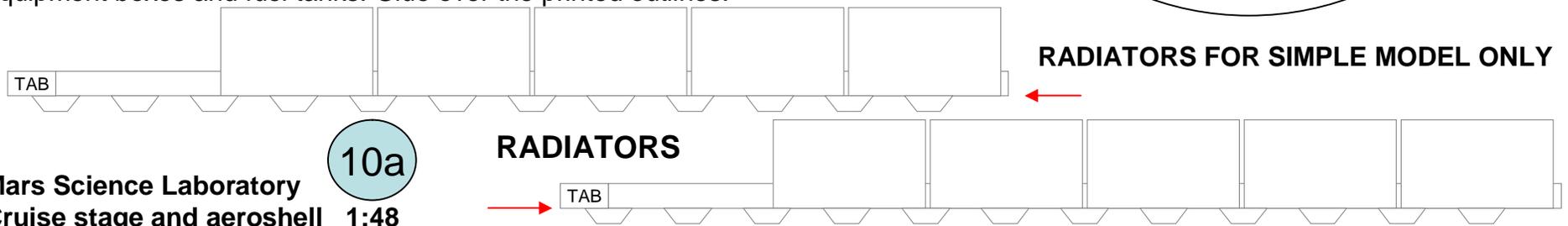
The Mars Science Laboratory Curiosity Rover was launched on November 26, 2011 atop an Atlas V-541 launcher. After an eight month cruise, the space probe will enter Mars' atmosphere and deploy the Curiosity rover using a unique sky-crane system. This model is the cruise stage and aeroshell only.

Detailing photos available at <http://mediaarchive.ksc.nasa.gov/index.cfm> Using the search categories at the upper right, use the "Expendable Launch Vehicles" window and select "Mars Science Lab." A model of the rover is available from the Lower Hudson Valley Challenger Center E-gift shop at <http://jleslie48.com> . A model of the Atlas V launcher is available from E-Cardmodels at <http://ecardmodels.com/> .

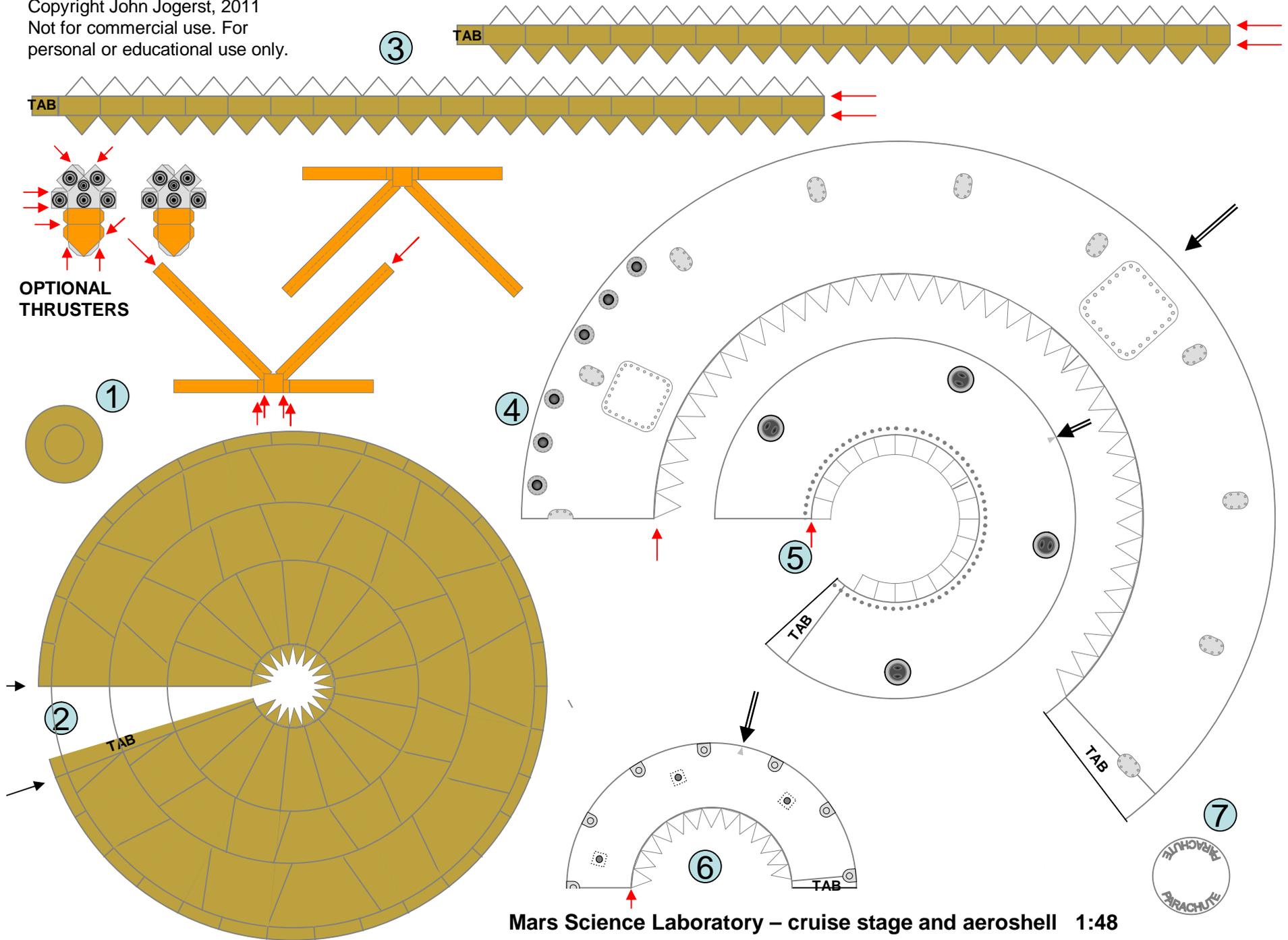
1. Study the parts and instructions and note alignment information. Score fold lines (red arrows); cut out parts.
2. Form part 2 into a shallow cone and glue using the tab. Glue two pieces of part 3 into a ring and fold in **every other** brown tab. Glue part 3a inside the ring on top of the tabs you folded in. Bend the remaining brown tabs inward and glue part 2 to the ring assembly. Bend in the tabs in the center hole of part 2 and glue part 1 over the hole to close out the heat shield.
3. Form parts 4, 5, and 6 into conics and glue overlapping the tabs.
4. Bend in the white tabs on the top of part 3 slightly and slip part 4 over the tabs. When satisfied with the fit, apply glue around the inside of the bottom edge of part 4 and glue in place.
--NOTE: the double arrows on the parts sheet indicate the parts' final alignment; the large access hatch on part 4 lines up between two attitude jets and between two of the fittings at the bottom edge of part 6--
5. When dry, bend in the tabs on the top of part 4 and slip part 5 in place. When satisfied with the fit, glue in place. When dry, bend the tabs on the top of part 5 outward and glue part 6 in place. Fold in the tabs on the top of part 6 and glue part 7 in place to finish the aeroshell.
6. Form part 8 into a conic and glue using the tab. Cut out both parts 9 and glue back to back, lining up the radial lines. When dry, slip part 8 into the hole in part 9 and edge glue in place making sure to line up the lines on part 8 with the radial beam lines on part 9 (wide end of part 8 is on the solar cell side of part 9, narrow end on the side with all the equipment detail).
7. For a quick model, cut out part 10a and form into a ring. Fold in the tabs along the bottom edge and glue to the top (detail side) of part 9. Gaps between each radiator panel line up with the radial lines (deck beam locations). The two wide gaps without radiator panels line up with the indicated bay. **DONE!**
8. For a more detailed model: cut out the deck beams, fold longitudinally and glue. Fold out the tabs at either end. Glue the wide end of each beam to the central conic (part 8) and glue the bottom edge of the beams to the deck along the radial lines.
9. Cut out the radiator panels, parts 10, and curve slightly. Glue each panel between two deck beams using the end tabs. Note the two bays **WITHOUT** radiators. There is a slight gap between individual radiator panels as well.
10. If desired, cut out the remaining detail parts, fold, bend, and glue into the equipment boxes and fuel tanks. Glue over the printed outlines.

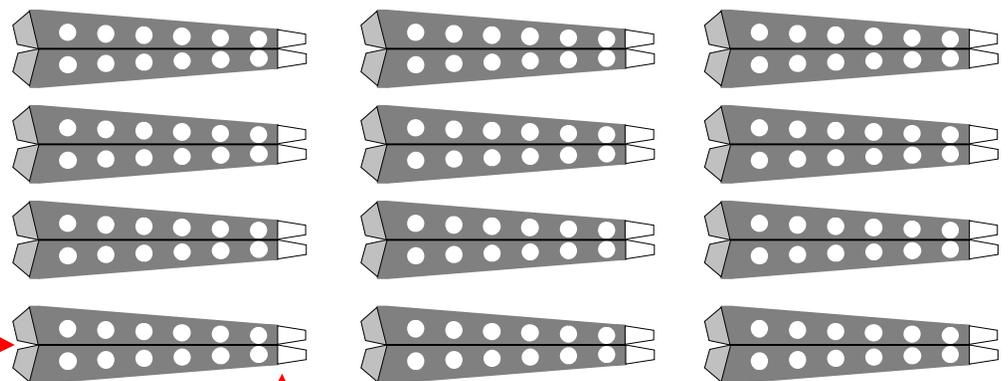
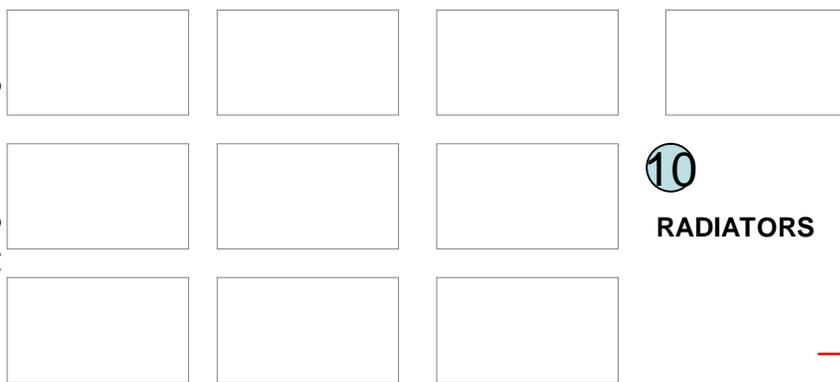
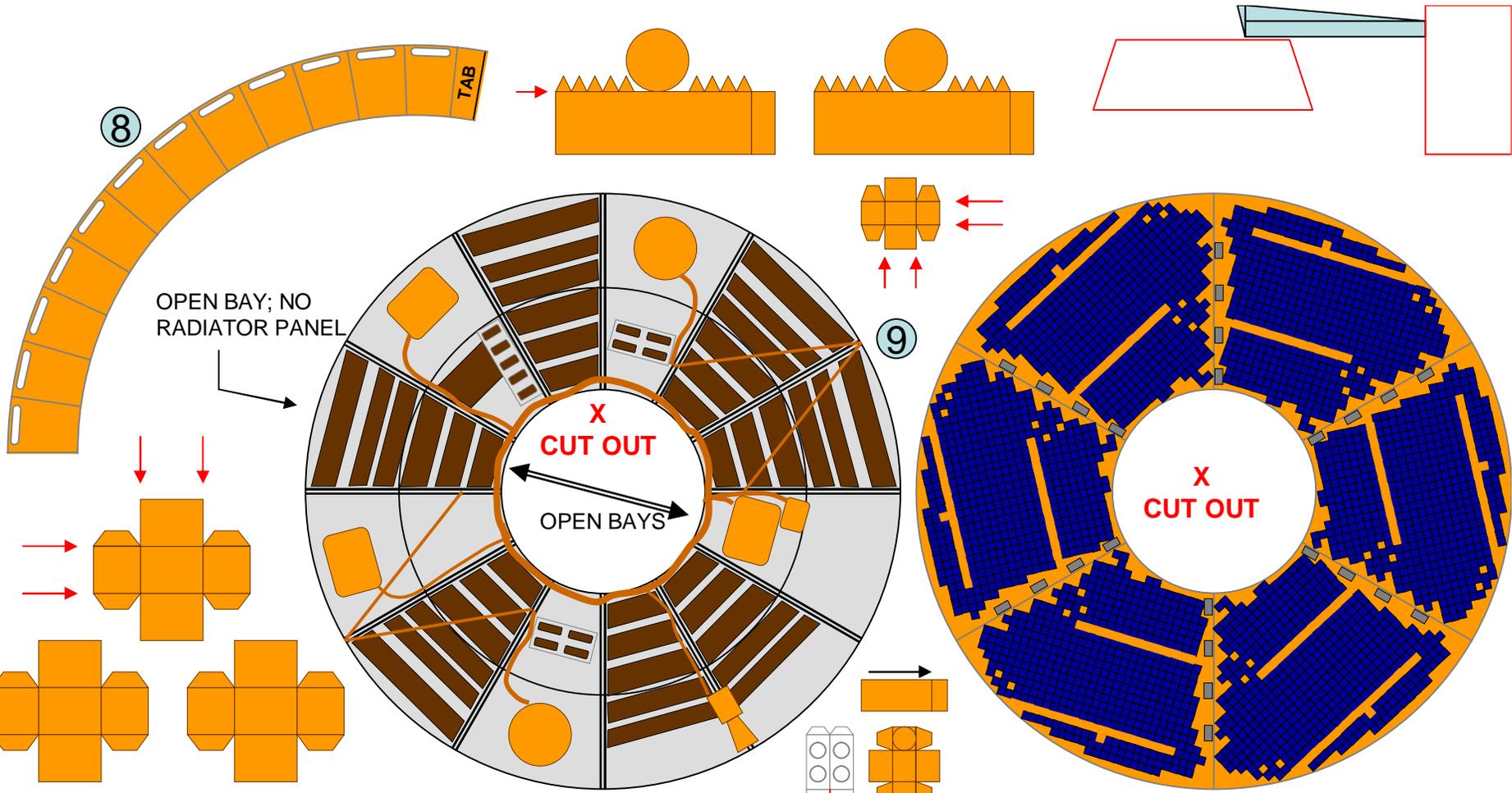


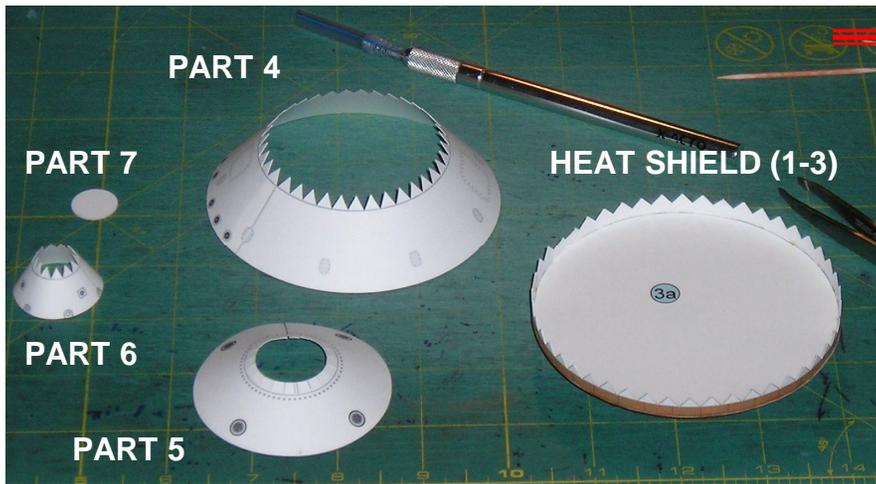
RADIATORS FOR SIMPLE MODEL ONLY



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