

Q: What was your favourite part of the design process?

A: The first phase of LEGO set development is always very exciting for a designer – this is when shaping and detailing of a model happens. Later I spend most of my time fixing issues and finding solutions for various design aspects like model stability, functions, product safety or building flow.

My favourite part, however, is when I finally receive a bag of bricks and a pile of loose building instructions based on the steps that I developed – in this case, a very large pile! At this point my work is mostly done and my colleagues take over creating the design and completing the final elements of the set, like creating the box art or generating lists of elements for the factory.

Q: Were there features or functions of the movie version of the *Millennium Falcon* which were, in your opinion, essential to have in the final design?

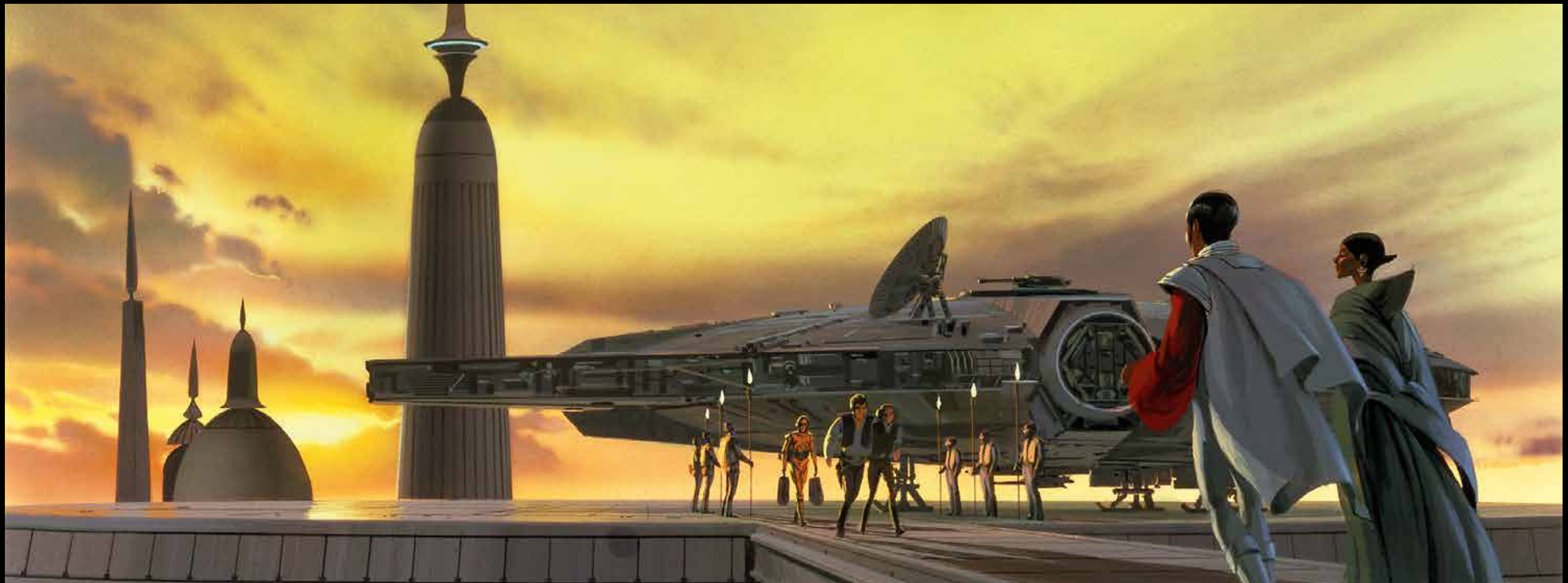
A: In my mind, this new *Millennium Falcon* would HAVE to be the Episode V version. The Empire Strikes Back is where the *Falcon* really shines, develops character and becomes part of the cast with the last-second escape from Hoth, the chase through the asteroid field, meeting the space slug, hugging a Star Destroyer, visiting Bespin, and finally even taking on a Super Star Destroyer! However, apart

from the necessary spaceship functions, the *Millennium Falcon* is not really heavy on out-of-the-ordinary features – or so Han Solo certainly wants you to believe! One of the new gadgets is the “Ground Buzzer” blaster cannon – a nasty surprise for Imperial troops, as seen in Episode V in the rebel base!

Since the *Millennium Falcon* also appears in Episode VII and VIII, adding the new rectangular sensor dish was essential, so you can choose between making the classic or new trilogy version of the *Falcon*.

Q: What are the differences between the original trilogy *Millennium Falcon*, and the *Falcon* as seen in Episode VII: *The Force Awakens*?

A: It takes a detailed study of reference material to realise that the new sensor dish is not the only change to the Episode VII *Falcon*, just the most obvious one. While even more aged and beaten up, many of the hull details of the ship have been cleaned up or altered. For practical reasons I went for a middle ground while still keeping some of the removed details – such as the metal cage covers on the sides of the mandibles (one is right next to the cockpit). They are not present on the Episode VII *Falcon* anymore, but I kept them because they are great details to have on any version of the *Falcon* and blend in nicely. Two other small gadgets sitting right on top of the ship’s front were a different matter though. They are a bit more obvious so I made them removable.





MEET THE GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Madison O'Neil

Q: Were there special challenges when it came to making the model look like the real *Star Wars Millennium Falcon*?

A: The most challenging aspect of the graphic design on this model had to be the stickers of the corridors inside the *Millennium Falcon*. It was important to capture a feeling of depth looking down the circular hallways and create the illusion that your minifigures could walk from the common area to the cockpit or the hyperdrive. The interior of the *Falcon* can be quite complex, with all its missing panels, flashing controls, and exposed wires. I did my best to simplify these details down to the essentials to maintain the LEGO DNA.

Q: The original *Millennium Falcon* movie model went through several design changes before the shape was decided on. Typically, how many sketch versions of a LEGO product are there before the final version is reached?

A: The design of any LEGO minifigure or decoration is likely to go through several rounds of revisions before being finalised and sent to Lucasfilm for approval. In certain special cases you can end up doing more than 10 versions, all with small distinct features or colour changes. With a limited colour palette, it can often be a unique challenge to match the reference.

Q: What was your favourite part of the design process?

A: I always enjoy starting a new project and developing the graphical needs of the product with the model designer. That discussion will usually lead to me combing through the reference folders to find clear images of extremely specific pieces of a ship, or taking a few minutes to re-watch certain parts of the movies to get inspired (or just for fun). It's also very rewarding when you finally receive the first test print of a decorated element. For me, that marks the end of a cycle, when the design that has only lived on the computer screen until this point becomes something you can play with.



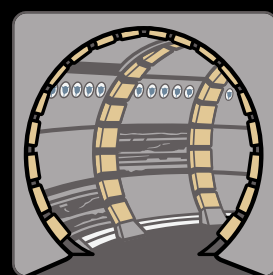
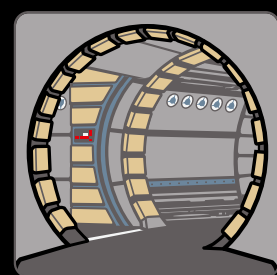
Madison O'Neil

Q: Were there features or functions of the movie version of the *Millennium Falcon* that were, in your opinion, essential to have in the final design?

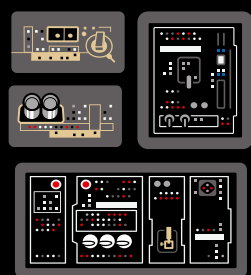
A: Well you can't have a *Millennium Falcon* without a good Dejarik board! It was also exciting and essential to re-create the iconic radar dish, gunnery windows, and cockpit.

Q: Were there characters related to the various appearances of the *Millennium Falcon* that were, in your opinion, essential to have in the final design?

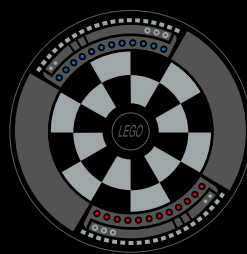
A: We wanted this *Millennium Falcon* to be a little more versatile than the previous version, giving you the freedom to decide between the classic *Falcon* or the version from *The Force Awakens*. As such, we knew we had to include two crews, and the crew from *The Empire Strikes Back* seemed the best complement to *The Force Awakens* crew. We also took this opportunity to create some alternate face designs for Han and Leia. This is the only set where they are wearing the breathing masks that they use to explore the belly of the giant space slug in *The Empire Strikes Back*. Mynocks beware! My favourite new character in this set is the adorable bird-like creature that we are told lives on the island shown at the end of *The Force Awakens*, the same island where Rey discovers Luke. I can't wait to see what part they play in Episode VIII!



Corridors



Control Panels



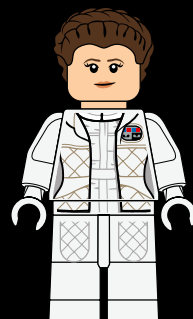
Dejarik Board



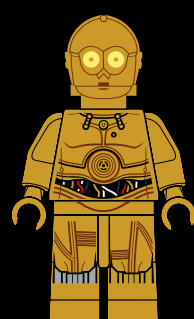
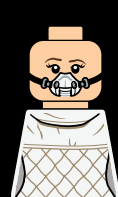
Han Solo



Chewbacca



Princess Leia

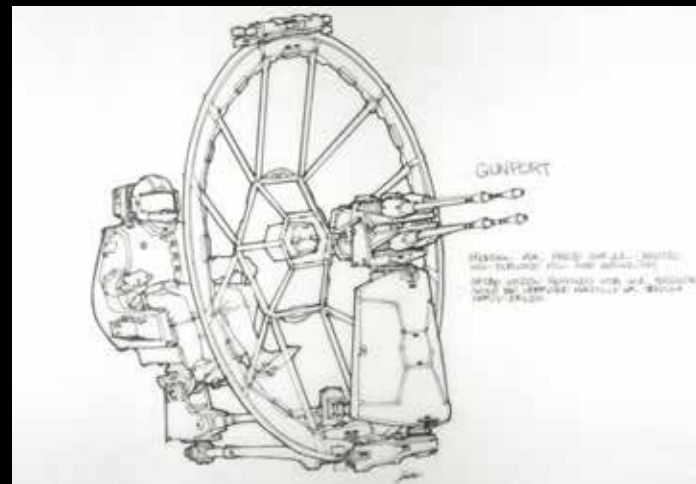
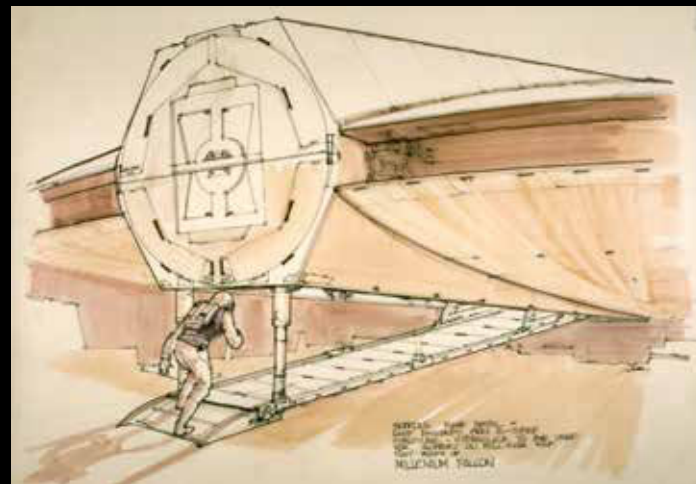
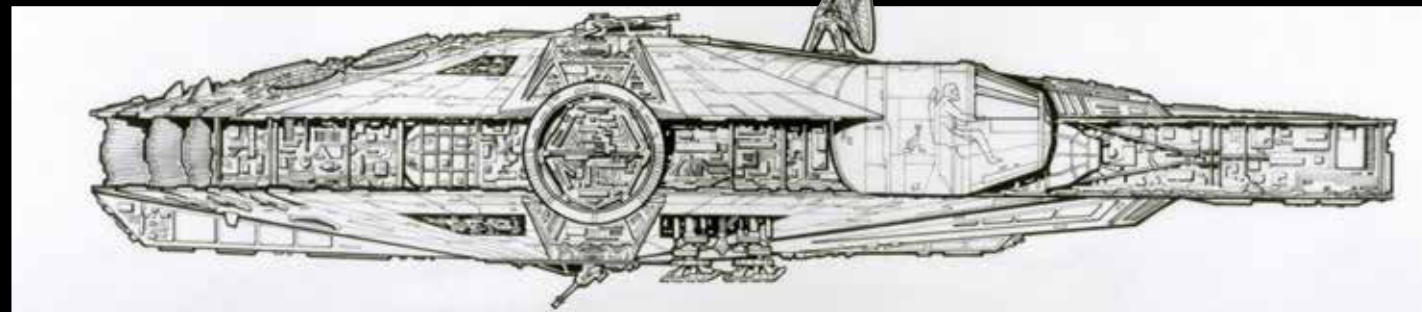
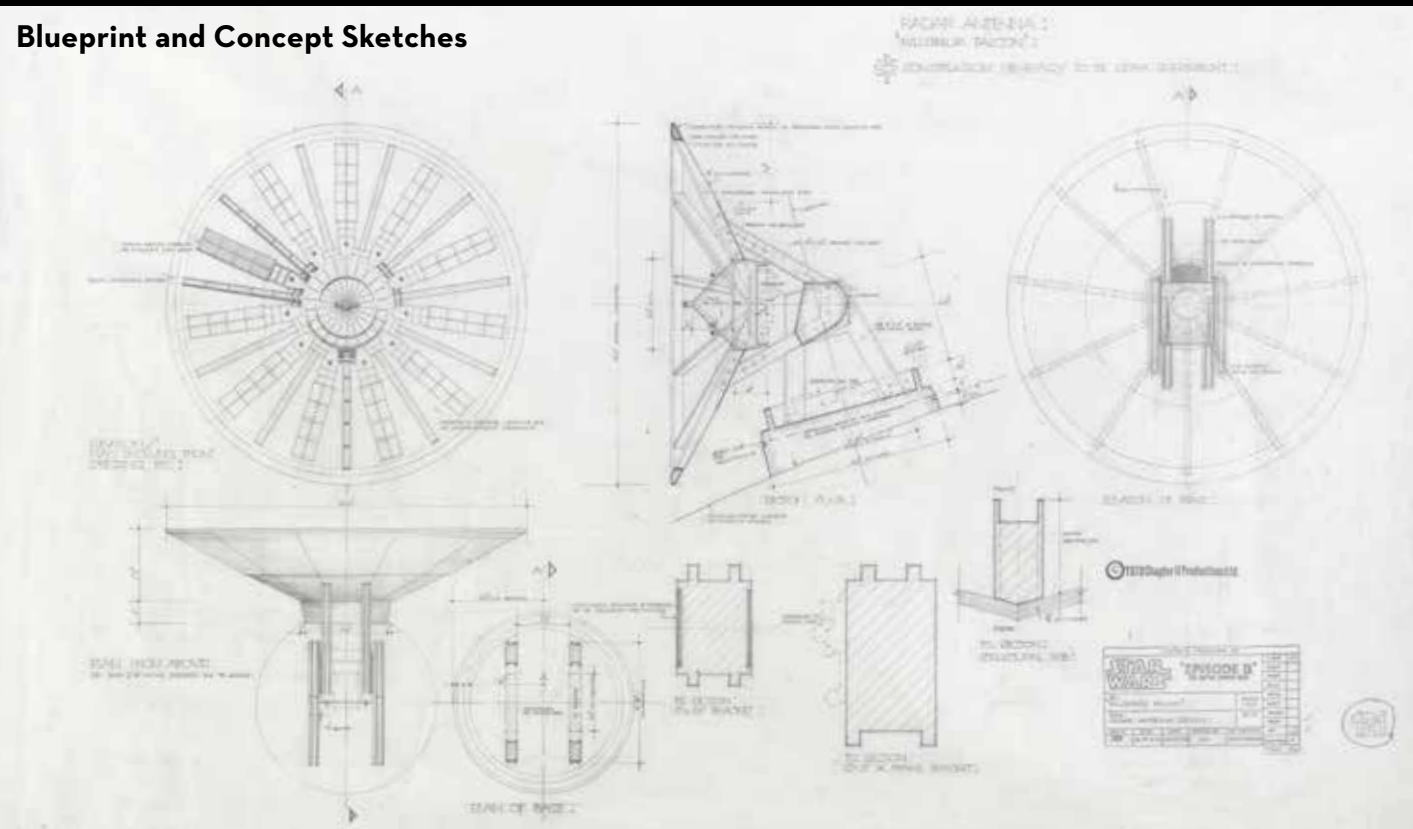


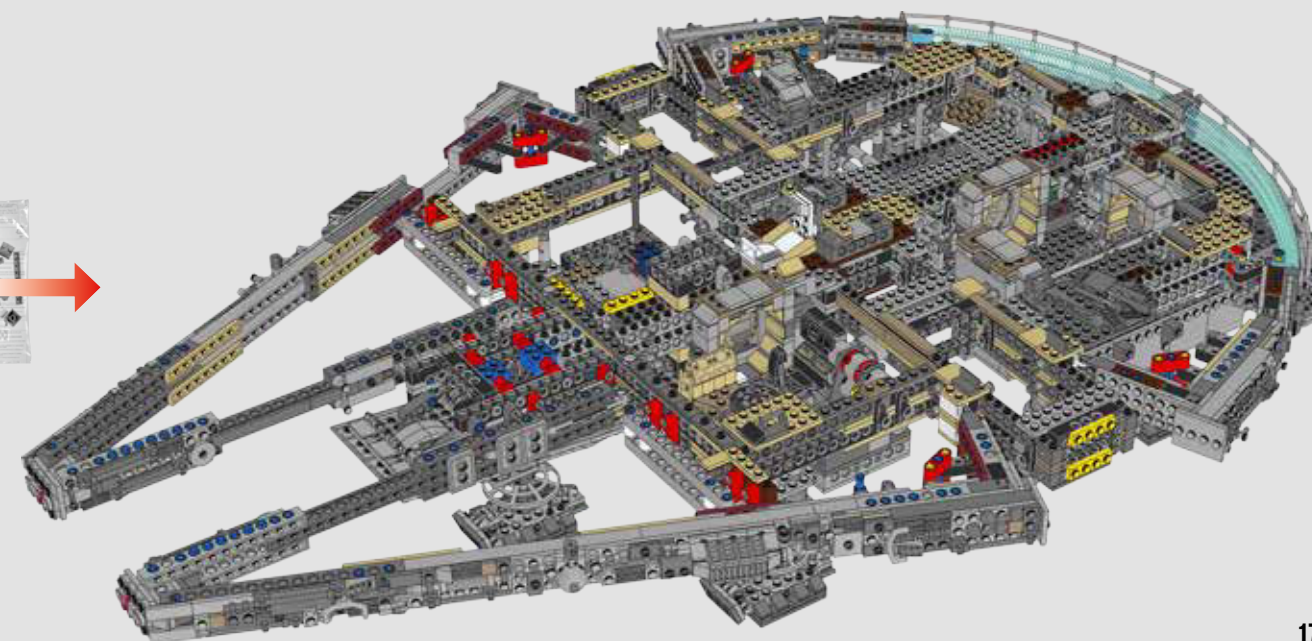
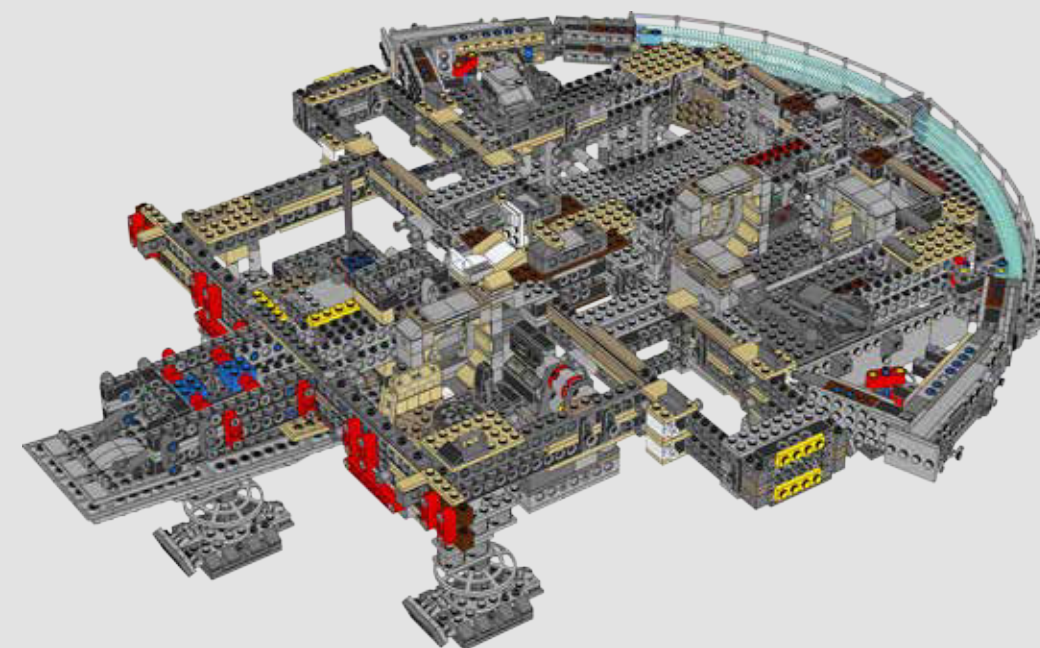
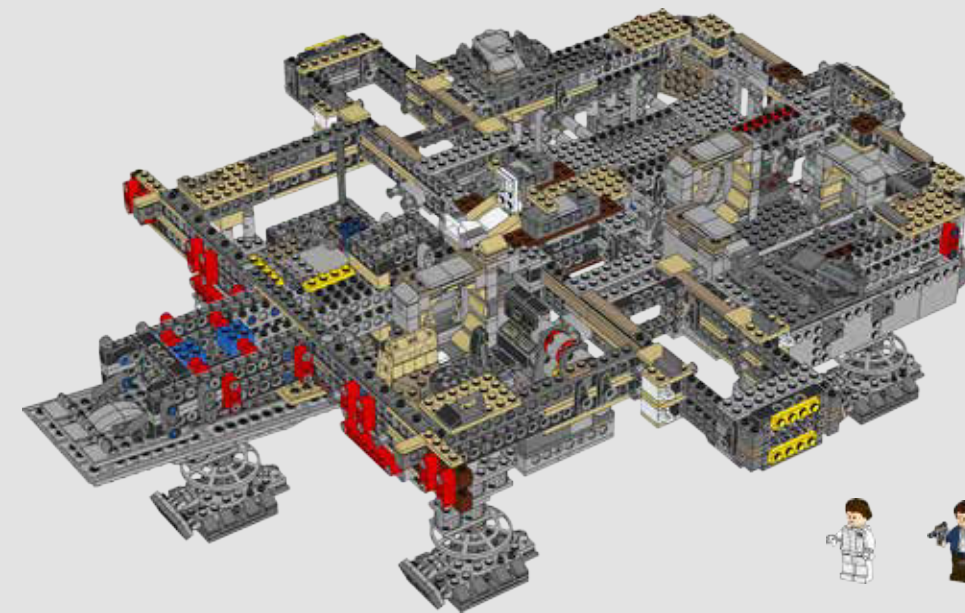
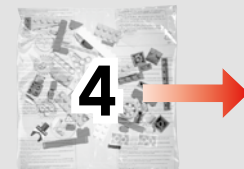
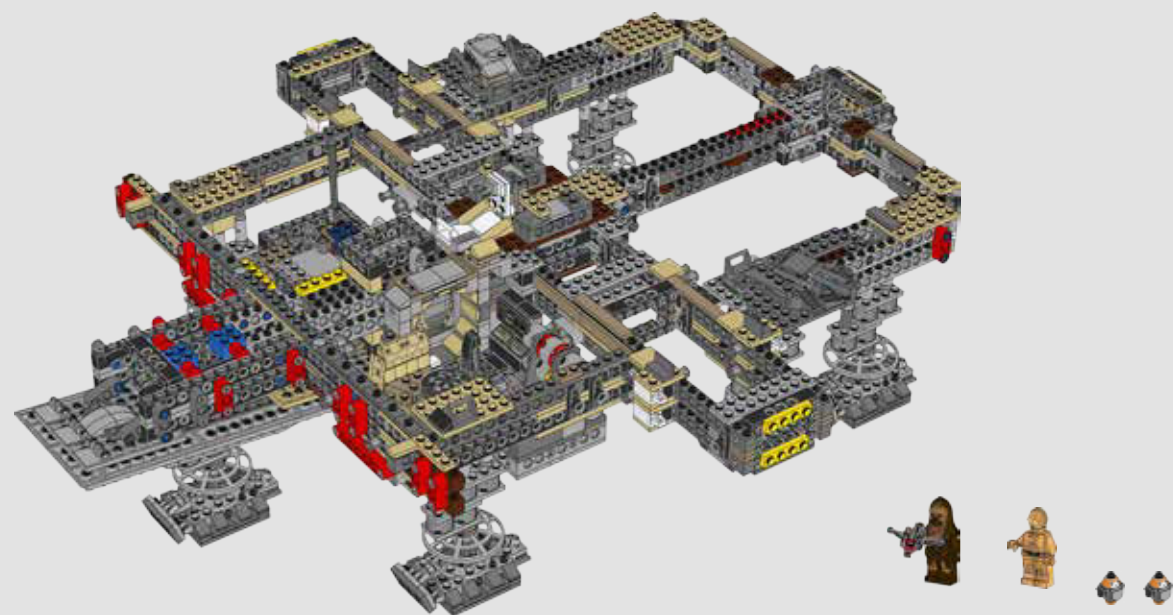
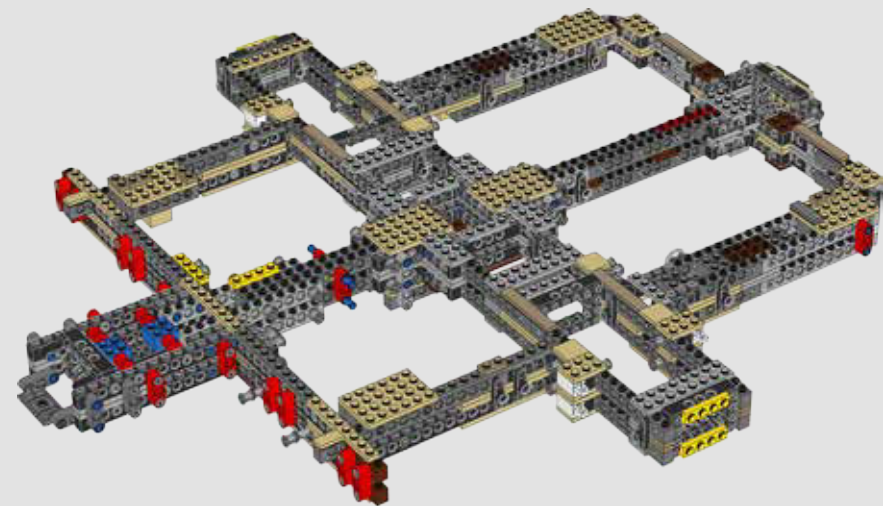
C-3PO





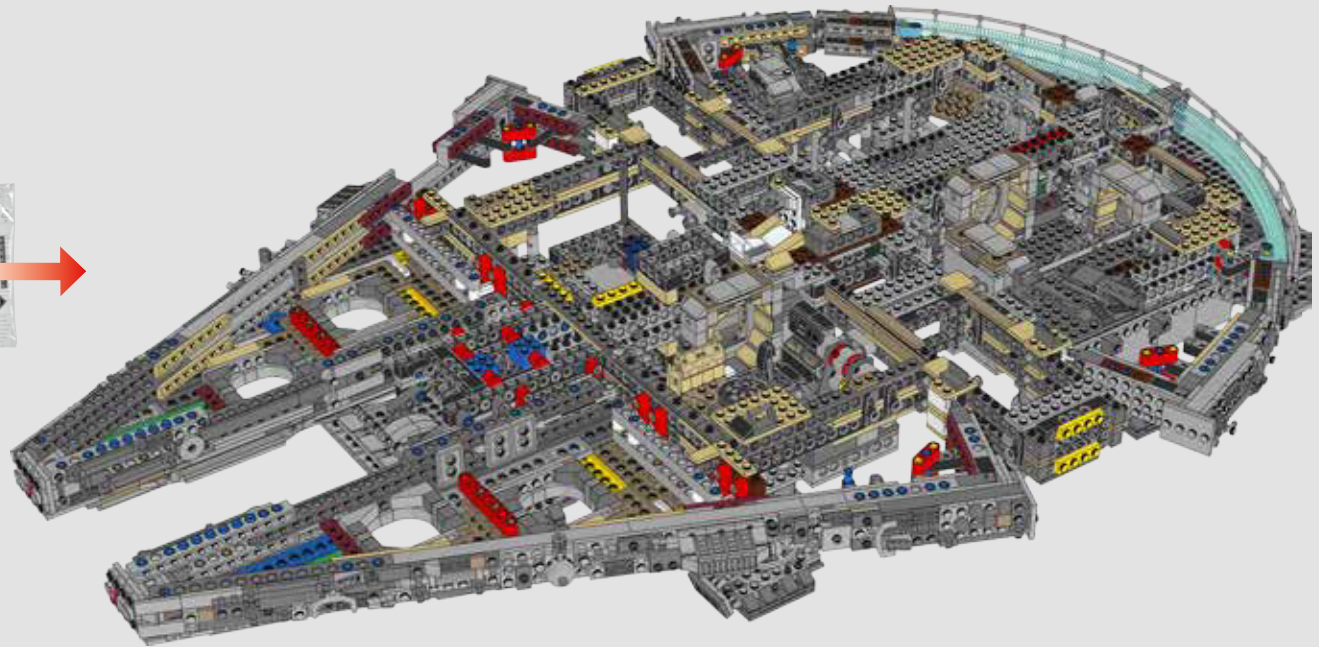
Blueprint and Concept Sketches



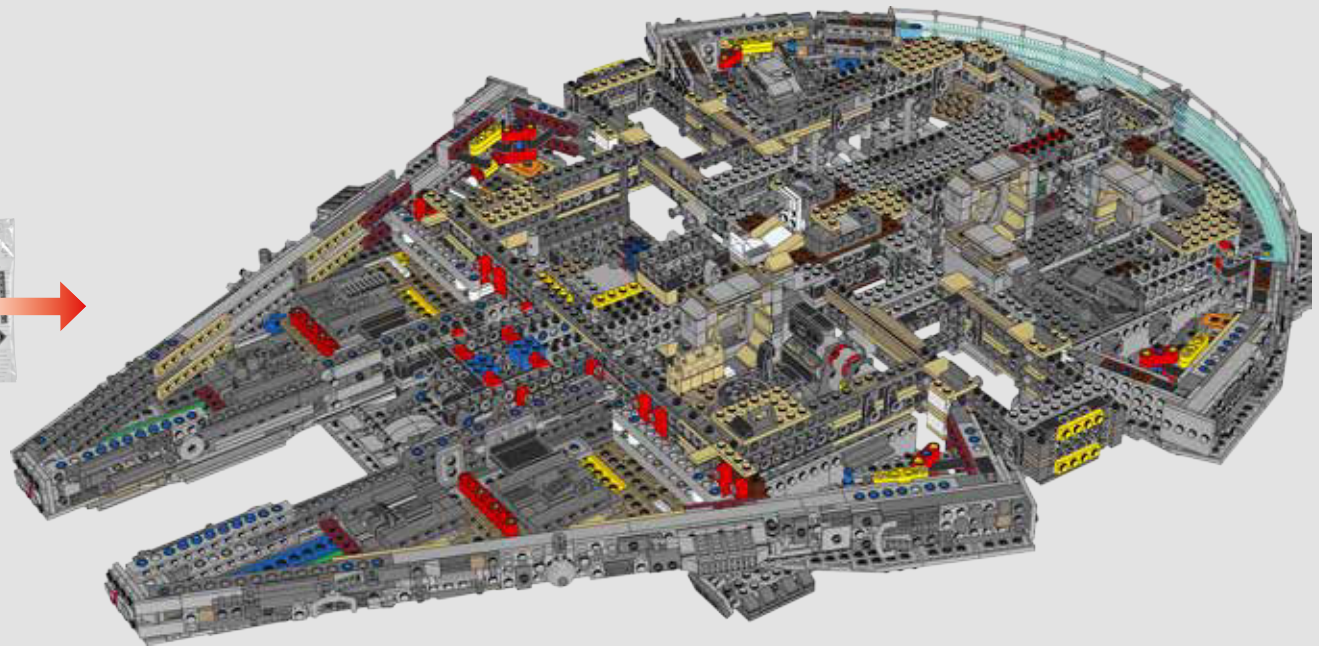




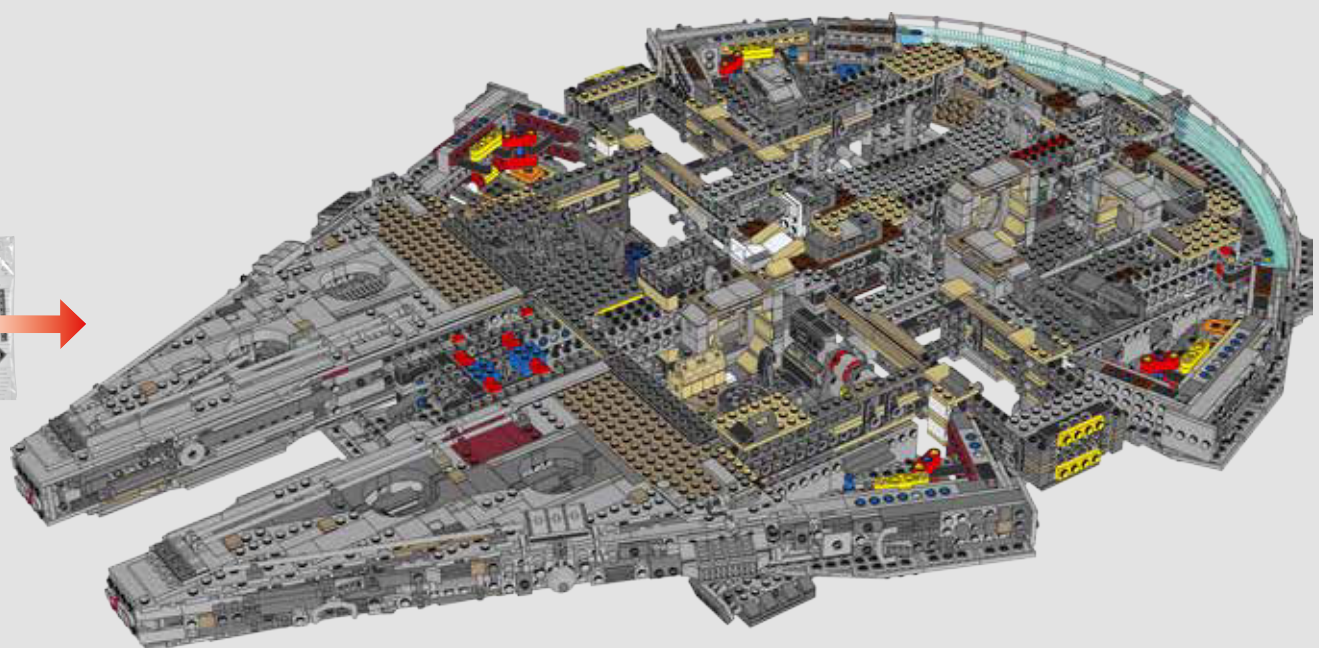
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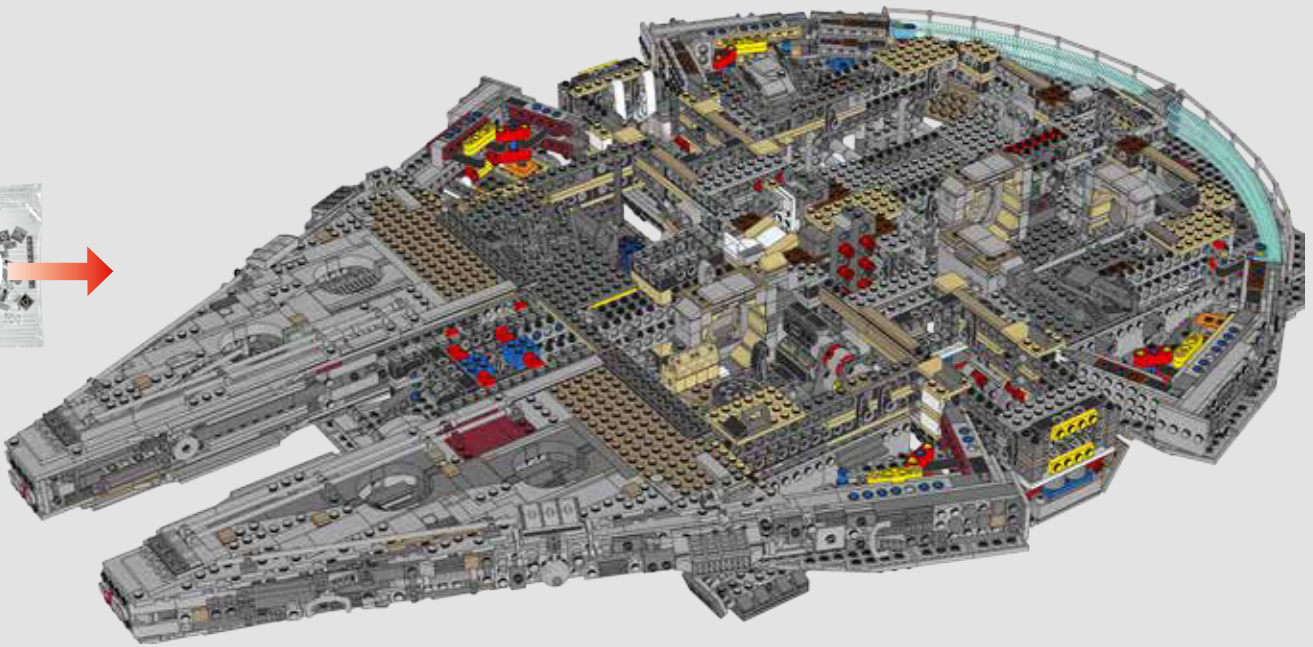
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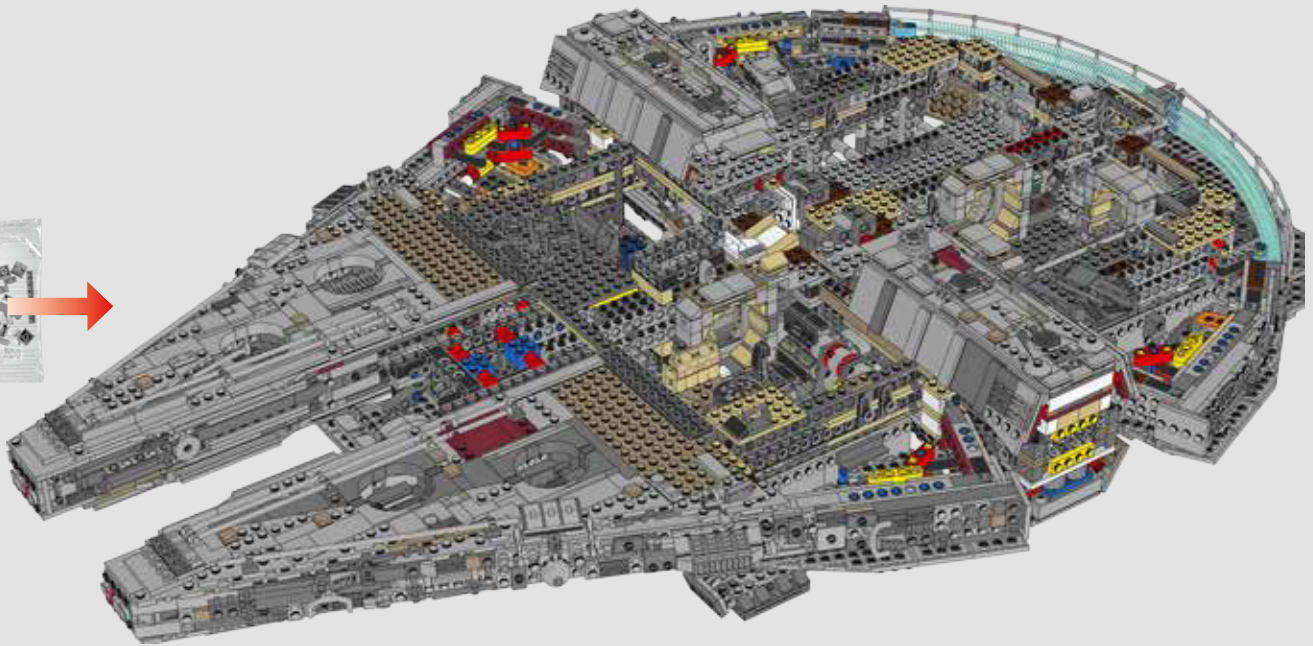
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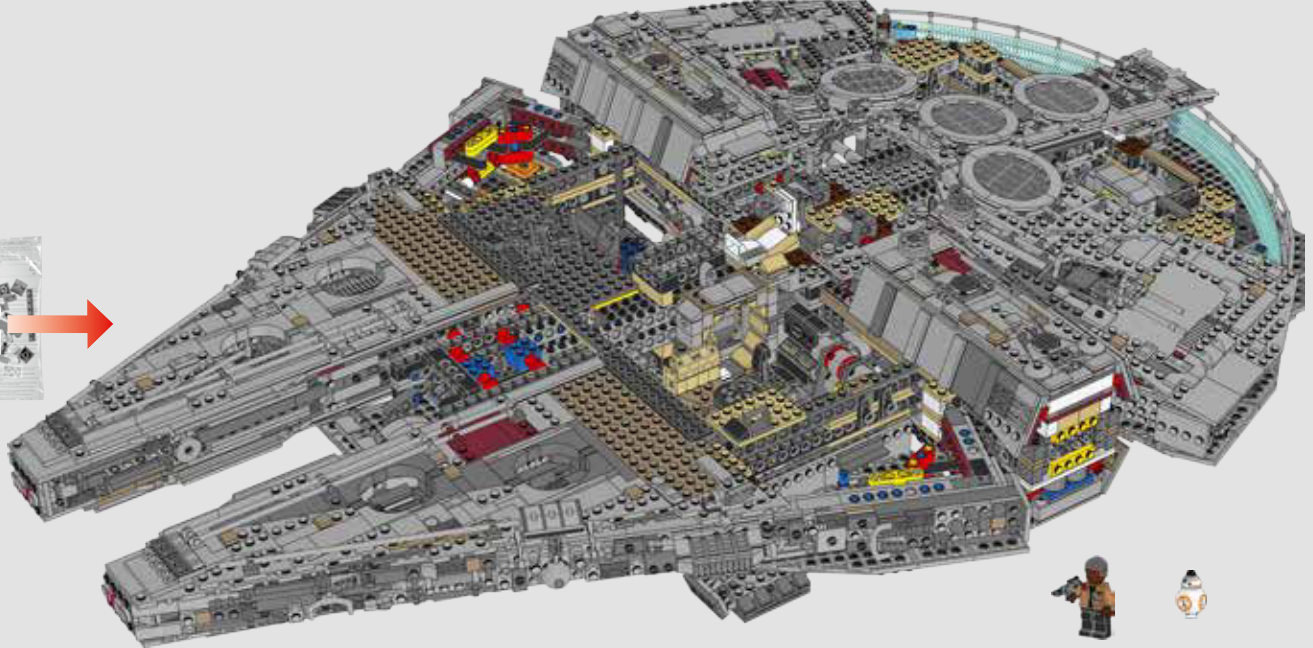
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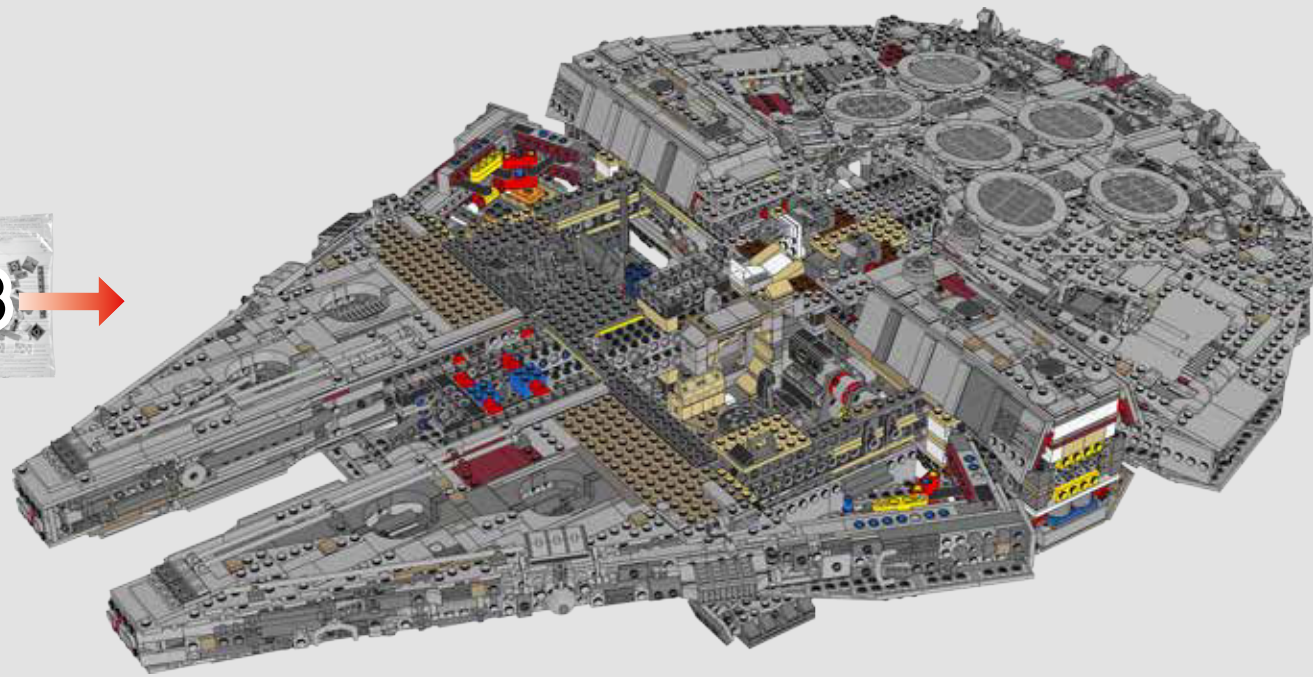


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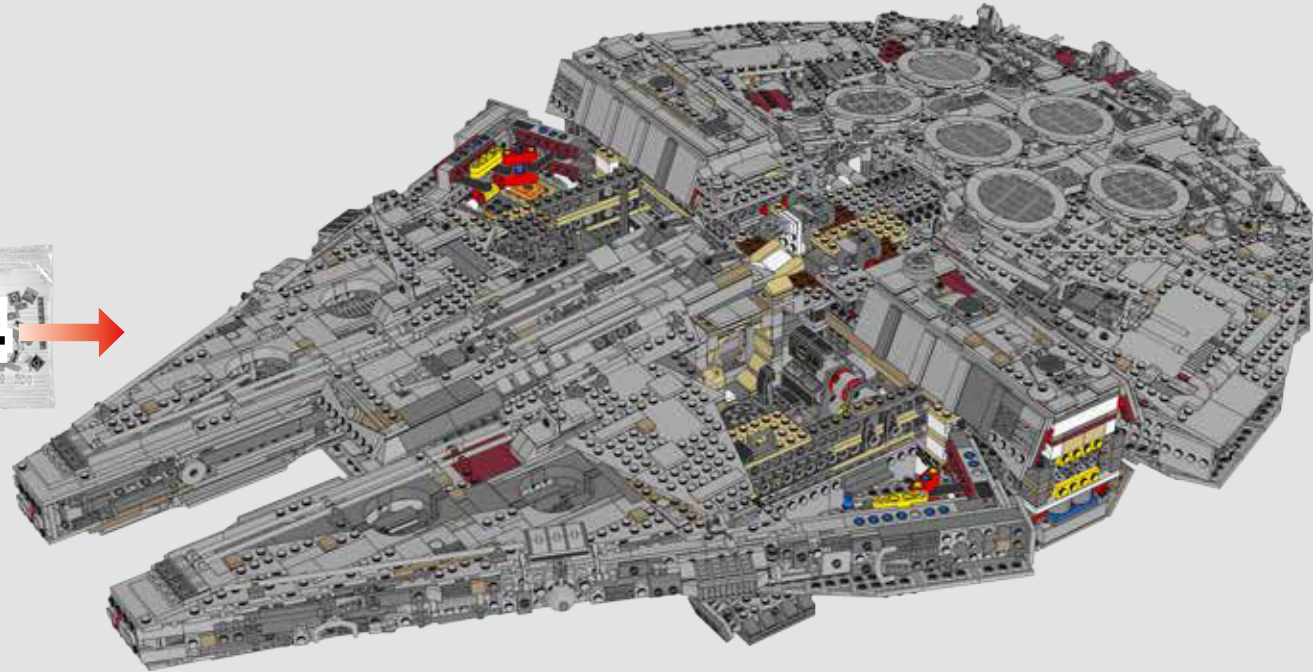




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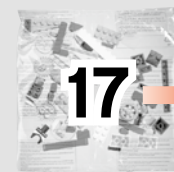
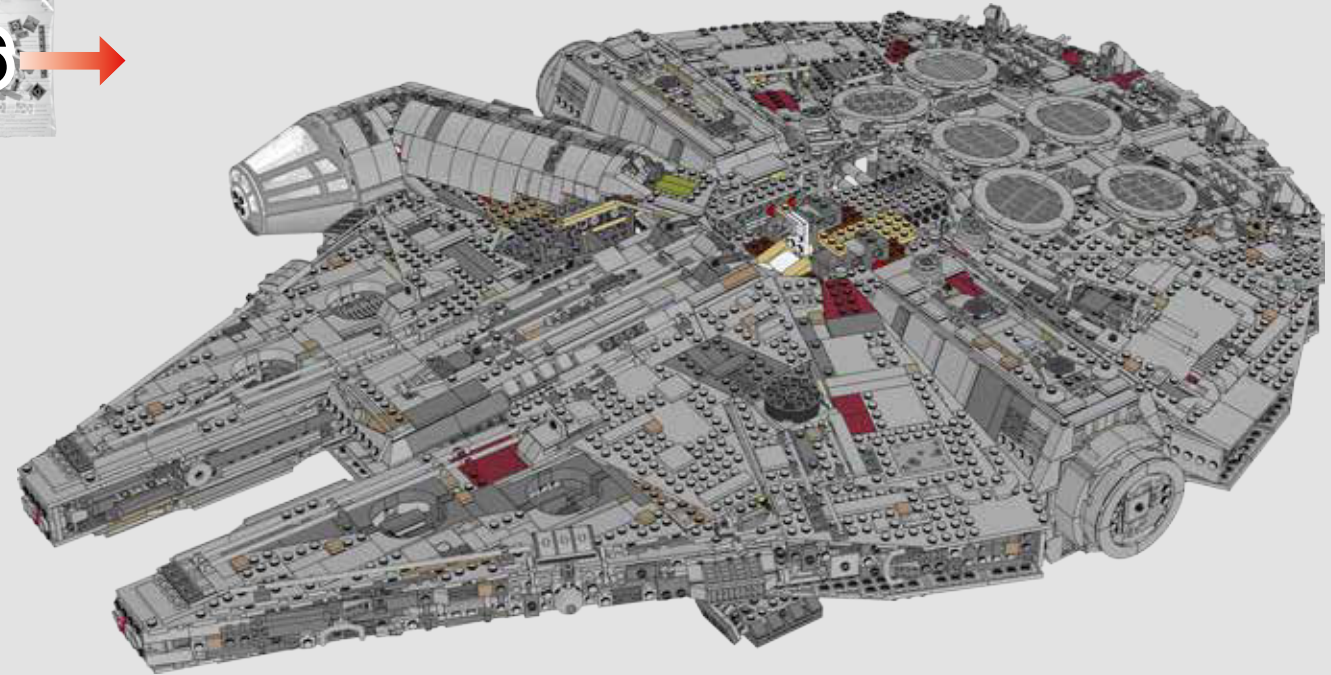
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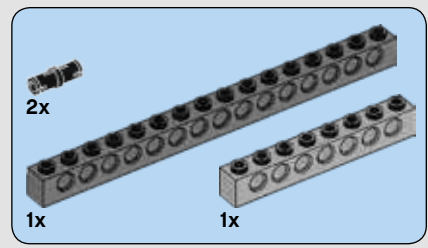
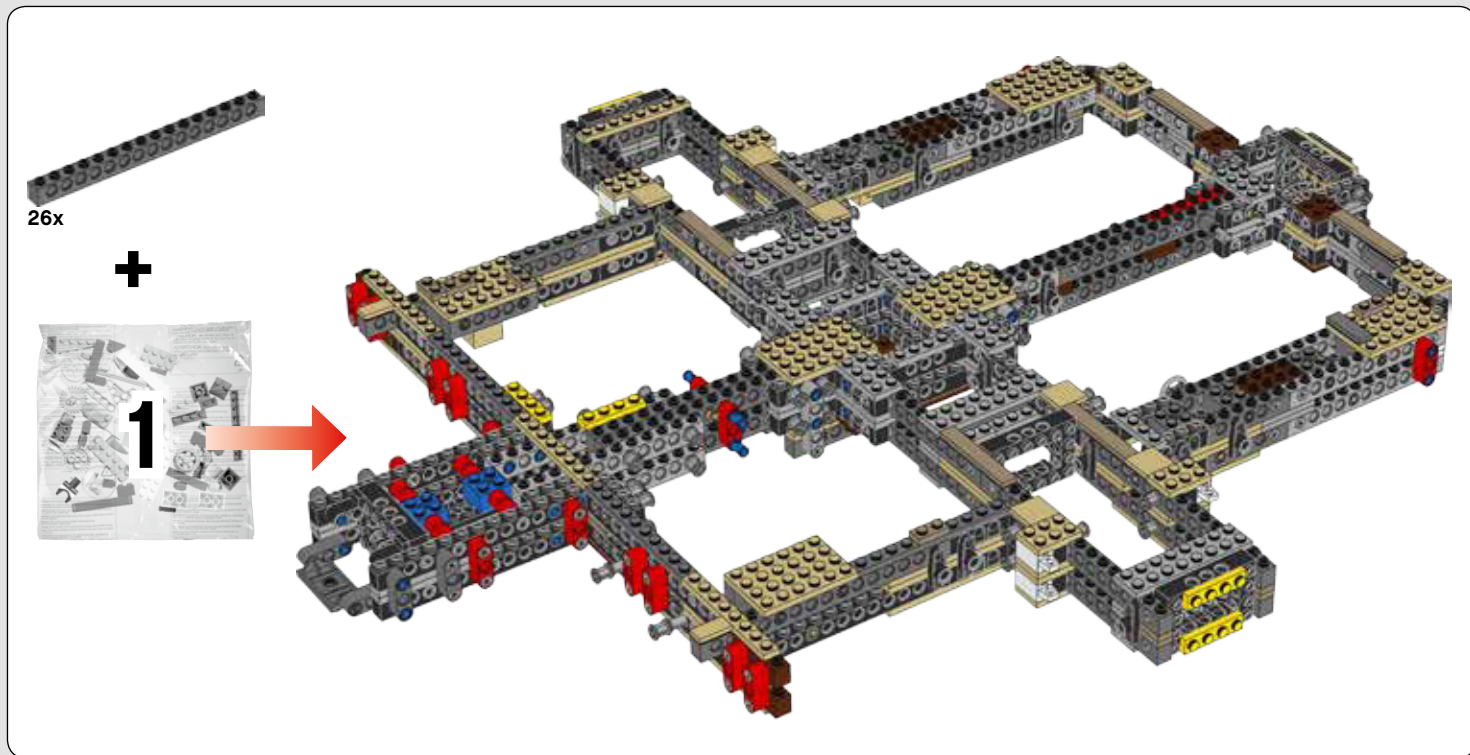


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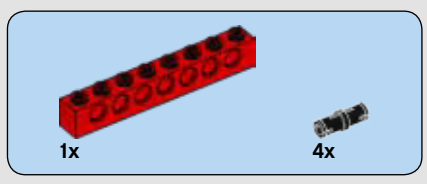
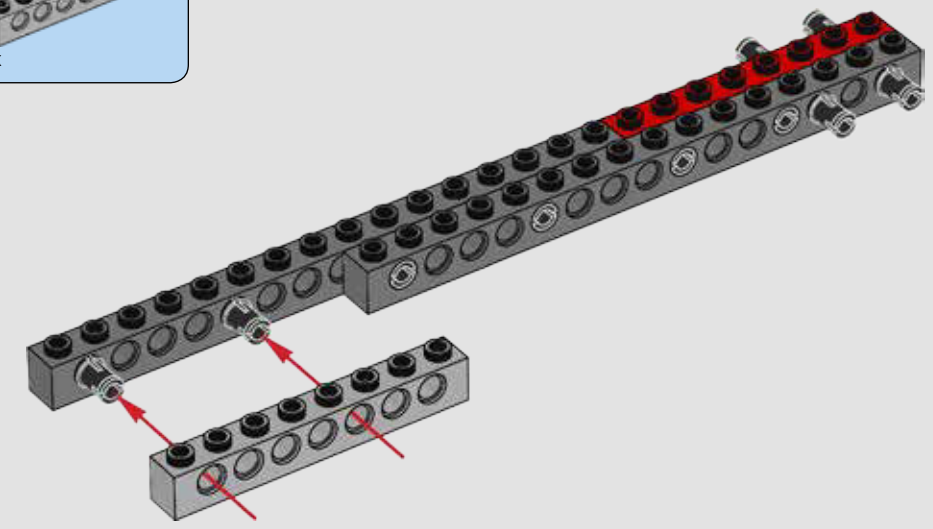


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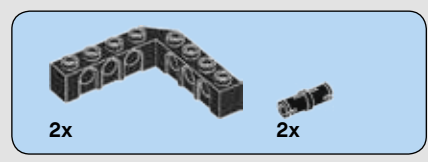
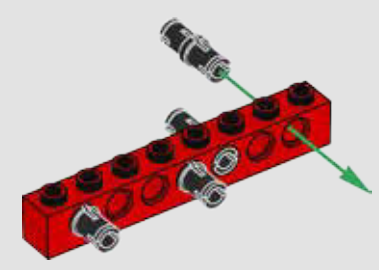




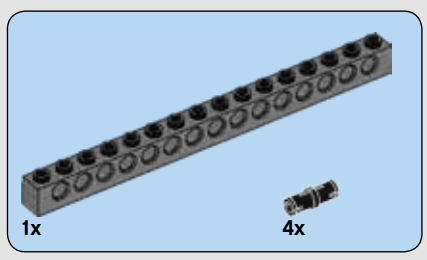
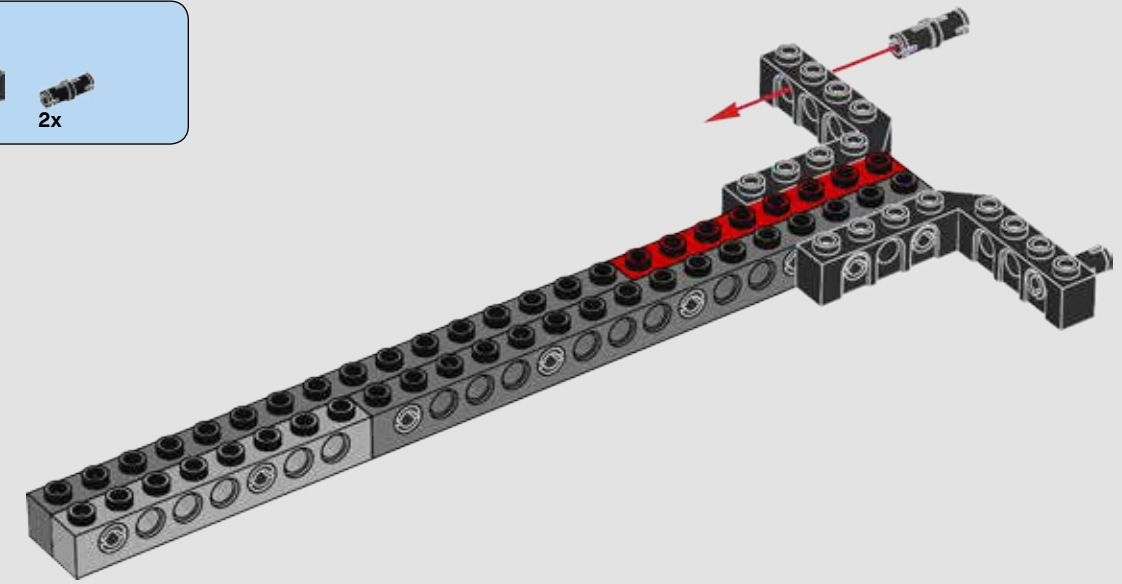
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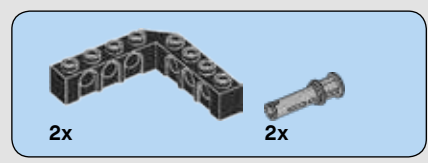
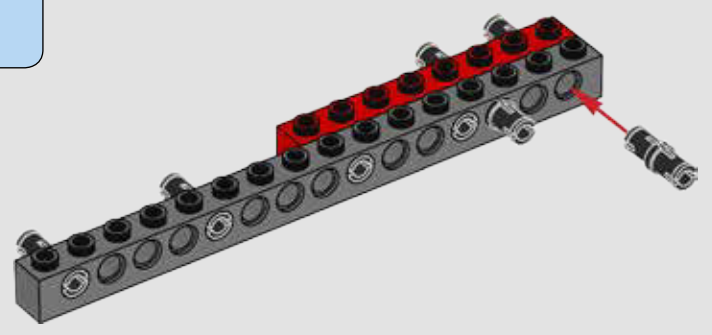
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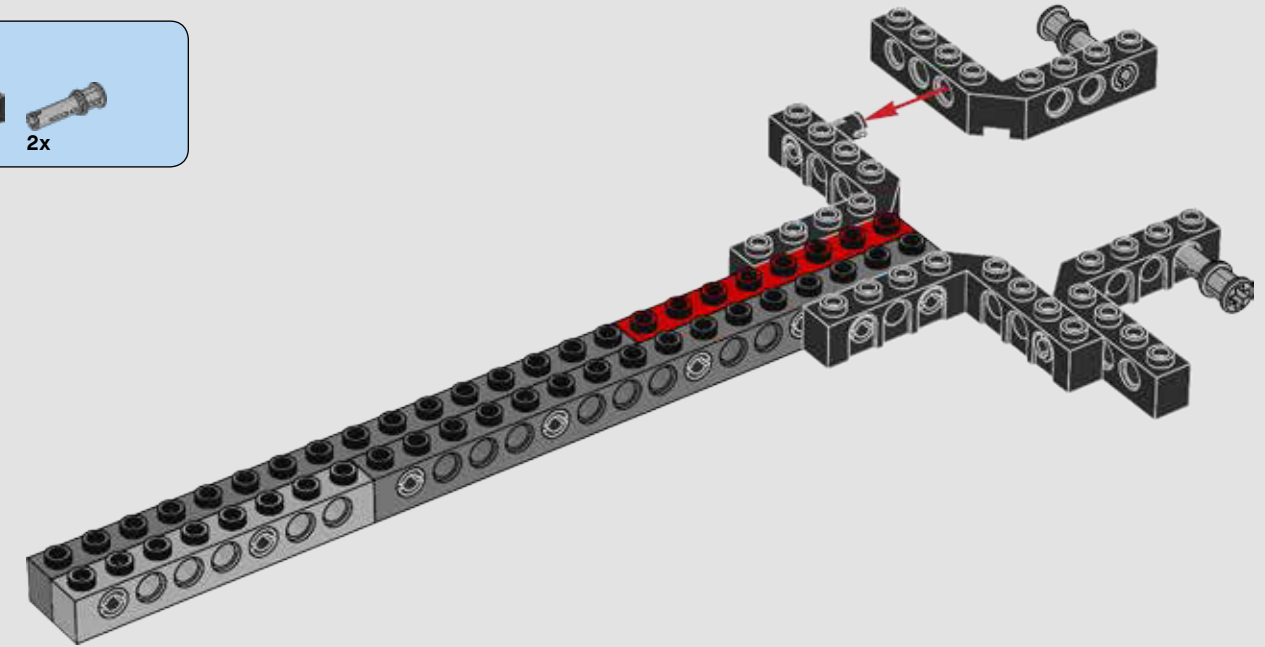
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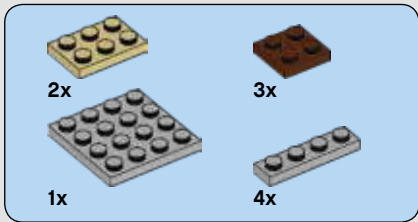


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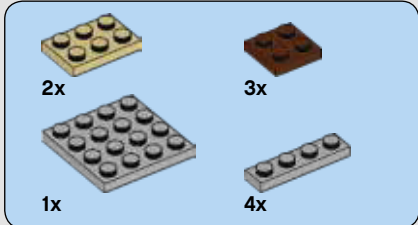
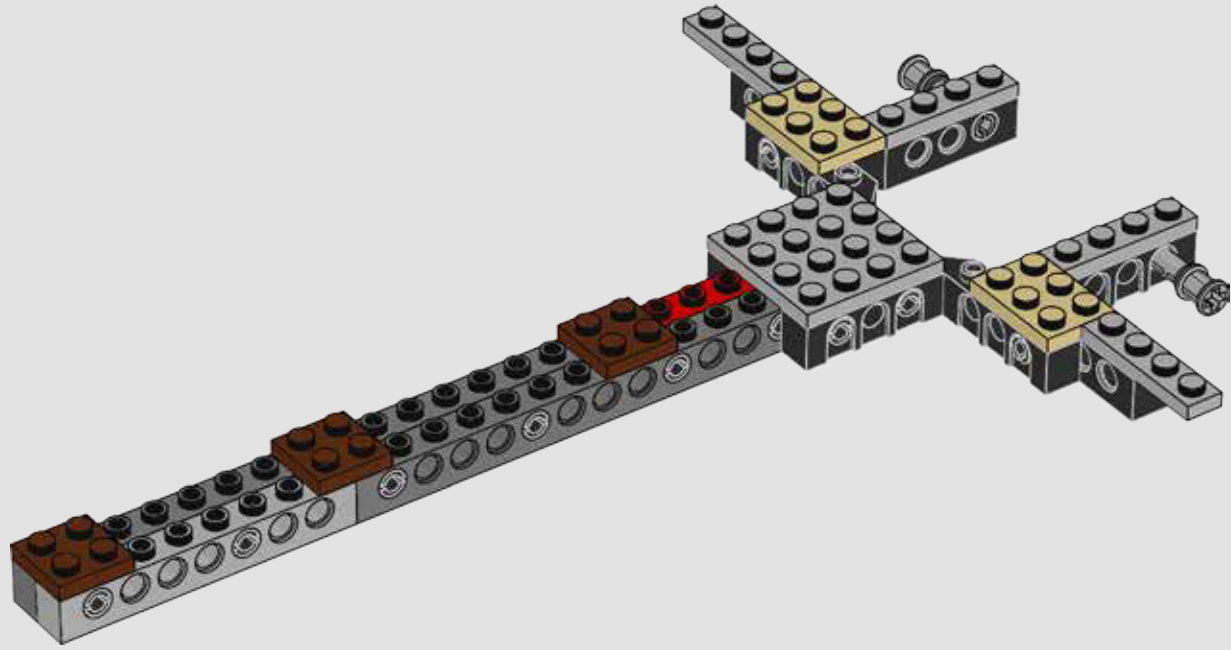


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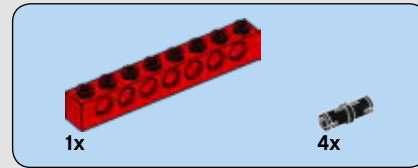
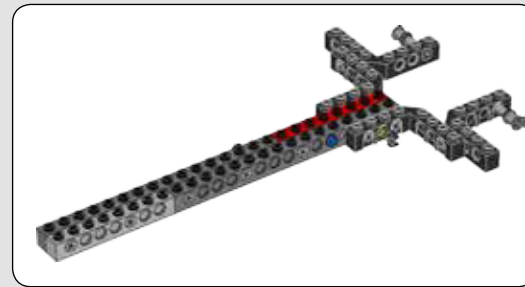
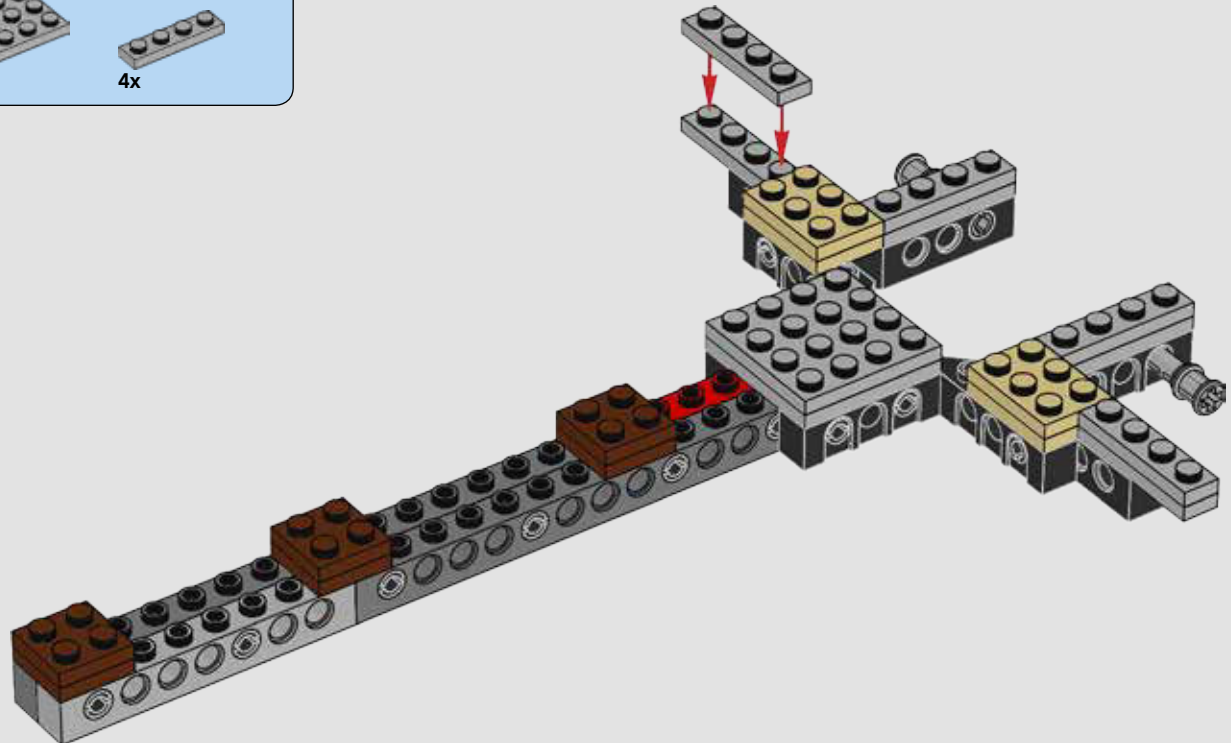




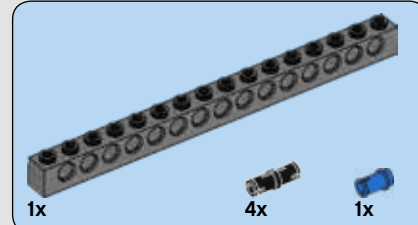
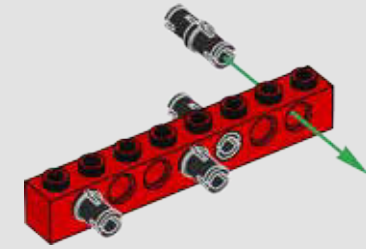
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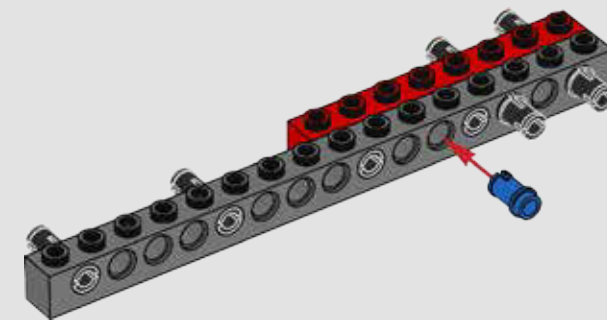
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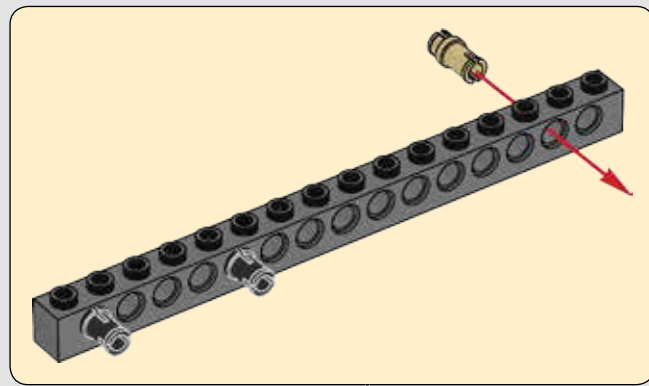
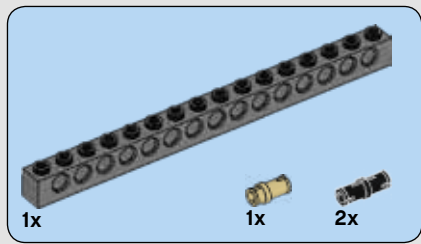


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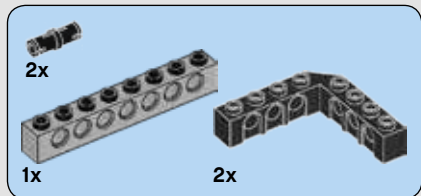
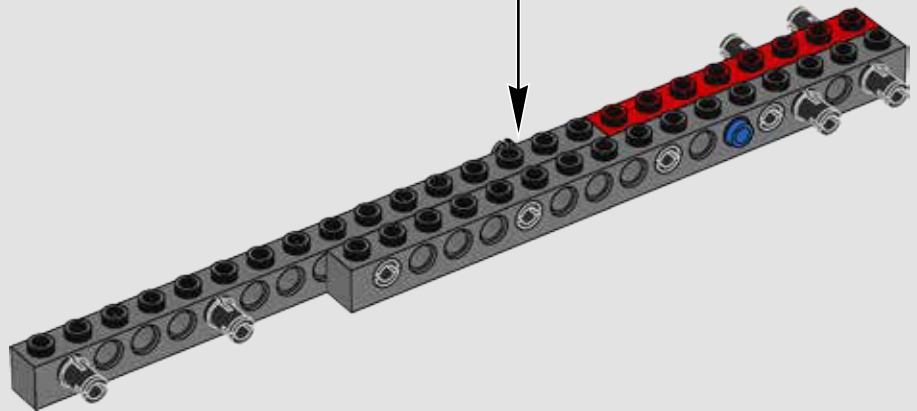


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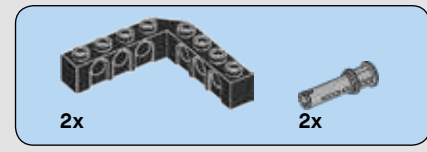
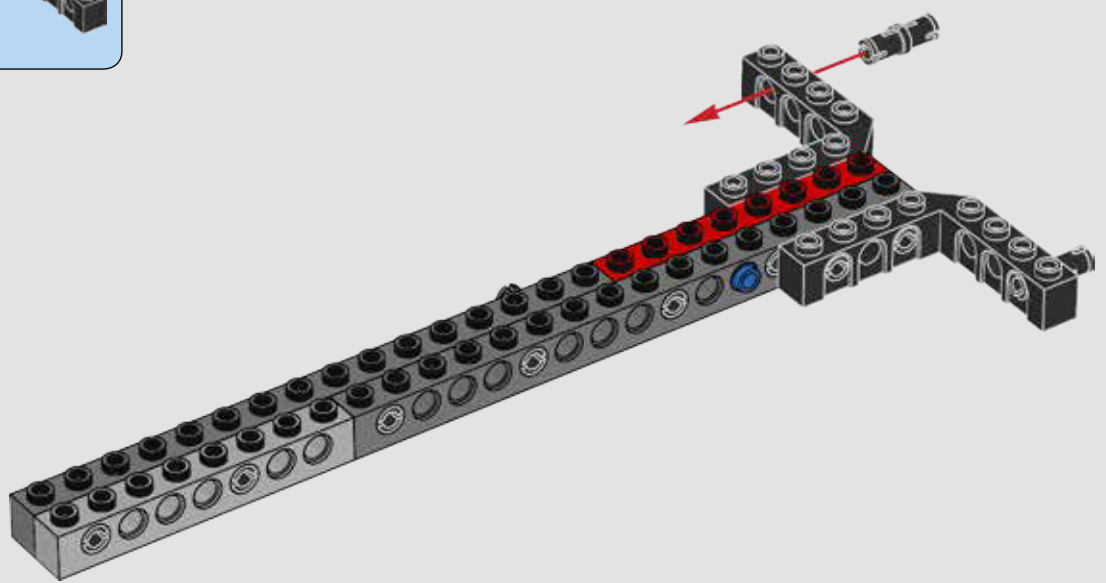




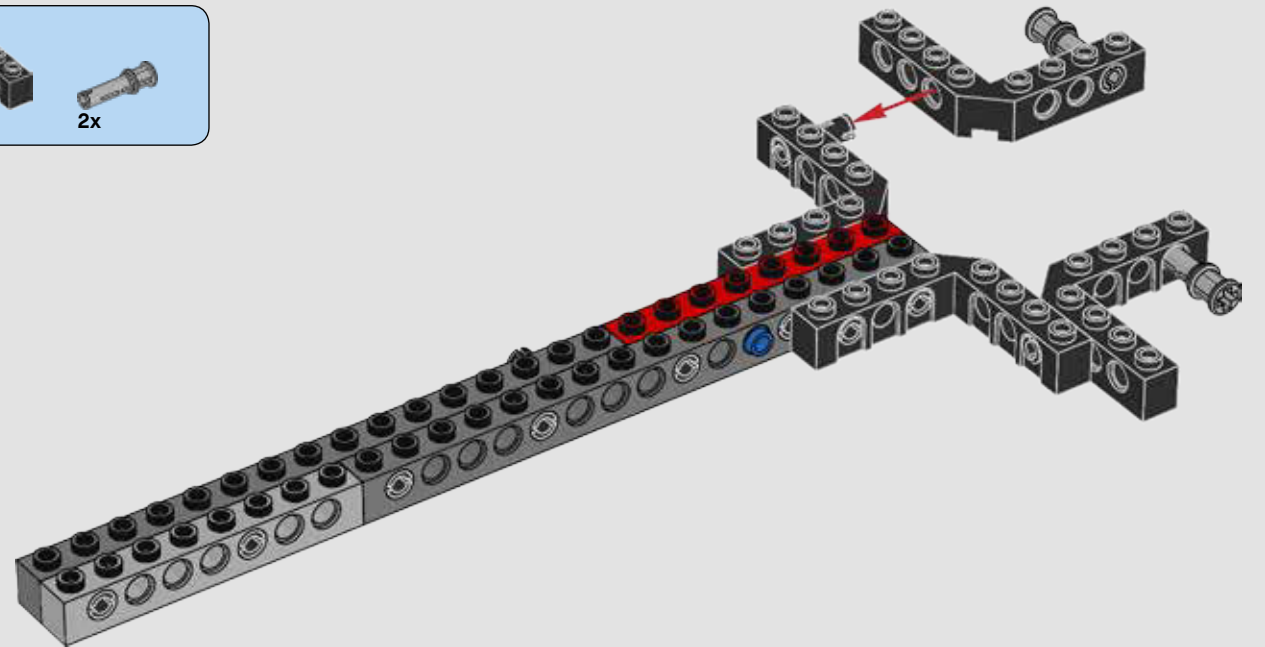
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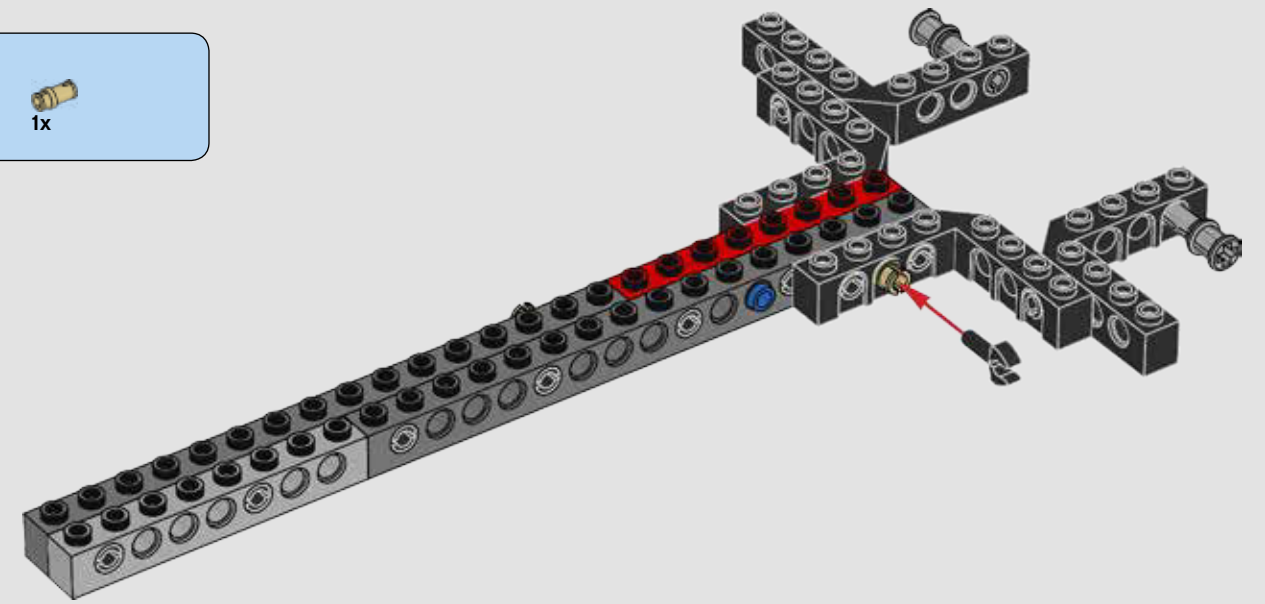
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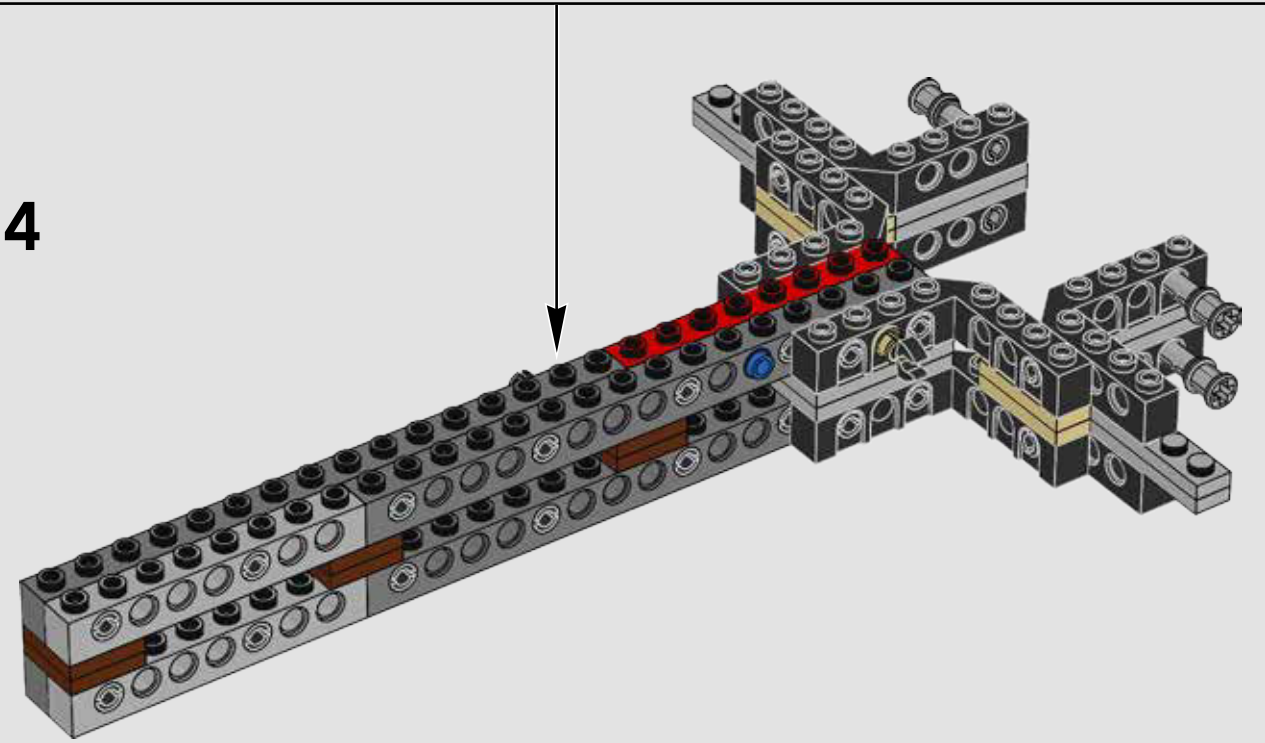
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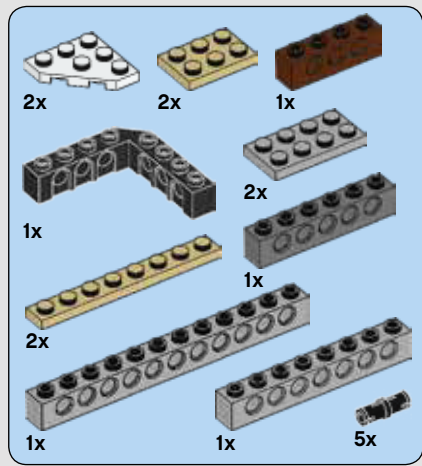


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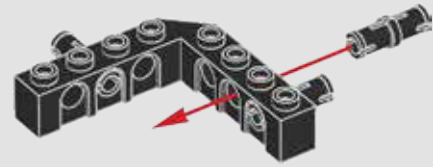


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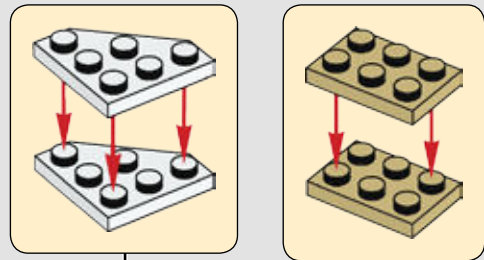
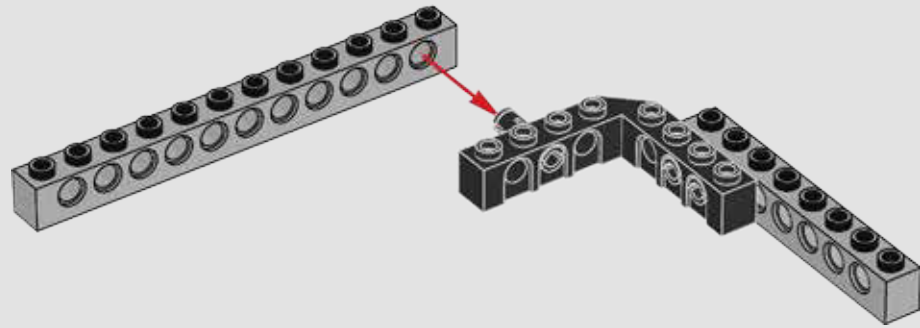


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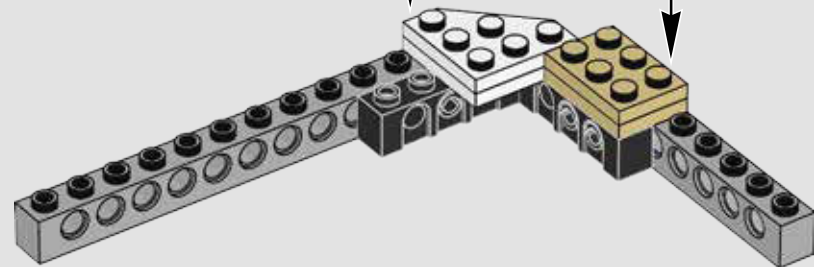


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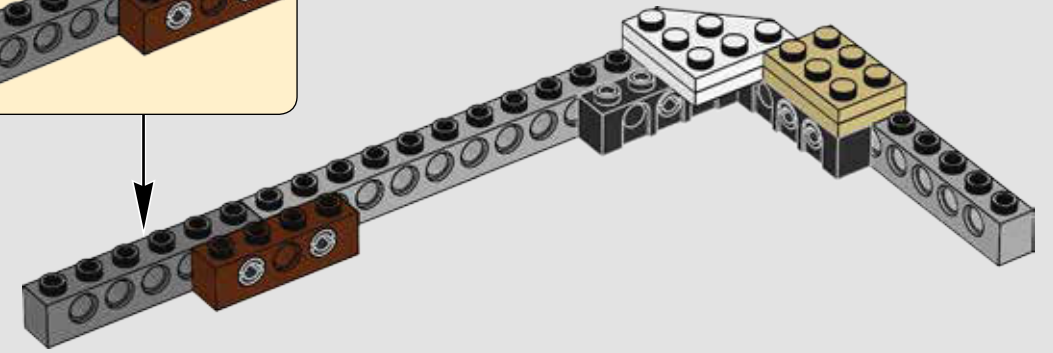
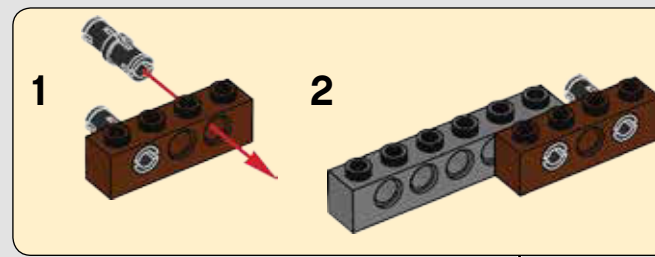
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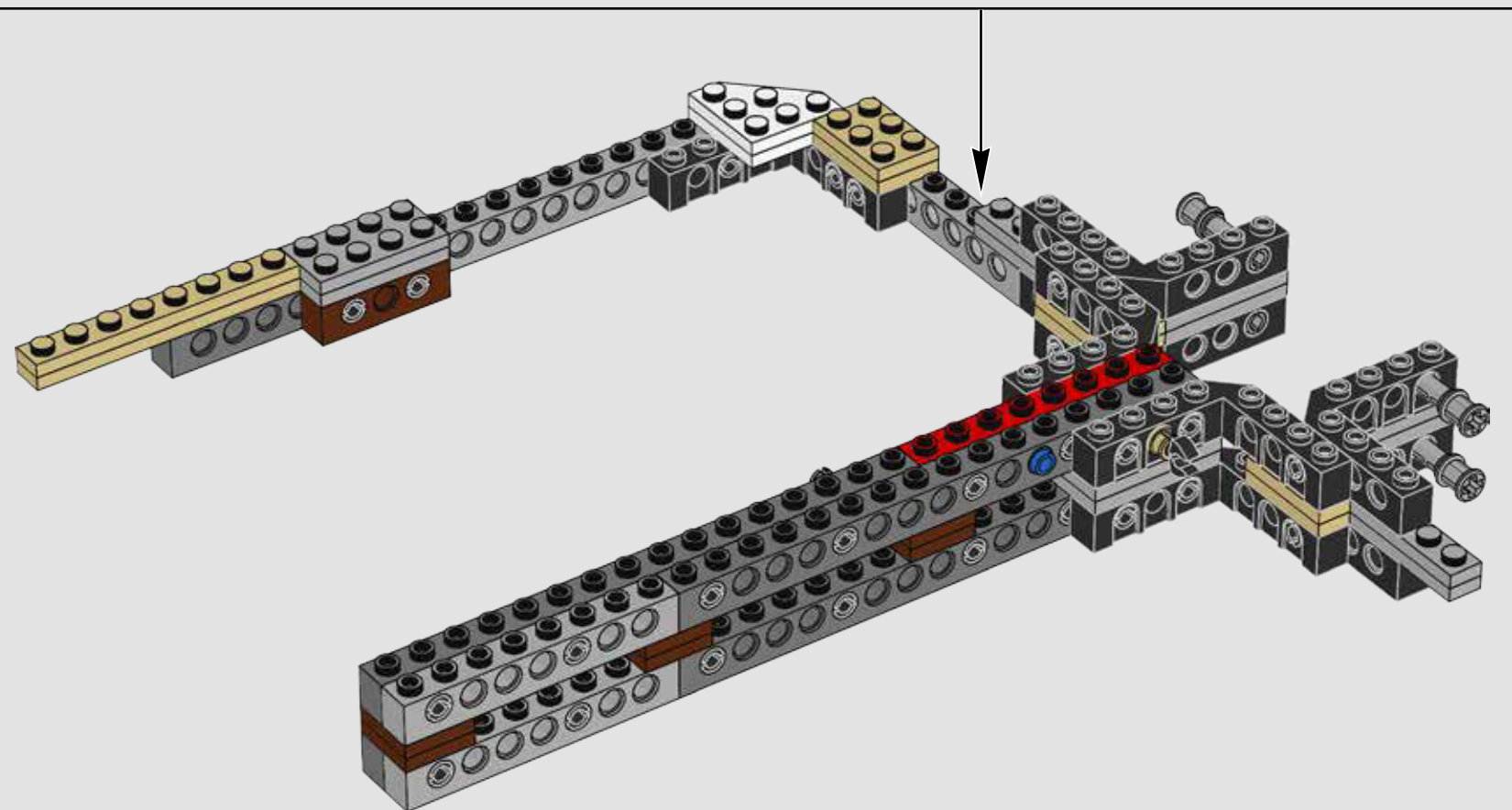
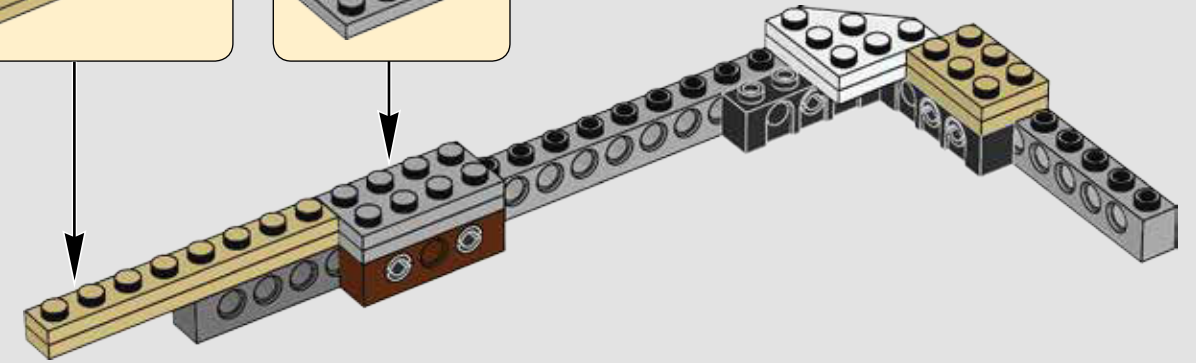
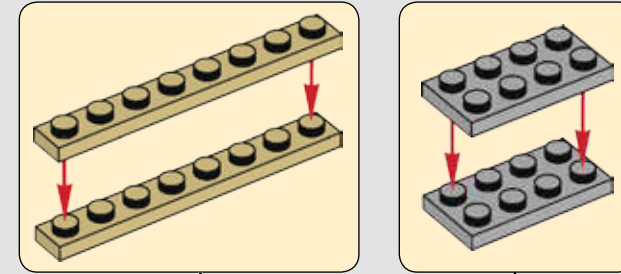
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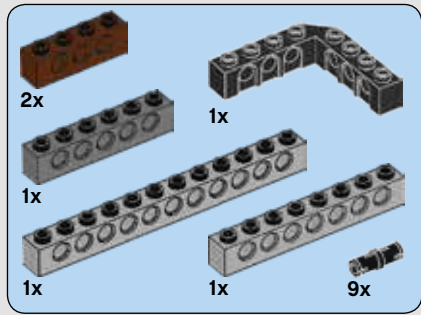


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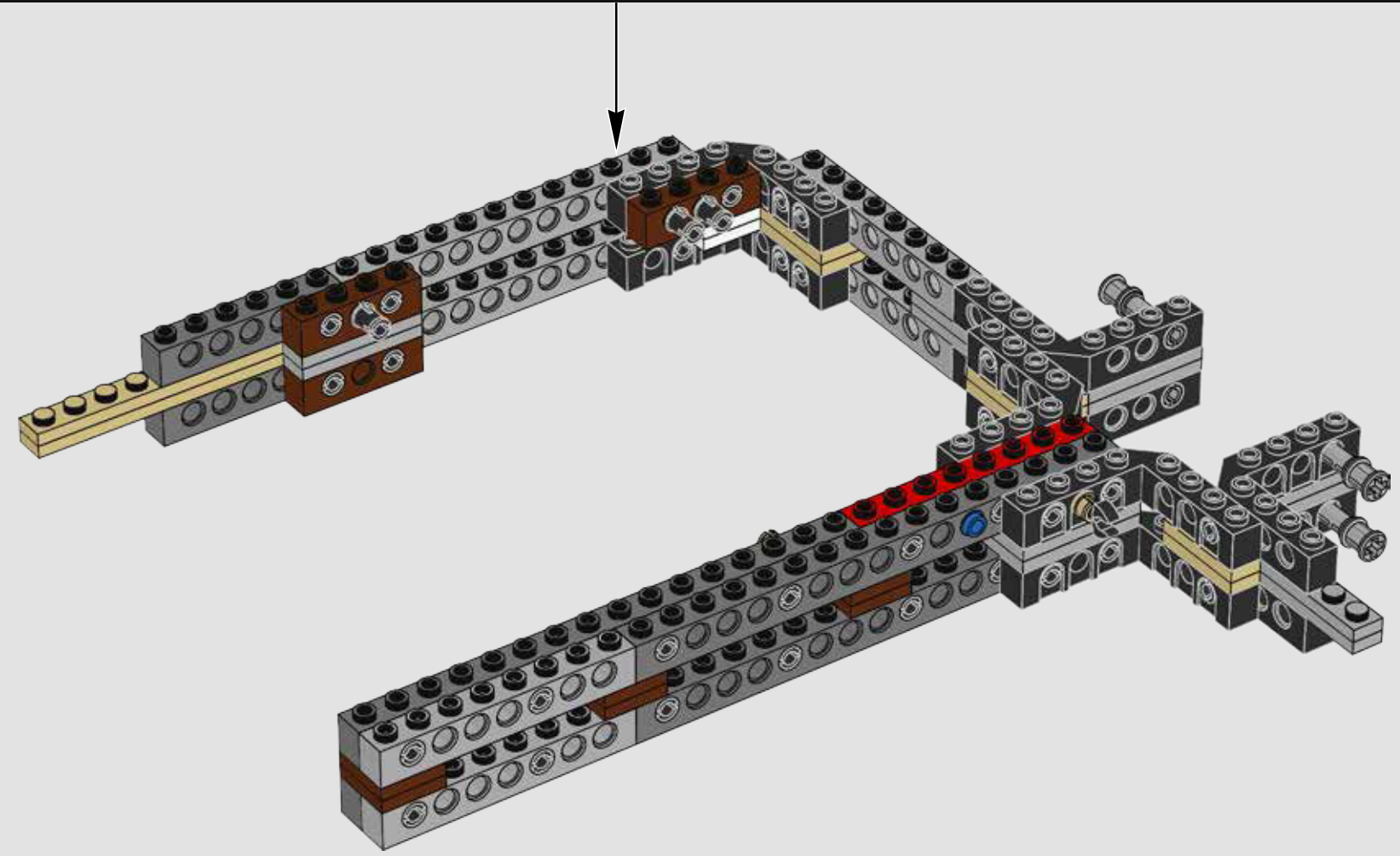
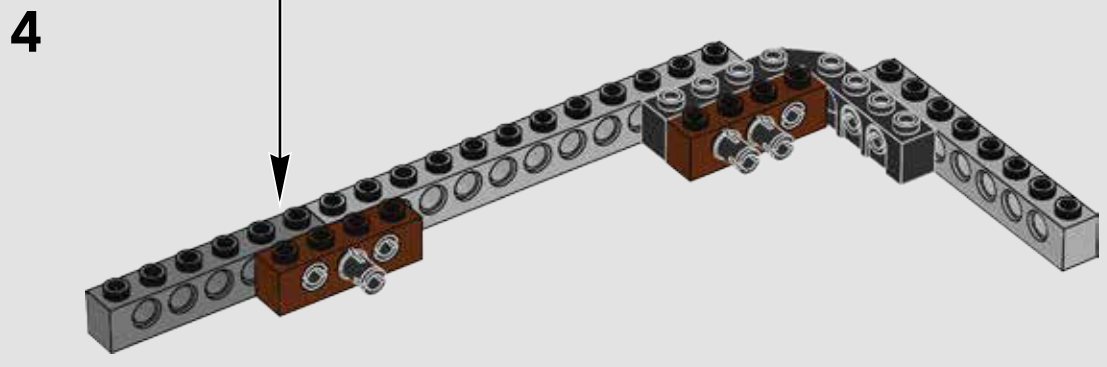
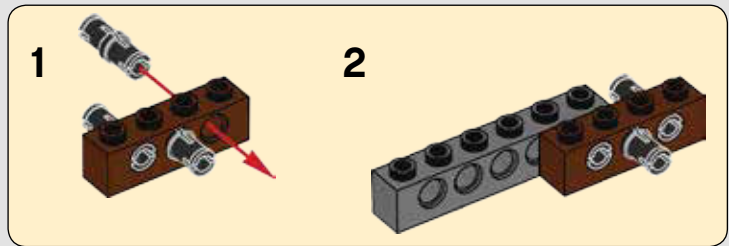
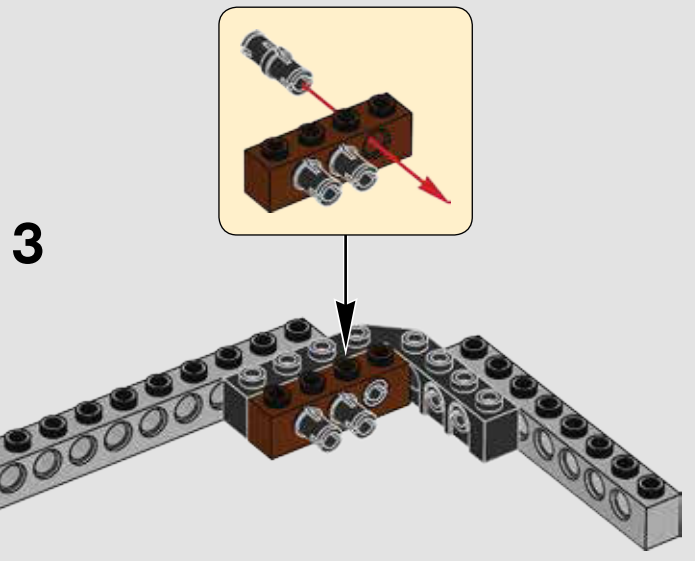
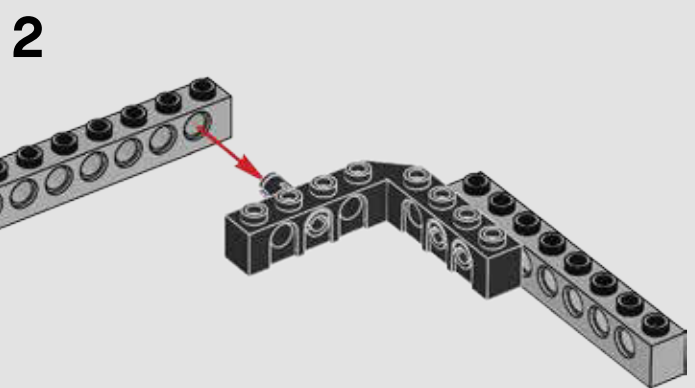
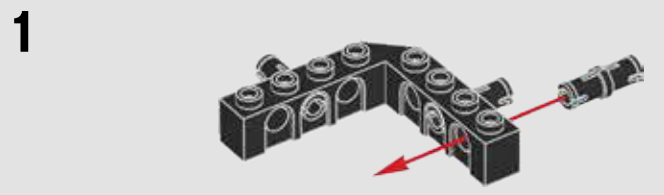


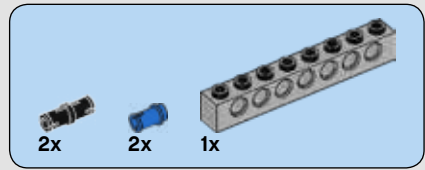
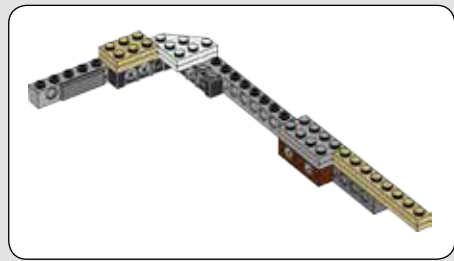
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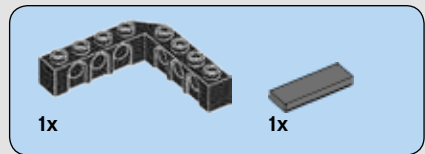
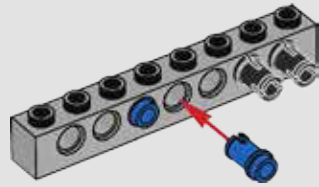


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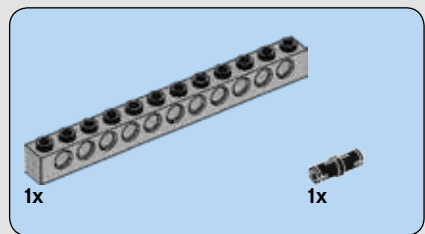
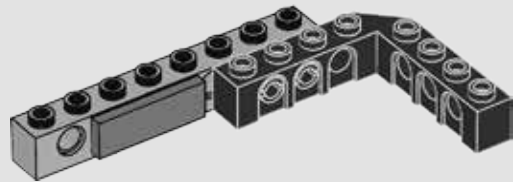




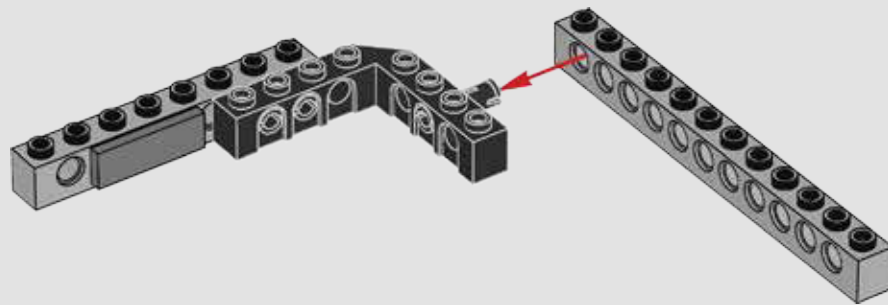
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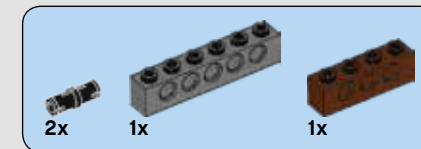
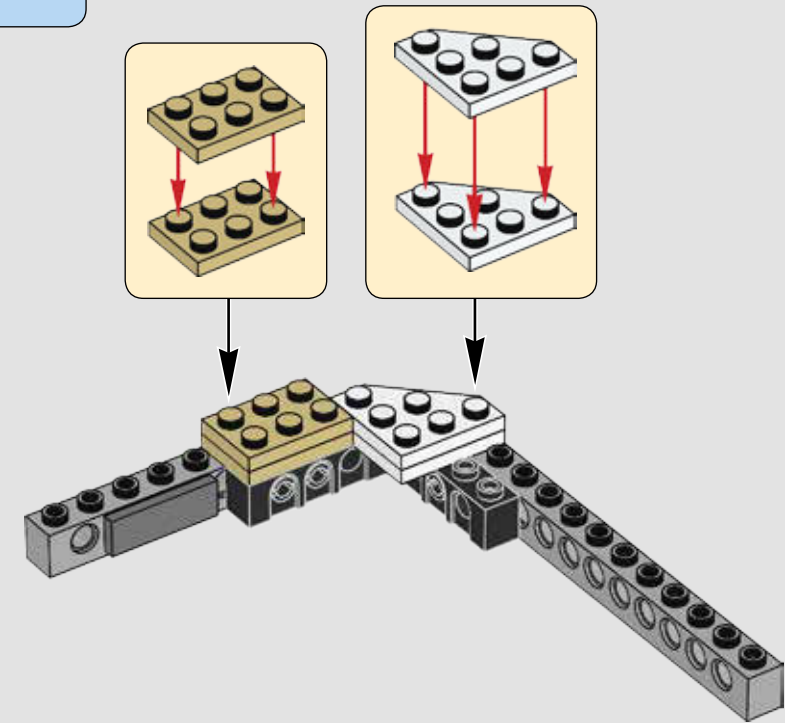
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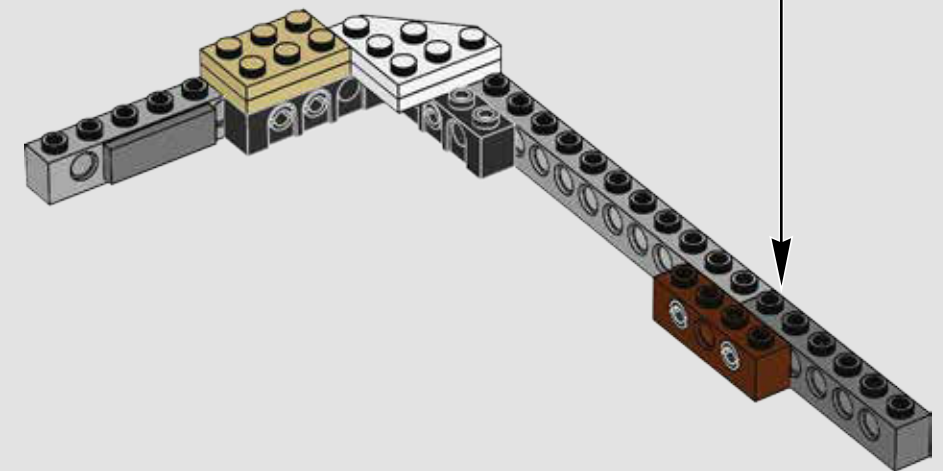
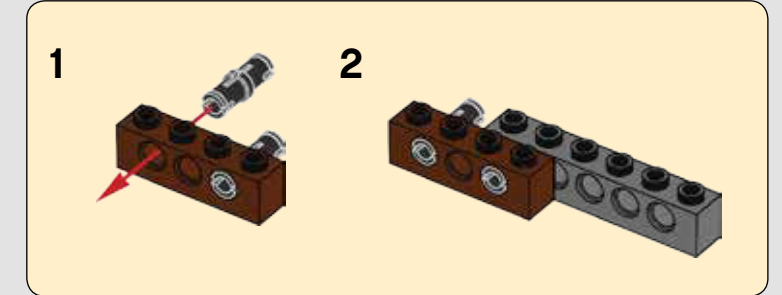
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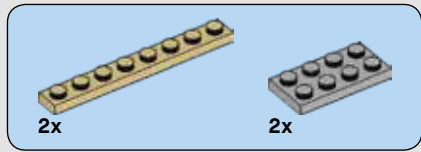


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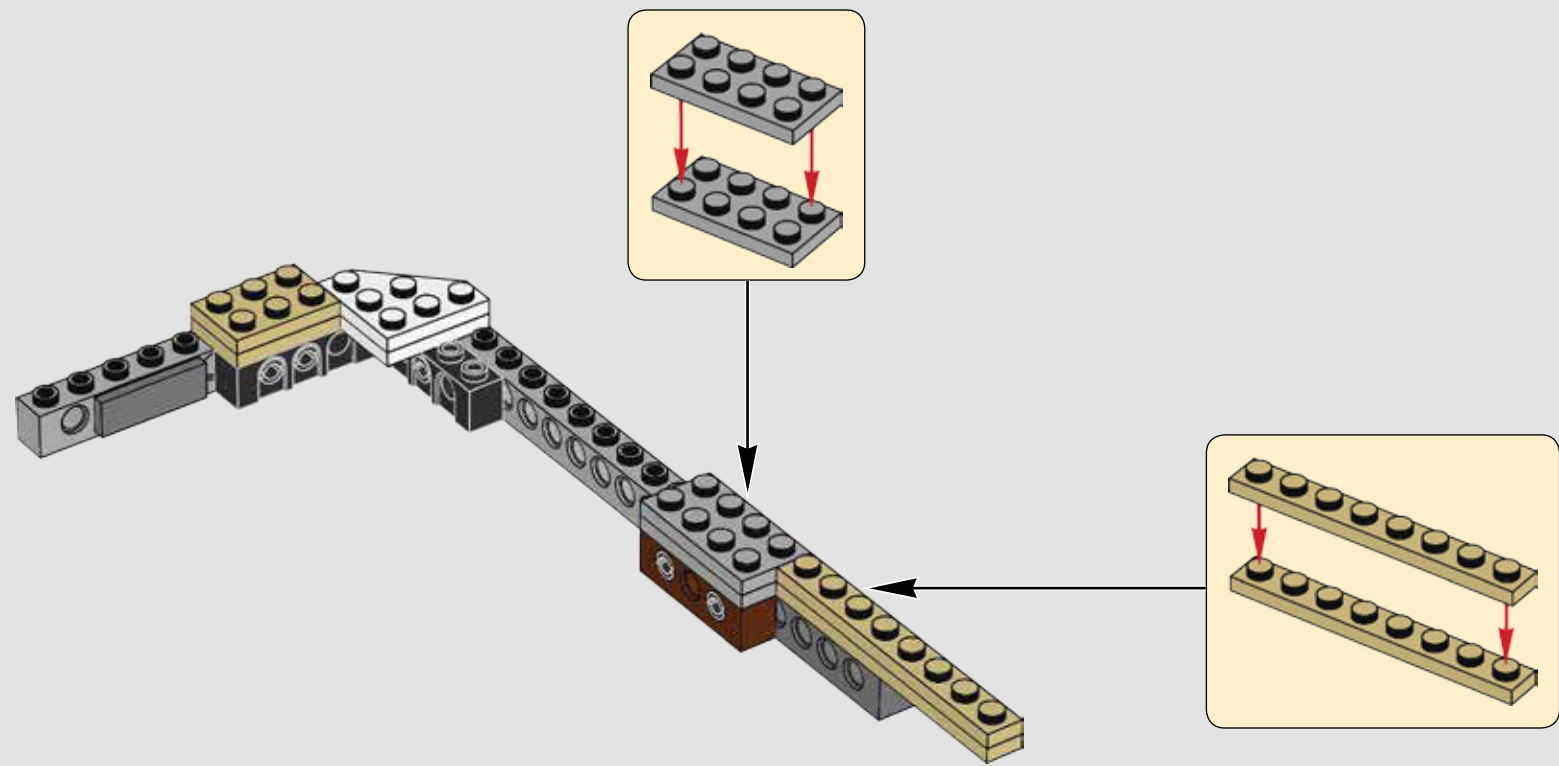


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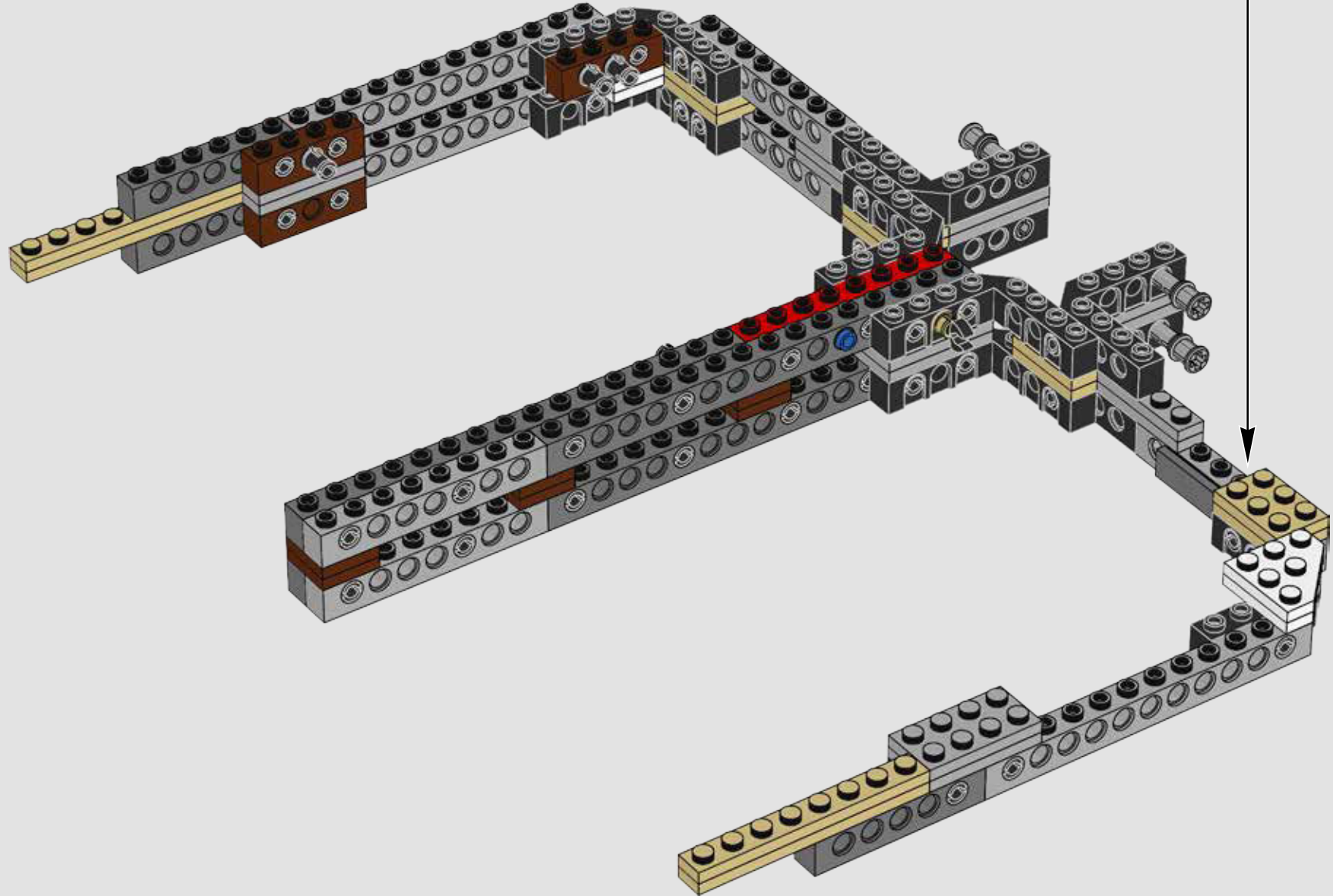


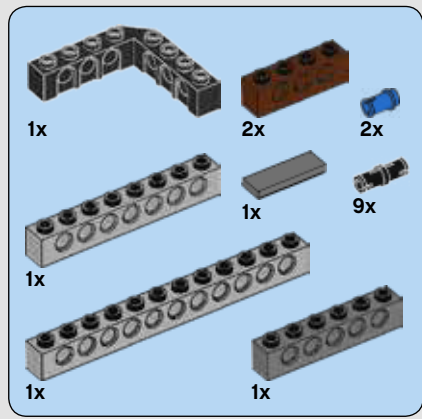


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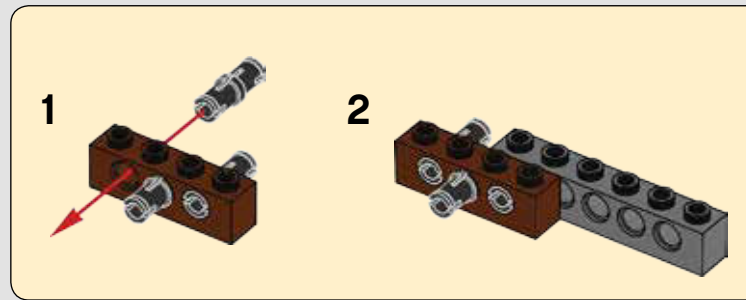
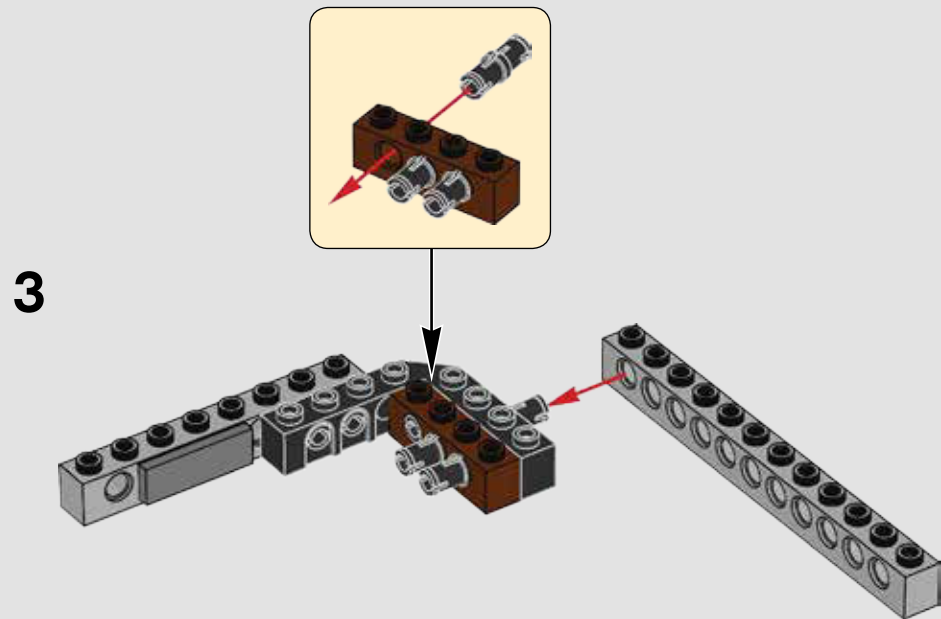
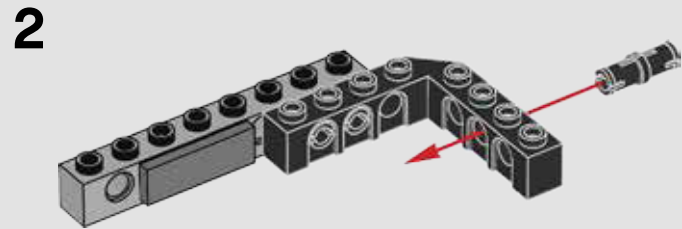
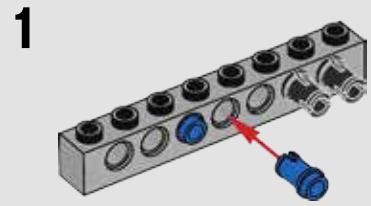


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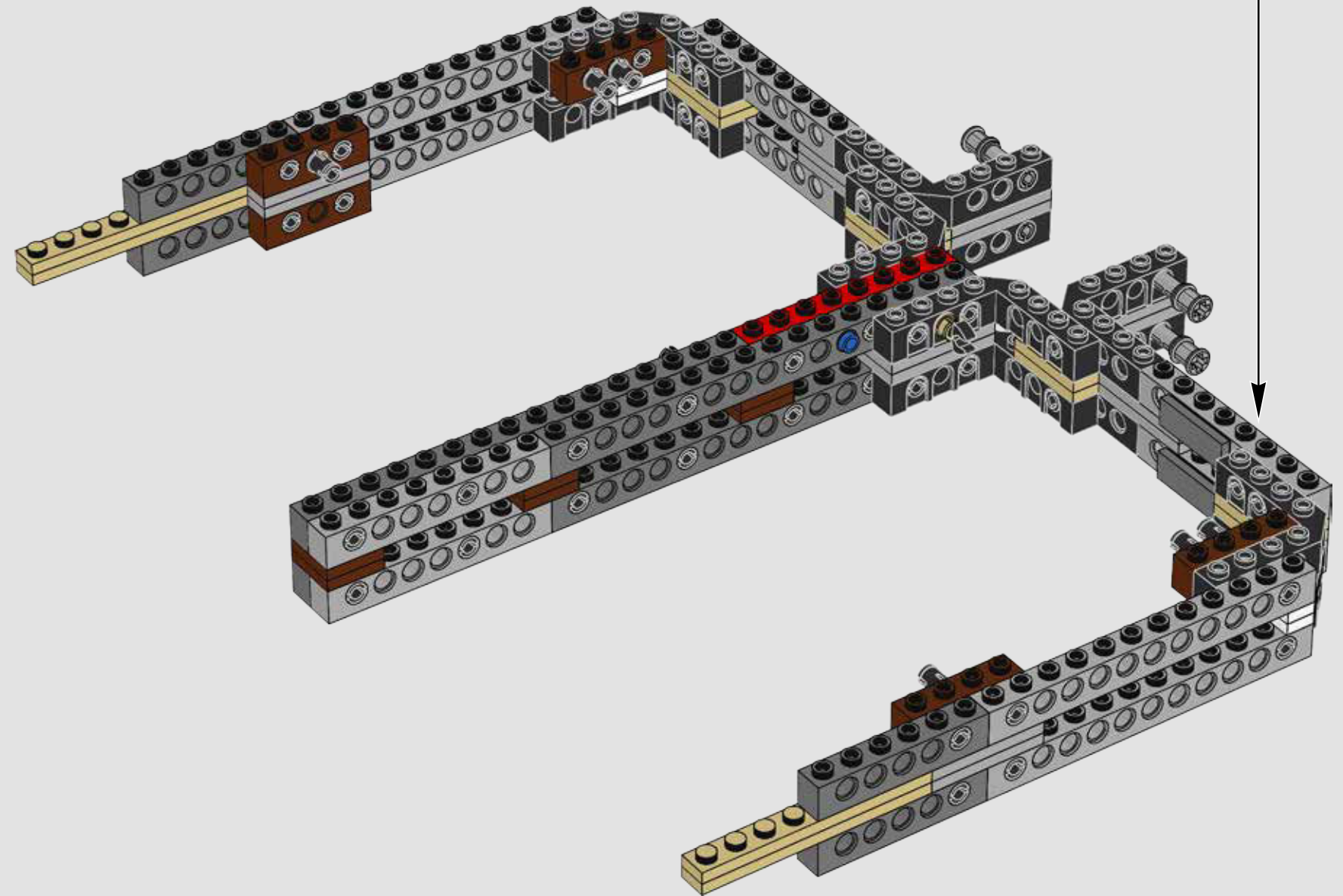
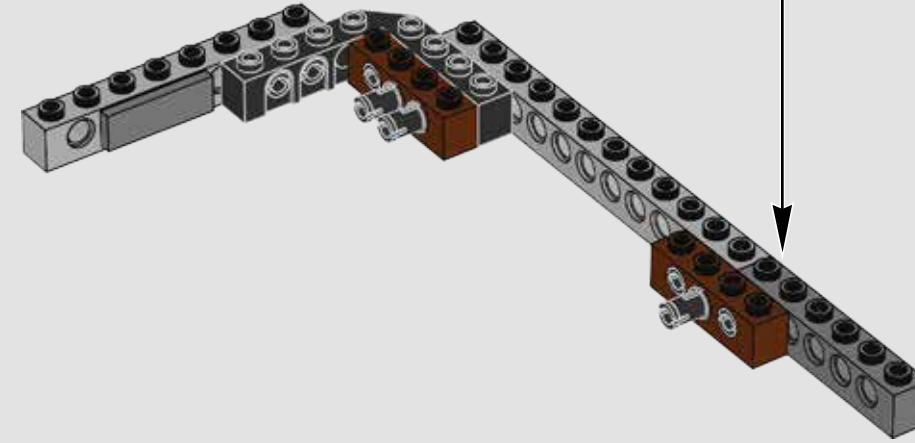


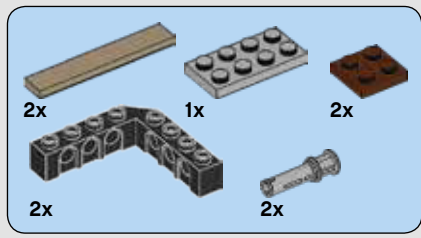


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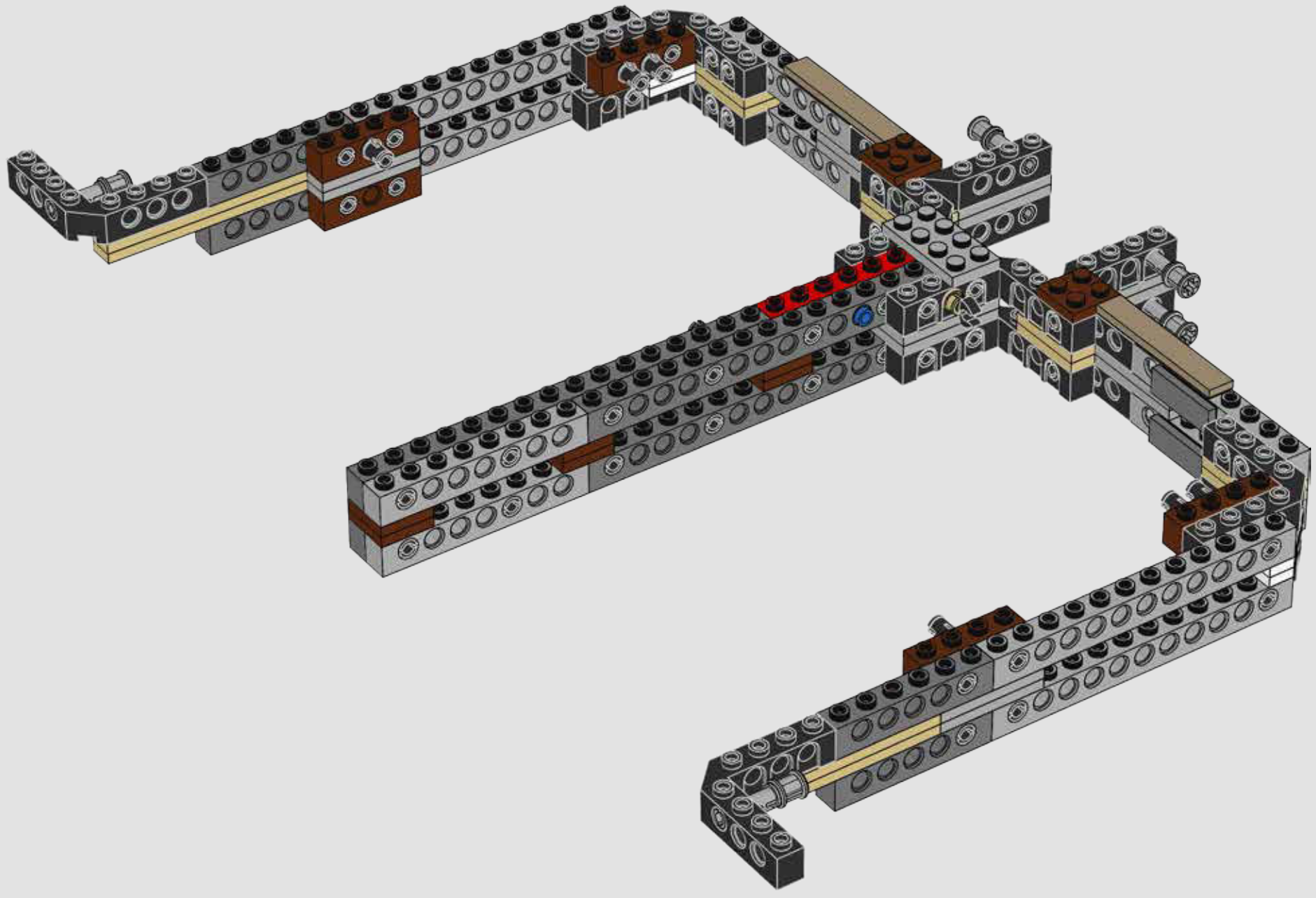


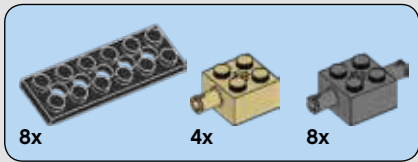
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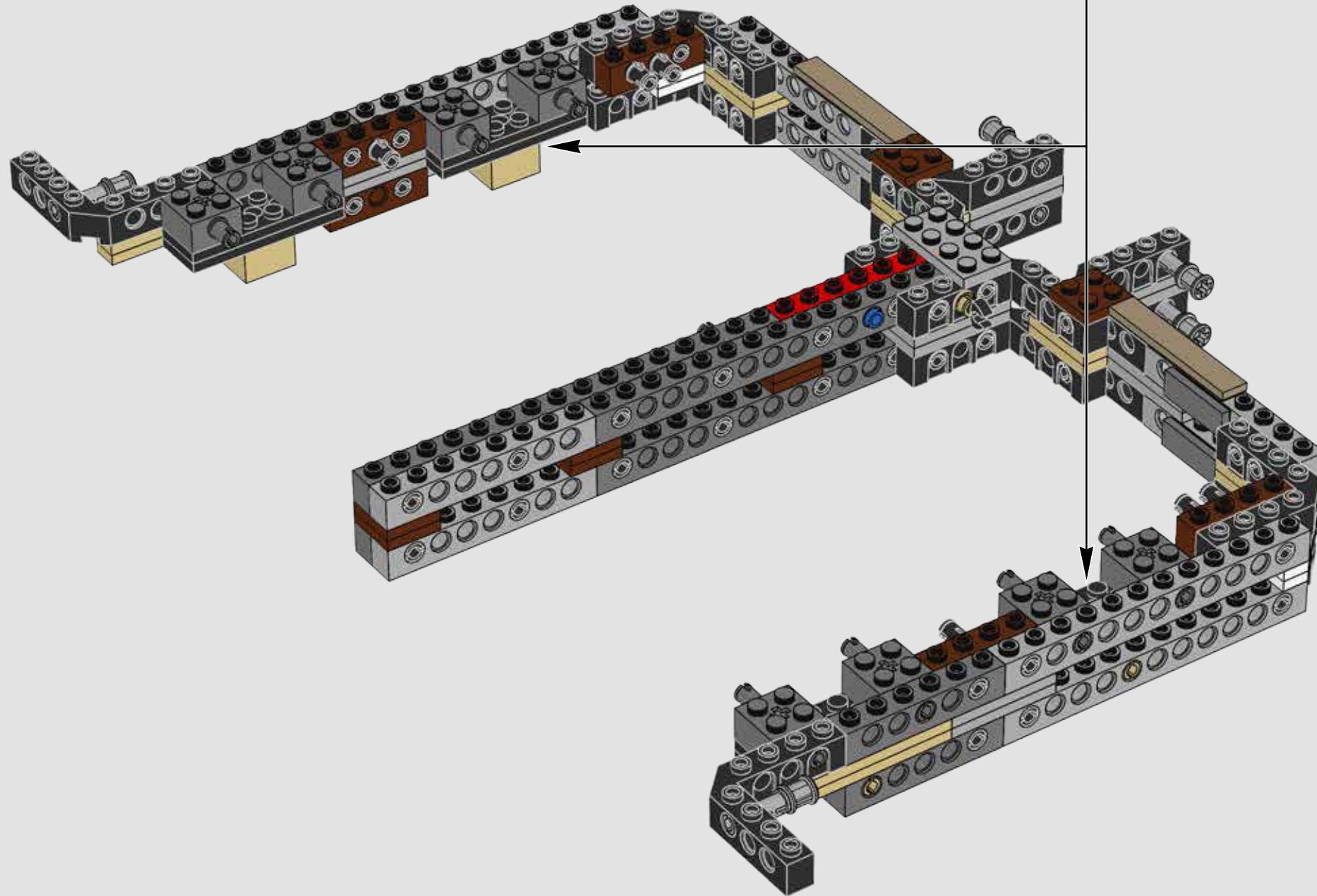
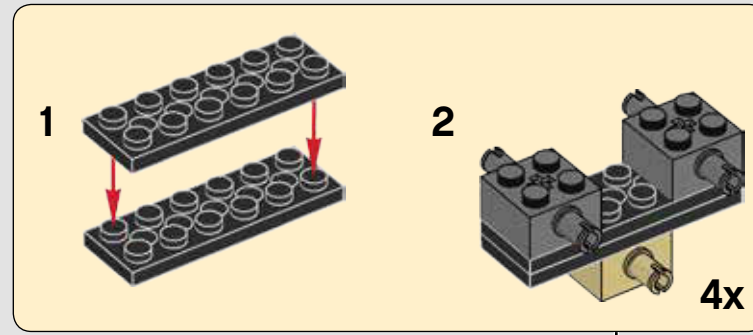


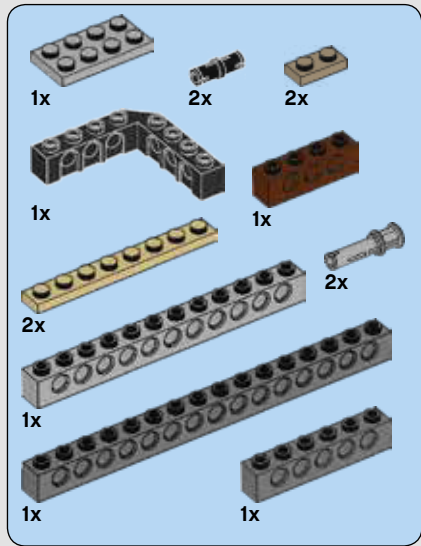
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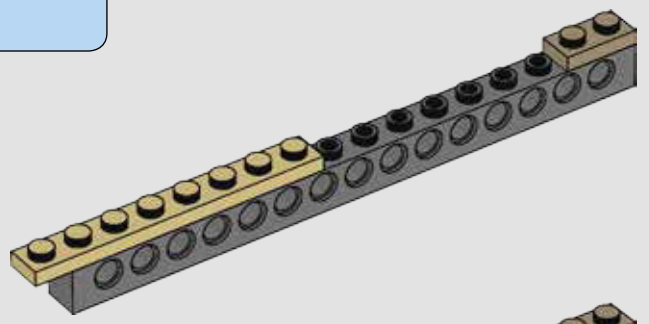
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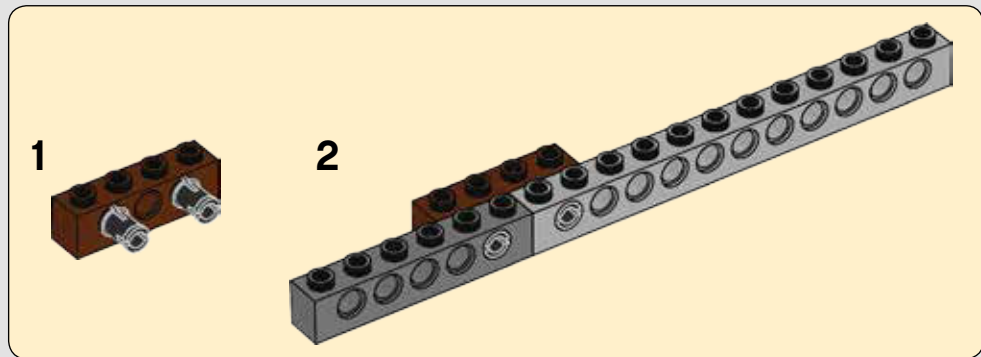
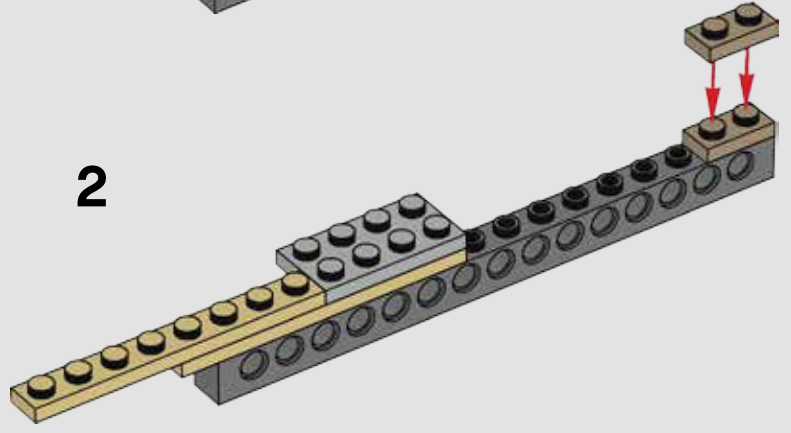


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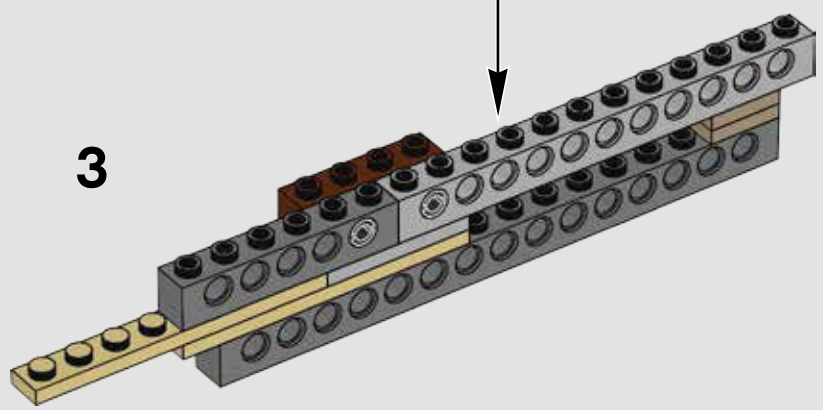
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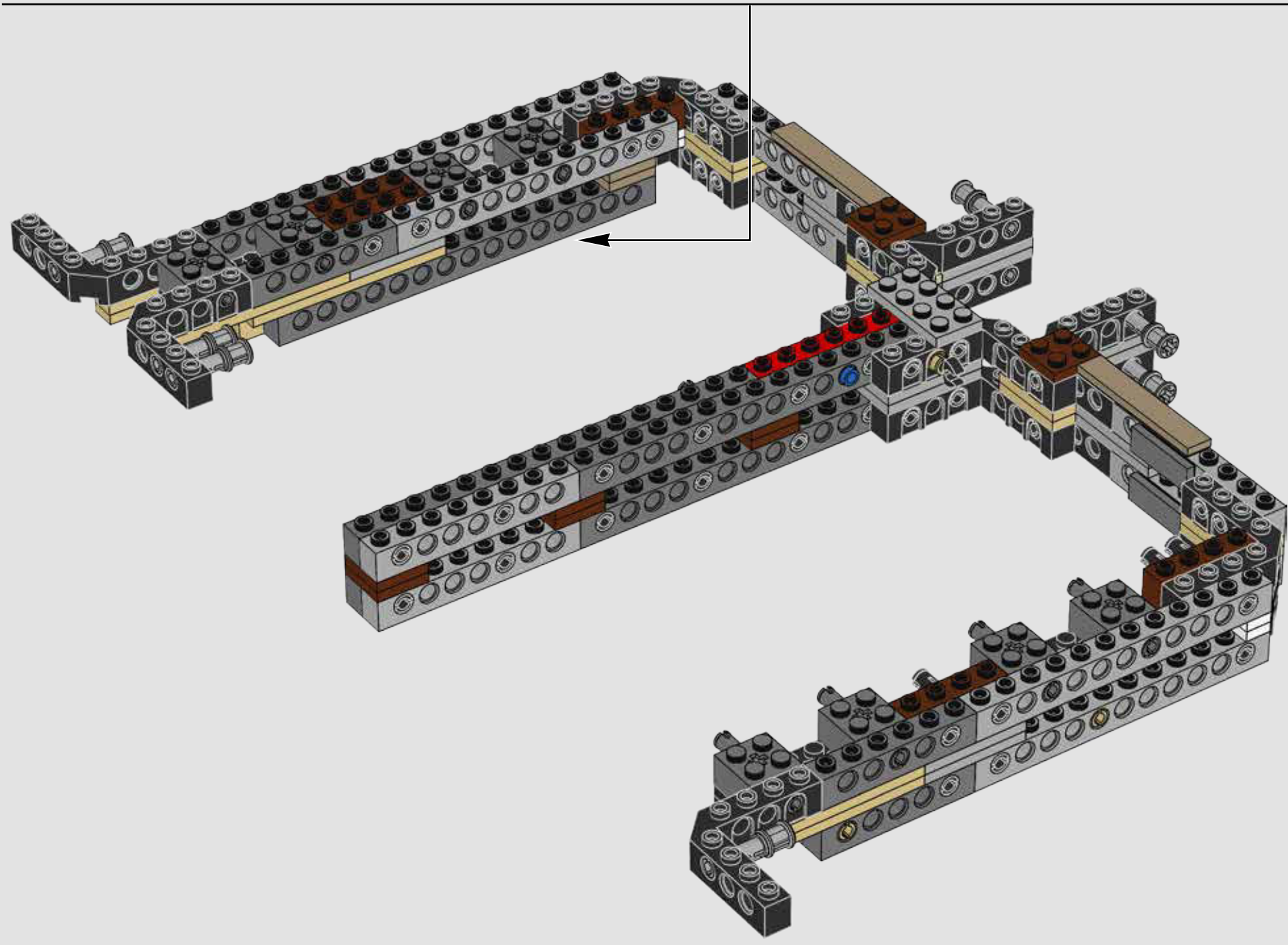
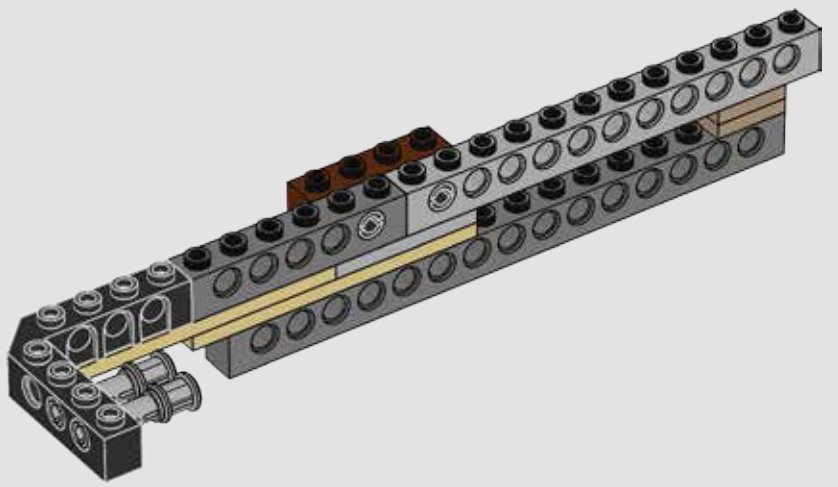
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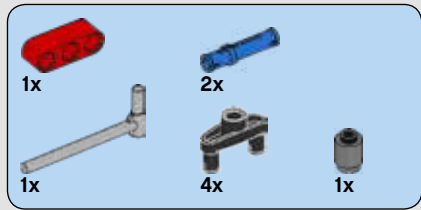


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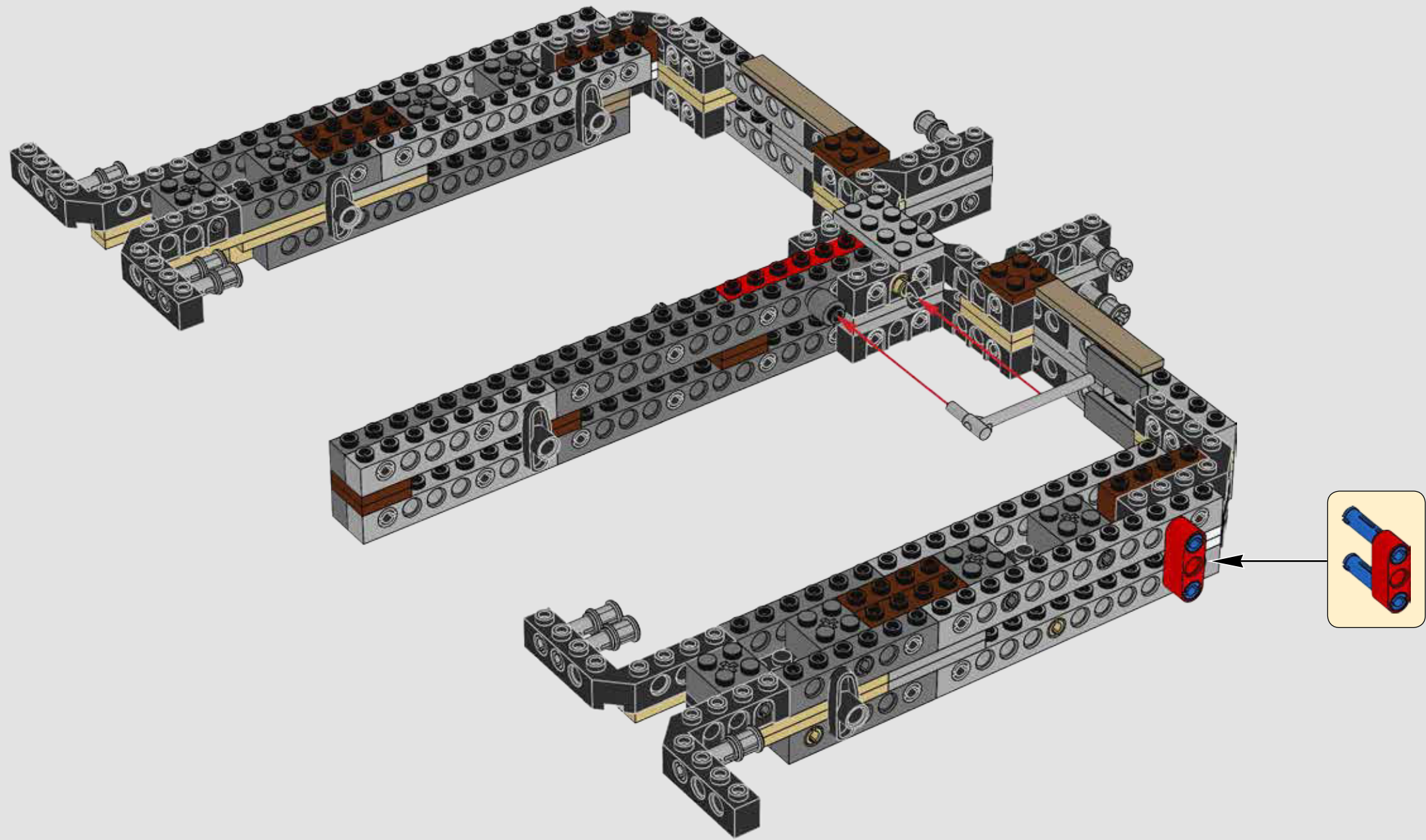


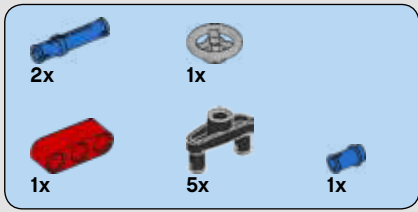
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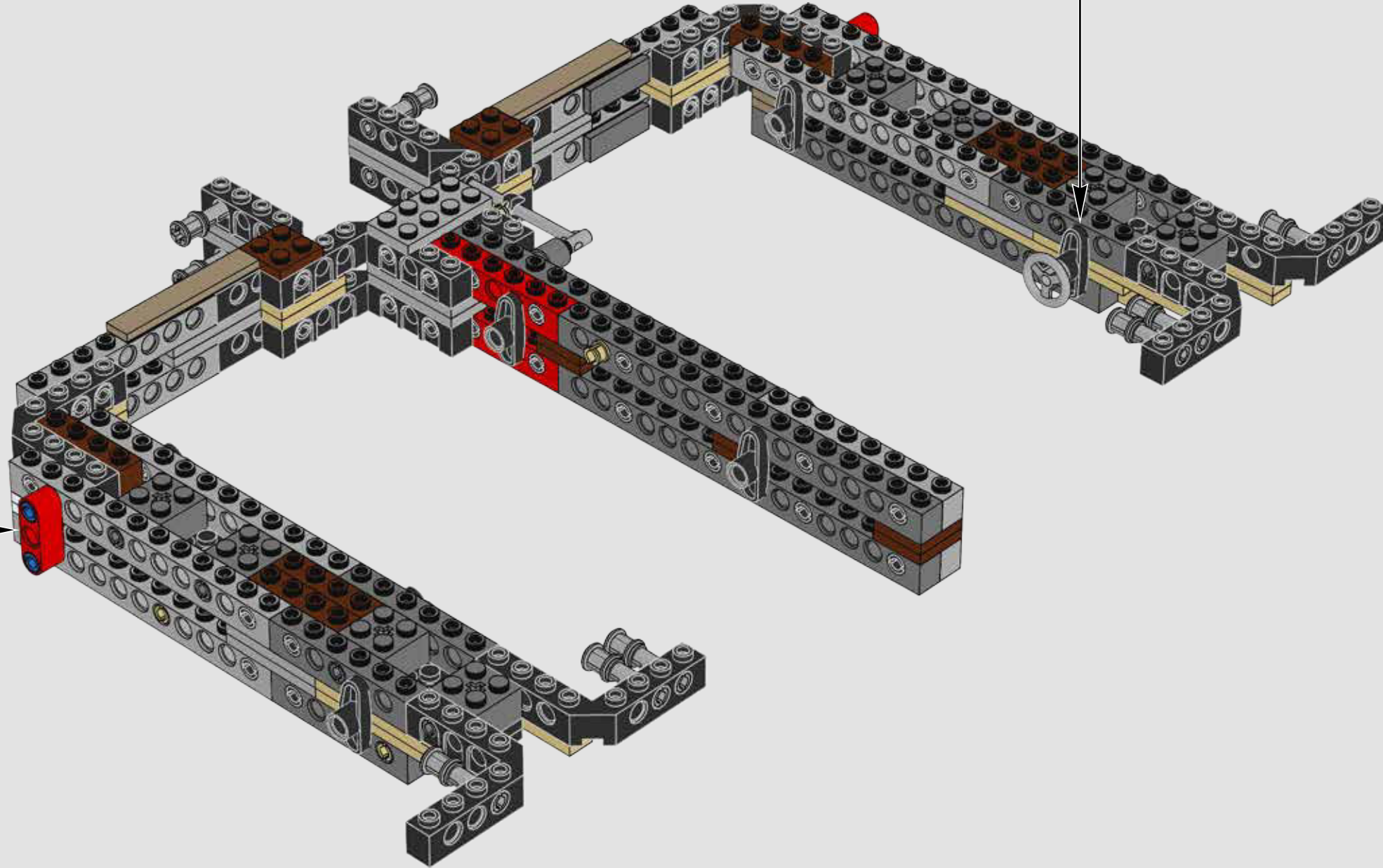
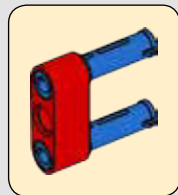
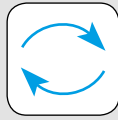
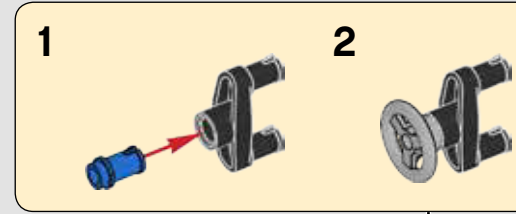


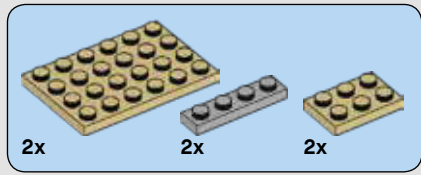
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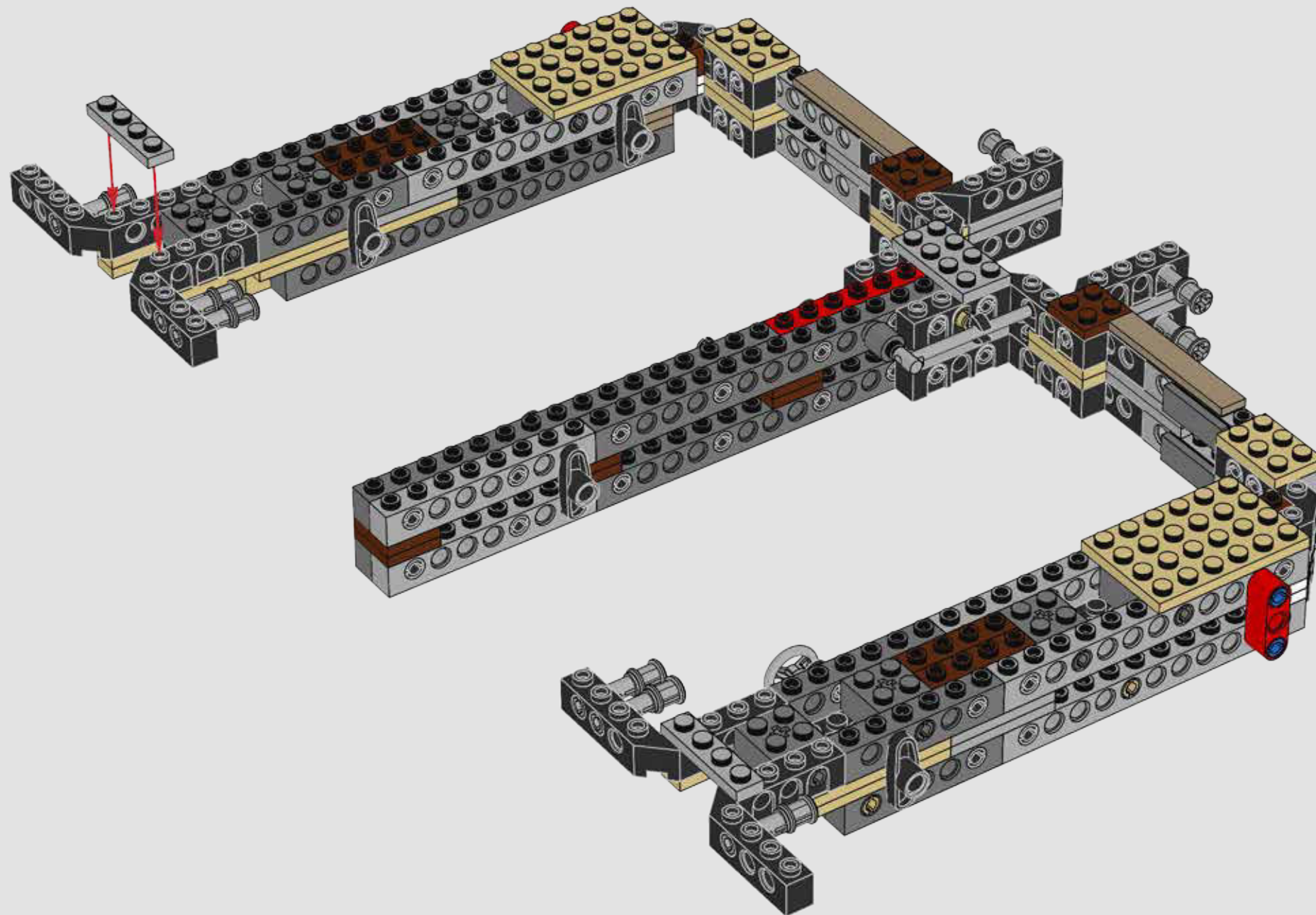
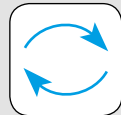


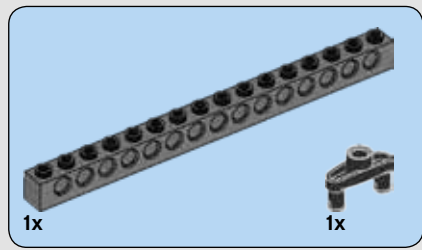
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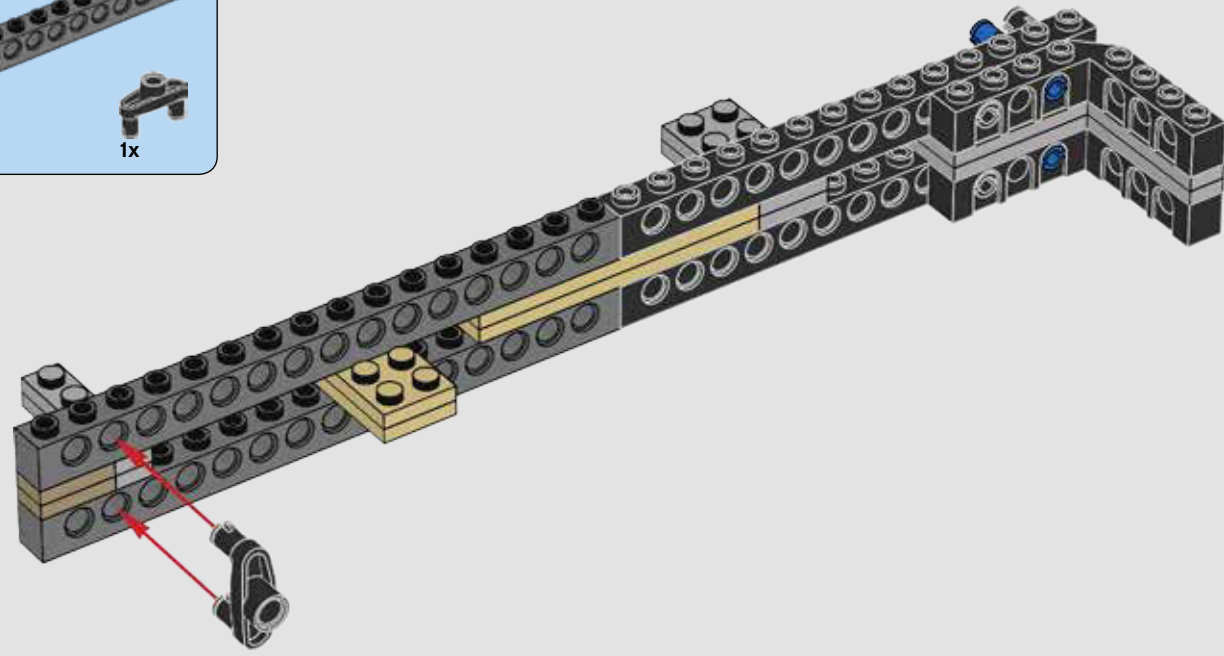


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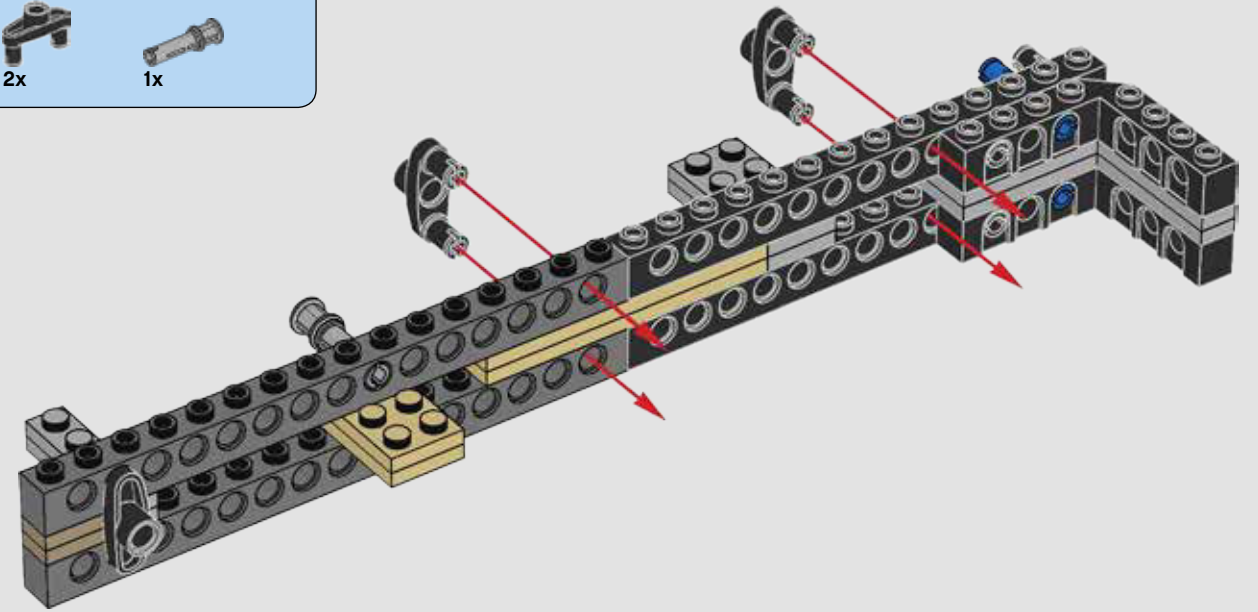




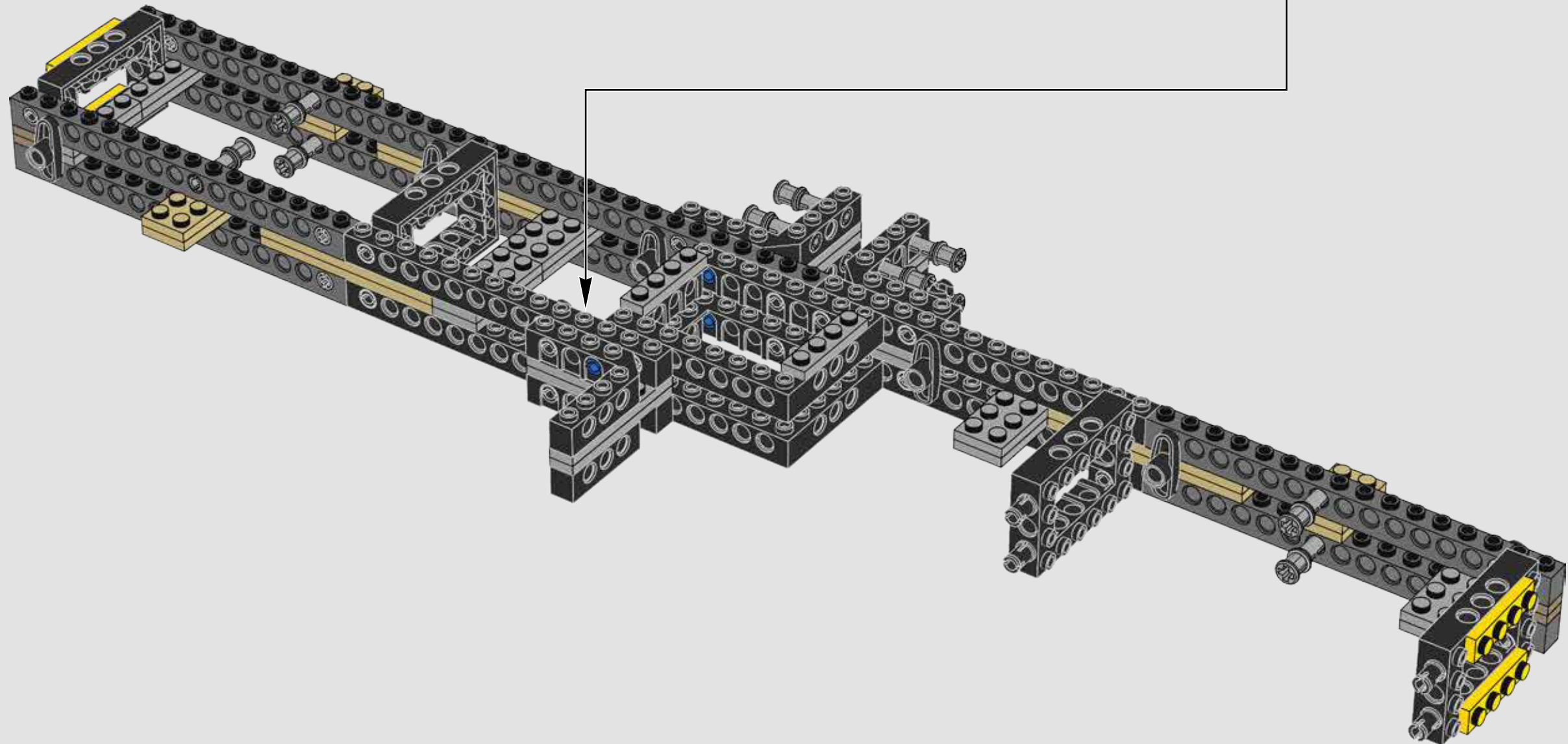
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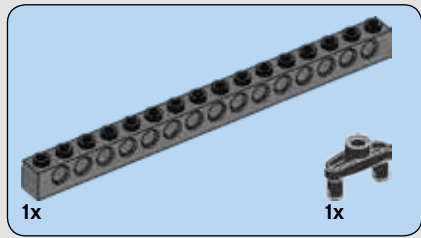


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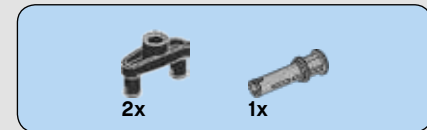
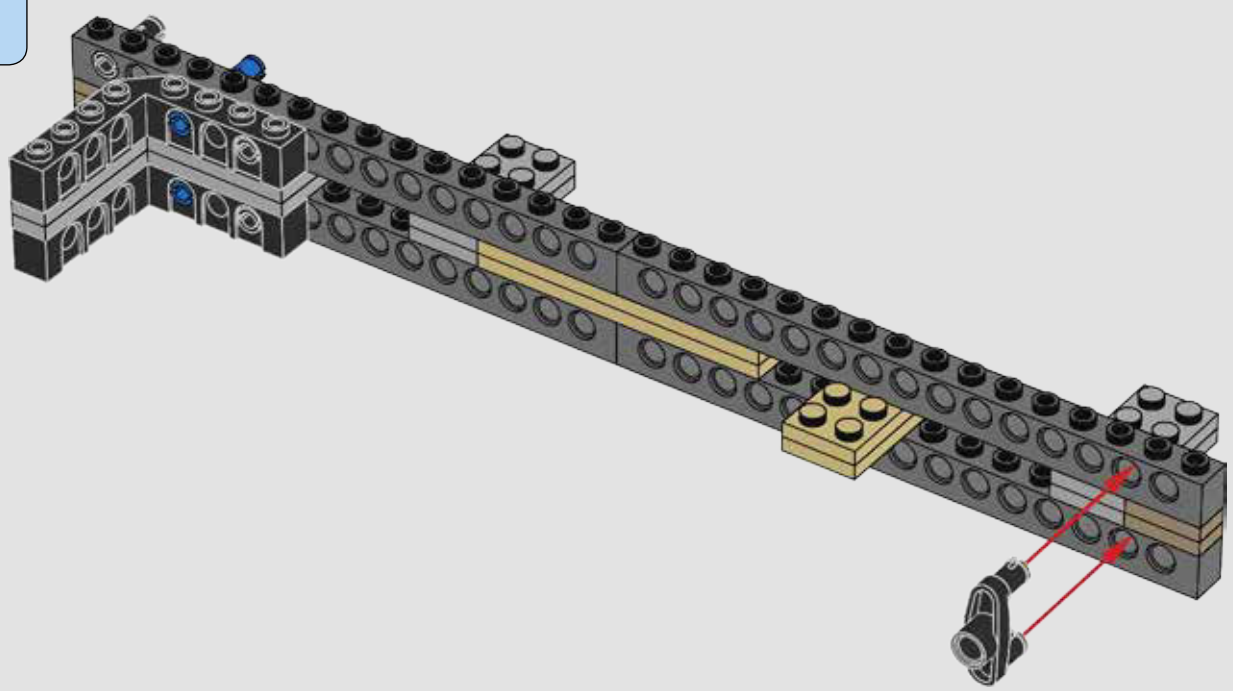


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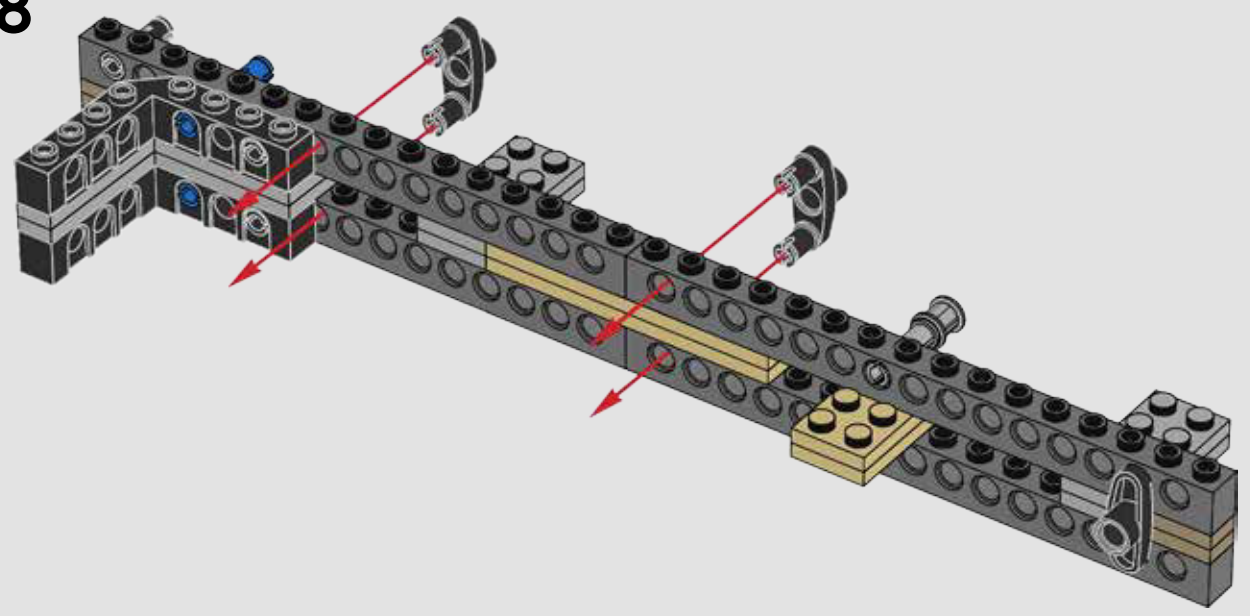




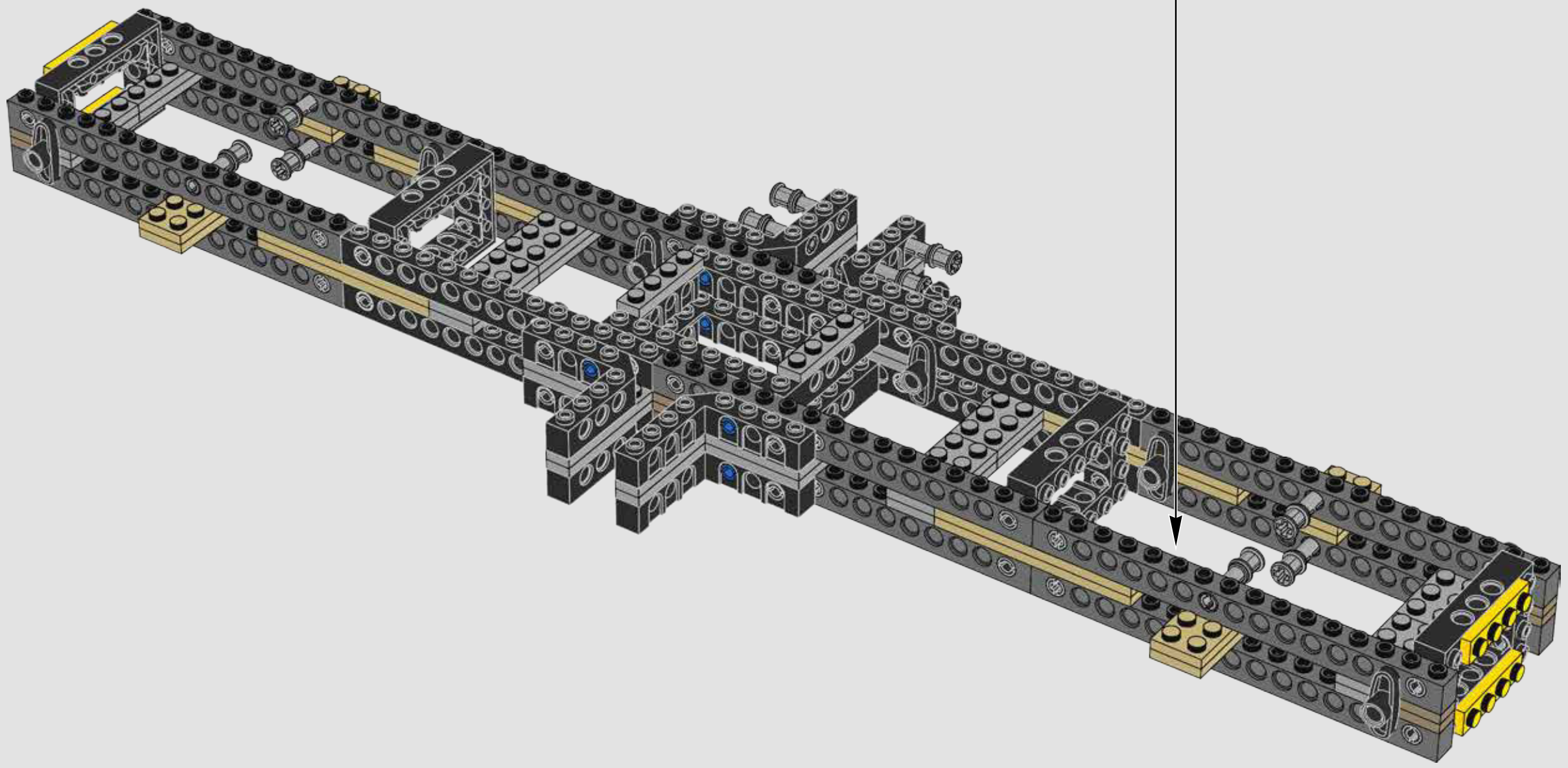
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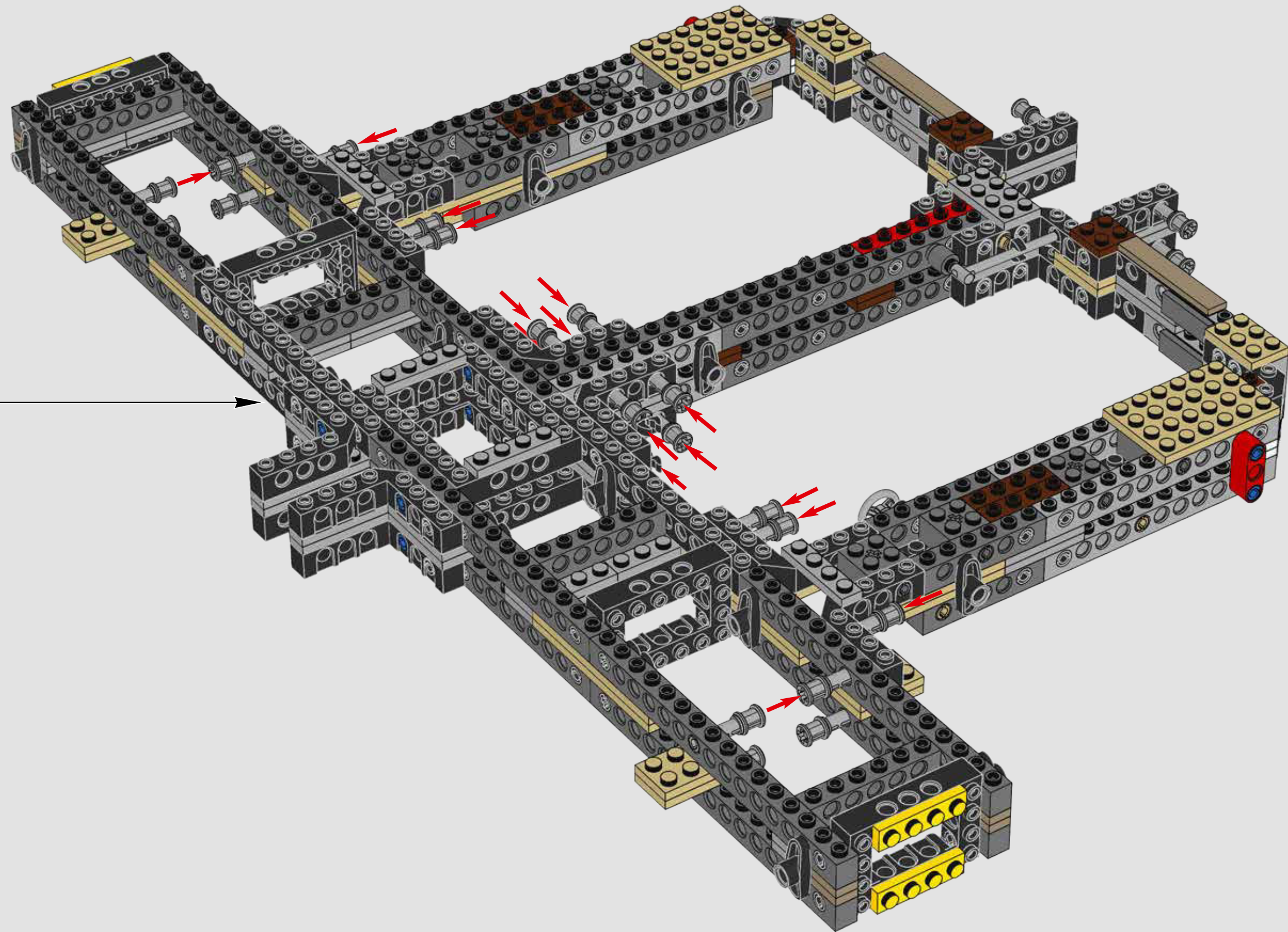


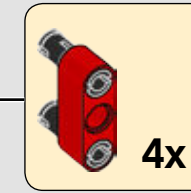
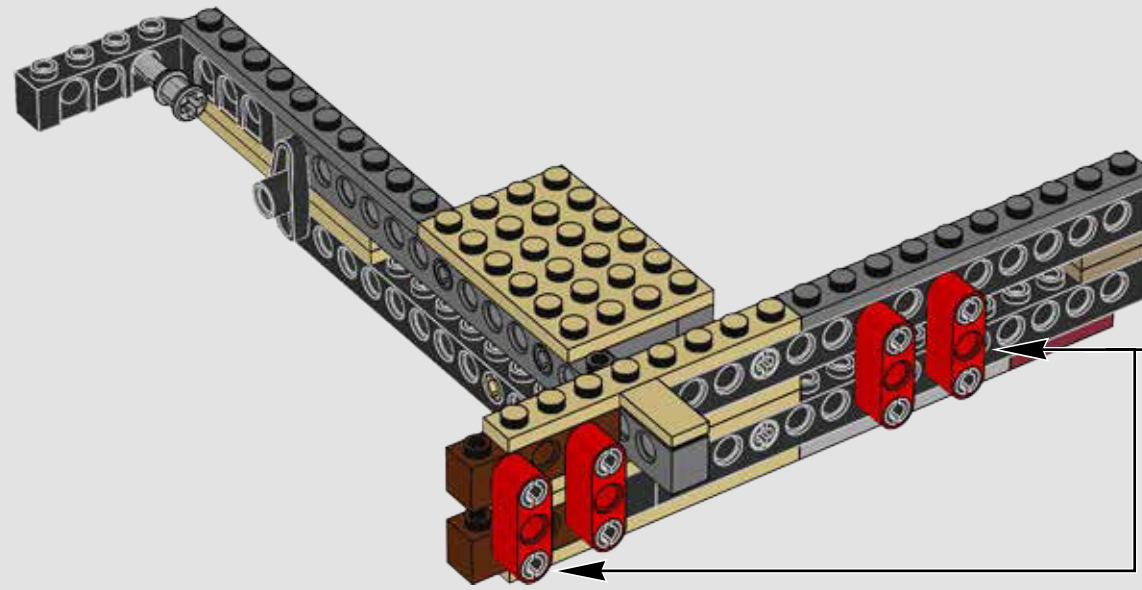
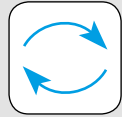
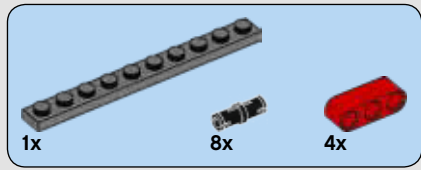
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69

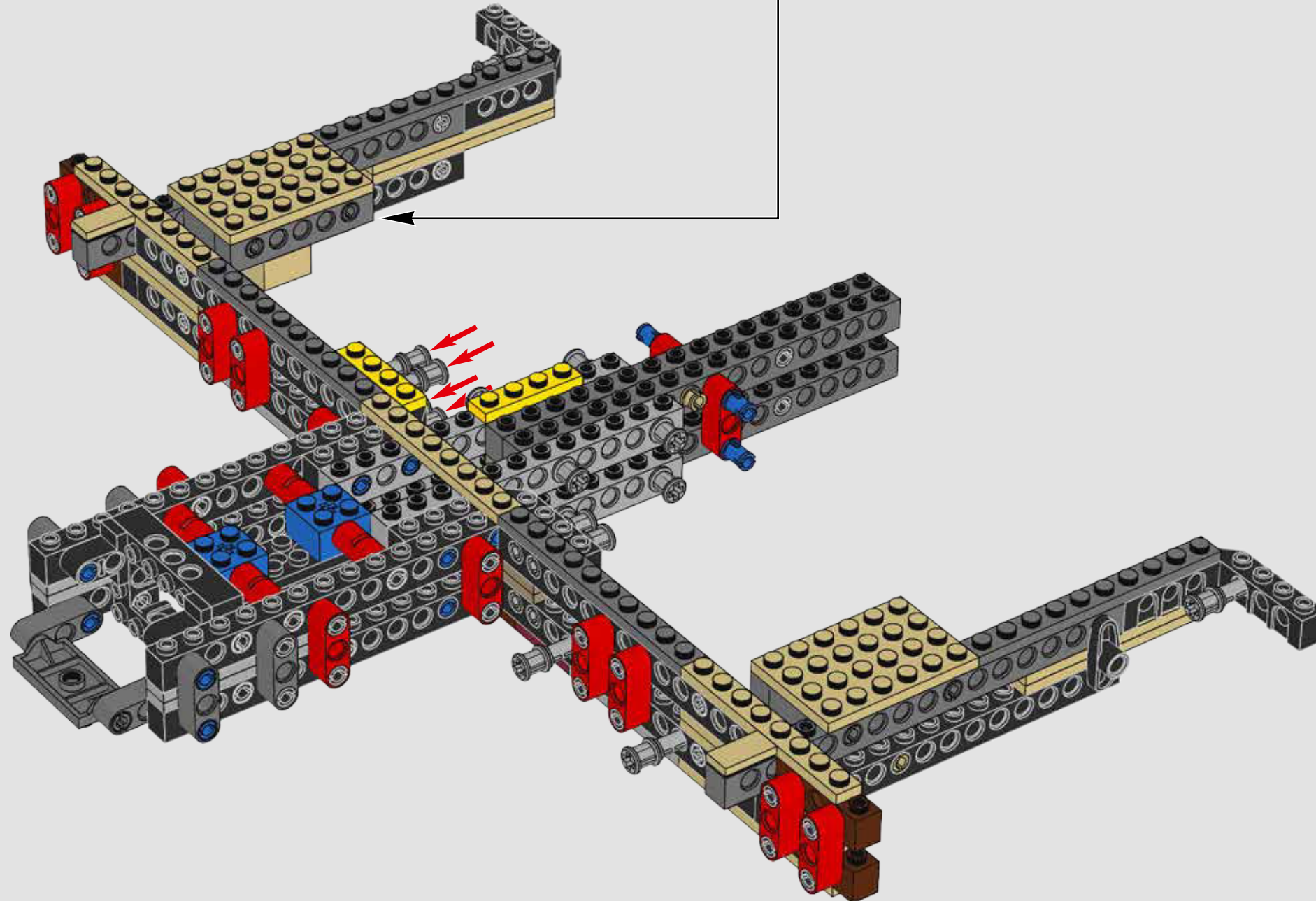


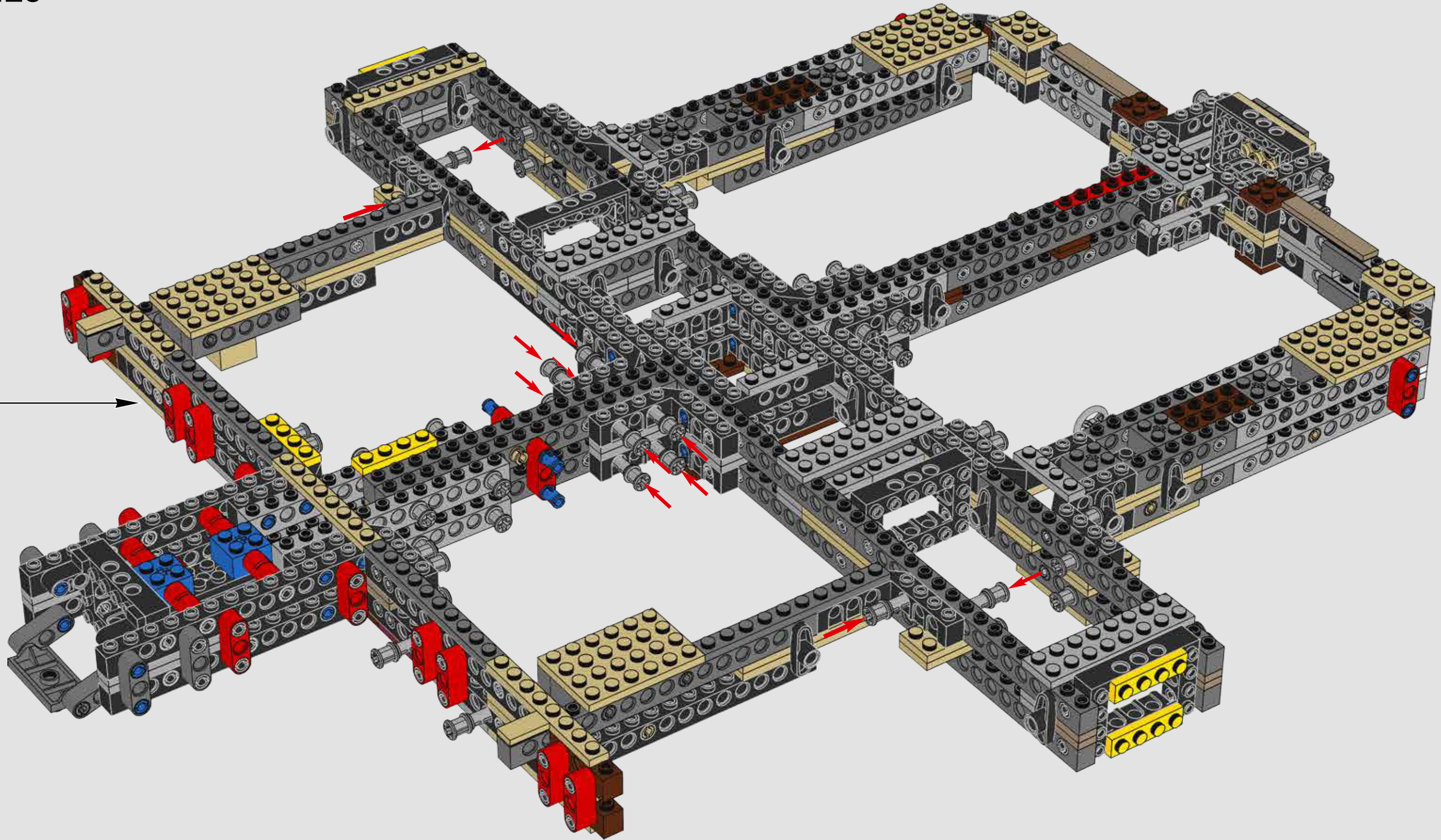


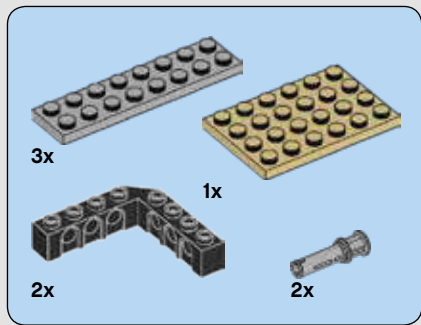


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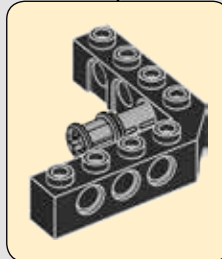
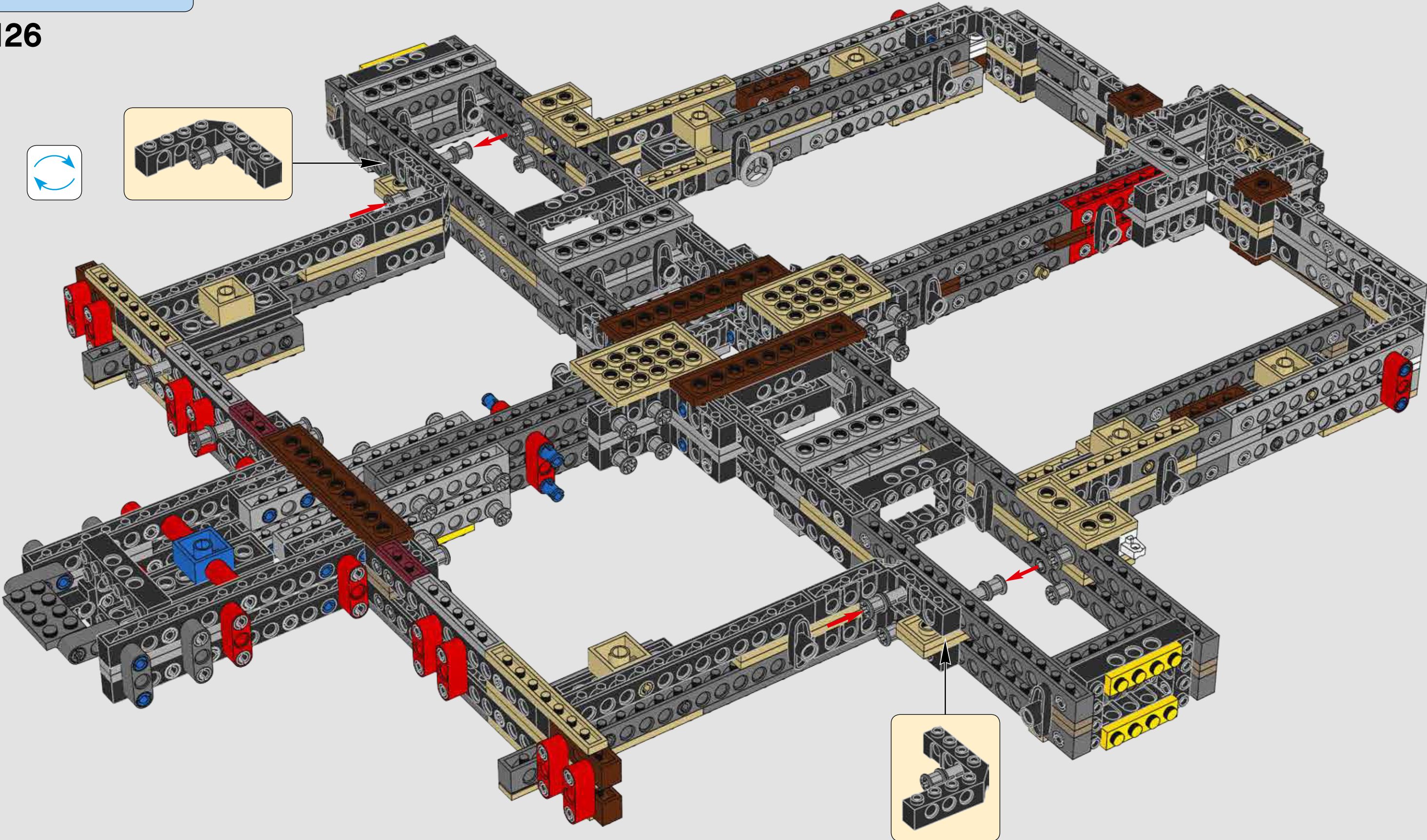
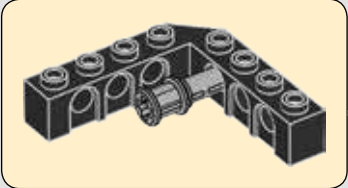
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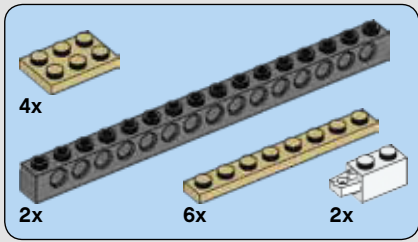




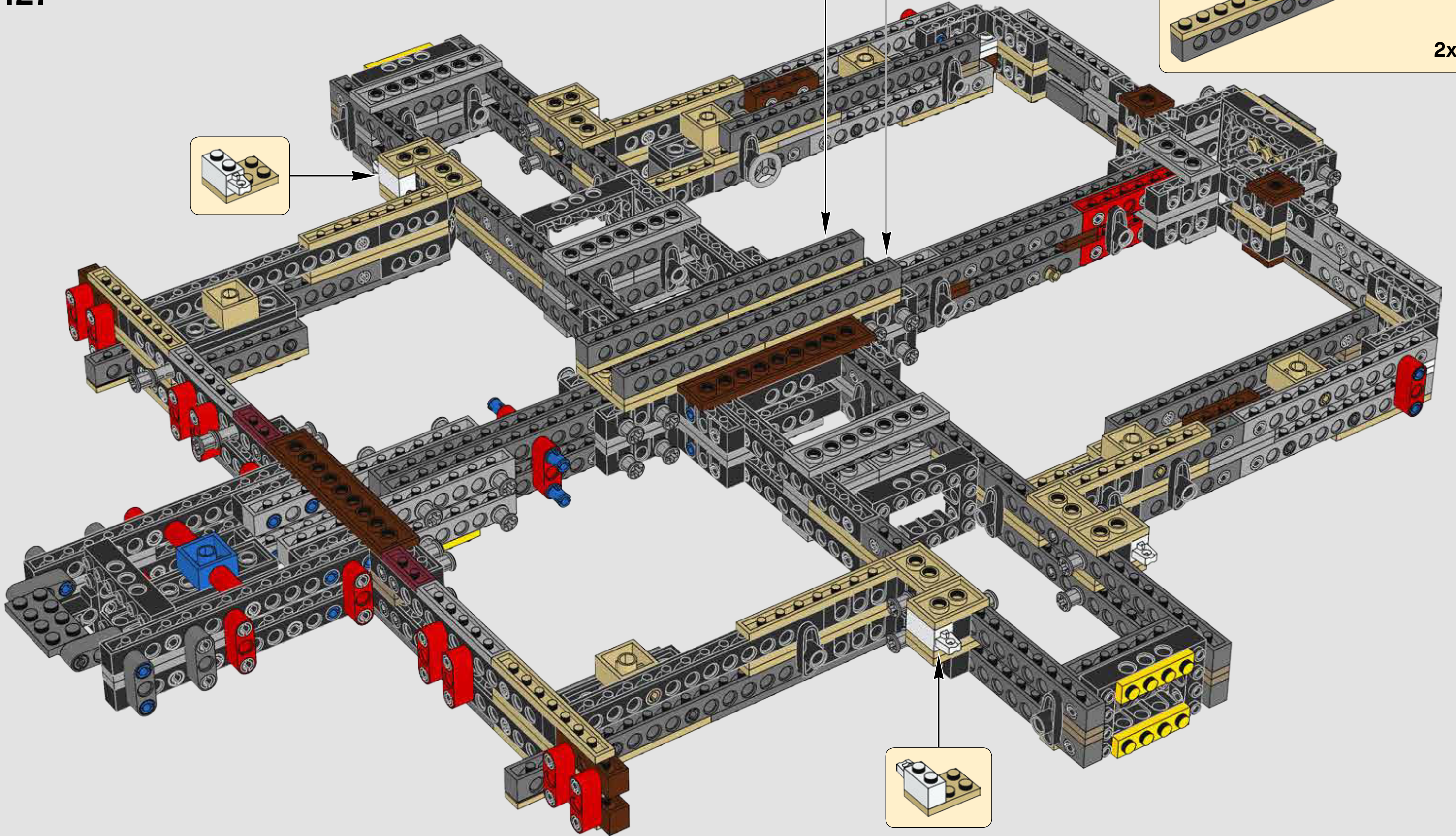
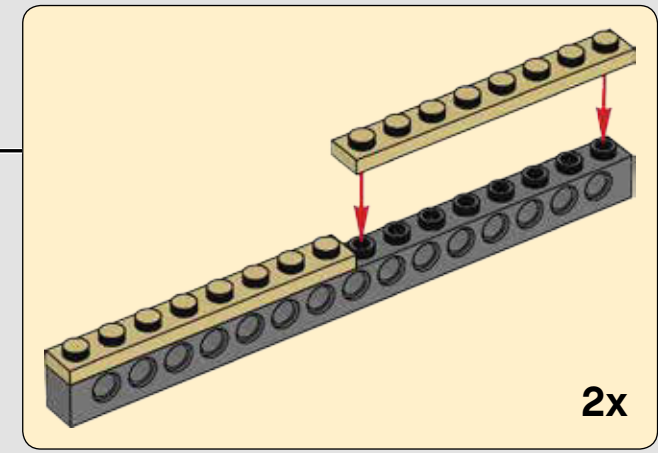


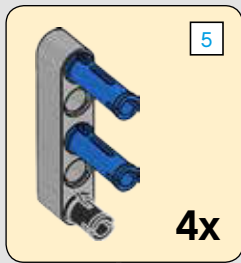
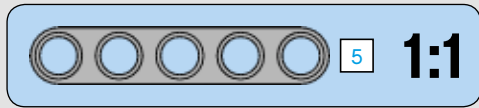
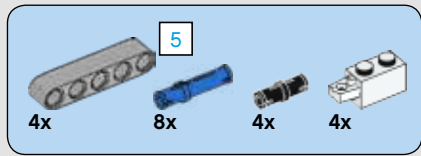
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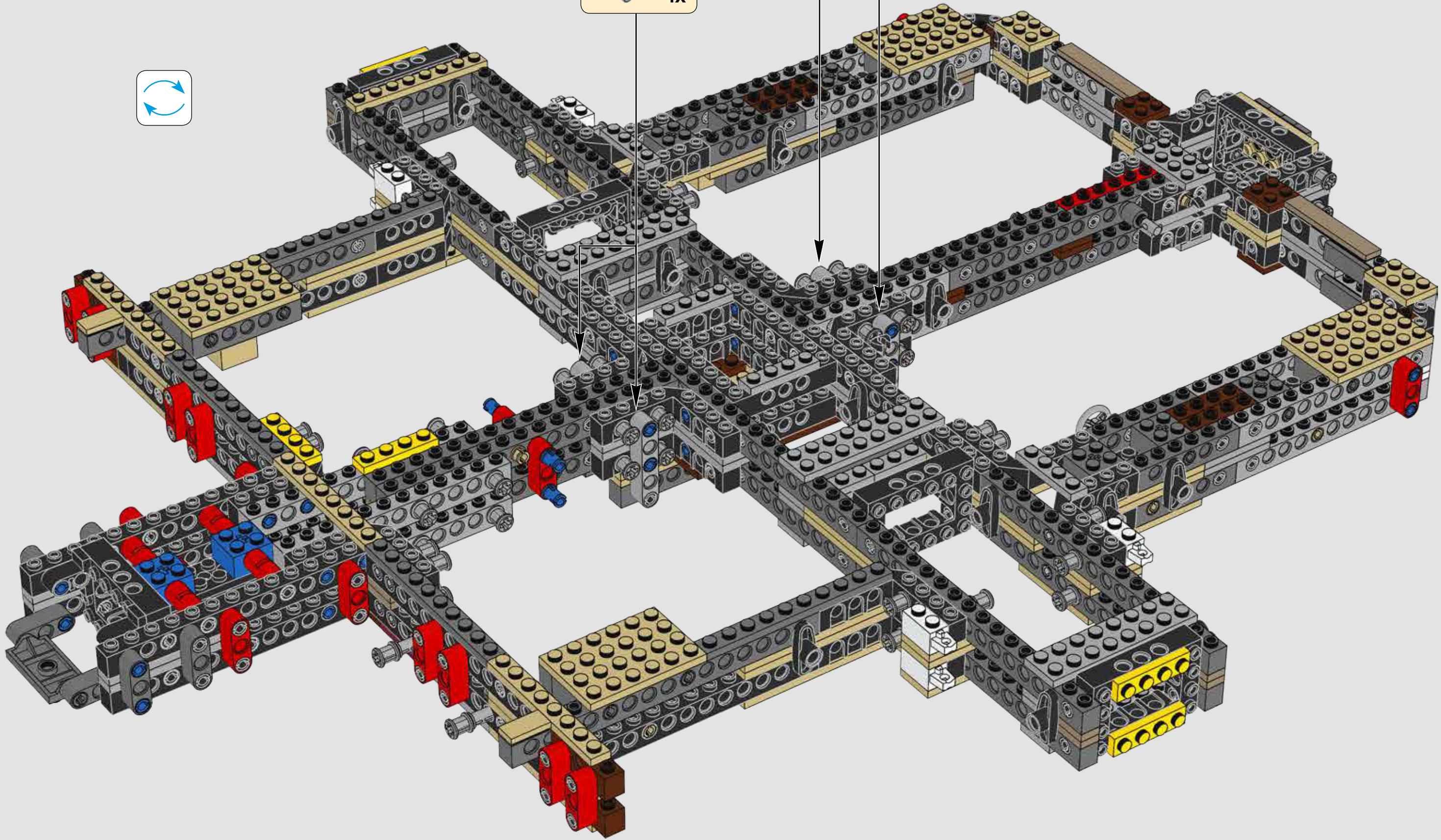
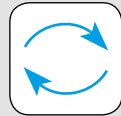


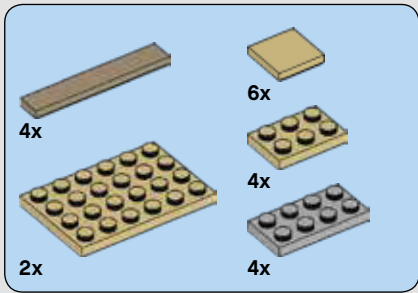
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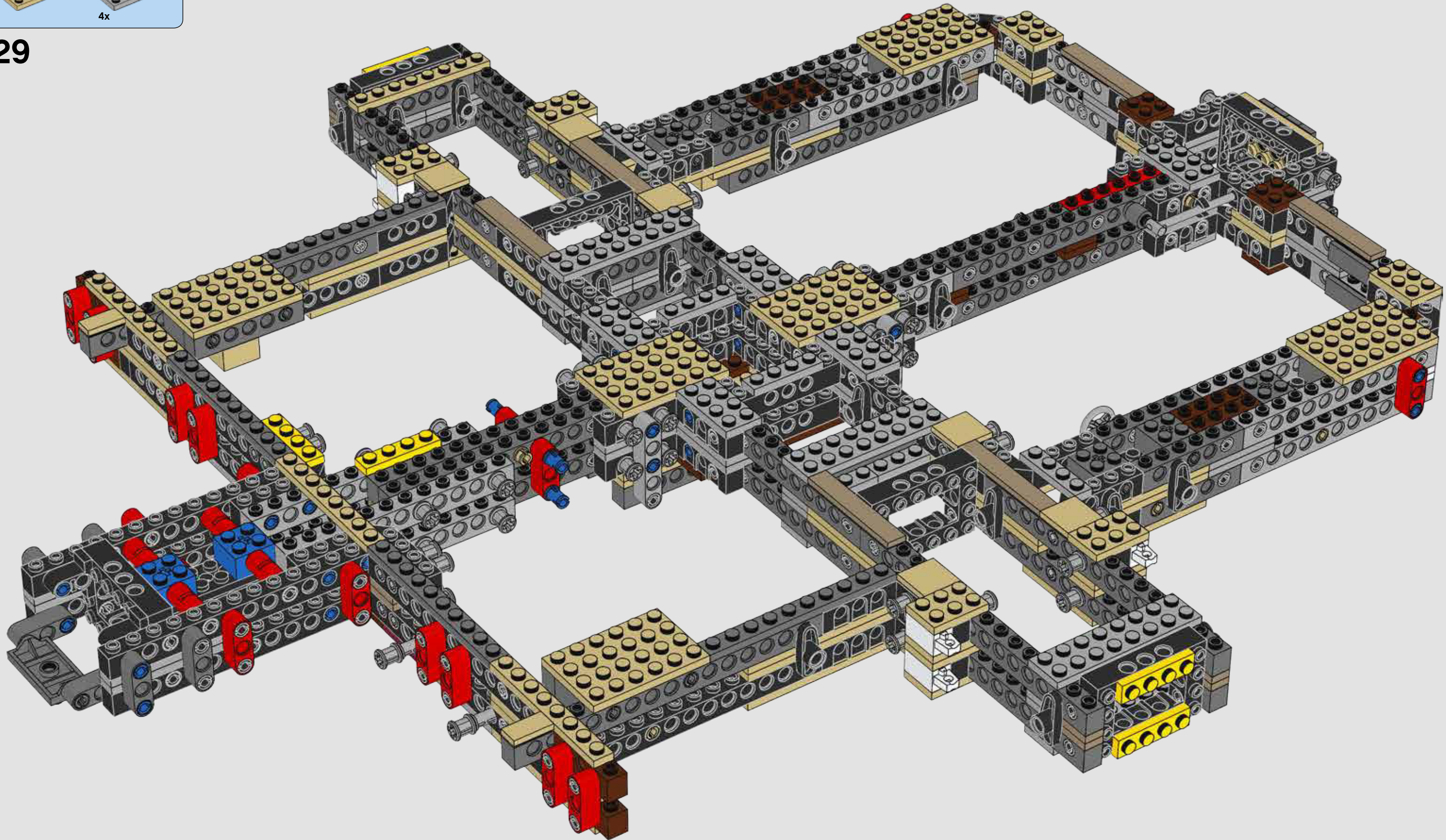


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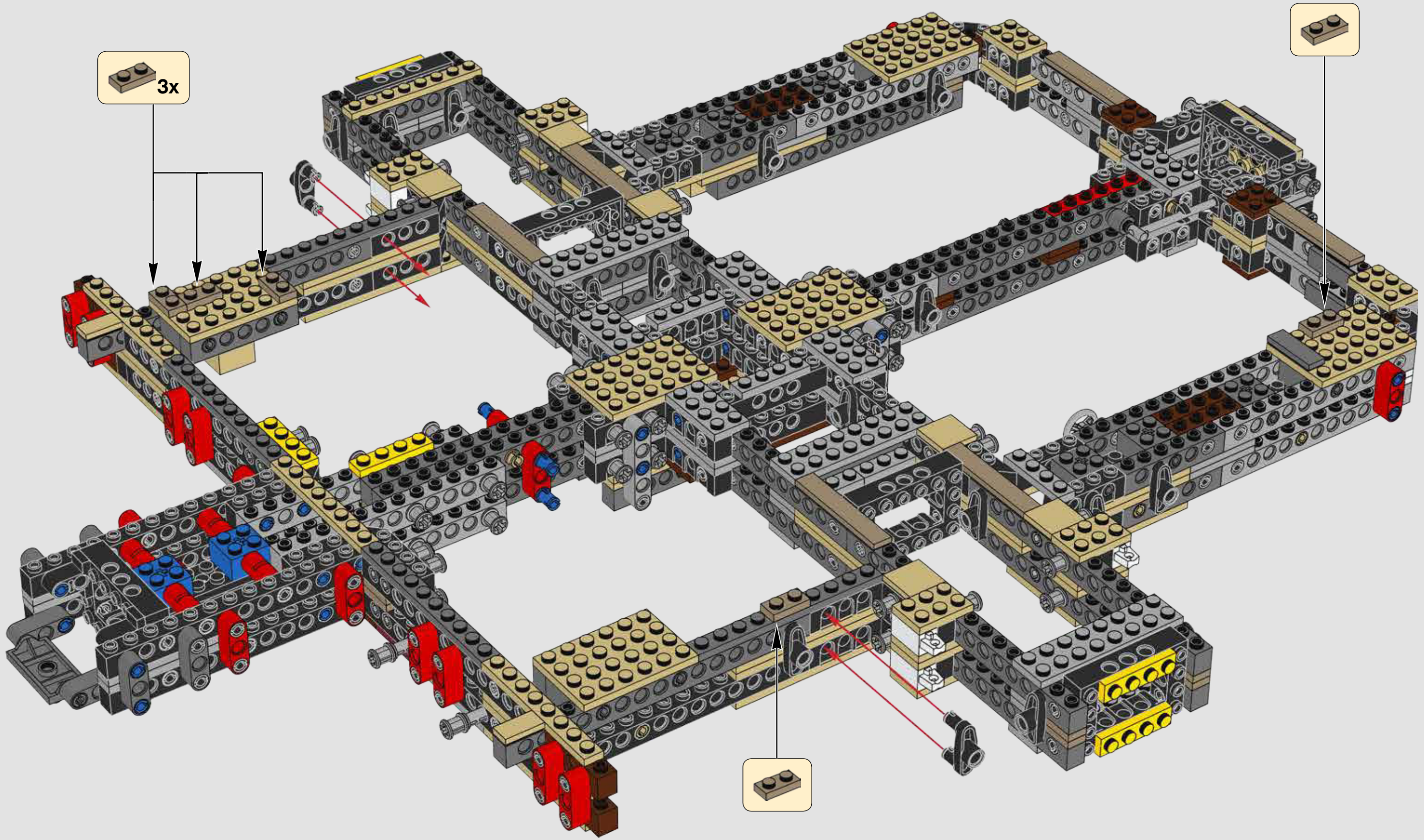


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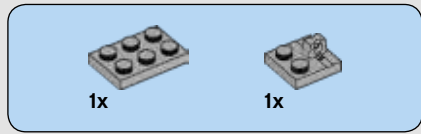
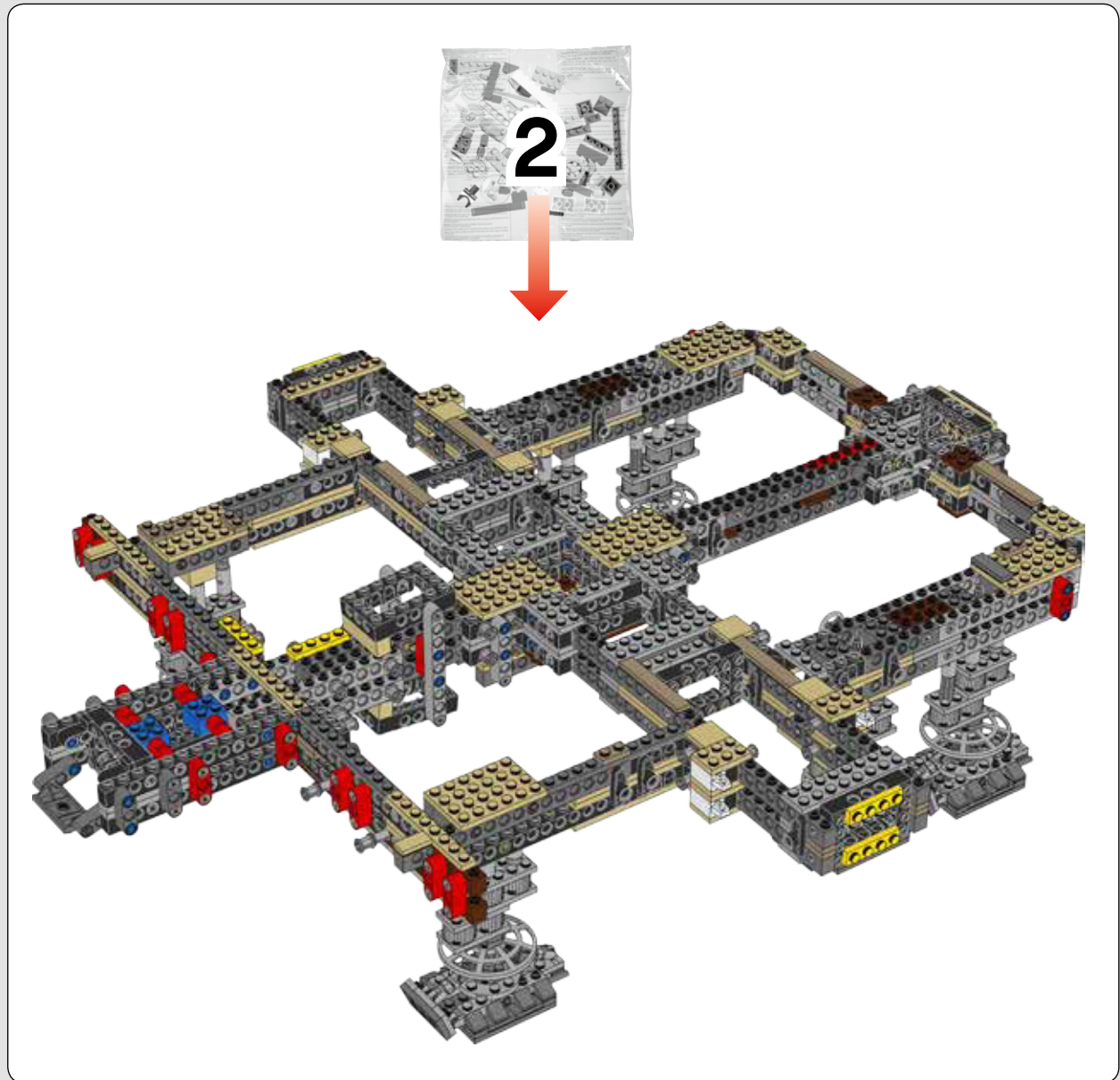


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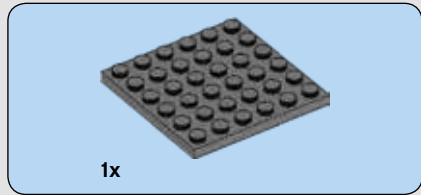
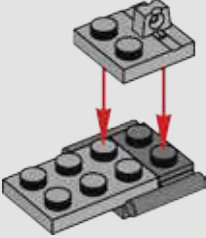
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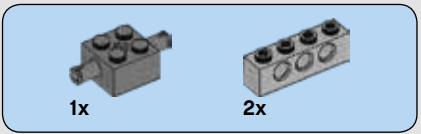
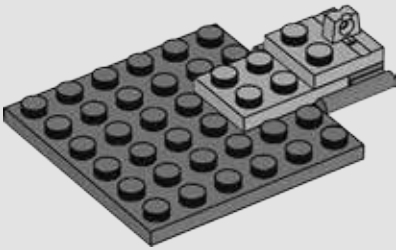
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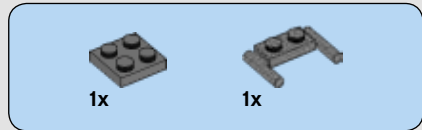
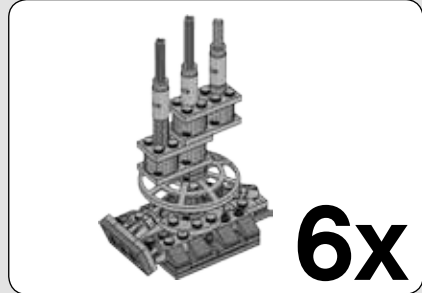
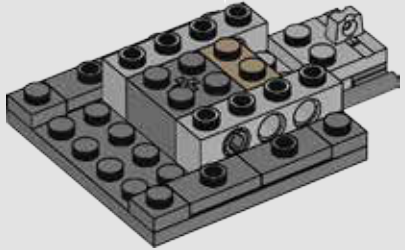
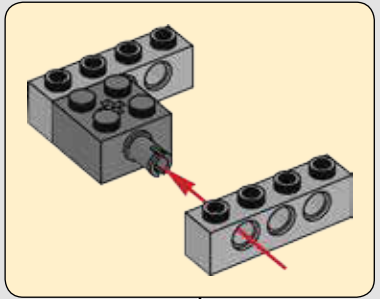
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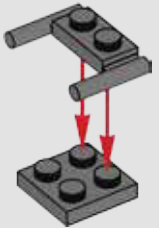
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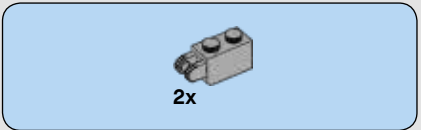
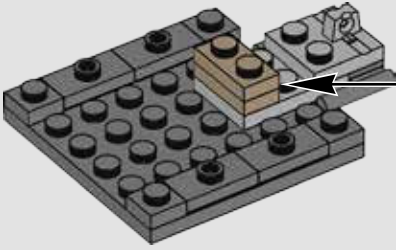
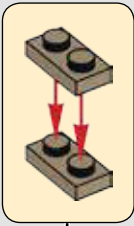
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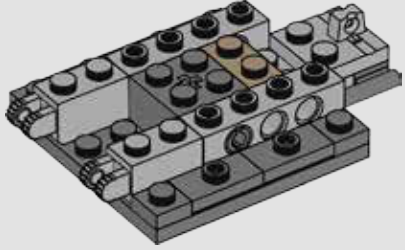
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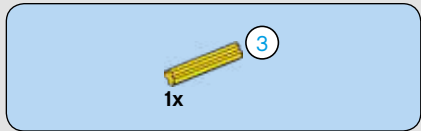
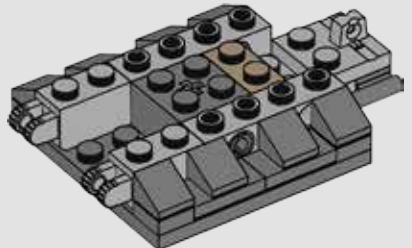


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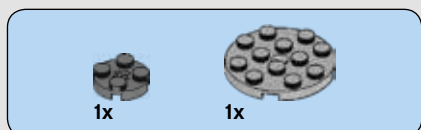
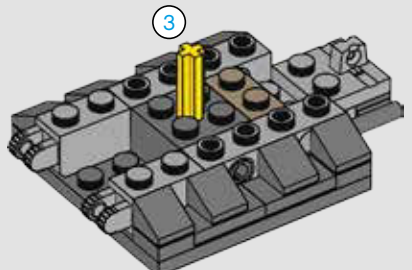




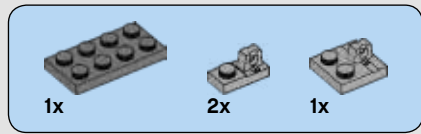
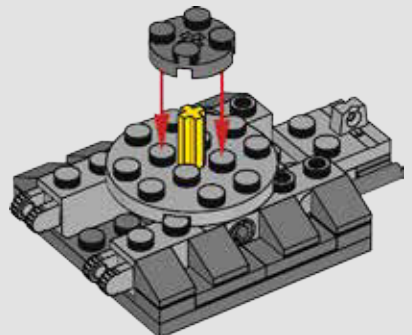
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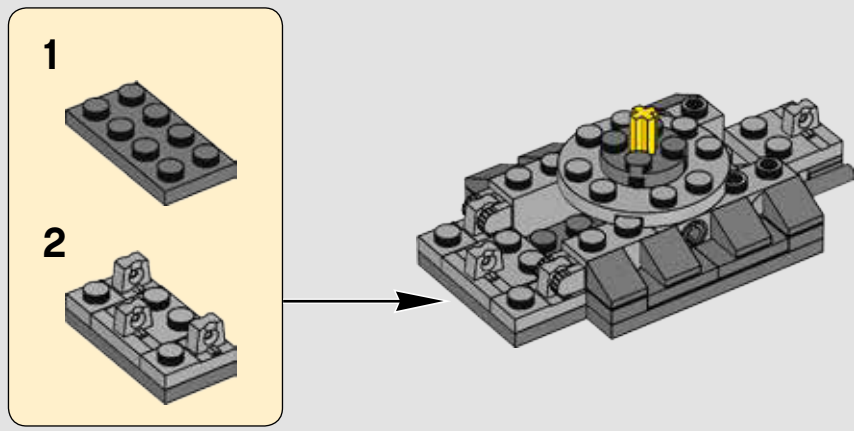
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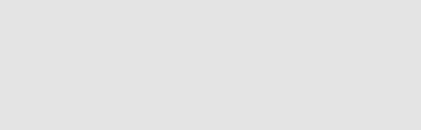
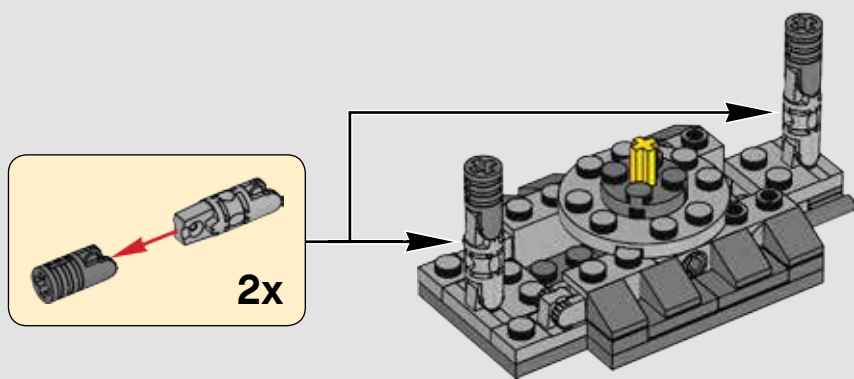
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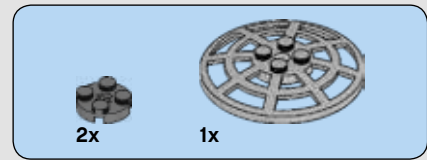
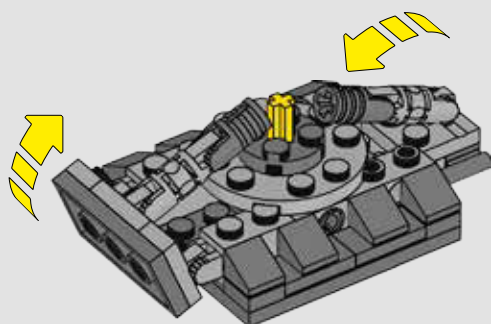
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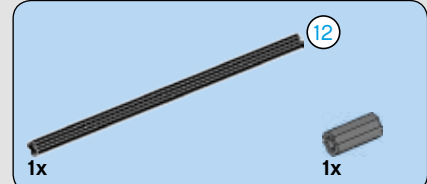
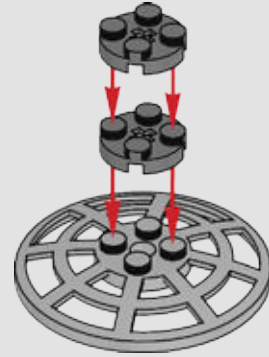
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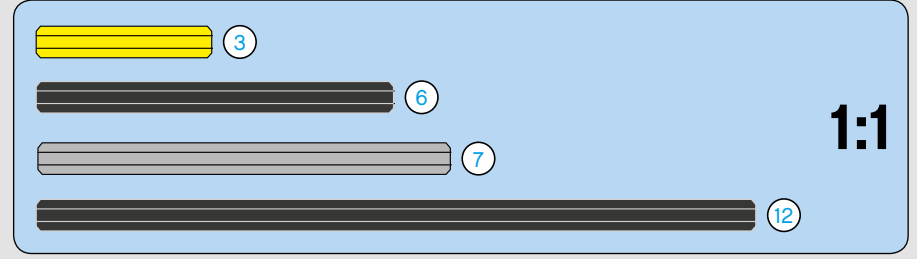
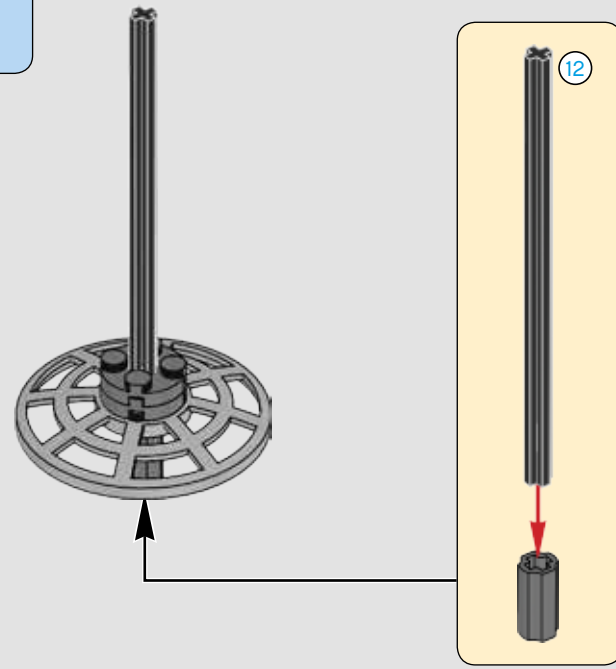
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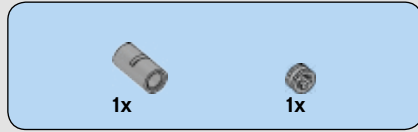
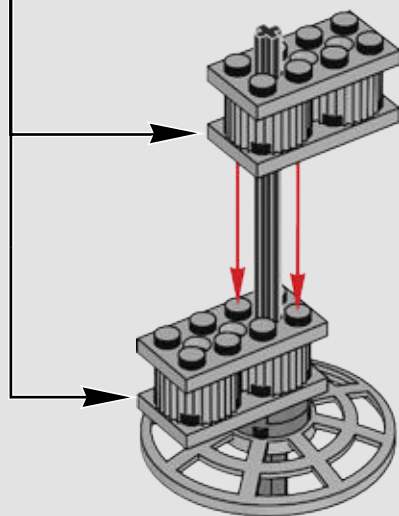
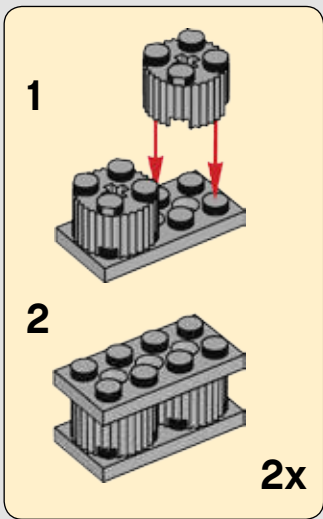


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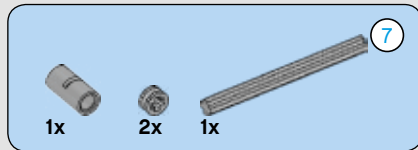
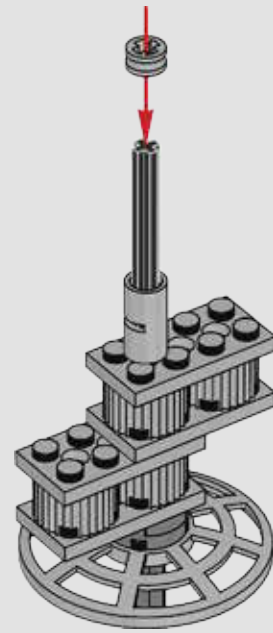




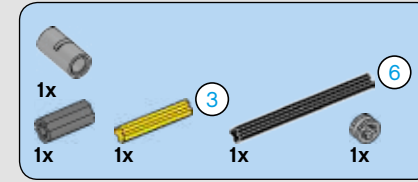
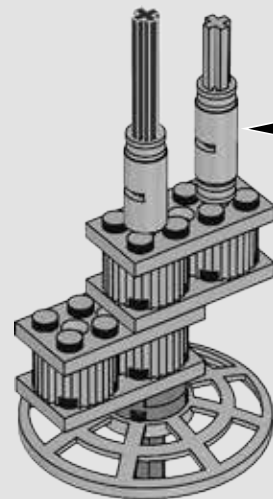
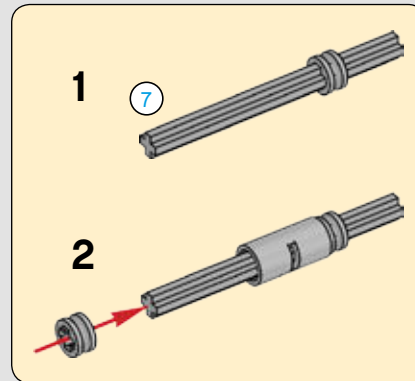
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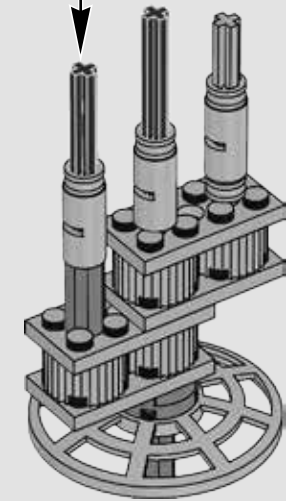
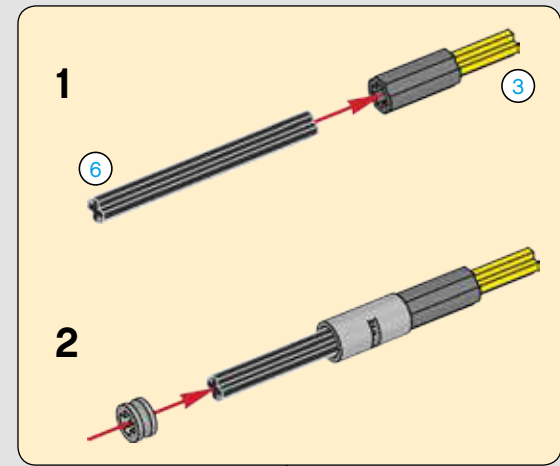
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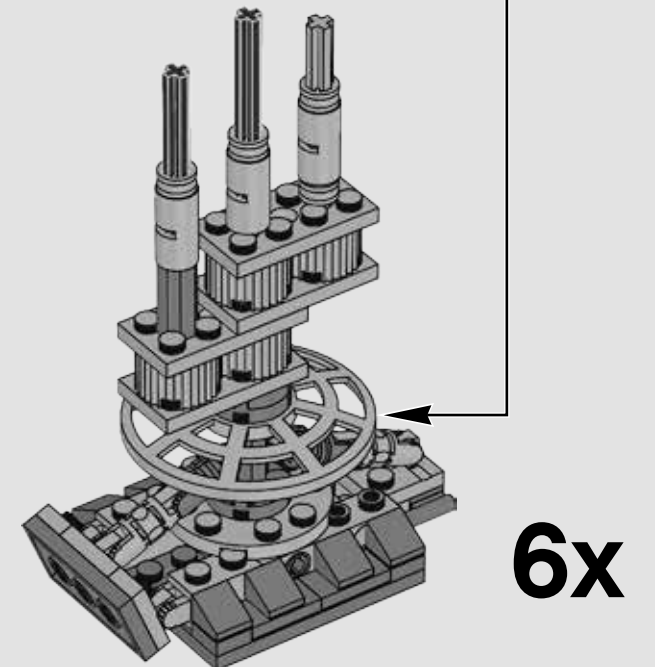
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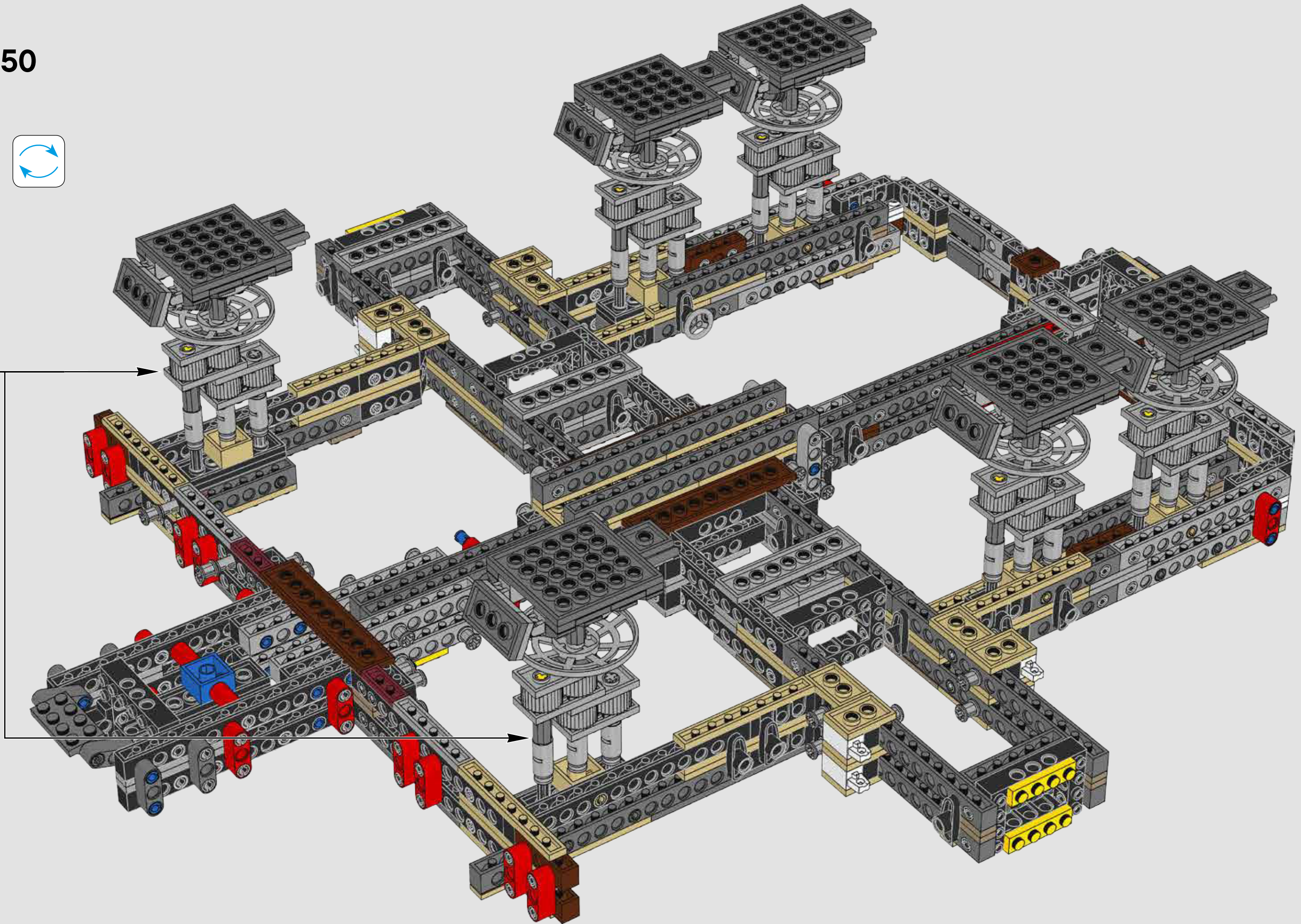
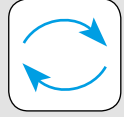


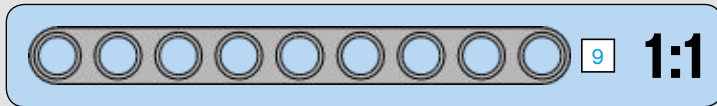
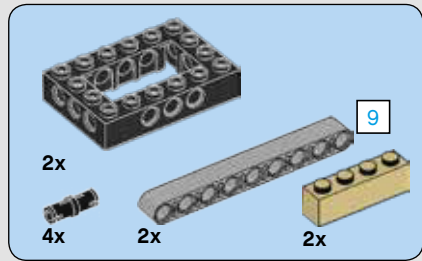
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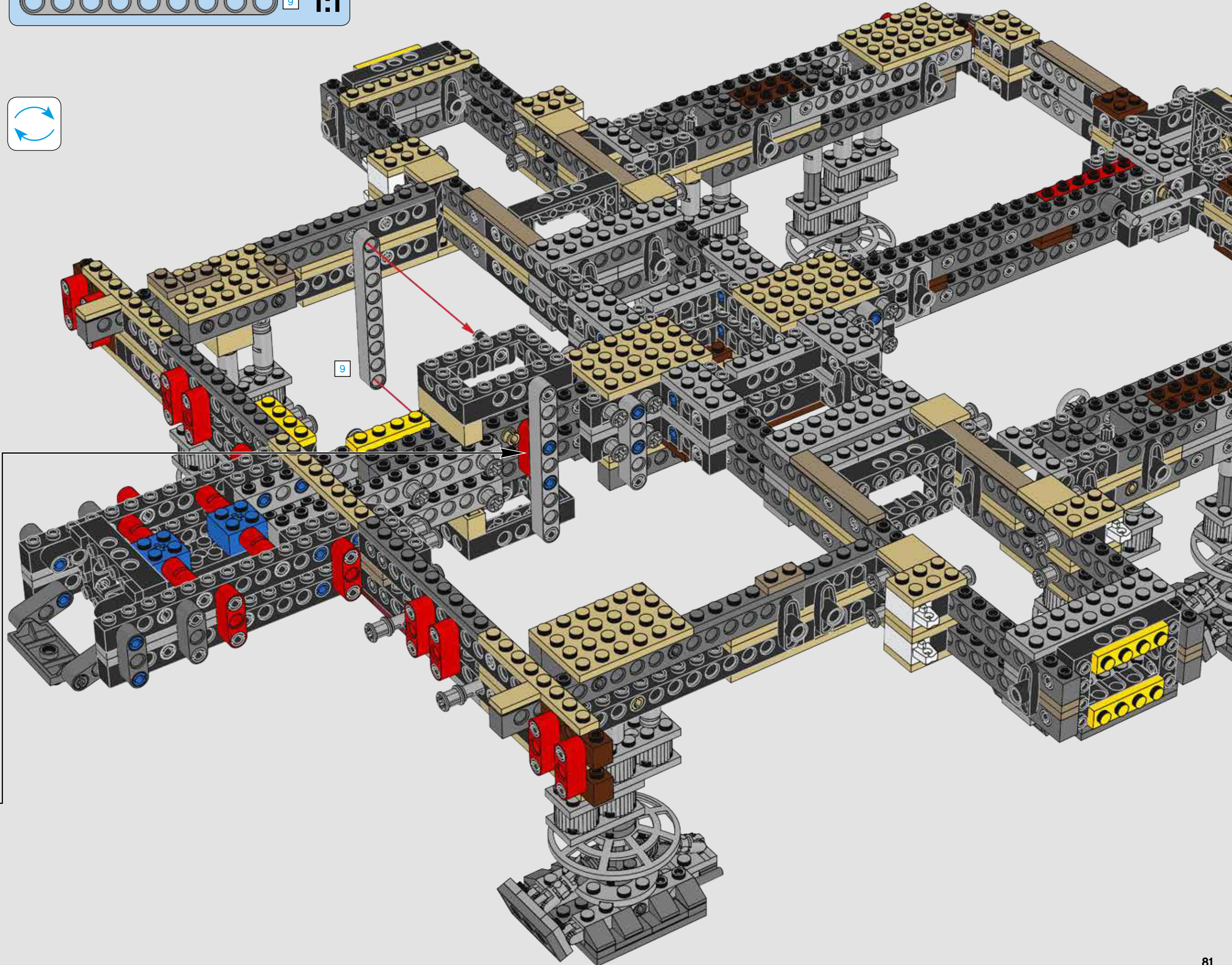
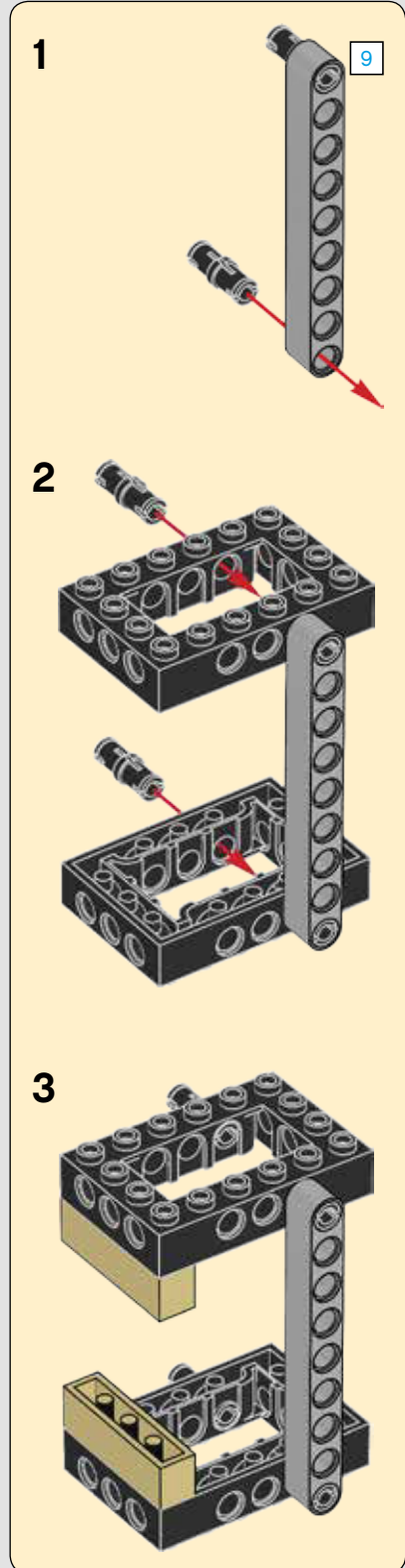
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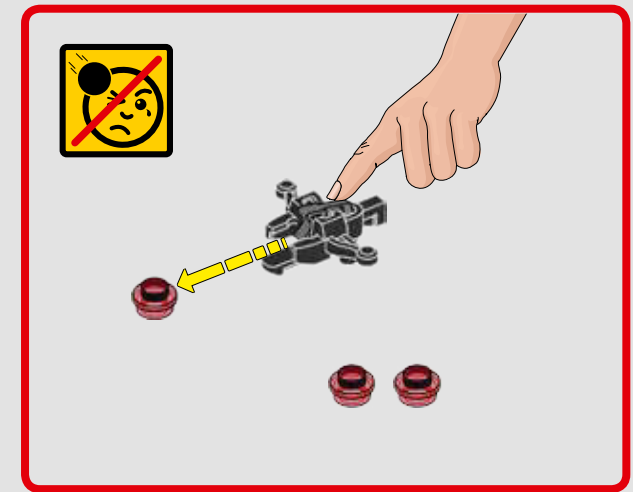
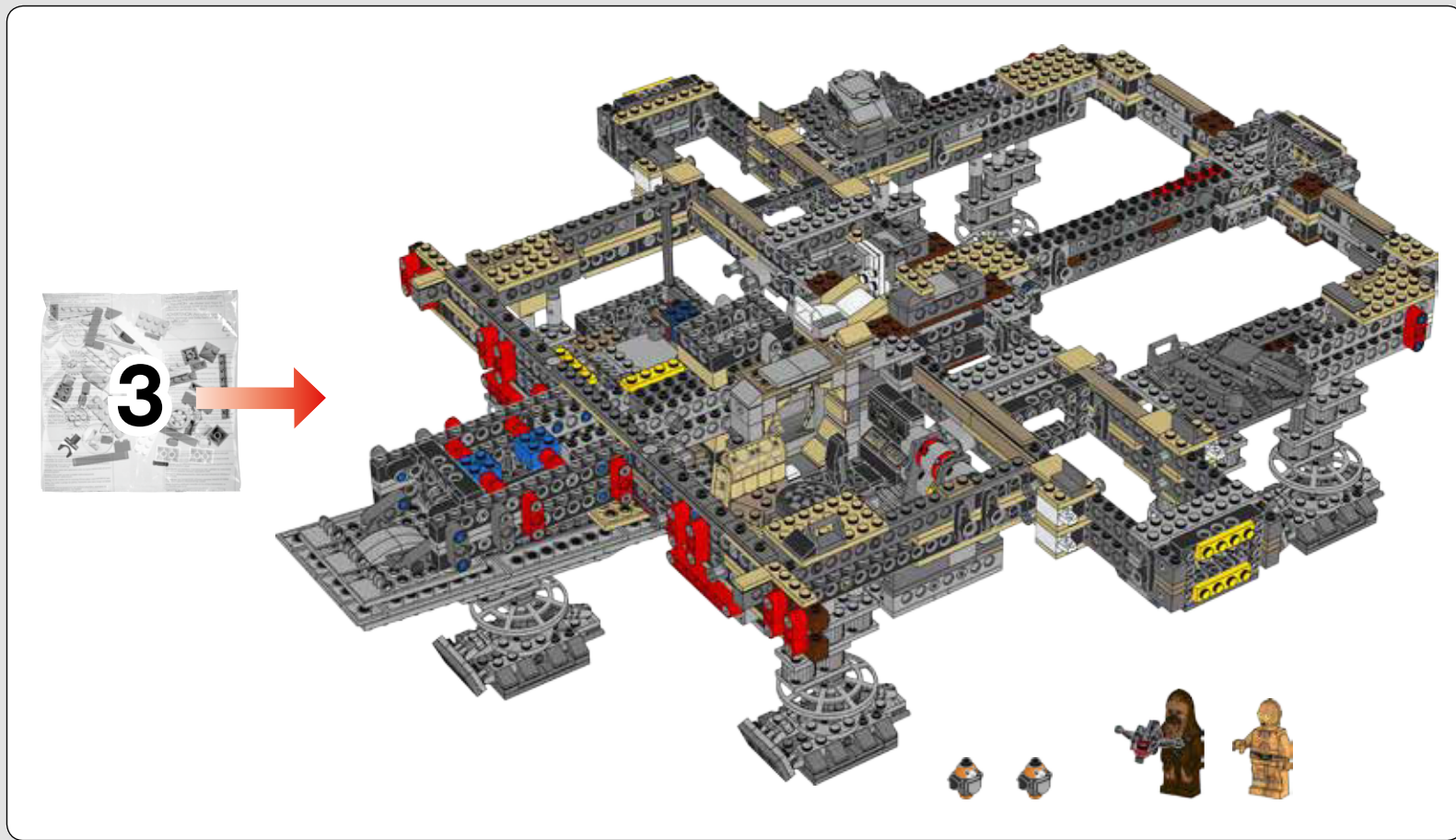






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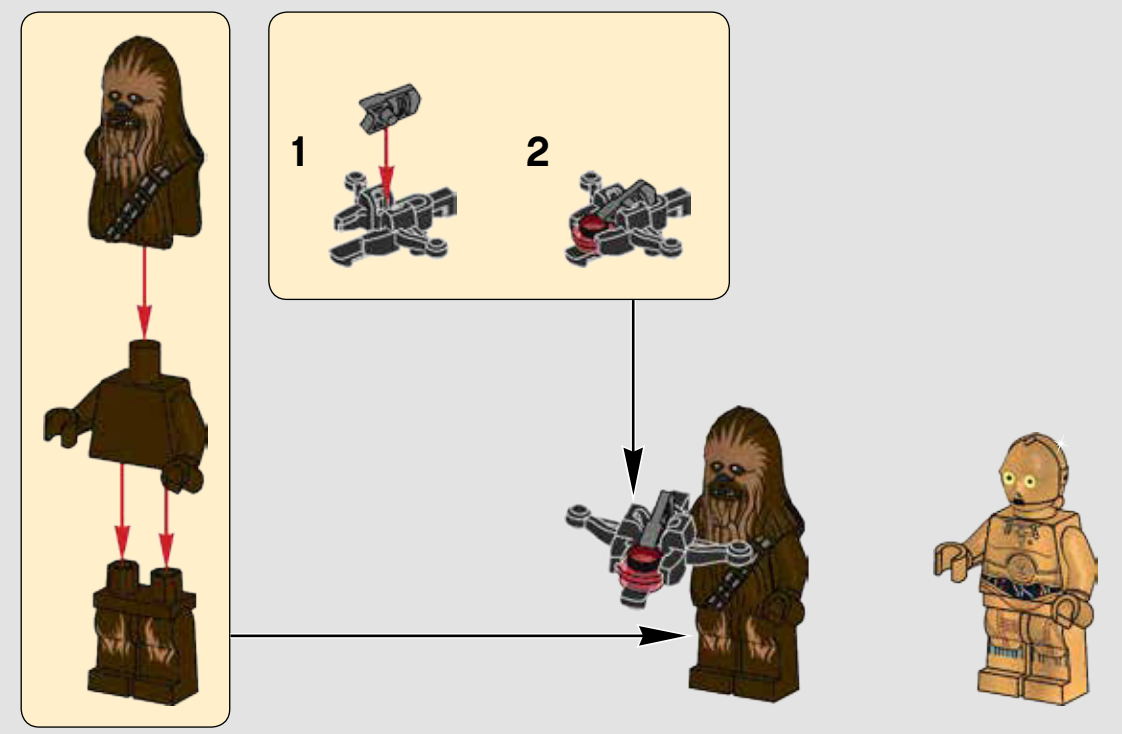




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- 2x
- 2x
- 2x
- 2x
- 2x

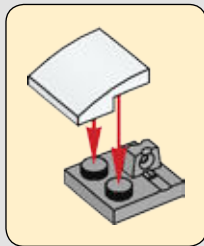
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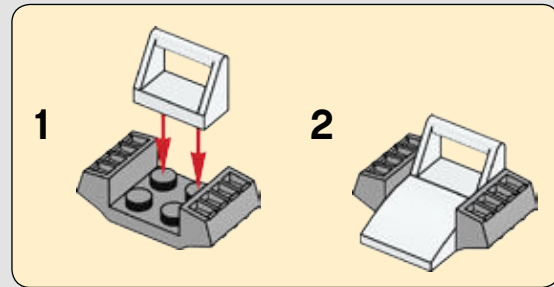
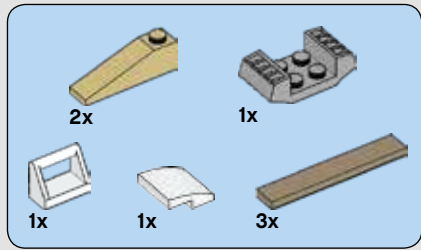
- 1
 - 2
 - 3
 - 4
- 2x**



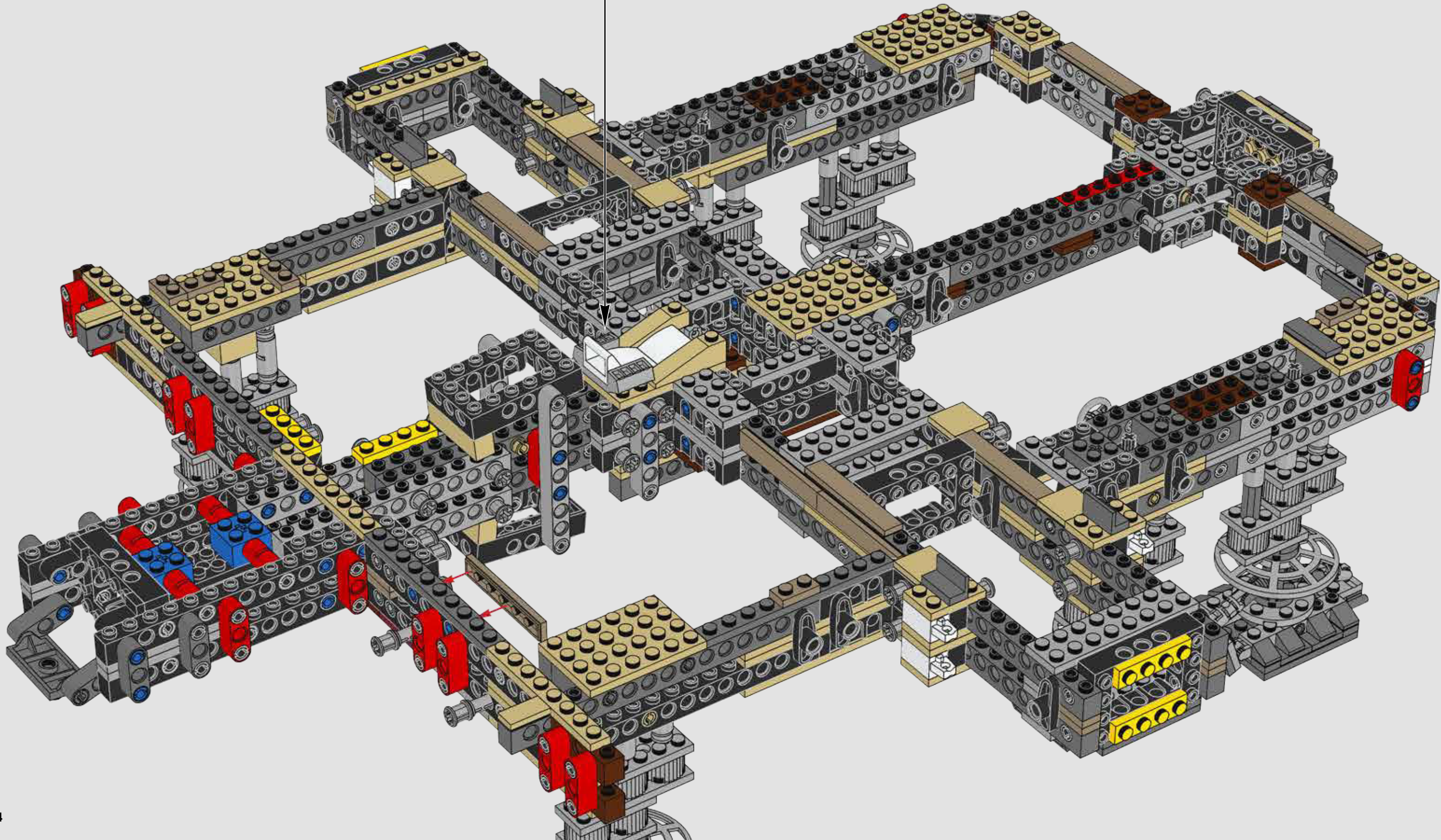


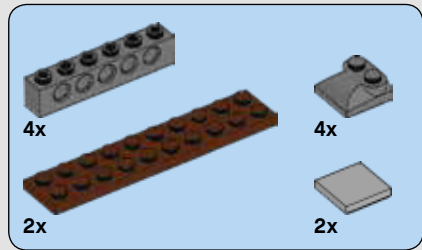
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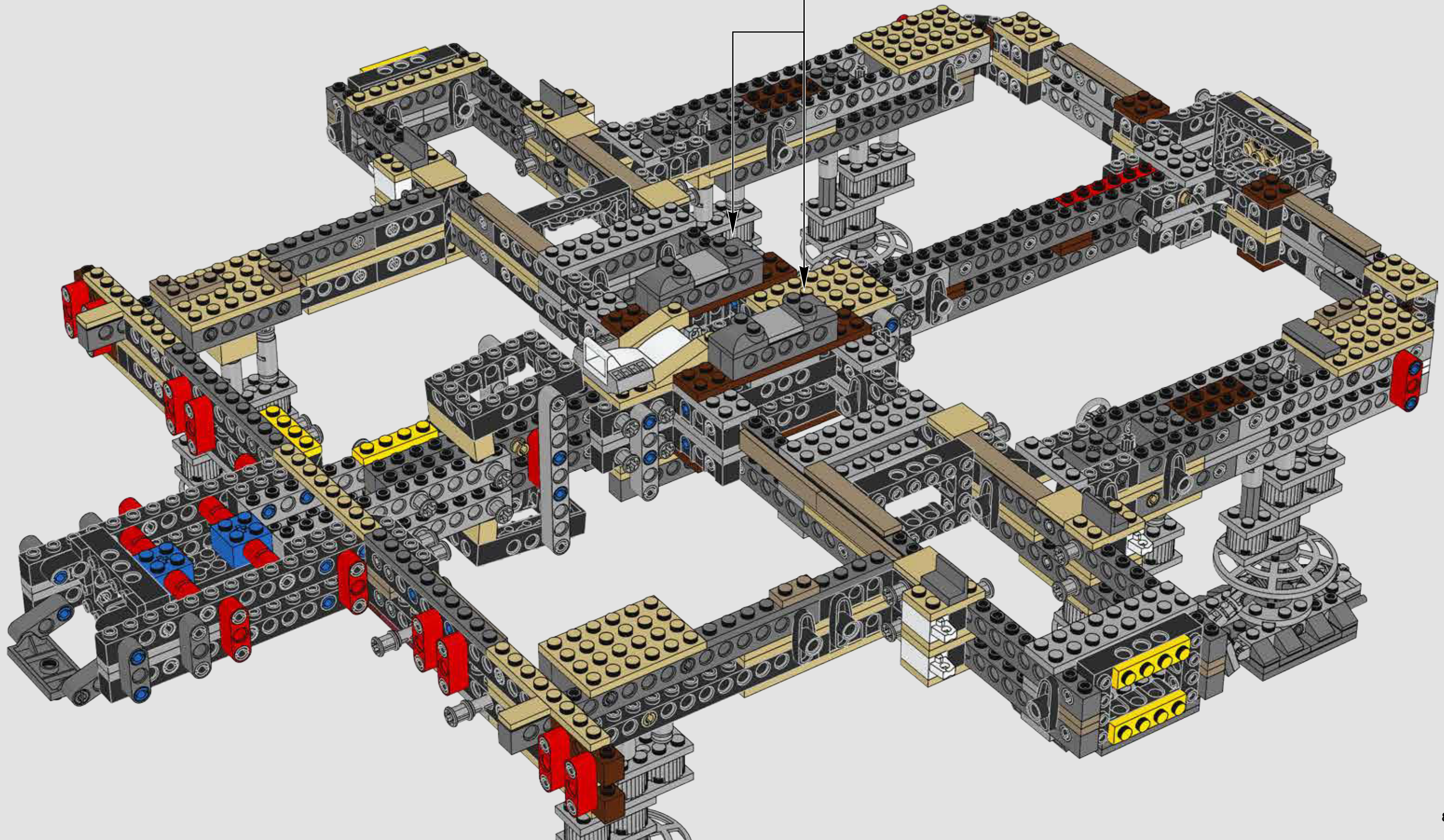
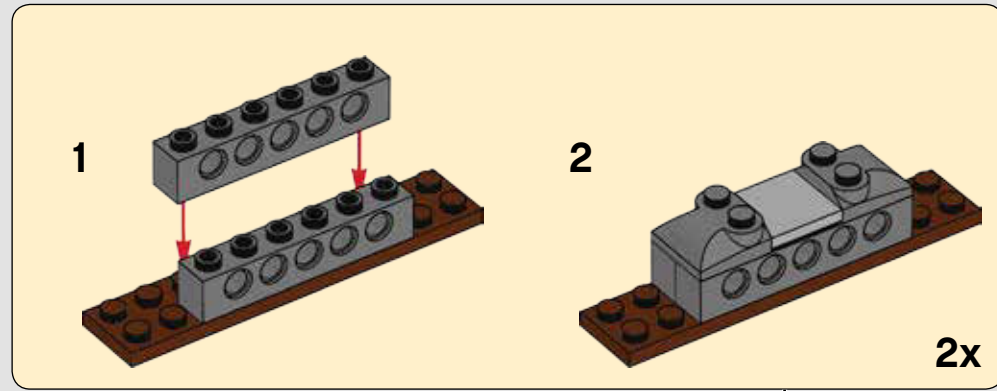


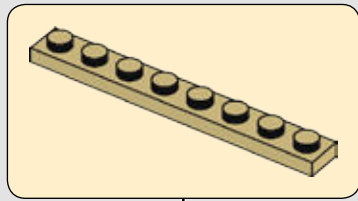
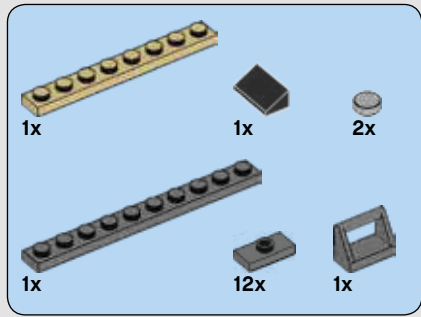
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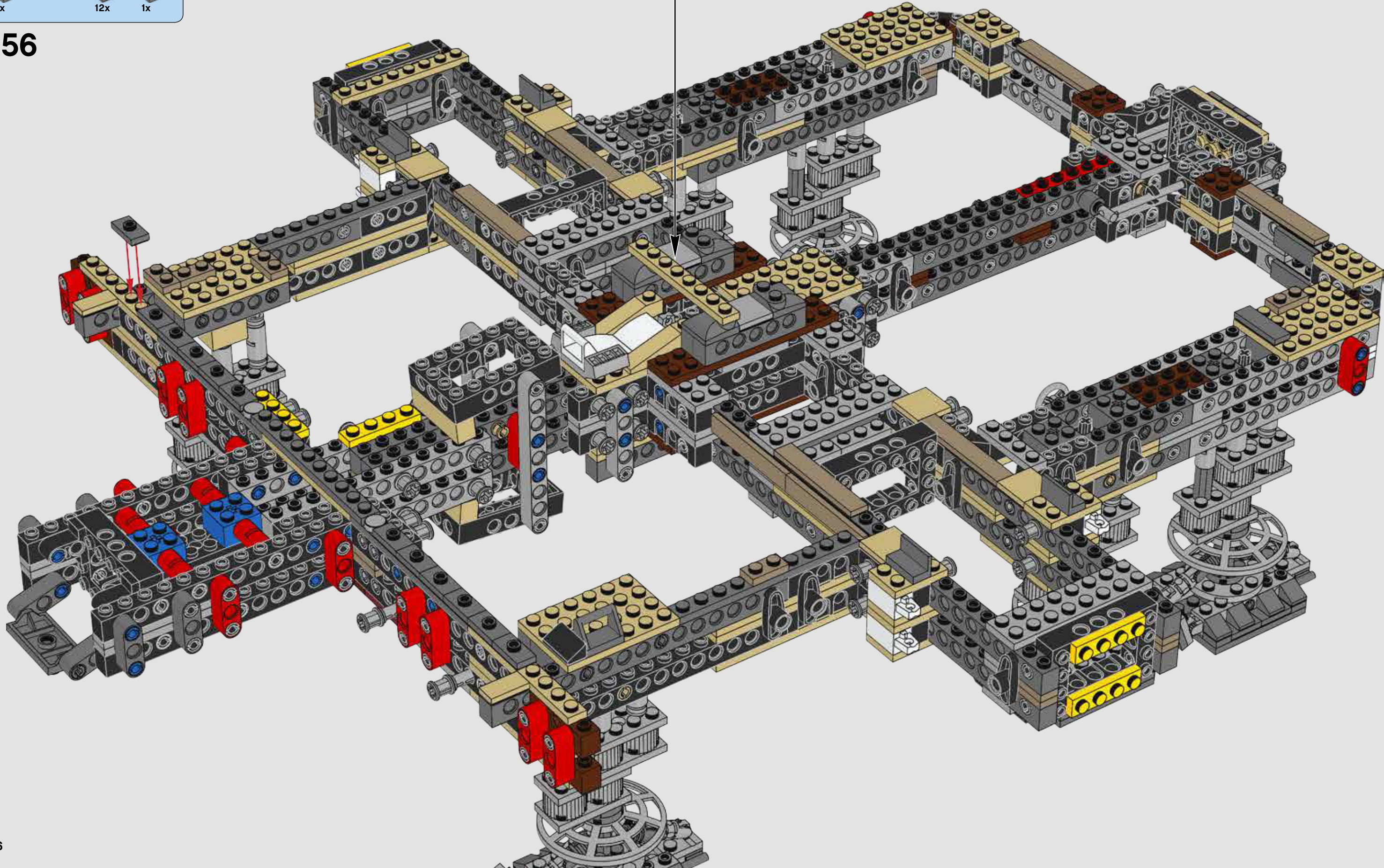


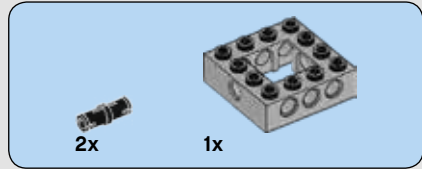
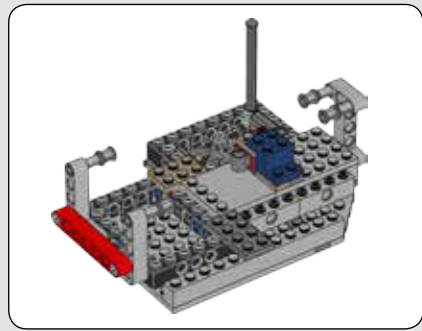
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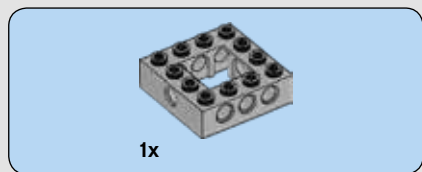
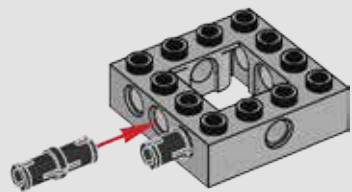


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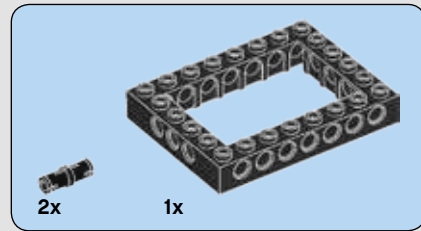
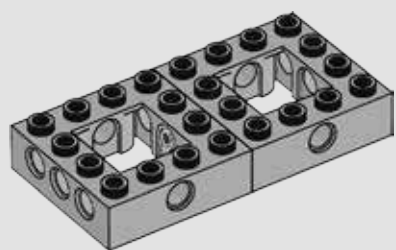




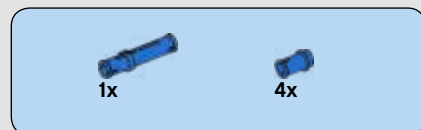
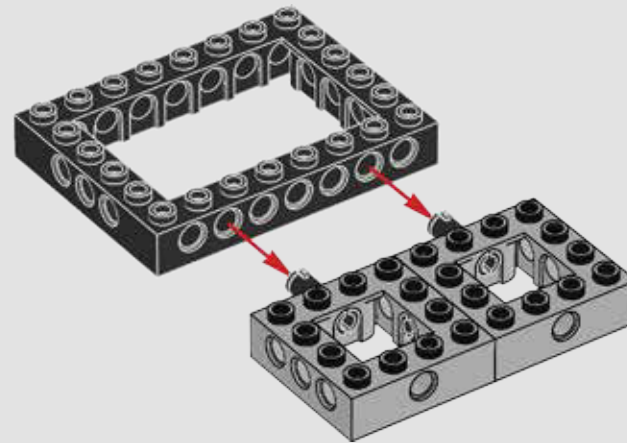
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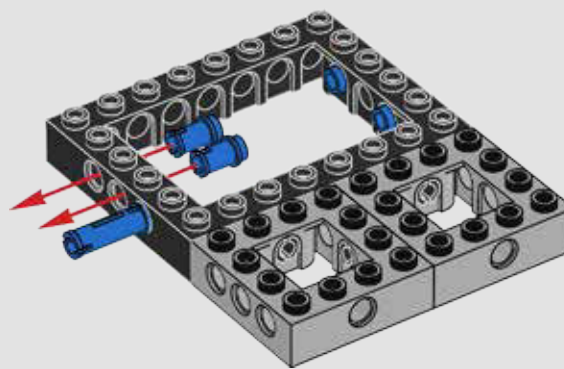
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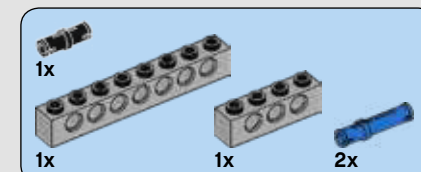
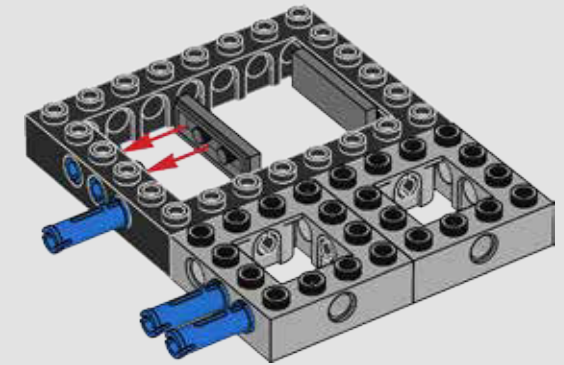
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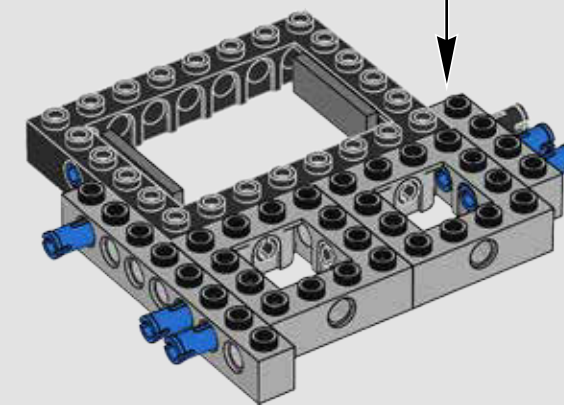
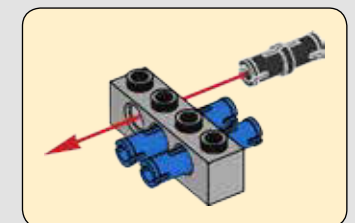
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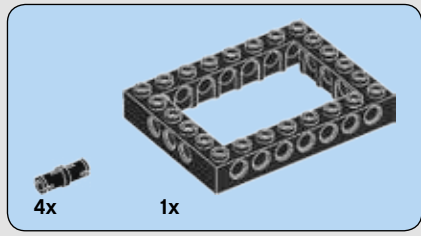


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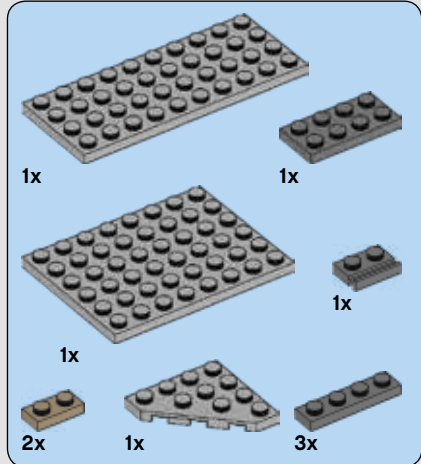
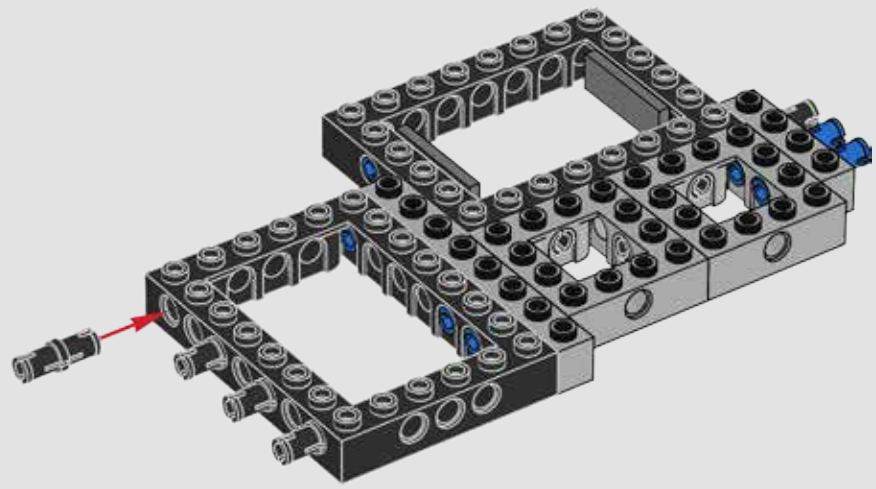


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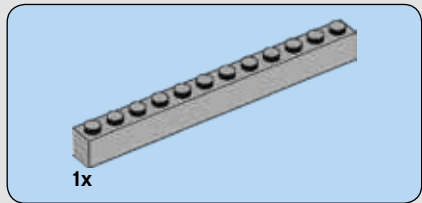
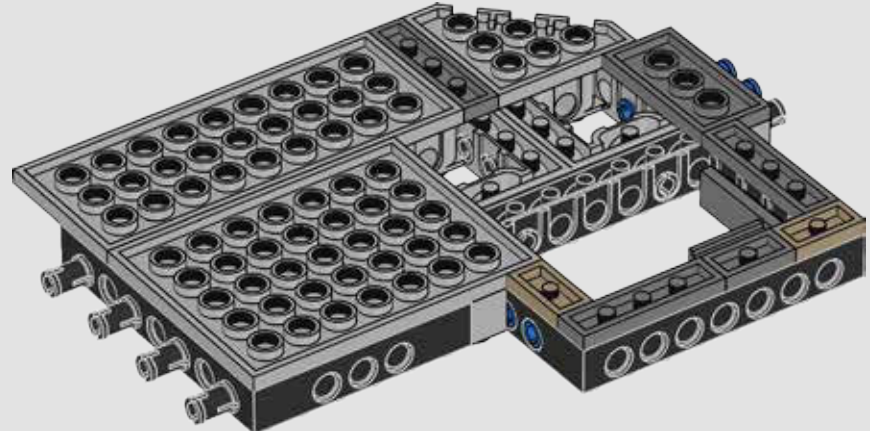
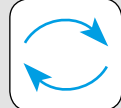




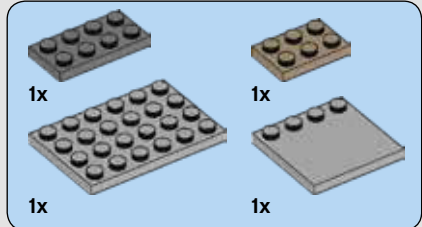
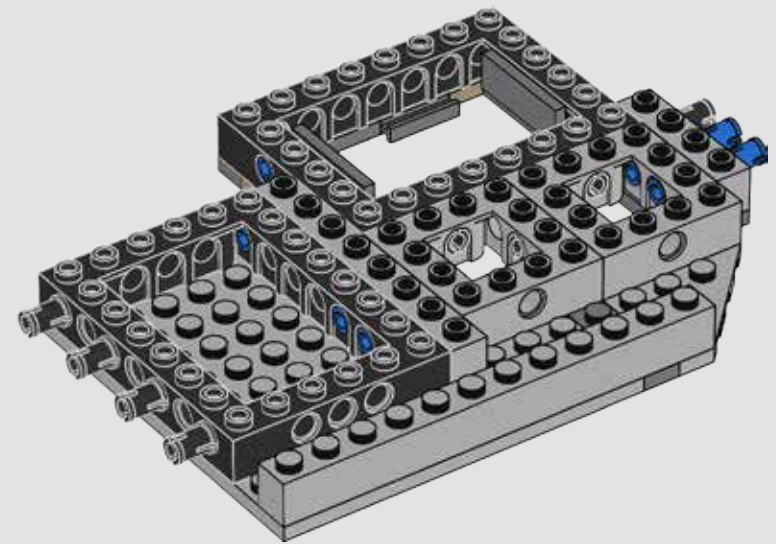
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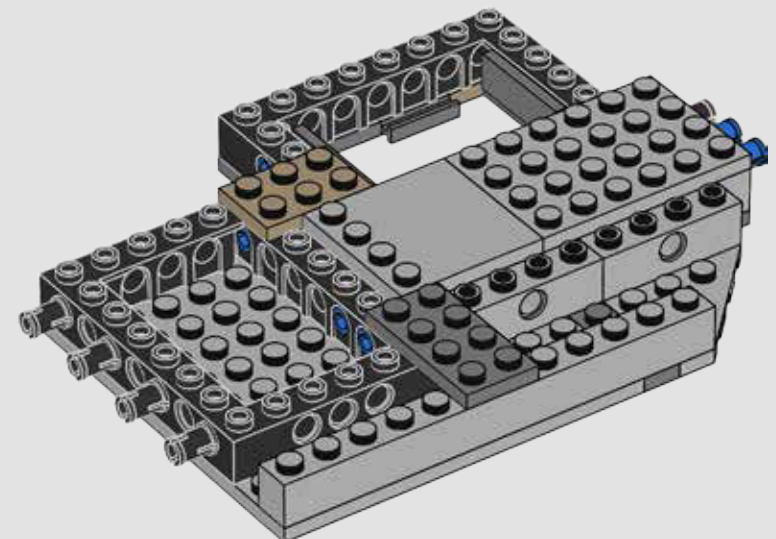
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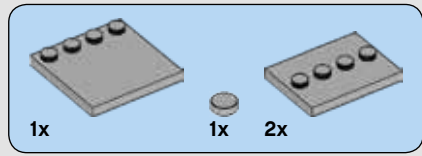


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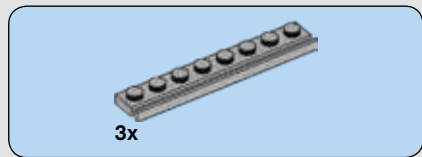
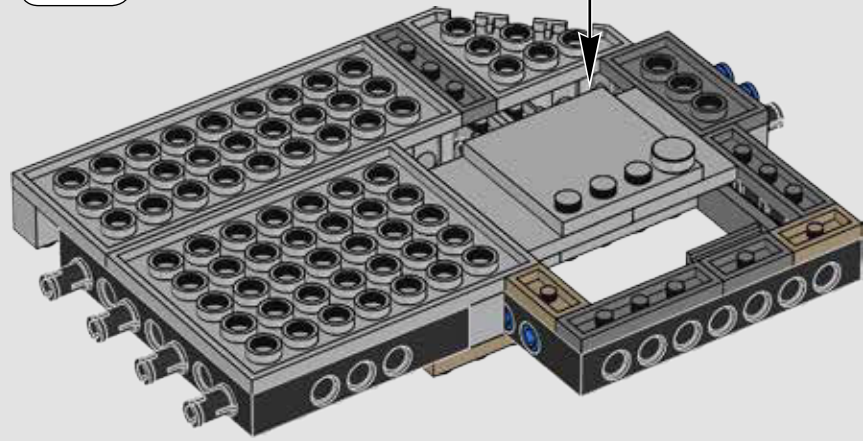
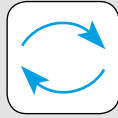
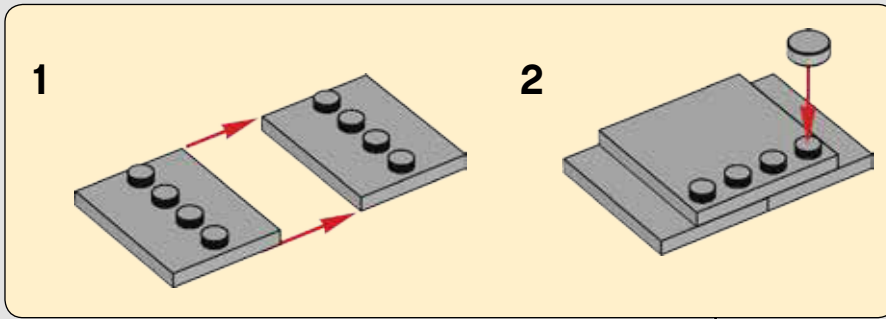


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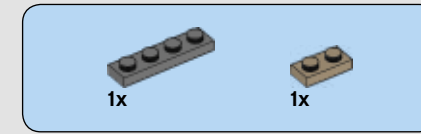
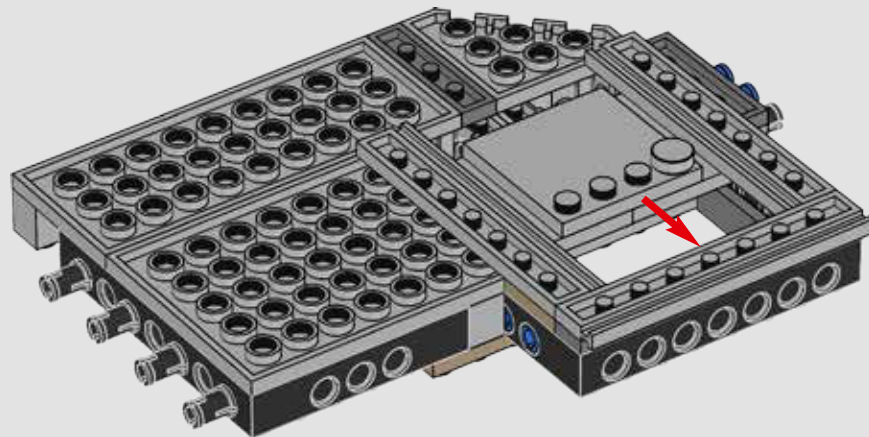




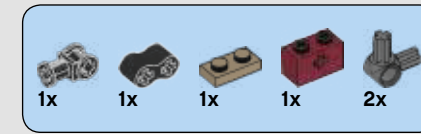
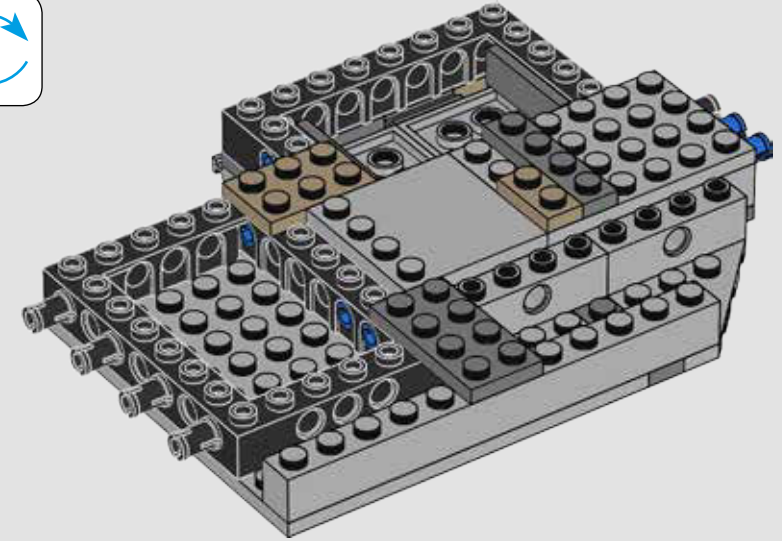
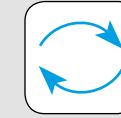
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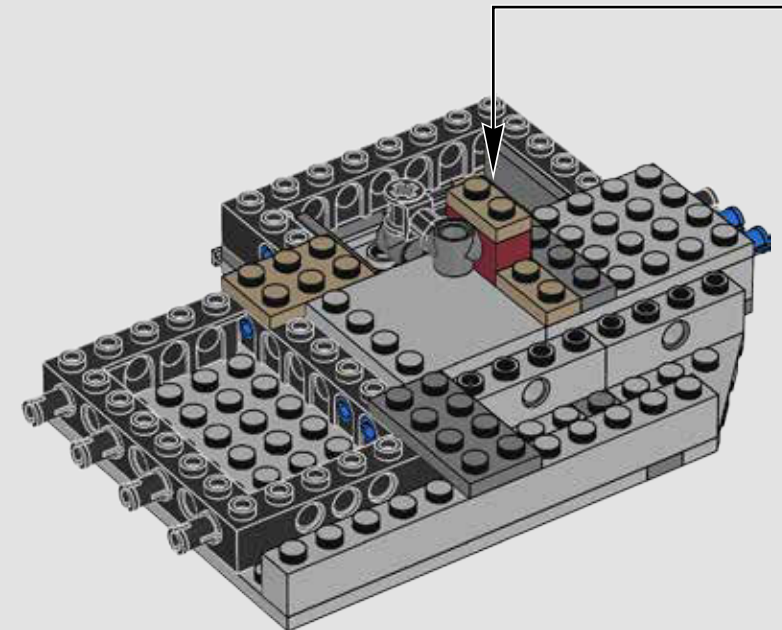
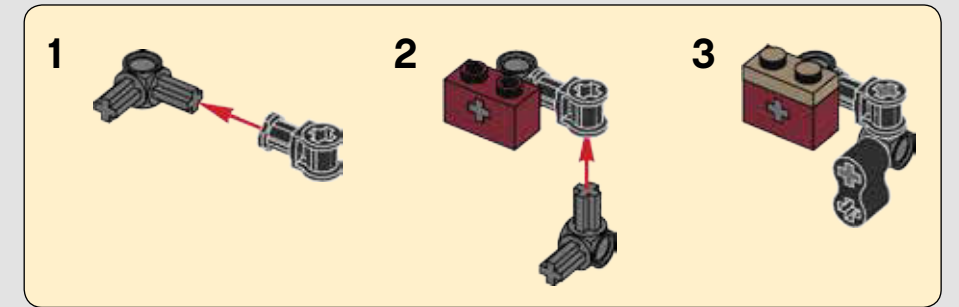
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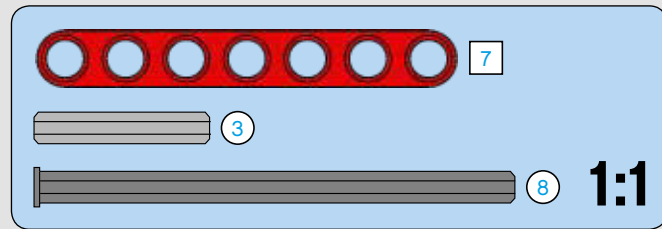
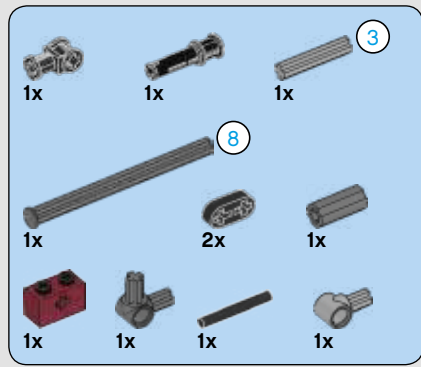


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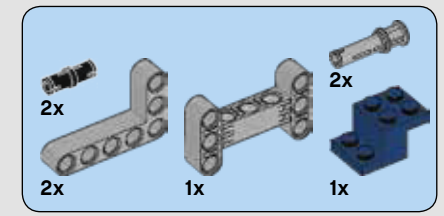
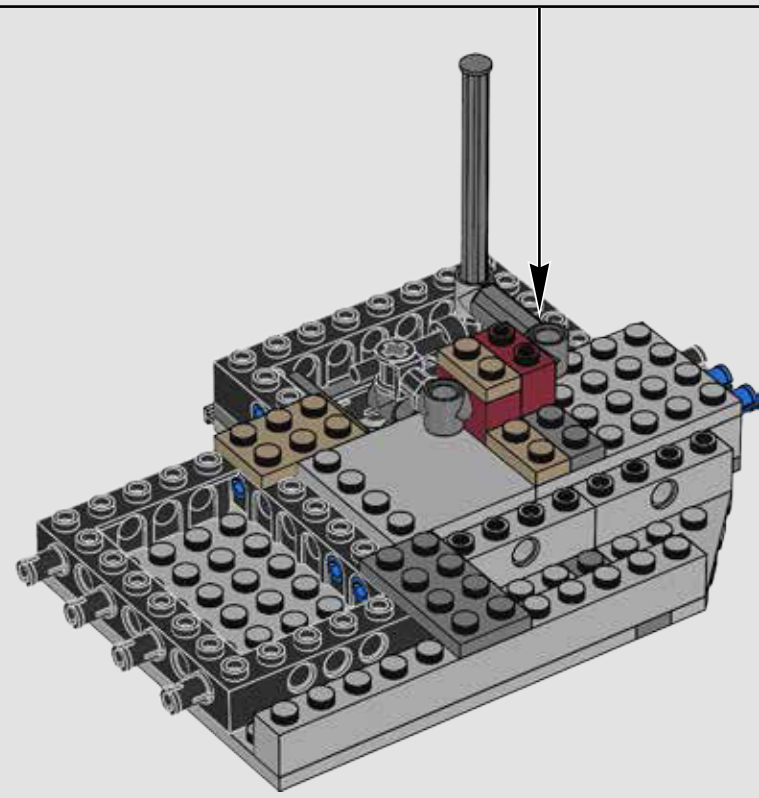
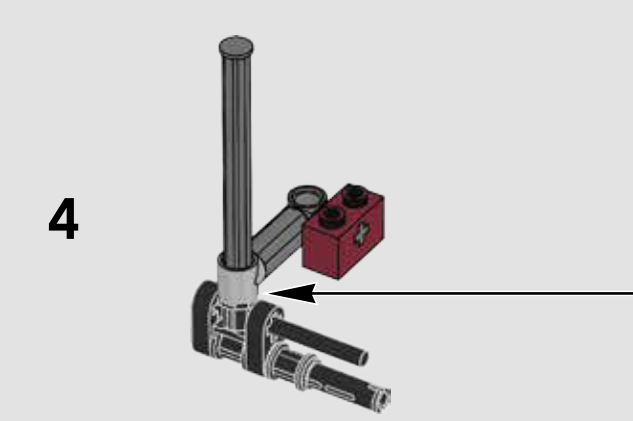
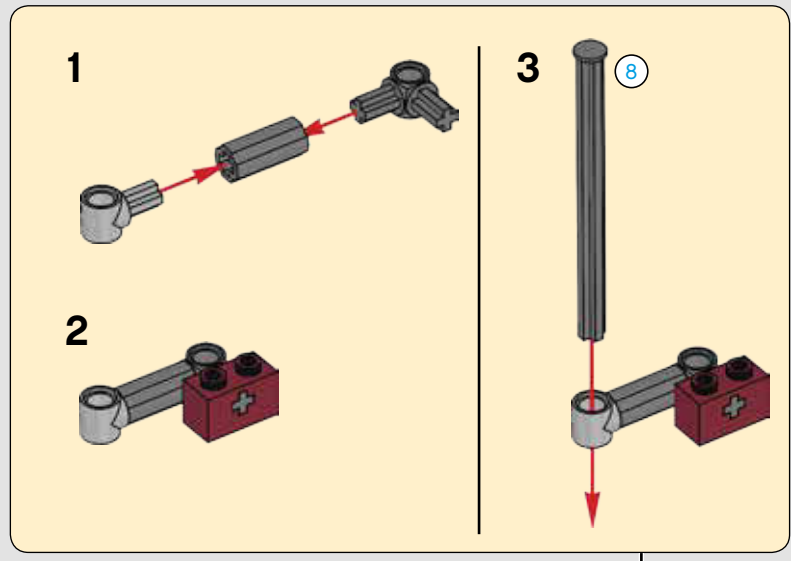
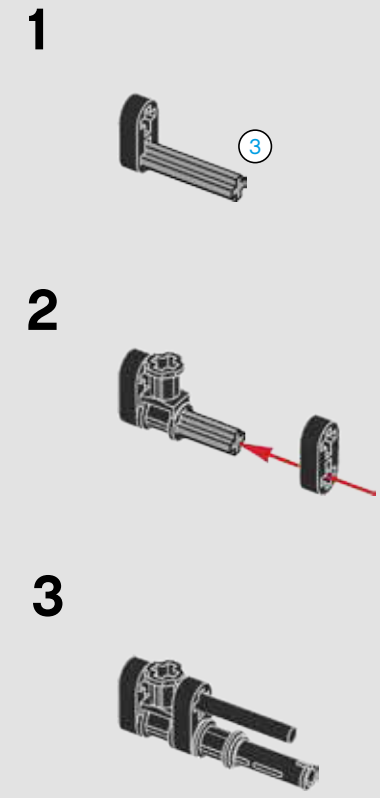


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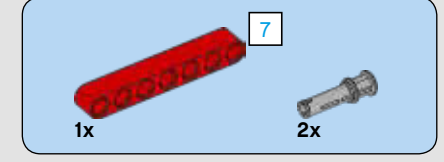
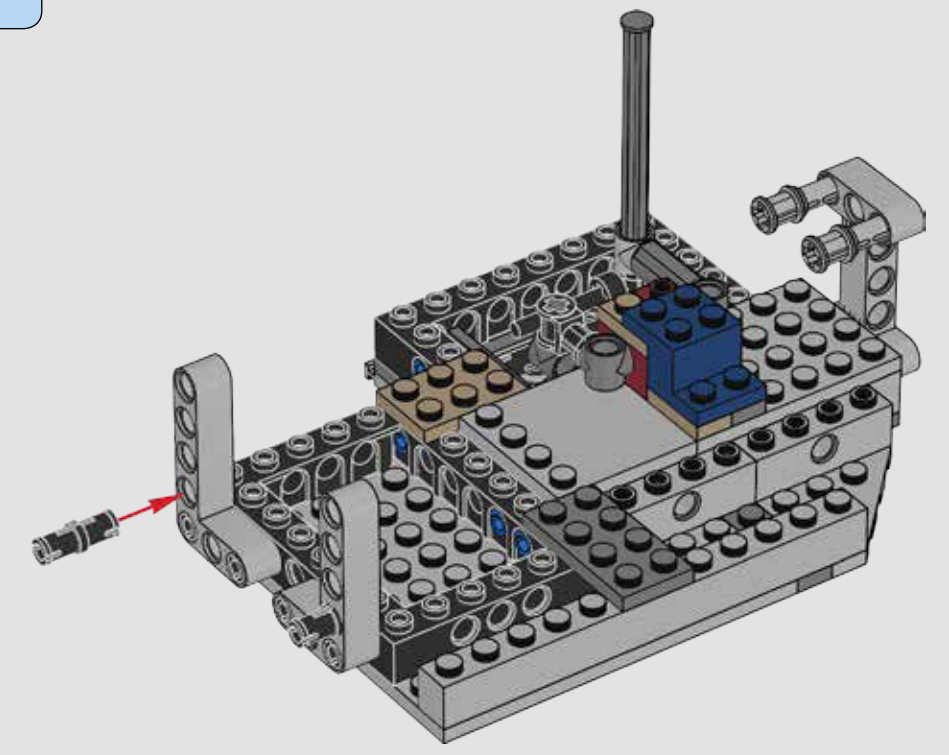




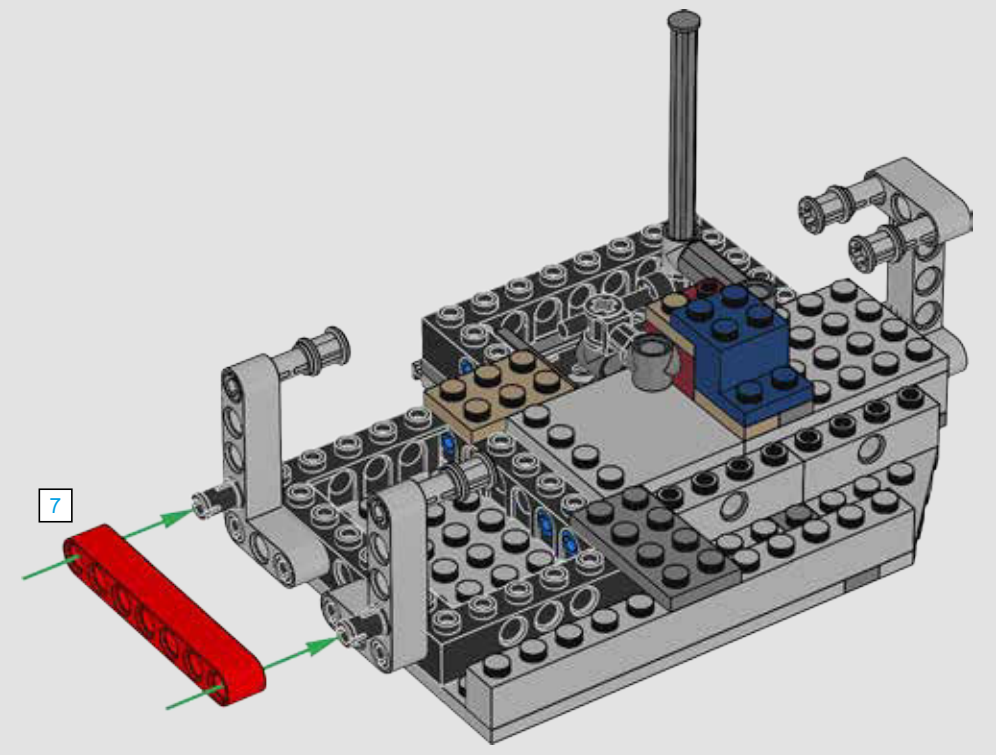
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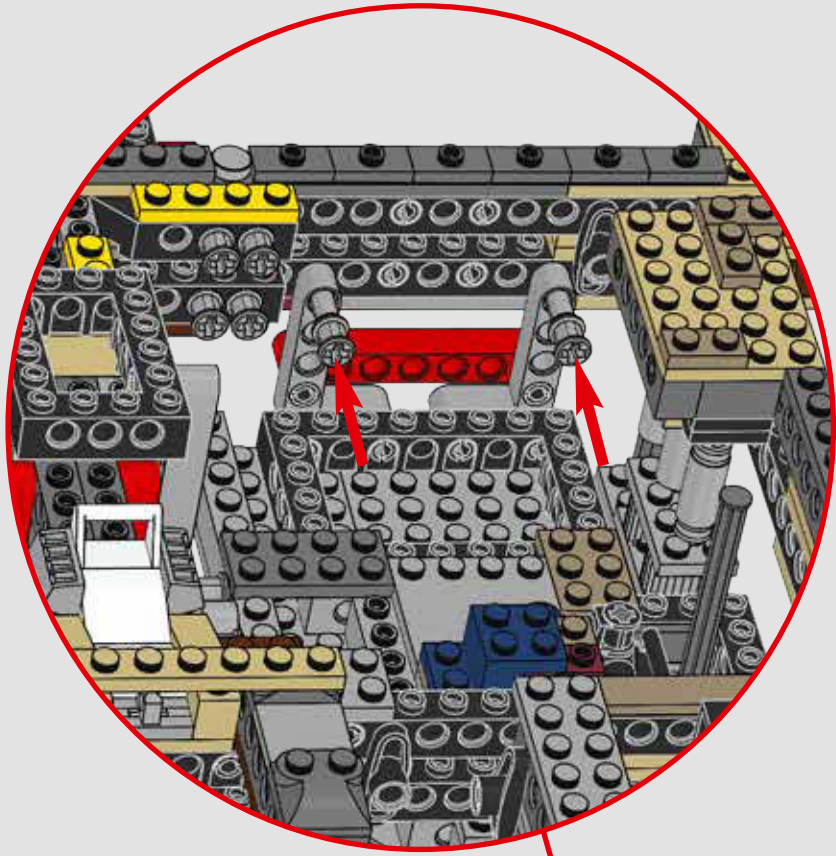


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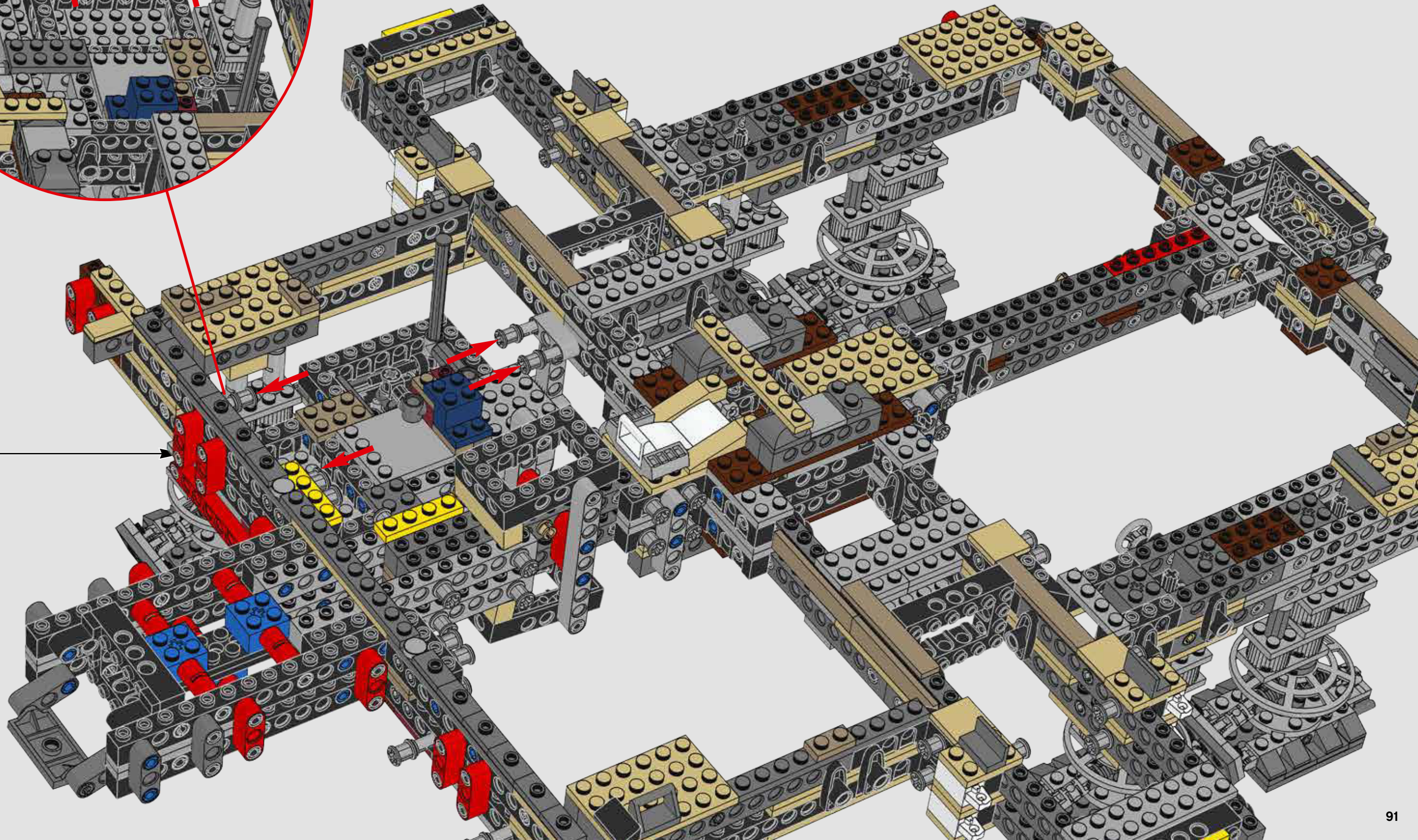


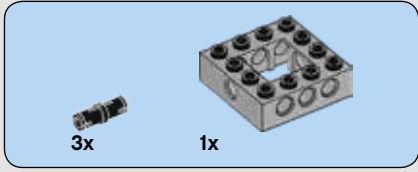
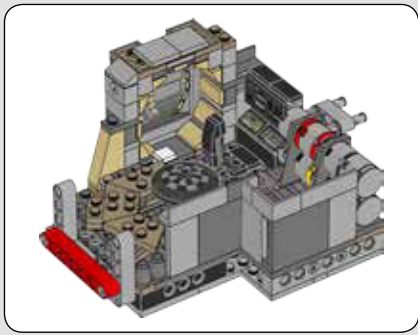
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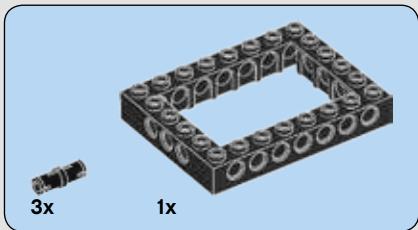
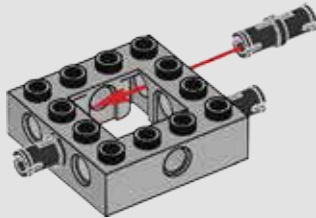


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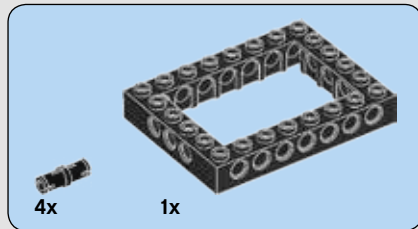
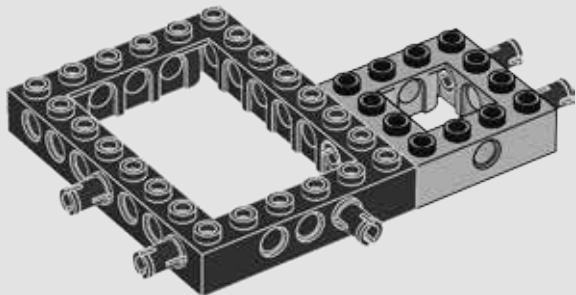




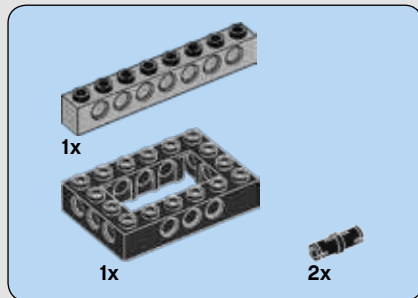
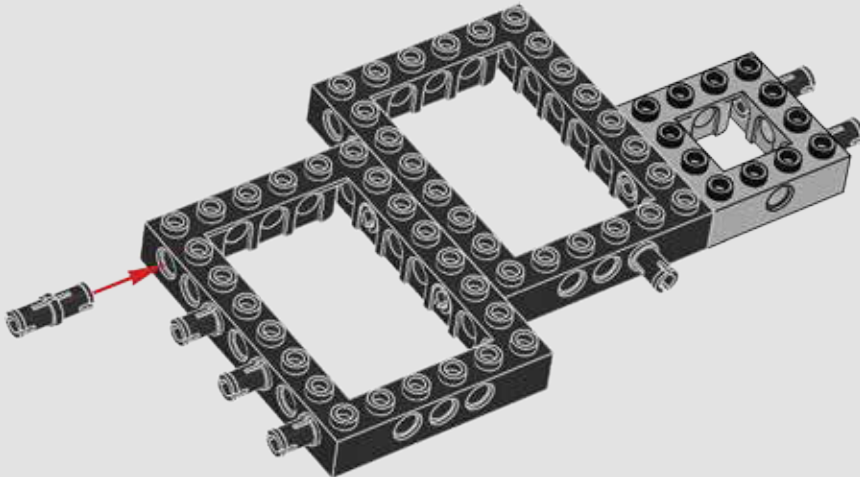
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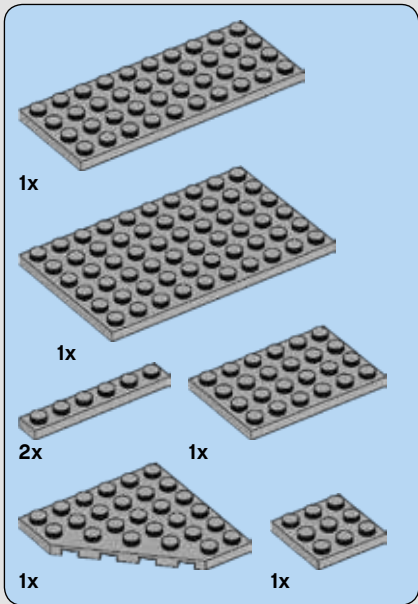
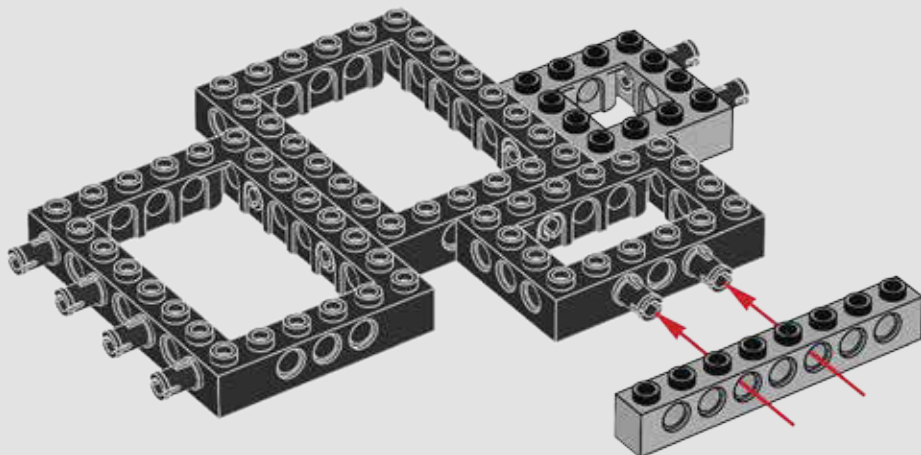
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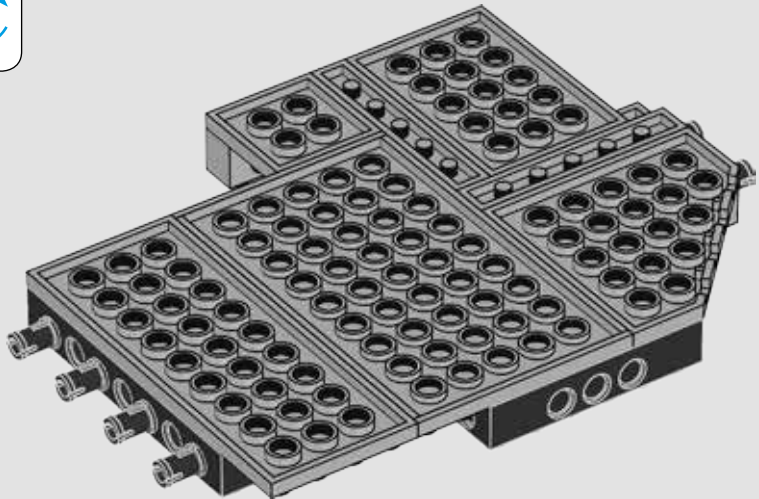
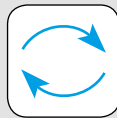
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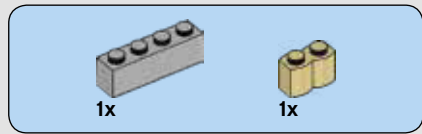


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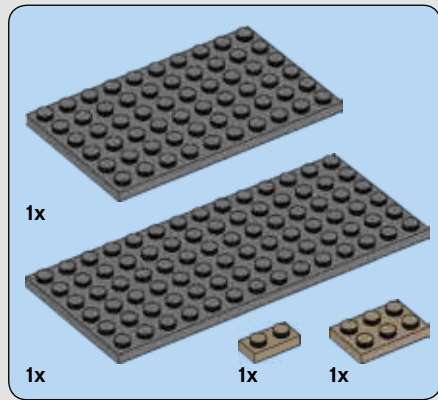
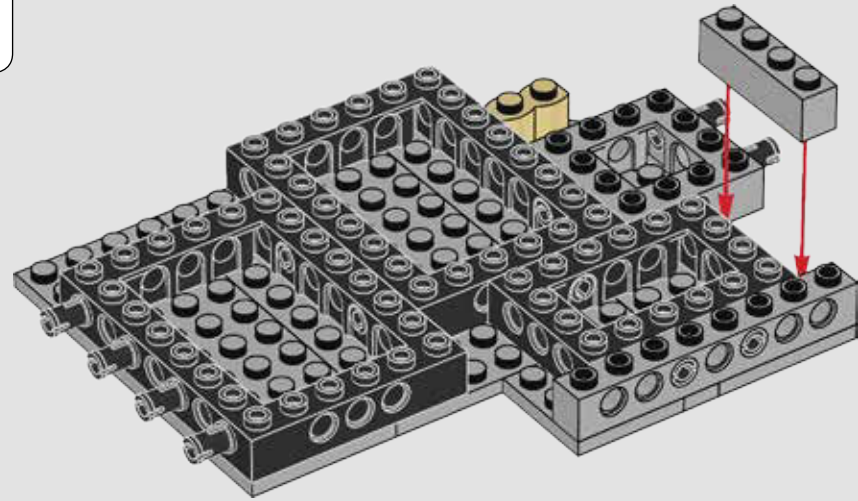
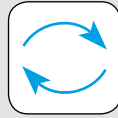


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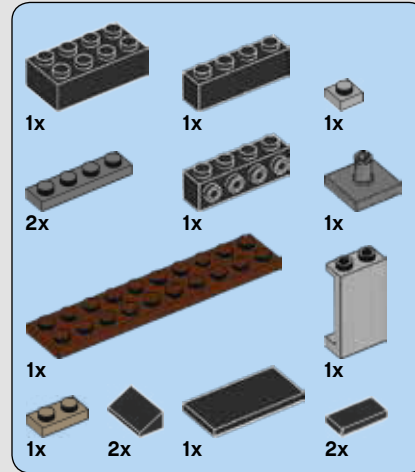
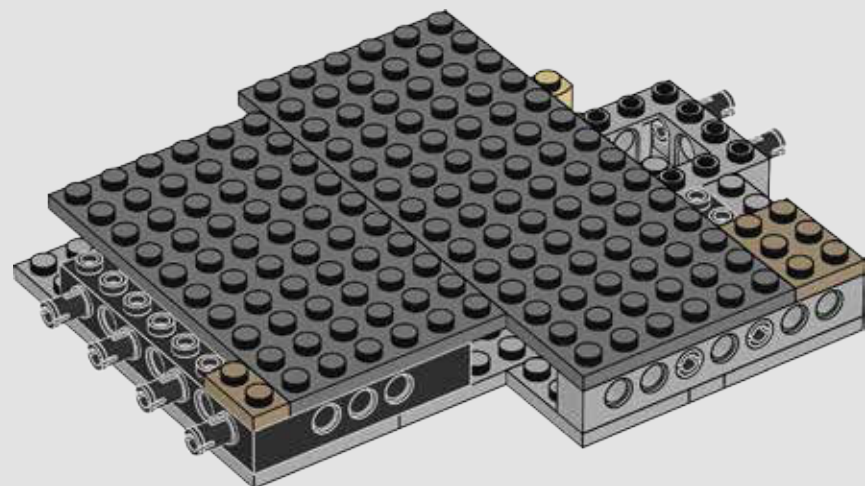




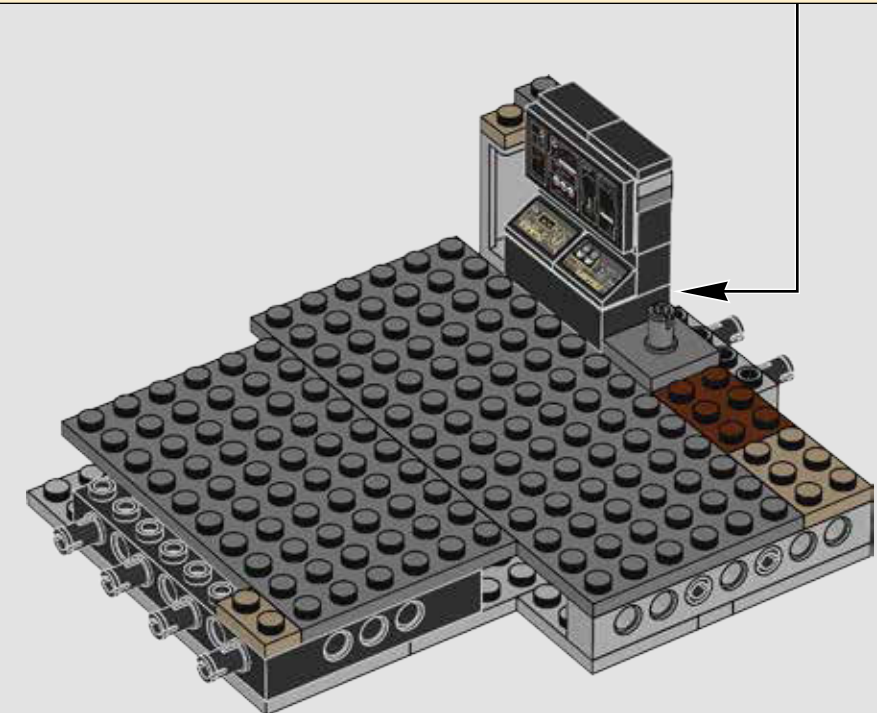
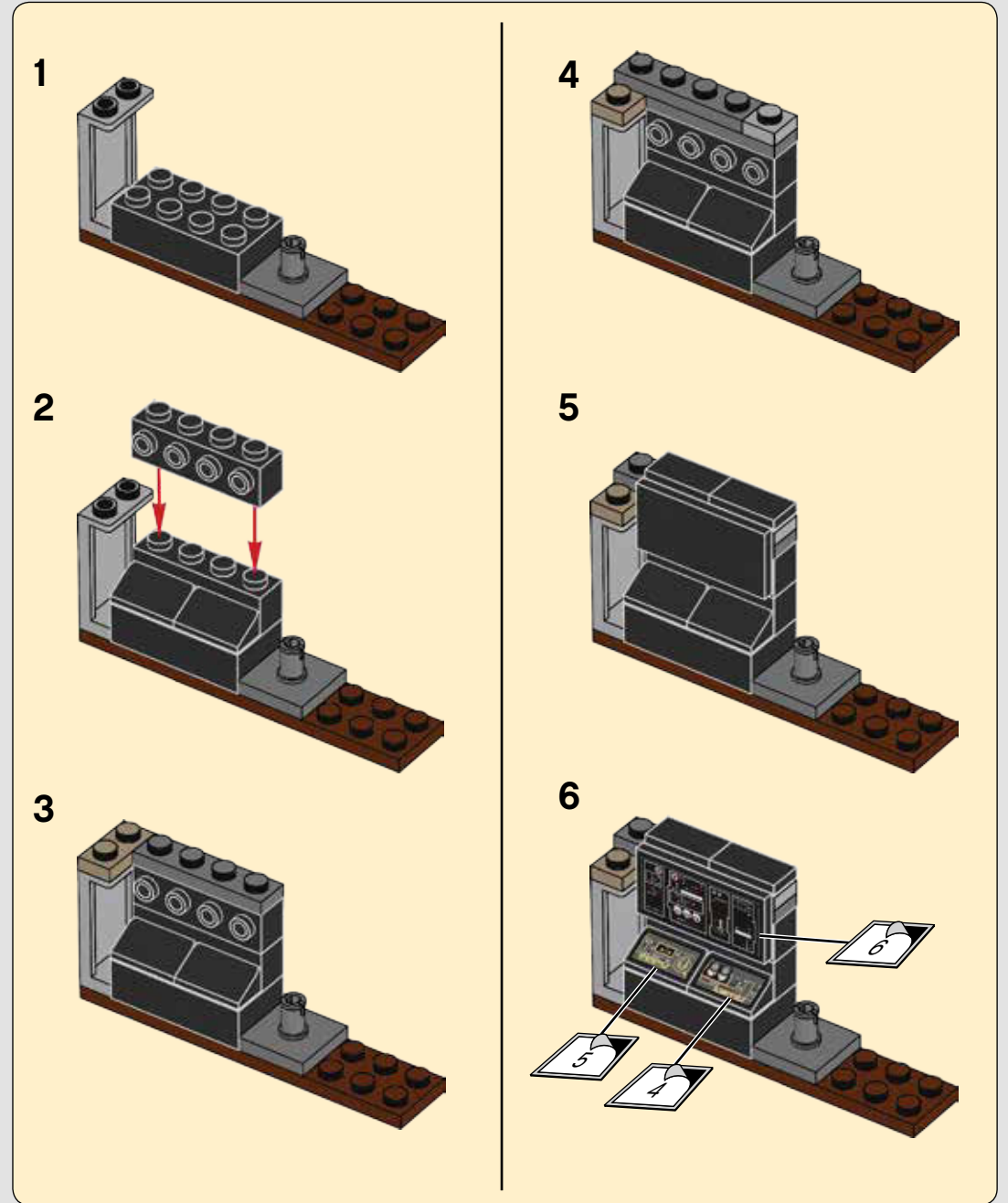
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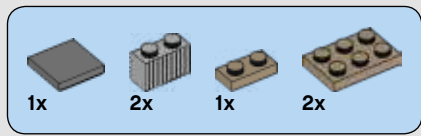


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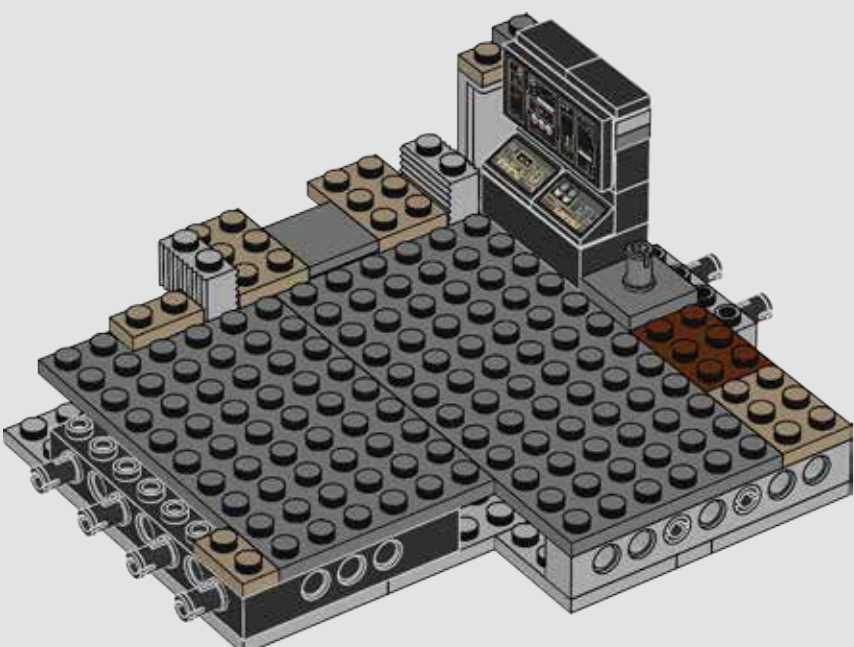


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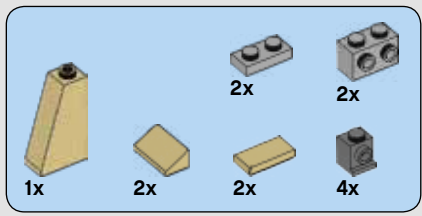
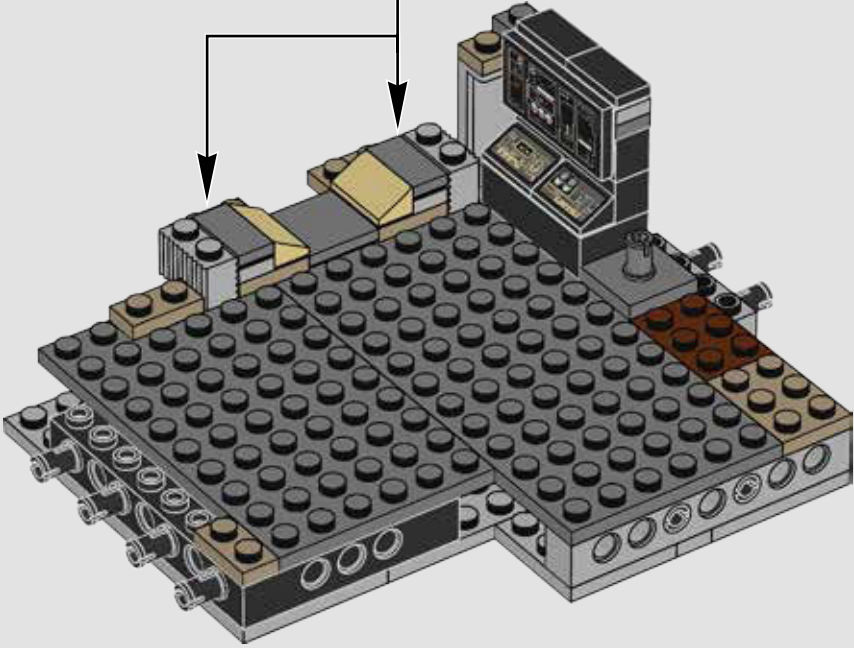
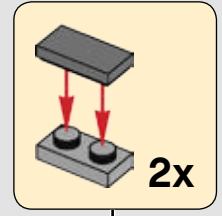




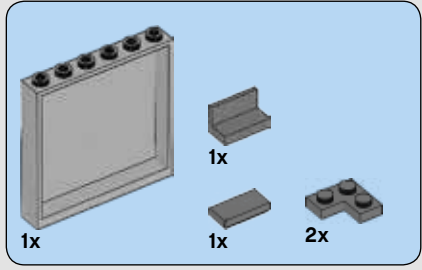
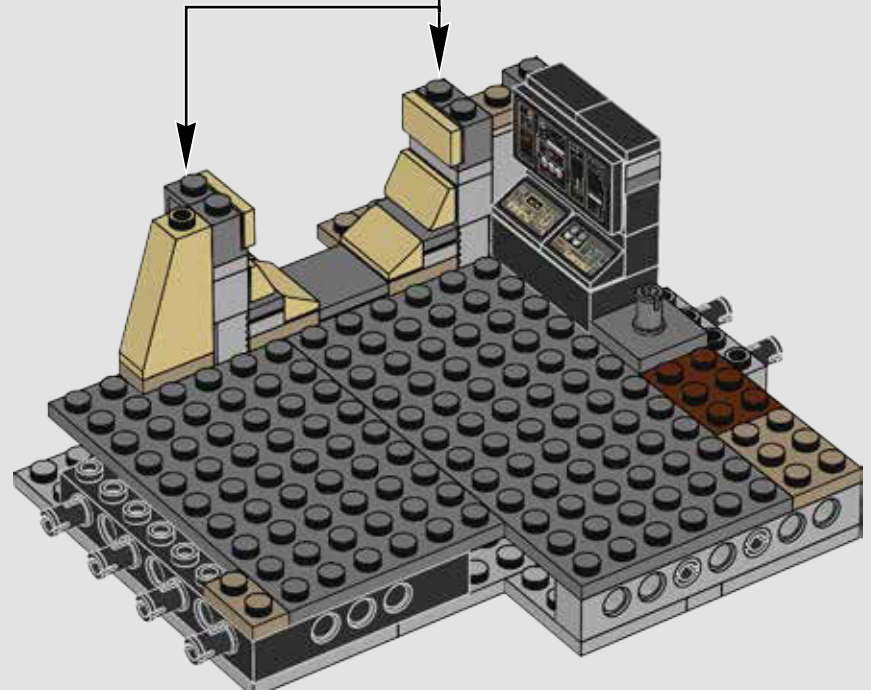
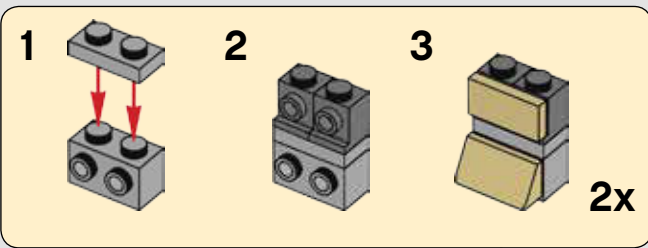
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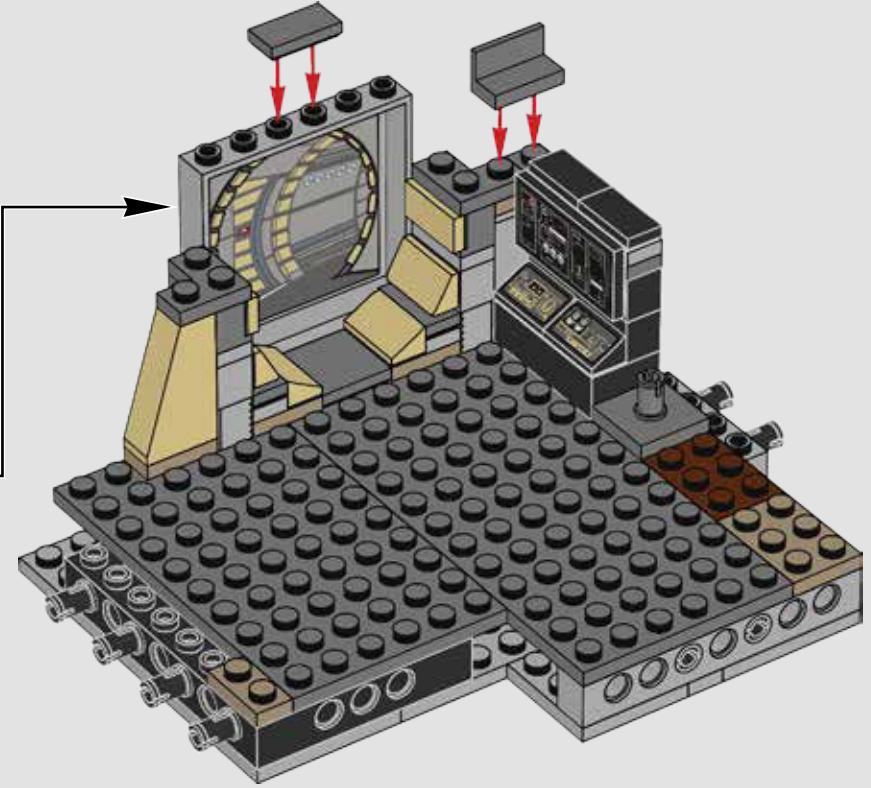
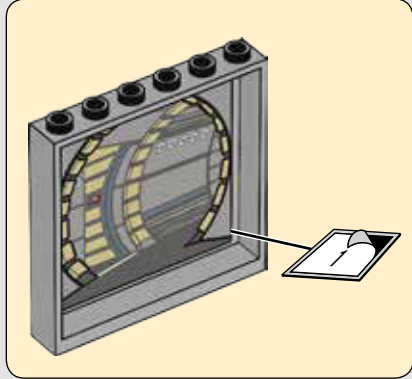
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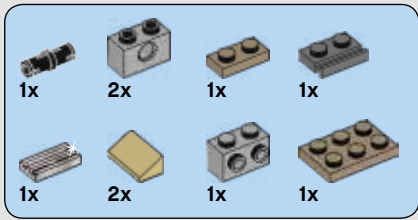


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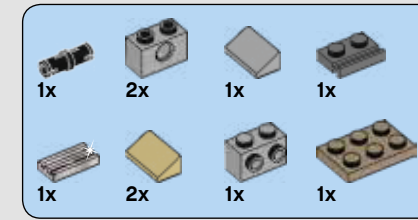
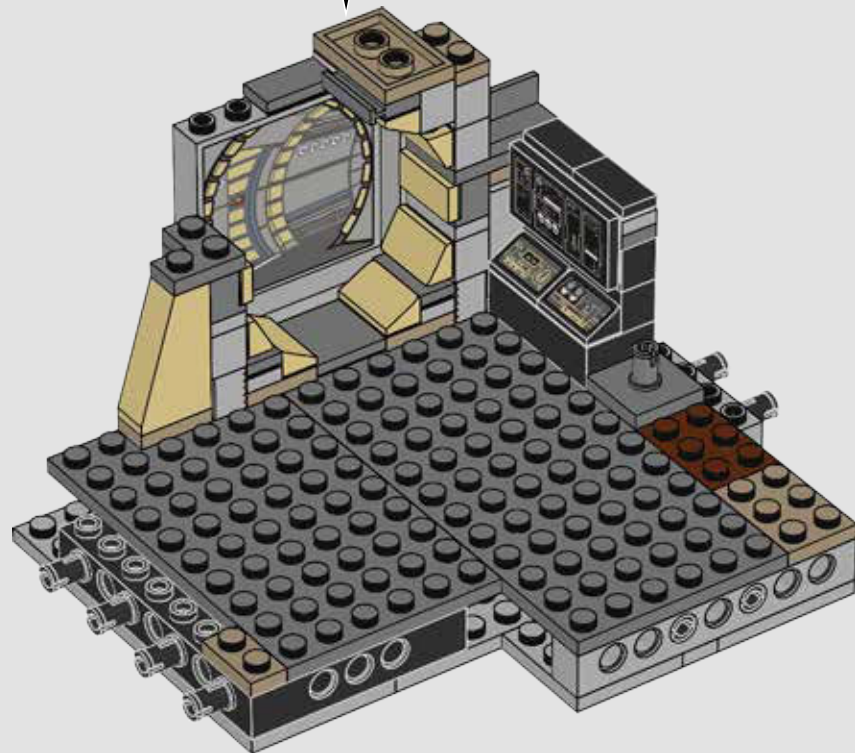
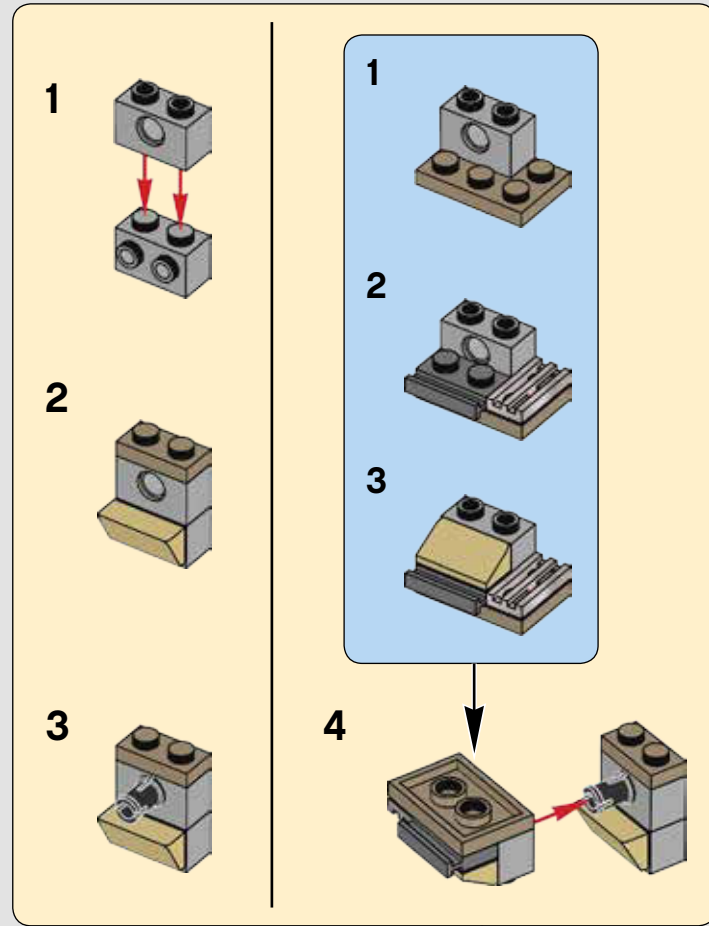


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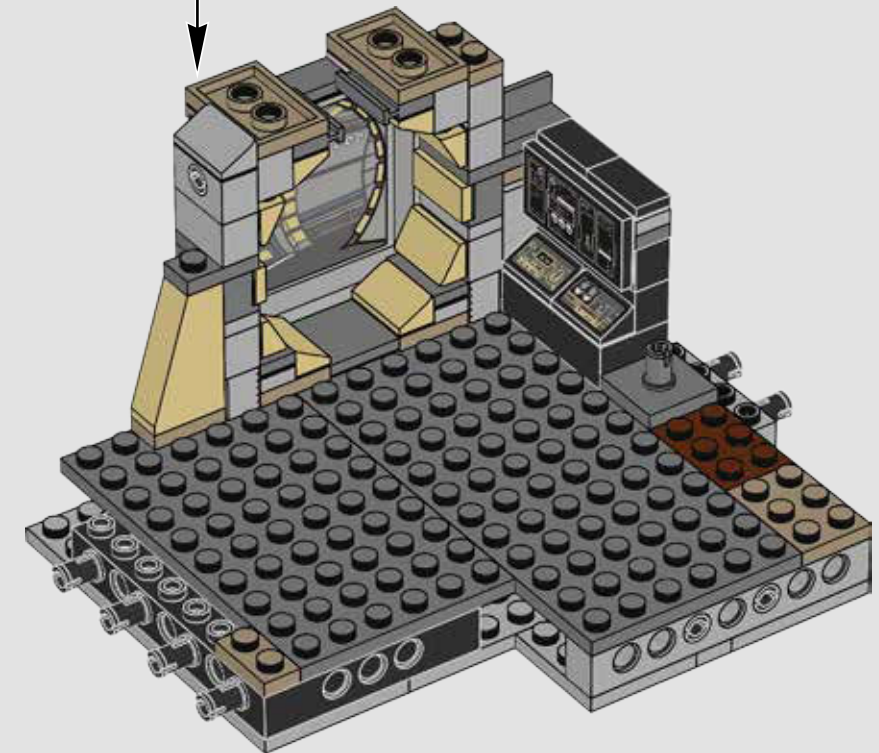
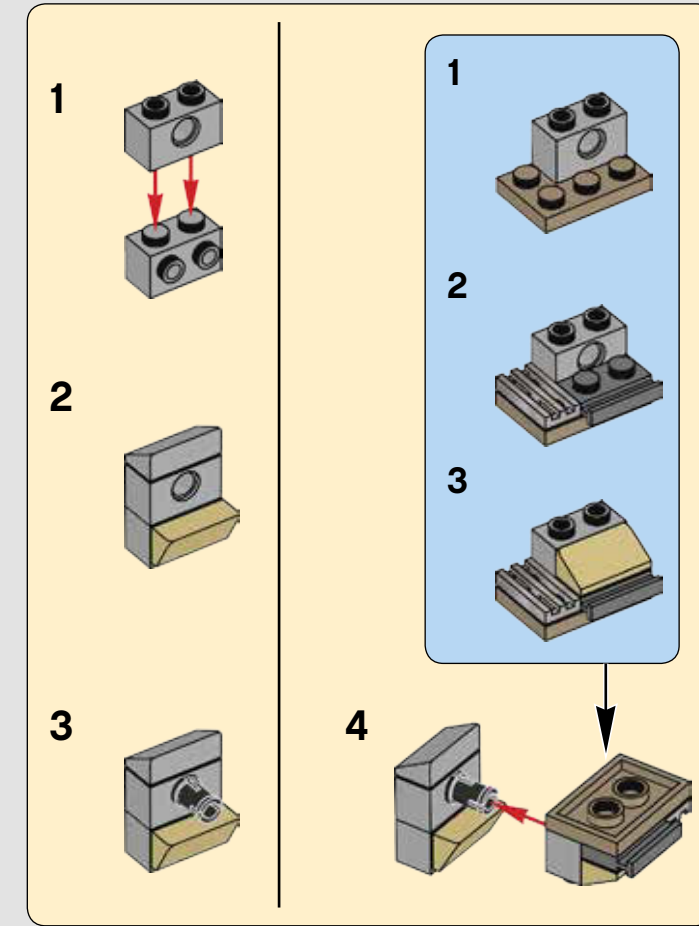


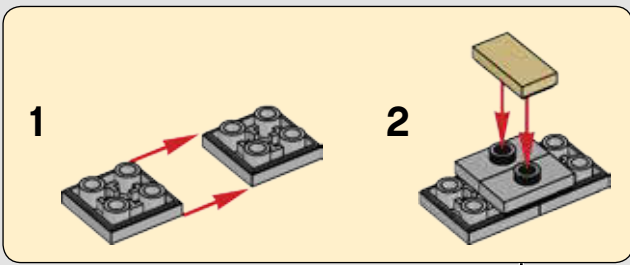


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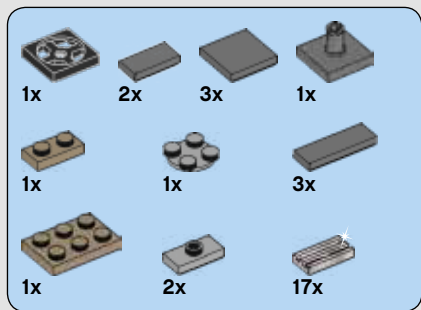
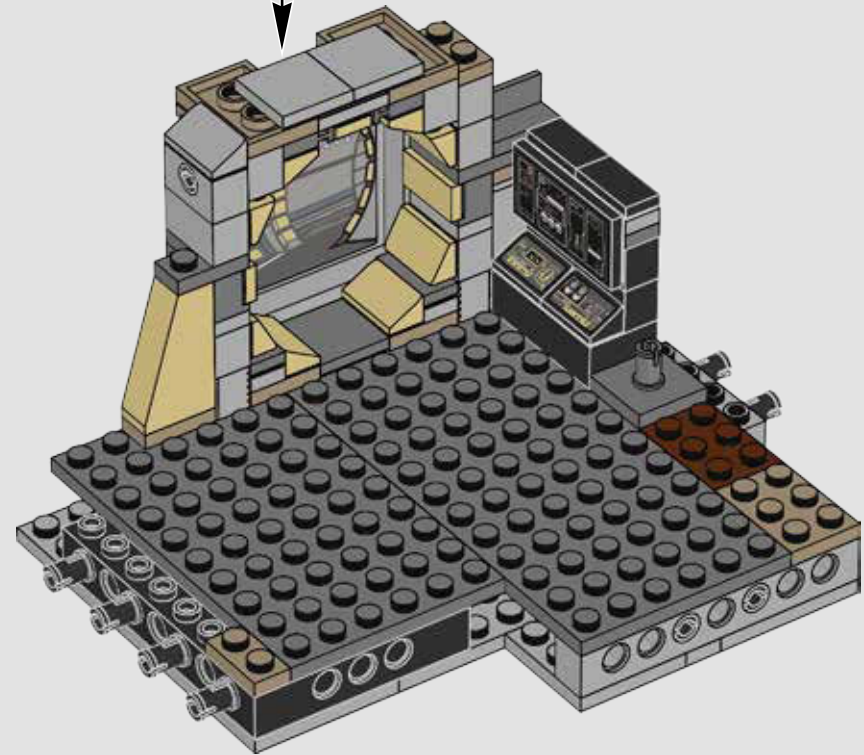


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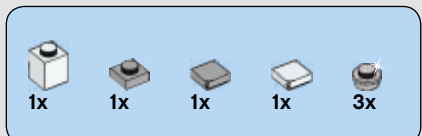
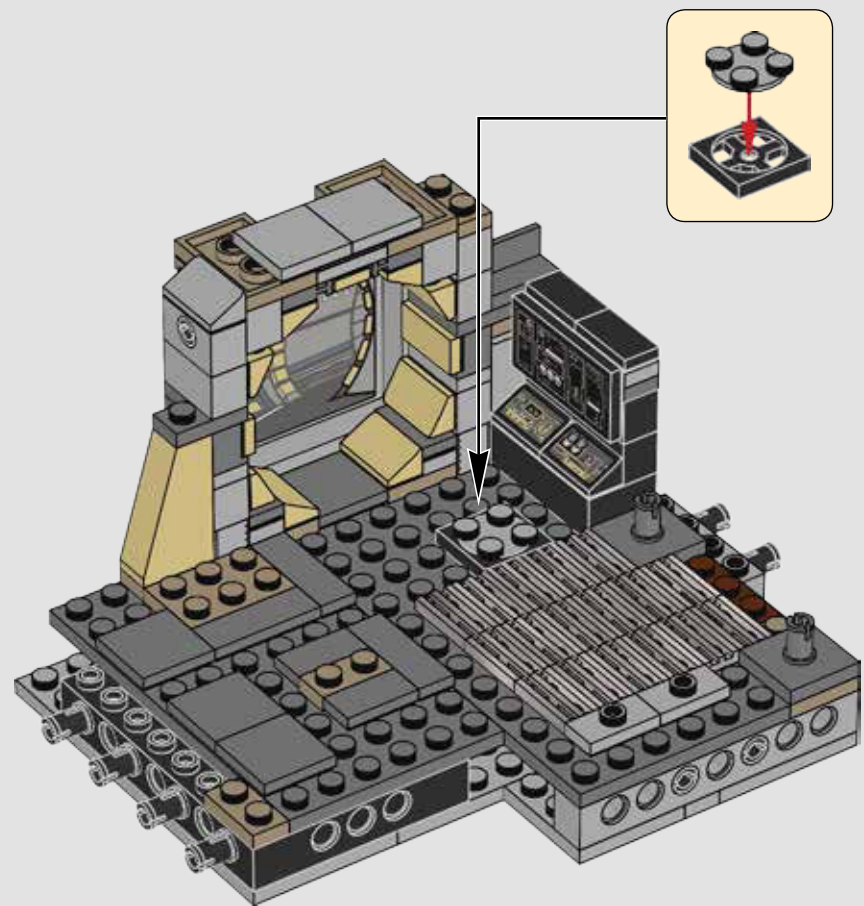




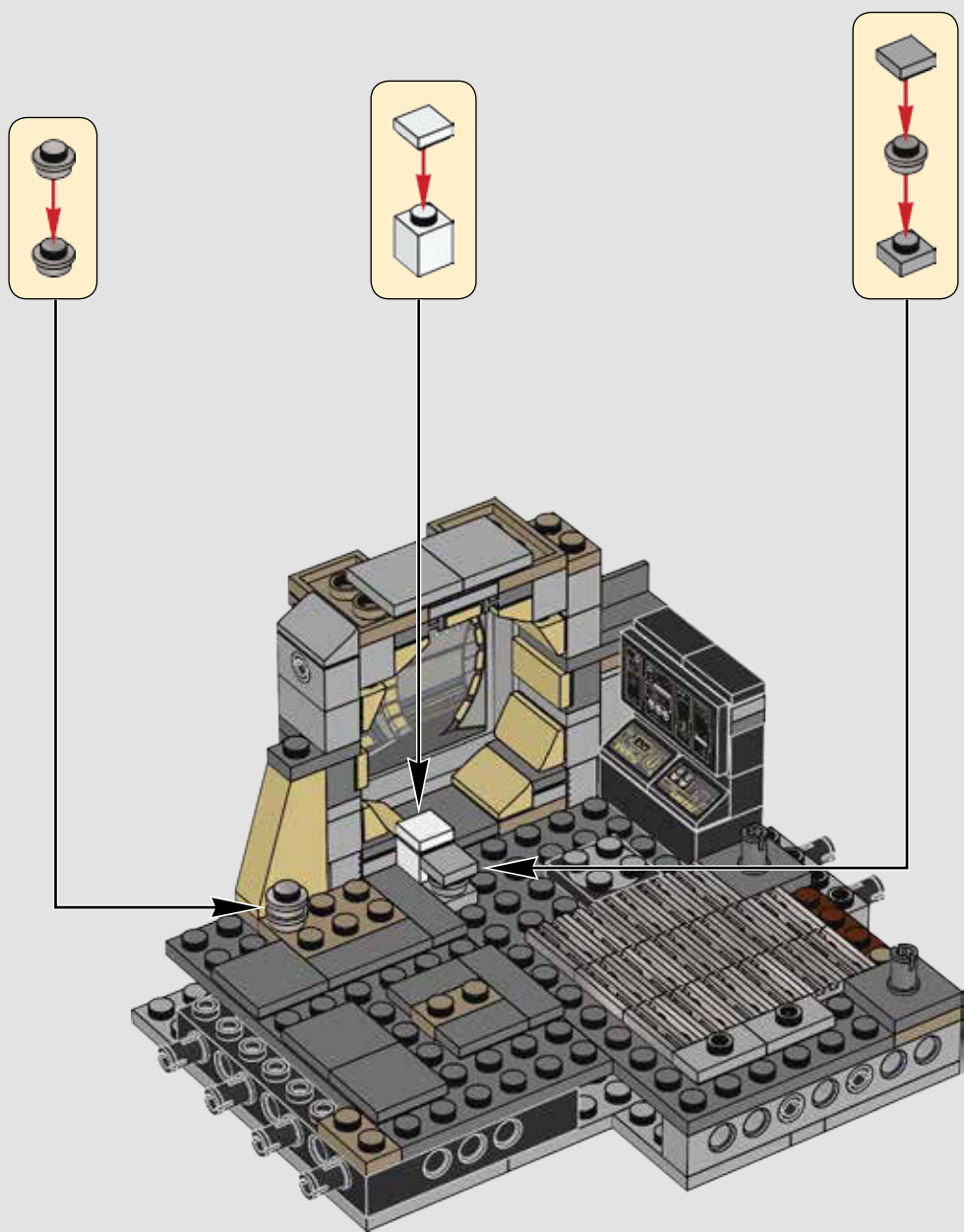
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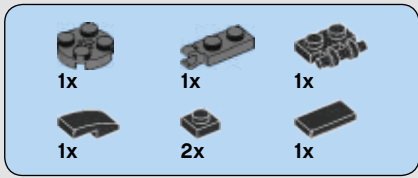


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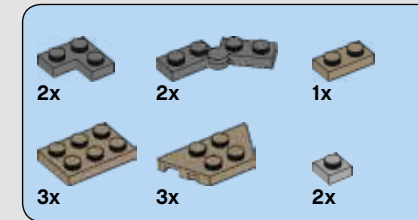
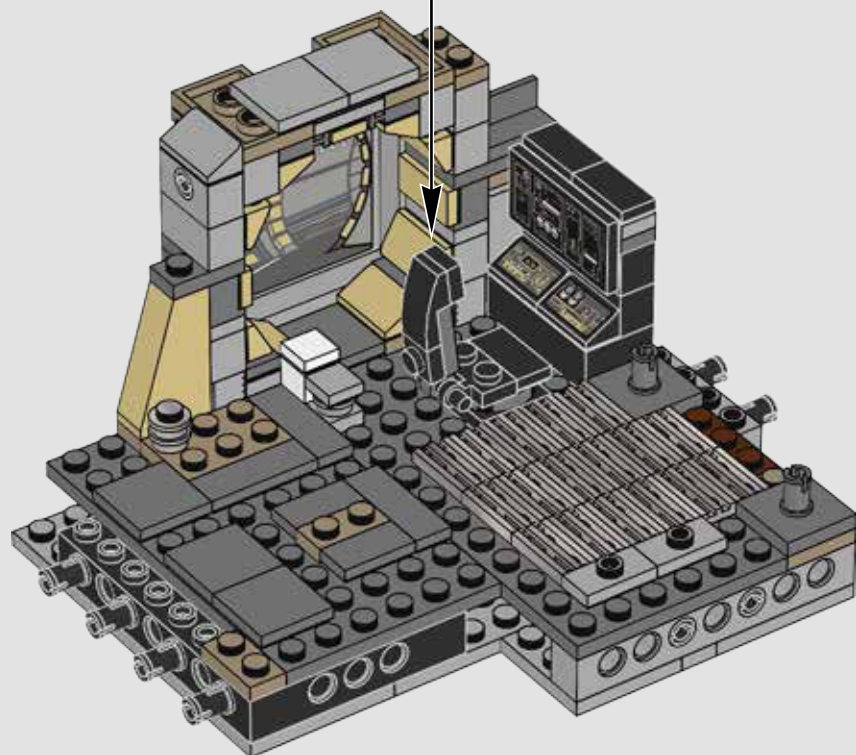
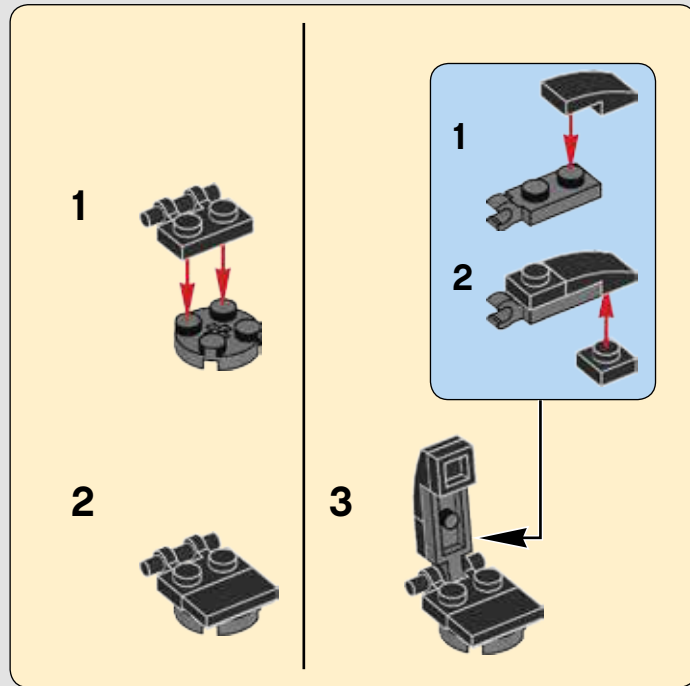


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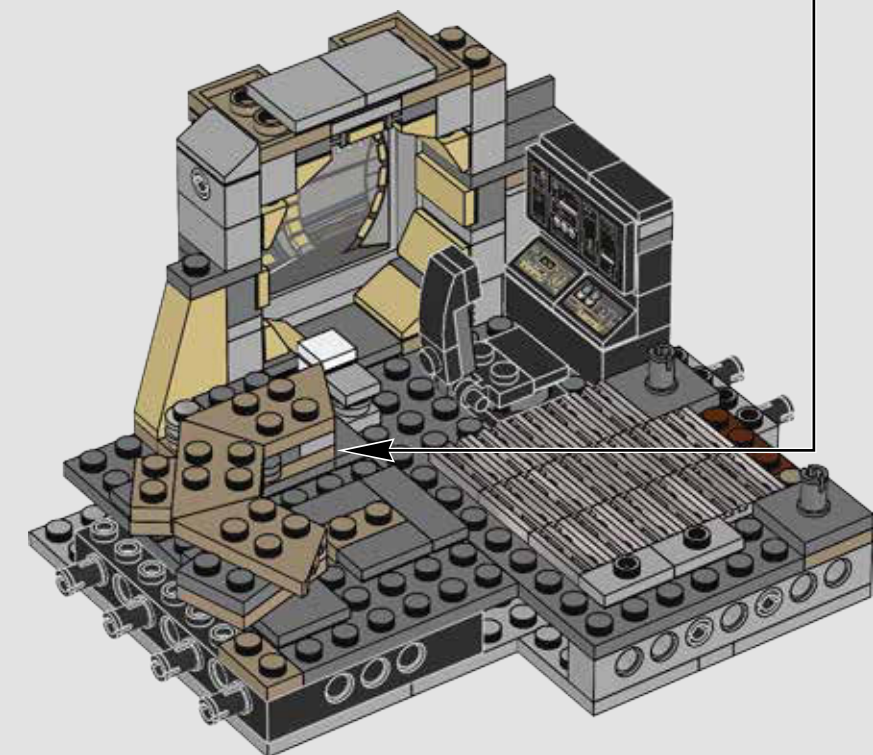
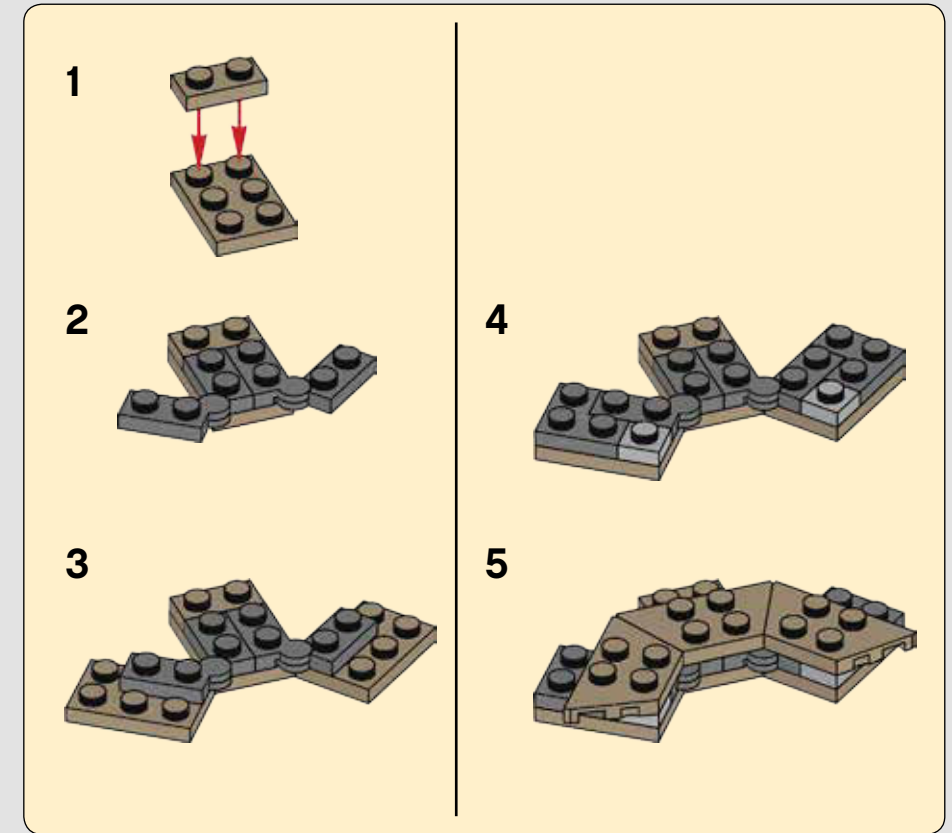


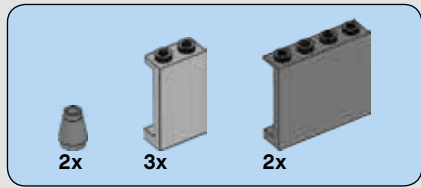


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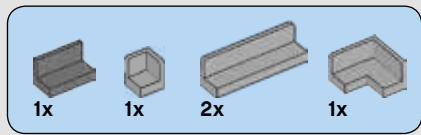
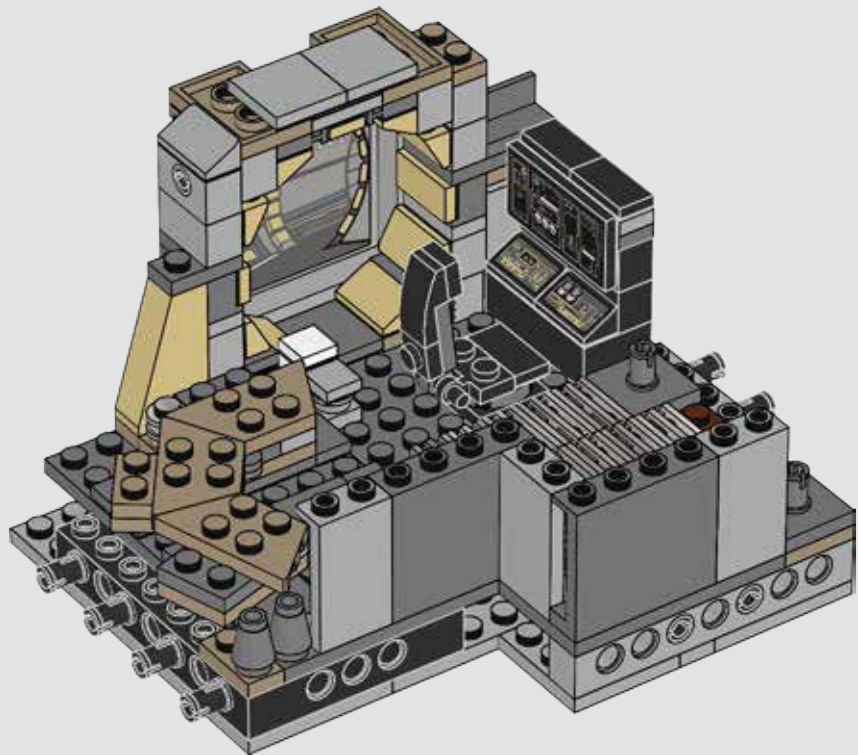


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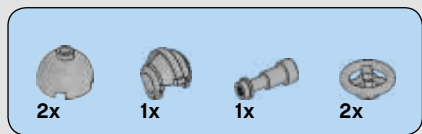
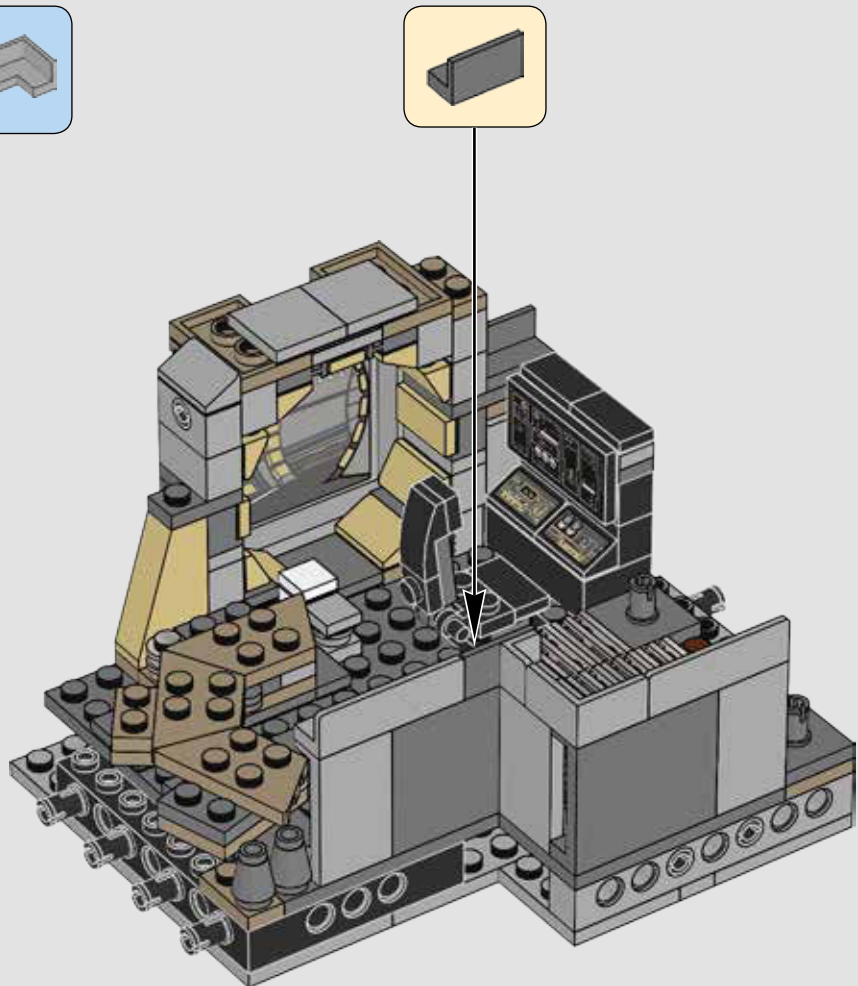




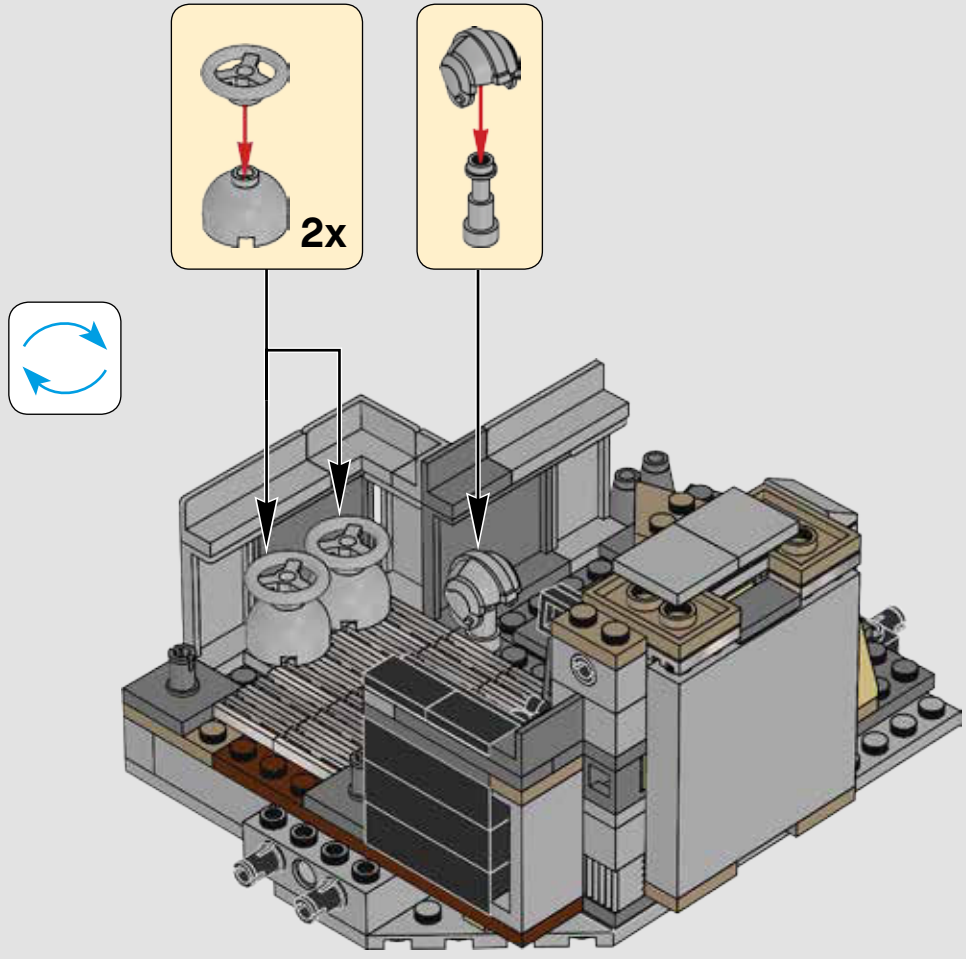
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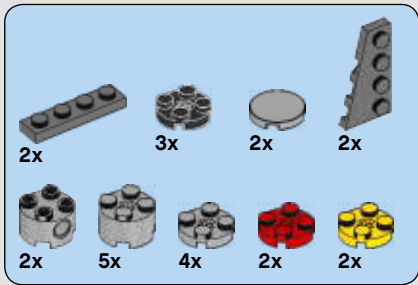


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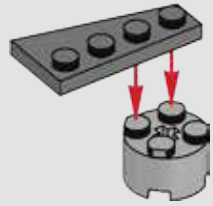
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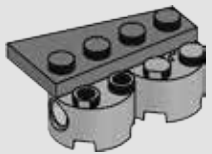


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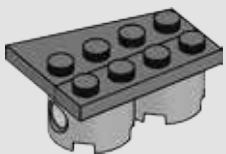
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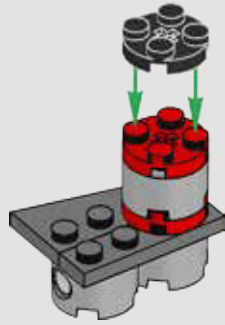
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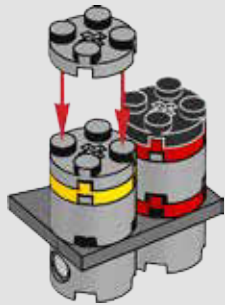
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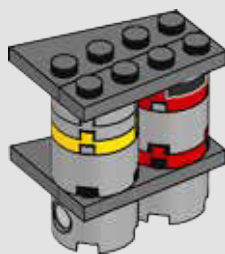
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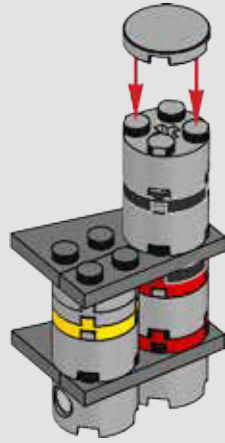
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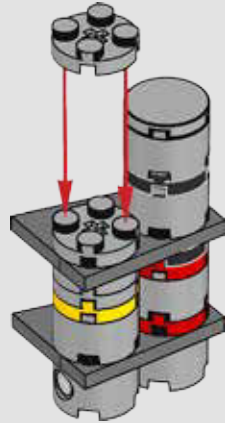
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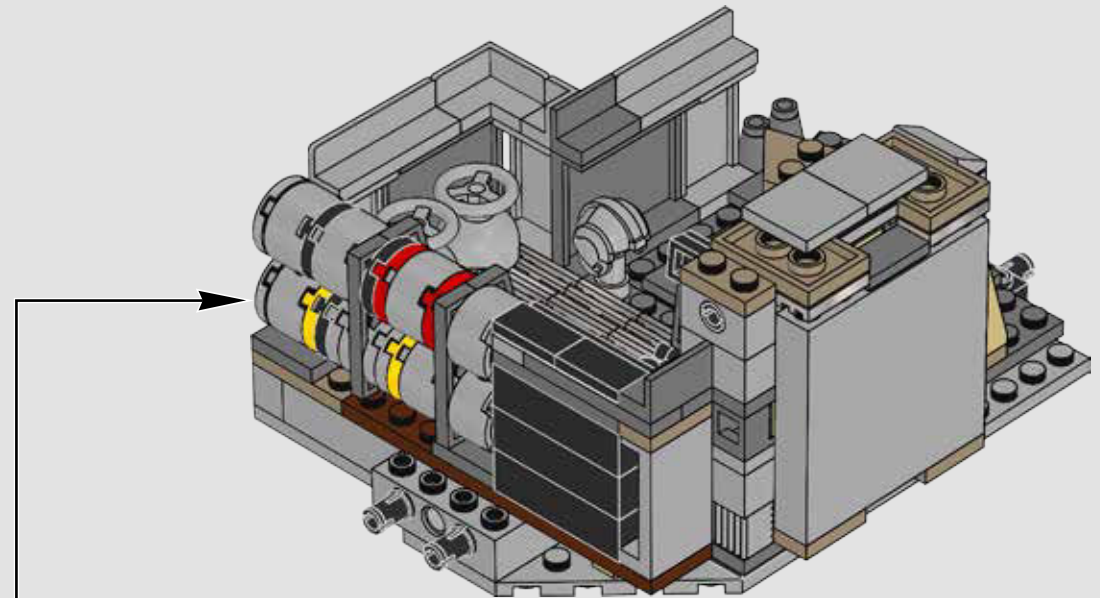
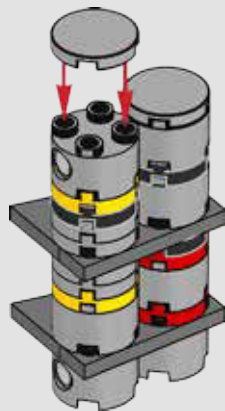
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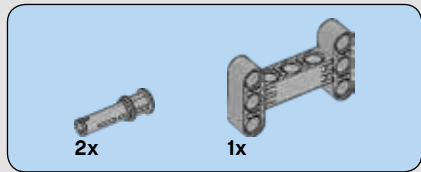


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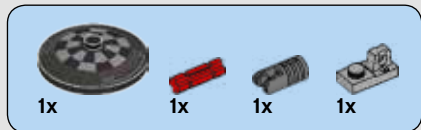
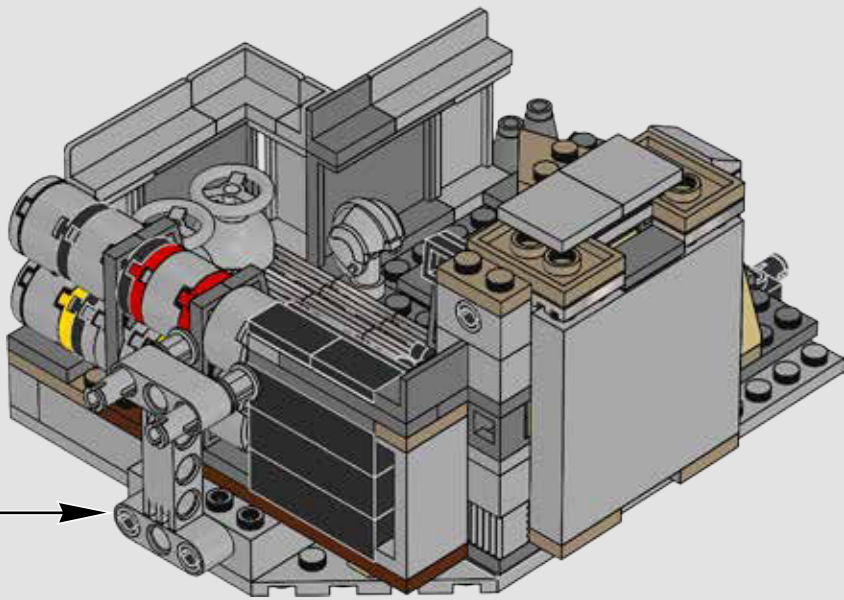
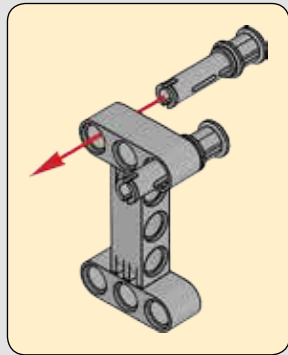


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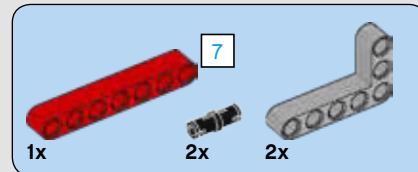
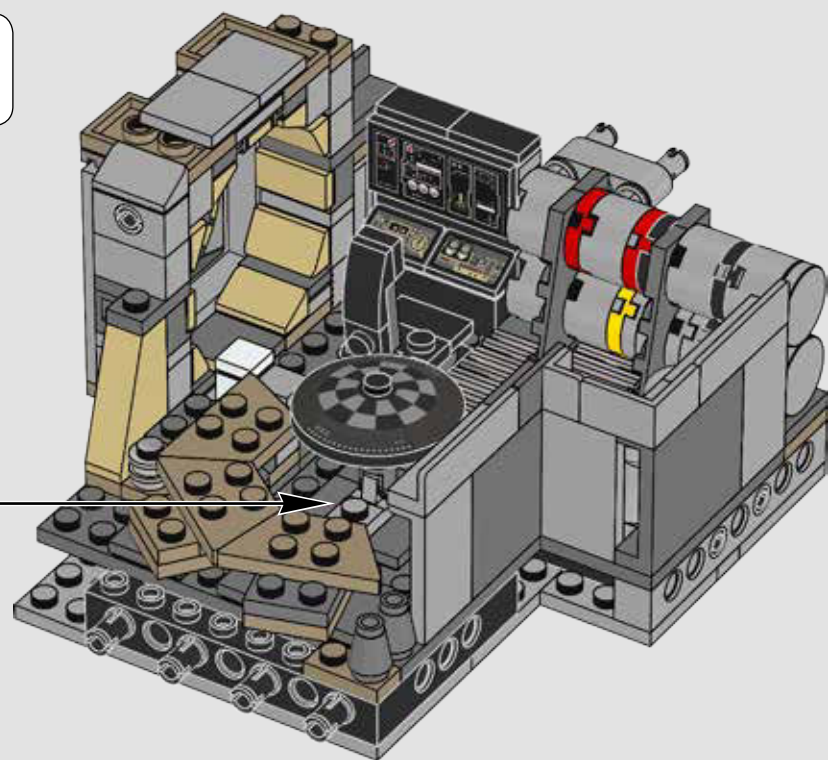
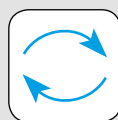
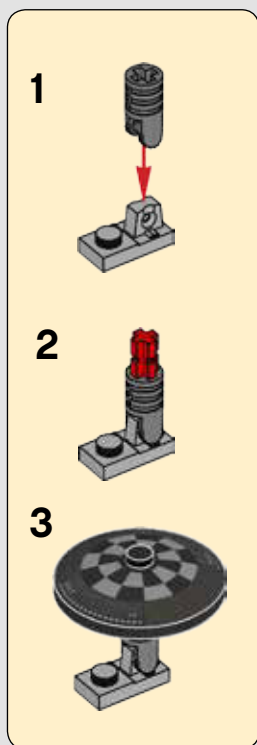




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