

May 2010

Young Military Modeler

Figures Special

Volume 1, Issue 2



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Welcome to the second issue of the Young Military Modeler. We hope you enjoy this issue and learn something as well. As editors we would like to give a big thank you to all that contributed articles in this magazine and the first, without them we could never have got started. This issue is a figures special which means you will learn more about figures and it will include one or two step-by-steps on painting figures. If you would like to contribute an article there is more information on page 14.

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Brands

Airfix- Airfix is probably the cheapest brand on the market, you get what you pay for. The kits are often off scale and the pieces don't fit together well. Good for beginners as they are simple.

Hasegawa- These kits are detailed with lots pieces. Definitely one of your best buys on the market.

Italeri- Italeri models are a little over priced for what you get. The next level up from beginner. Their figures are very good .

Revell- A bit expensive, but you are getting a good model with a large range to choose from.

Trumpeter- Very reasonably priced kits with lots of detail and all the pieces fit together perfectly. The best kits I have ever done.

By Andrew Besuyen age 12

Types of Figures

Many brands make figures below I will give you the name of the brand and the kind of figures they make:

Airfix- Airfix have a fairly large range of figures mainly World War II but also gladiators, cowboys and even Robin Hood. Their figures are not too bad but they can be off scale. They are cheap so are good for beginners.

Hasegawa- You don't see many Hasegawa men kits though I have only made one so I can't guarantee the accuracy of this article. The kit contained a small number of men, 27 (most kits have 48) these men were complicated as on some of them you had to glue on the arms or legs which in some cases didn't work very well this may not be the case on all kits I am not sure. There were quite a few accessories like logs and a few special bases for some men to go on. The men themselves had very good detail so I would recommend them, but they are not the best value for money if you are looking to get as many men as possible.

Italeri- Italeri have a very good range of all kinds of historic figures particularly Napoleonic and WWII. I would highly recommend them as they are one of the most detailed and you have the largest range for a reasonable price.

Revell- I haven't bought and painted a Revell kit so I can't tell you what they are like but knowing Revell they should be fairly good detail.

Airfix 1/72 U.S. Marines

In WWII the U.S. marines were a key part in the Pacific War against the Japanese Imperial Army in the Philippines. By the war's end the U.S. marines had grown from about 8,000 men to 485,000 marines. This kit has reasonably good poses but the detail and molding are poor. I do like the dinghy in the kit though!

Sorry I can not provide a photo for this step as the one I took has been lost during the process of writing this article.



Step 1

You start with painting the body and arms Humbrol 72 Khaki Drab.

Step 2

Paint the legs, helmet and rifle 118 U.S. tan (cinda suits doesn't it) and paint the belt 29 Dark Earth.

Step 3

Paint the face and hands 61 flesh and do the boots 29 Dark earth.



Step 4

If you want to go into detail you can paint the metal on the rifle 53 Gun metal and the water canister 72 which I have already done.

Step 5

Touch ups if you have been over any lines or have made any obvious mistakes now is the time to fix them up.

Step 6

To simulate grass paint the figures base 30 Dark green or any other grass green you may have.

1/72 Italeri German Elite Troops

This is an extremely nice kit it is a little bit pricey at \$18 dollars a box compared to Airfix at \$12 but is worth it. The kit has 48 men with 16 different poses and 3 of each man. In my opinion the best poses are the Panzershrebs, the



machine-gunners and the generals. On the back it shows the camouflage pattern for the figures. It is Humbrol 118 U.S. tan on the top and helmet with either 123 Extra dark sea grey or 91 Black green. It had large spots of 91 Black green and smaller spots of 30 Dark green on top of the larger spots. All in all it is a well detailed kit with great poses.

By Nicholas Besuyen

Wehrmacht Workhorse(s)

1/72 Italeri German Infantry

This set by Italeri contains 50 figures with 15 different poses over 2 sprues. They appear to have all of the correct baggage, and correct weapons including 3 men with Panzershrek rocket launchers. Some of the detail is a bit sketchy, but nothing a no.11 knife won't fix. All in all this kit is ideal for war gaming and dioramas if you are prepared to pay the slightly higher price.

Hamish McDowell age 13

WWII Airfix 1:72 Italian Infantry

The 1:72 Airfix Italian infantry is not the most exciting of kits. The moldings are crisp and there are forty eight figures with only seven poses including two officers. The poses are your usual but with walking and marching figures. The one bad thing with Airfix figures is they don ' t give you painting instructions. I painted mine with a uniform of 96 RAF Blue the rest is self-explanatory.

By Andrew Besuyen age 12

The New Face of Airfix

1/72 GMC 353 Truck (Red Ball Express)

Over 80,000 of these trucks were produced and many made their way to Europe after D-Day to act as supply vehicles. This Airfix kit is a gun truck version, and actually is a 1/72! The

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moldings are crisp, and it comes with clear headlights and windows. The model went together well, the only problem being the fit of the drive shaft. Actually the kit has a full undercarriage excluding the engine. I painted Humbrol 85 coal underneath, the tires, the interior and the gun ring. I painted my customized replacement man, as the kit supplied man is severely under scale. Then I painted the body of the truck 159 khaki drab and the deck 27004 metal cote gun metal. I applied the decals, which are awful, and added a US flag from the spares box. Then I dry brushed the whole model 94 brown yellow, and it was finished. The kit was good, but not ideal for beginners.

Hamish McDowell



German Night Fighter

Italeri Dornier-217 J1/J2

Nachtjäger



The Dornier Do 217 was the more powerful version of the Do 17. With Germany under night time attack by the RAF and because Germany didn't have enough night-fighter versions of the Bf 110 or the Ju 88 the Germans decided to make a night-fighter version of the Dornier. It appeared to be a effective night-fighter but it received criticism from its crew because it was too heavy. It had four nose machine guns MG 17's one turret and one gun on the bottom of the fuselage.

This kit looks quite good, one thing I am pleased with is that I get four spare machine guns and two spare pilots. The kit starts with the cockpit this is simple, the control panel decal stays on with a bit of

decalfix. Next is the turret it is easy only it says the machine gun is piece 25 but it is piece 8. After this you put together the fuselage, this doesn't work well because the turret doesn't fit and has to have a lot of work done to make it fit but it still won't turn well. After all this the tail wings are put together, the nose glued on, the instructions say to put on the wind screen on but I don't to save to it from unwanted paint, I masked and painted it though. Then after the paint had dried I peeled back the masking tape to reveal that the paint had gone through so I scraped off the paint to make the wind screen to look OK but not very good. Later I saw some fine print on the masking tape saying "Please test on a inconspicuous area first before using" if I had known that I wouldn't have bought the stuff. Next engines go together in five steps the wing are then made including separate flaps which I made to look like the plane is rising the engines are glued on to the wings. The instructions don't give you options to have the wheels up so I changed it so it could with the wheels flaps up the wings are glued on. The final step is gluing on the radar and machine, the instructions say to glue on eight machine guns but I would only glue on four for a more historically correct plane although I didn't do this because I didn't know it at the time.

Painting

The paint job I choose was of a Do-217 J-2 in February 1943 it consisted of a top camouflage pattern of 30 Dark Green and 123 Extra Dark Sea Grey with a 64 Light Grey base doing it in this order I finished the first coat then I planned on starting the propellers when I happen to drop the plane on its nose and broke off three of the four radar and had to re glue them so the radar now look wonky. Next I painted the radar



53 Gun metal, the machine guns were the same. The propellers were 33 Black with 24 Trainer Yellow tips and 64 Light Grey cones. The air intakes on the engines I painted 113 Rust. With touch ups on the top and bottom of the plane I was very near finishing. As the painting was finished I began adhering the decals these went on smoothly and were completed quickly. The final step was gluing on the windscreen, this was where I hit a problem. In short the windscreen didn't fit, and no

matter what I did it still wouldn't fit, this was because I had glued the control panel to high. I couldn't fix it so I had to leave it but a least the turret on the bottom of the plane fit well. This model was not the best of models but worth doing although I wouldn't recommend it for beginners.

By Andrew Besuyen

Mortar Firing Monster

1:72 scale Trumpeter “Sturmtiger” Assault Mortar (early type)

Recently I have bought two Trumpeter kits the first a KV2 went together really well so I was looking forward to the next. After opening the box and scanning over the parts of the second kit a Sturmtiger it looked like I was in for another great Trumpeter build.



In September 1943 plans for the Sturmtiger also called Tiger-Mörser, Sturmmörser Tiger and Sturmpanzer VI were made. It was armed with a 380mm naval mortar and mounted on a Tiger I chassis. As it was built for street fighting it had to have thick armour the tank had 15cm armour on the front and 8cm on the sides and rear. It saw service in the Warsaw uprising (the Polish resistance trying to liberate Warsaw) and the Ardennes Offensive or the Battle of the Bulge. There were seventeen produced.

The kit started with, as usual the wheels. There is four layers of wheels on the tank. Everything had been going smoothly when disaster struck, OK it wasn't that bad but at the time it was. Another piece in the instructions had blocked the picture of one of the sticks that the wheels glue onto so I had glued one side of the wheels wrong and by now I was on the third layer. So I prised them all off and started all over again. The next step is to make the rear panel this has quite a few pieces, two exhausts, four pipes, exhaust covers, a jack (a really small thing that wouldn't much use on a tank this size) and a few other pieces. Step 7 is the assembly of the turret, well not the turret but the bit the gun or mortar comes out of. This includes the crane, I am not on very good terms with the crane as it broke on me three times and is very hard to glue together. Then the back of the tank is made and glued on. After this comes the gun and as usual it fits together perfectly. The tracks are now stapled because they won't glue and the staples are painted 33 Black. The last step is the gun, top and bottom pieces coming together, add a couple of other pieces and the construction is complete.

Painting

The instructions say to paint the model all over 93 desert yellow but I decided I wanted to paint it winter camouflage, so onto Google Images I went. After searching for awhile I found the camouflage I was looking for. The pattern was overall 156 Dark Grey II with 34 White sponged on all over top of the 156. This creates a very nice snow effect. Once I had done this I painted the tools, gave the tank some chips with a fine paint brush and put on the tracks which I had left off to stop myself getting paint

on them. I also blackened the muzzle and exhaust. To finish it off I sponged on 29 Dark Earth where mud would be, this looks good against the white camouflage. I was pleased with the completed model and can't wait to build another in the trumpeter range.

By Andrew Besuyen age 12



Terrifying Torpedo Bomber

Airfix 1/72 Bristol Beaufighter TF.X

The Beaufighter was designed in 1938 as a two engine long range heavy fighter for the British air force. Already heavily armed with cannons and machine guns, Coastal Command 's anti-shipping Beaufighters were further enhanced with the ability to carry torpedoes, bombs or rockets. 5,900 Beaufighters were built and were a devastating strike force against the axis navy.



This model started with putting the fuselage together, it is a nice shape but it glued with a gap along the top which I filled with plastercine. Next were the wings. They fit together really well for an Airfix model but when it came to getting them connected to the fuselage it was horrible I had to strip a lot off to get them on. While the wings were gluing together I built the engines. One went well and the other didn't, one propeller went round and the other did not. After that I painted the pilots they were Humbrol 24 trainer yellow for the life jackets, 96 R.A.F Blue for the uniform, 118 for the flying cap, 61 flesh for the hands and face and 33 black for the boots. Also remember to paint the rockets and/or torpedo before you stick them on. To make it look as if it had been in a battle I left one rocket out when I connected them to the rack. Now connect the aerial. Now that all the pieces are in place I started painting. It was a reasonably simple paint job with 96 R.A.F. Blue on the top and 64 Light Grey on the bottom. Under the tail wing on the side of the plane paint 64 Light Grey to get these lines straight use some masking tape. Paint a ring of 118 Rust on the edge of the engine and paint the inside of the engine 123 Extra Dark Sea Grey. For the propeller do 33 Black



and 24 Trainer Yellow tips. The decals were horrible, first I put them in the water then you heard a hiss and the decals fell apart. I don't think that all these models are like this though and my brother Andrew thinks that the decals may be just old. This was a pretty average model and I would be reserved in buying another one.

By Nicholas Besuyen

Bunker Busting JagdPanzer

1/72 Dragon Jagdpanzer IV 1/48

early production



The Jagdpanzer IV was the up-gunned and armoured tank destroying cousin of the Panzerkampfwagen IV. They mainly

served in Europe after the Normandy invasion. The first thing you notice as you open the box is the plethora of parts. The kit contains 140 parts, many of which are used, and it includes photo etch track guards. The tank literally fell together, the only problem being the fit of the gun mantlet to the elevation adjustment. If I told you every detail of the painting it would take all day, so here is a simplified account. first I coated the whole model with a black primer. then I used 2 coats of Humbrol 94 brown yellow on the upper hull. I did a rust (62 leather) and exposed metal (11 silver) on the tracks (which I forgot to mention, the dragon ds vinyl tracks are excellent) road wheels, idlers and exhaust. I then painted the tools, added a spare machine gunner, and applied squiggles of 159 khaki drab. to finish off the model I added decals for the 116. pz. div. Normandy, 1944, and I added a wash of 62 leather. I

would recommend this kit for more experienced modelers, due to the size of the parts.

SCENERY SOLUTIONS

What you need:

Turf product (any sort)

PVA

Old paint brush

Paint

Lichen and rocks (optional)



First paint your terrain green or brown. (Brown gets the best effect) Then, using an old paint brush, thickly coat the terrain with PVA. Next get turf in a container (you need at least 2x too much) and then pour it over the glued terrain. A few hours later, once the glue has dried, tip up the terrain and shake off the excess turf (reuse this stuff, or if you just can't, I'll have it). Now if you want you can add rocks and lichen to break up the surface. This technique works on all sizes of terrain, including figure bases.

Hamish McDowell age 13

The German's Worst Enemy

The KV-2 was first designed in 1938 and entered service in 1939. It had powerful gun of 152mm and a frontal armor of 110mm. But the problem was that it was very slow, difficult to steer and had limited visibility. It

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also had the same body as the KV-1.

The kit I got was The KV-2 Late Type, scale 1/76 by Fujimi. I built the tank by first gluing the body sections together. Then I glued the wheels and the turret. then soldered the tracks together and put them on. Afterwards I put the flaps that cover the tracks on the top of the tank. Then I glued the handles on the sides of the turret and on the top.



A man did come with the set but I decided not to put him in. Then I painted the whole tank Vallejo 84 USA Uniform with spots of Humbrol 86. Then I painted Vallejo 80 Rust on the vents and tow hooks. It did not come with many decals; however it did come with some nice ones.

By Ian Bresler age 10

Achtung!

The Panzer is loose

In 1937 the first Panzer IV's Ausf A were made and sent in to service, they proved effective until 1941 when the German Army saw a problem . The Panzer I, II, III and IV Ausf A were all being out-gunned by Russian and British tanks. They didn't have time to make a whole new tank, so they decided to modify the Panzer IV Ausf A to the Panzerkampfwagen IV Ausf G. Commonly known as the Panzer IV Ausf G; this tank could knockout the T-34 and the Matilda MkII. It also mounted the new long barrel 75mm KwK 40 L/48 main gun. The tank had 80mm of frontal armour and two to three 7.92mm Mg 34 machine guns. It also had a top



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War Game Photos



The scene before the battle



The city



Birds Eye View of the Battle



French native wildlife!

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speed of 42km/h and held up to 90 rounds of ammunition.

The Panzer IV Ausf G was the second tank I bought in New Zealand, a 1:76 Airfix model. I started with the turret which was quite easy to put together, but had a bad gun movement system. So I glued it in place I then started with the base of the tank by putting the wheels on. They went on really well, except 1 or 2 that went wonky. Next, I glued the exhaust, spare fuel bottle and a piece of thread as a cable on to the back. I first glued the back then the top onto the base. I painted the tracks and around the outside of the tank wheels Humbrol 53 Gun Metal. Then I painted the whole tank a mix between Humbrol 93 Desert Yellow with Humbrol 121 Pale Stone at about a ratio of 1:2. I painted the muzzle brake, machine gun and the tip of the exhaust Humbrol 33 Black. After that, I painted the vents Humbrol 54 Brass. Next I put the decals on and painted them with decal fix. I like this tank because it is cheap but has lots of detail.

By Michael Bresler age 12

If you want to contribute articles or purchase a magazine please contact us at nickandy@paradise.net.nz. For those contributing articles please let your article have a short history a part about the build as well as something about the paint job and at the end please state your name and age with one or two photos of your model. Please also give us the following information. Price (if possible), brand, scale and exact number of pieces or 50+, 100+ etc. We will pay 20c per article over approximately 200 words anything under that the editors will choose whether or not to use it or what we will pay for it. You have to be under 17 years of age to contribute an article. And for those buying a magazine please give your name and postal details; magazines are \$3.00 each. If you have any questions please call 981-0058 and ask for Andrew or Nicholas.