

Vol. 42
\$2.95 USA

Type 166 Schwimmwagen
Western Front 1944

Step-by-Step Finishing German Armor

By Glenn Bartolotti

Complete Dio Build

[Press Here to Begin](#)

A complete Step-by-Step guide to Painting and Finishing Armor Models



Contents



1 The Kit

2 Painting

3 Weathering

4 Base

5 Foliage

6 Final Model





Tamiya 1/35 Schwimmwagen Type 166

Kit Number 35224

This kit comes in a small lid type box. The box art is in Tamiya's attractive style box arts on all their kits.

Inside the box is 2 light tan parts trees in plastic bags. Inside one of the bags holds a sheet of clear acetate that has the windshield die-cut into it and a sheet of black vinyl screen. The decal sheet, instructions completes the kits contents.

The instructions consist of a single sheet that accordion folds out into 10 pages of 6 5/8" x 10 1/4" format.

The driver figure is divided into separate torso, arms, legs, head and steel helmet. He wears his jacket completed unbuttoned, which is kind of neat.

The windshield part that is die cut into a sheet of clear acetate, the black nylon piece of screen, to use for engine air intakes and the decal sheet complete the kits contents.

In addition to the markings for the 6 schemes (mentioned above), the decal sheet also has a couple of black data plates with white lettering, that go on the dashboard, a load capacity stencil, that appeared on the side door of some Schwimmwagens (but not all) and tire pressure stencils in either black or white.

This kit is very well detailed. Parts are all crisply molded and exhibit no flash. I particularly liked the unbuttoned jacket on the driver figure.

The Kit

Painting

Weathering

Base

Foliage

Final Model



The completed Schwimmwagen with items added before painting. The stick grenades are from the Tamiya German weapon set and the panzer faust is also from the same set. The helmet is from DML.



The completed model is given a primer coat to cover and give the model a good base to start the paint process. I use a basic spray can primer that can be purchased at the local home store. This primer coat makes painting the steps much easier because you get a smooth coat of color to allow you to see all the areas that will be needed to be painted in the steps used to shade and high light the model. White or grey primer is fine.



The Kit

Painting

Weathering

Base

Foliage

Final Model



3. The first step in the painting process is the pre-shade. This is the darkest shadow color. AK4053 FRENCH BROWN is used. What you are trying to achieve in this is to make sure any areas that your light source cannot hit is painted. You are for the most part adding artificial shadows.



4. Next step in the painting process is the base coat this is the main color. TRAL 7028 DUNKELGELB (INITIAL) is used in this step.

Cover the main parts of the Schwimmwagen. Let some Shadow show though.



6. The model is now given a AK777 GLOSSY VARNISH coat only in the areas that the decals will be applied. Micro Sol was used to flatten the decals down. I used the decals from the Tamiya kit. When dry, spray the tank with AK775 MATTE VARNISH allow to dry for about 2 days. A flat finish is very important to my Step-by-Step finishing.



Next step in the painting process is the high-light. This is TRAL 7028 DUNKELGELB (INITIAL) Mixed with AK092 RAL CREMEWEISS. What you are trying to achieve is to make sure any areas of your light source can hit is painted. This step will bring out your Schwimmwagen details. Paint all the high spots, centers of any panels and the tops of objects that stand off the Schwimmwagen. Just lightly spray over the markings (decals) as you want them to show through as faded.



The Kit

Painting

Weathering

Base

Foliage

Final Model



Next step in the painting process are the tools and equipment. I paint all tools and equipment on the tank before final weathering. In painting these items study the way metal and wood looks in real life and add the colors into your paint to really get a good contrasting look and make sure you use various colors and shade as you can in each item. Most important don't paint items just one color or shade. I use acrylic paint but any paint you are comfortable with will work. The metal items are painted in shades of black, they will be treated with a metallic and rust finish later.



Next the tires are given a thin wash of AK711 CHIPPING COLOR paint thinned with acrylic thinner. The wash works well because stark black rubber is not realistic. Let wash flow all around the road wheels in the same manner. If your first pass with the wash is to light add another when dry,



The Kit

Painting

Weathering

Base

Foliage

Final Model



Next step is the wash.

I do not want the wash to coat the entire model, it is controlled just where I want it. This is sometimes called a pin wash, apply to all of the surface details to create false shadows around each one, and any excess wash is blended into the surrounding surface before drying. I streak it down the sides like it would naturally in some areas, but care should be taken not to overdo this...be subtle.

SKU: AK300. DARK YELLOW WASH
CATEGORIES: WASHES, WEATHERING EFFECTS. A wash specially designed for German Dark Yellow (Dunkelgelb), but also great for vehicles in medium tones. Just shake well before use and you can apply it directly to your model to create contrast and depth in the details. This is an enamel product and can be dissolved using our White Spirit or Odourless Turpentine.



Once the body of the Schwimmwagen wash has dried it is turned on its side and the wheels are given a wash. Leave the Schwimmwagen on its side until the wash dries then do the other side.



The Kit

Painting

Weathering

Base

Foliage

Final Model



Next step in the weathering process are the dark paint chips & scratches. I add chipped paint with AK711 CHIPPING COLOR acrylic paint and a small no. 3 brush. The key to chips are make them small and without any pattern, keeping them on the most abused edges and damaged areas. Use common sense and remember that less is more with chipped/worn areas, and think very small!



Dry dust weathering. I used pastel powder I make by sanding a pastel art stick into powder. The pastels are \$1.00 a stick at the art store and come in a large variety of shades. I use a file to grind them into powder. Apply with a dry brush. Scrub into the tires and areas that dust would gather.



The pencil is also used on the metal areas
Just highlight the edges of the shovel and
tools but not the entire metal area.



Guide Contents

The Kit

Painting

Weathering

Base

Foliage

Final Model



The Kit

Painting

Weathering

Base

Foliage

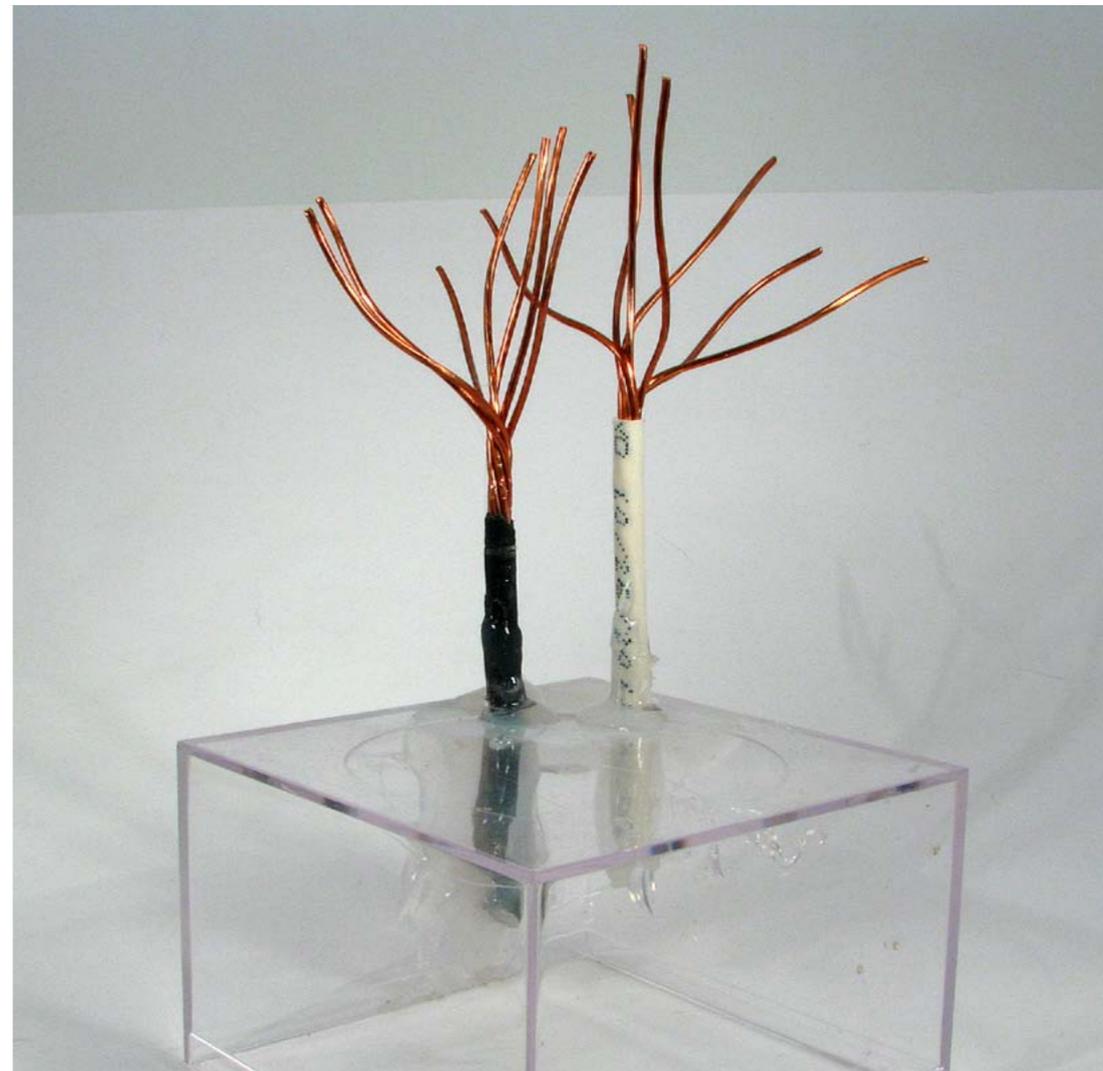
Final Model



The base is made from a plastic cube which can be purchased at most art/craft stores. If you cannot find one any base will do. Wood bases are good too.

The tree is made from heavy gauge electrical wire. I picked up a scrap piece from a hardware store.

The wire is cut to size shaped and inserted to the base through a hole. It is secured with hot glue.



The Kit

Painting

Weathering

Base

Foliage

Final Model



Next Magic Sculpt is applied to the base to create the ground work. I use a old tooth brush to texture the Magic Sculpt.



Once the ground work has dried hard Magic Sculpt is also used to finish off the detail of tree trunks. I used the tooth brush and a tooth pic and hobby knife to add the details to the tree trunk before the Magic Sculpt dries hard.



The Kit

Painting

Weathering

Base

Foliage

Final Model



While the Magic Sculpt is still drying I inserted some small gauge wire to add more branches. Small wire was also attached to the branches with super glue.



The completed trees and base are painted flat black. Notice all the extra branches added with small gauge wire.

The Kit

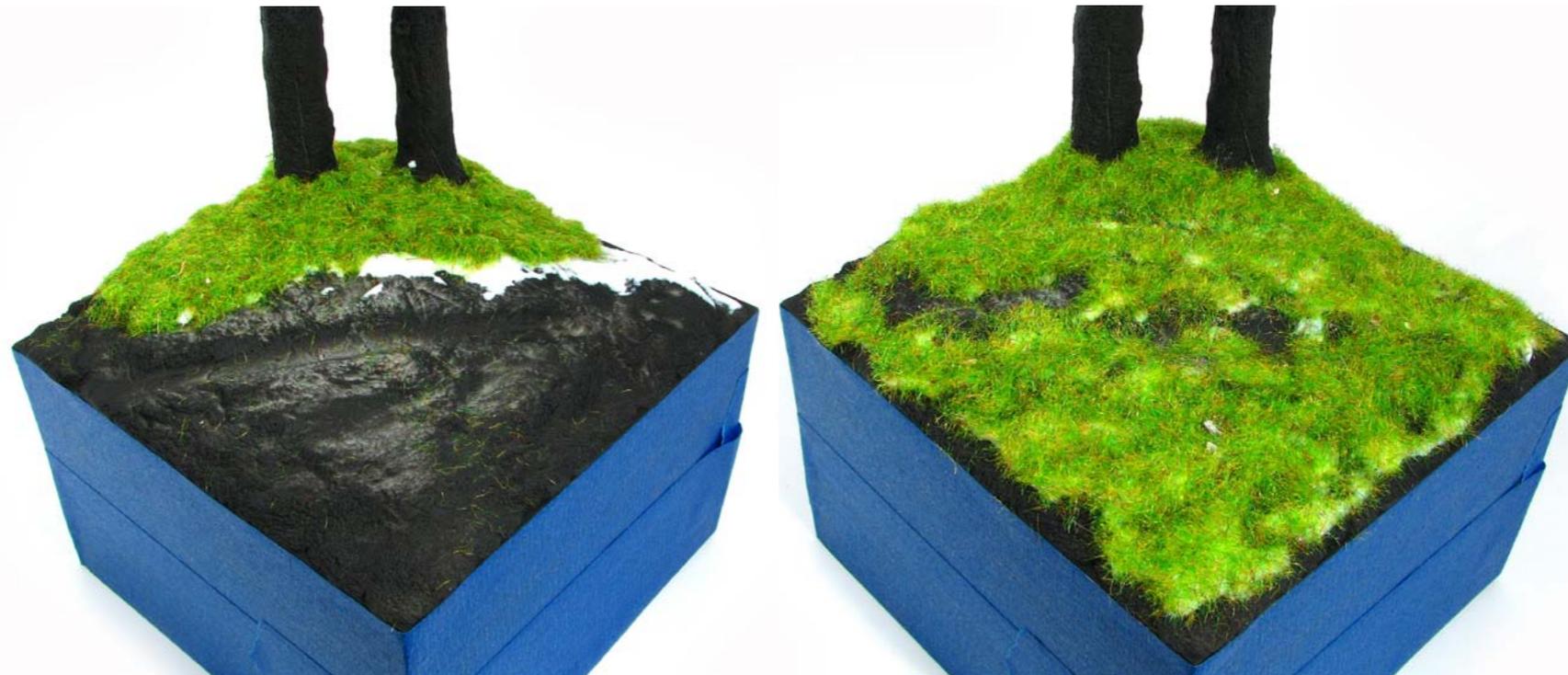
Painting

Weathering

Base

Foliage

Final Model



Static Grass Flock is now applied with white glue. The color of the grass you use does not matter because you will be painting it. Just add a small section to the base at a time. Once it is dry brush off the excess that does not adhere with a old tooth brush.

When dry the grass is airbrushed a dark green shade using acrylic paint.



The Kit

Painting

Weathering

Base

Foliage

Final Model



The trees are now painted using artist oil paint. Study the trunks of real trees to add detail and shade to make them look natural. Do not paint just one shade. the more colors you use the more real it will look.

Artist oil paint is good because you have time to blend before it dries.



Artist oil Cadmium yellow paint is used to add highlights to the grass. Just lightly brush over the grass. Do use to much paint you can always go back and add more if needed.

The earth sections are also painted using artist oil shades. Remember the more colors you used the more realistic it will look.



The Kit

Painting

Weathering

Base

Foliage

Final Model



Next I added the leaves. Hudson and Allen leaves were attached using white glue. These small scale leaves are also sold by different companies so look online for more choices.

I started by attaching one leaf at a time. This became too time consuming so I then added white glue to small section and sprinkled the leaves on the branches with the wet glue. This cut the time it took and I was finished much faster!



Guide Contents

The Kit

Painting

Weathering

Base

Foliage

Final Model



Guide Contents

The Kit

Painting

Weathering

Base

Foliage

Final Model



Guide Contents

The Kit

Painting

Weathering

Base

Foliage

Final Model



35044 SS Panzer Recon Crew Set (2 figures)
The pictures show the 2 figures with 2 different heads each.
Sculpted by Taesung Hammis / Painted by Jaume Ortiz Fornis



Guide Contents

The Kit

Painting

Weathering

Base

Foliage

Final Model

