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Humber Scout Car Mk.I
64th Anti-Tank, RA
Italy 1944



Step-by-Step Finishing British Armor

By Glenn Bartolotti

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

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Step-by-Step Finishing British Trucks

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Models and Figures



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Materials Used

The materials I use are very easy to obtain and simple to use. Most are inexpensive and found in most all art supply stores. Over the years I have learned to use these basic materials to obtain finishes that look very realistic. **Consistency** is very important and following each step is also very important to obtain the desired finish.

You will notice that in none of the steps will you see the method of dry-brushing. I do not like to use this method as some armor modelers do. I prefer a more subtle look in which I feel represents the look of a full scale armor vehicle.



*Note: Materials used for painting and weathering only.
The figure seen in some of the photos used more
paint colors than listed.*

Humber Scout Car Mk.I



Although at the outbreak of the Second World War the British Army already had the excellent Daimler Dingo, the need for scout cars could not be met by Daimler alone, so other companies were required to produce similar vehicles. One of these companies was Rootes Group, which in 1942 built a vehicle similar to the Dingo in layout.

To comply with the official requirement to keep the weight

down, the Daimler “Dingo” was open top (the Humber had an unarmoured floor).

The vehicle carried a crew of two, with an emergency seat for a third member. It was equipped with a No. 19 radio set. The armament consisted of one Bren light machine gun with a 100-round drum. A second Bren could be added if necessary. This was mounted above the roof, and could be operated from inside the vehicle using a

system looking similar to bicycle handlebars, where the “brake” levers fired the triggers of the bren/s.

Production of the vehicles continued until 1945. At least 4,298 were ordered and at least 4,102 delivered, 1,698 of them Mk I. They were used by British armoured units (e.g. the 11th Armoured Division and the Guards Armoured Division) for scouting and liaison and were generally considered less

capable and reliable than the Dingo. A number of vehicles were given to the Polish II Corps and the 1st Czechoslovak Armoured Brigade. After the war, the vehicle was used by some European armies. Belgian police continued to use the car until 1958.

1



1. Humber Scout Car Mk.1
Bronco Models Kit No. CB-35009
1:35 Scale The Bronco kit has 239 parts in olive drab plastic, 5 vinyl tyres, a fret with 75 etched parts with a small clear part for the windscreen and a short length of tubing for the engine plumbing plus the decal and instruction sheets. As a bonus there is a full resin Commander figure posed standing in the open top hatch.
Detail on the kit is excellent with fine weld seams on the hull and good definition overall as well as things like the fenders edges being moulded extremely thin. The weapons in particular are very well done and are not over scale with excellent detail on the top mounted Bren Gun and the additional .303 Lee Enfields, Thompson and Sten Mk.2 which comes with alternate stock for the initial Mk.2 and the later Mk.2 second pattern.



2



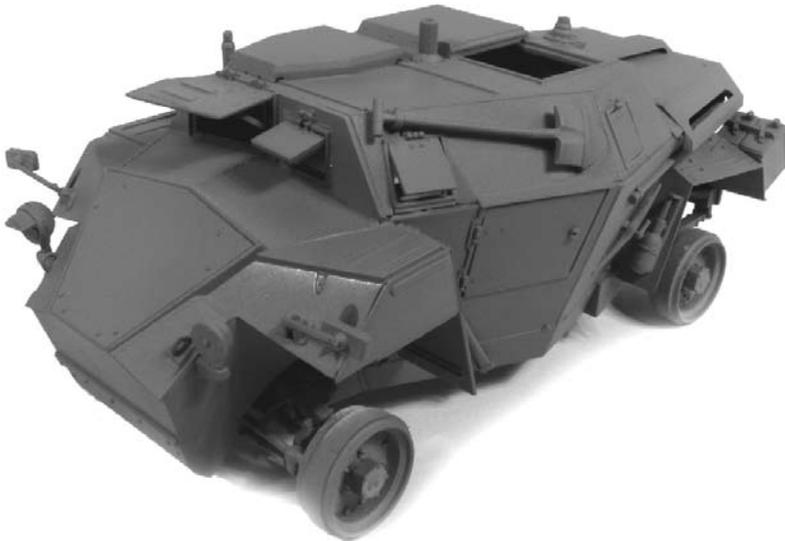
2. The first step in the construction painting is the interior. I have masked off the body sides and painted the interior Flat White. My Humber will have most of its hatches closed so it will be very difficult to see inside. For this reason I did not pay attention to detail painting the interior. Paint the interior as you wish after this stage.

3



3. The tires come molded in rubber. Painting rubber sometimes causes problems with paint adhering to them or later cause the rubber to crack. I use a rough cloth like denim to rough up the rubber by buffing them on the cloth. This takes the shine out of the rubber.

4



*4. The model is given a **primer coat** to 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.*

If any of your have purchased any of my other Step-by-Step armor finishing lessons you will see I paint with 90 to 100% of the model assembled.

5



5. Next step in the painting process is the **base coat** this is the main color. 2098 Afrika Khaki Braun is used in this step. This paint is used as I feel it is a better shade than what was called out in the instructions because the later high-lighting and weathering processes will change its shade anyway.

6



6. Next step in the painting process is the **high-light**. This is the main color, 2098 Afrika Khaki Braun mixed with 2142 Flat White, mix 3/1 to lighten the base color. You want to add enough white to alter the base color and contrast is important in this step. 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 tank's details. Paint all the high spots, centers of any panels and the tops of objects that stand off the tank. Once again contrast is important!

7



7. Next step in the painting process is the **hard edge camo color**. After studying the reference I concluded that the camo looks to be a hard edge hand painted scheme. I first sketch out the pattern with a pencil.

The bulk of the pattern is air-brushed with Model Color Vallejo black 70950 but any good **acrylic paint** like Tamiya or Testors can be used. This is used because it will not lift the Base Coat which is enamel paint. I like the Vallejo paints because they leave no brush strokes.

Once you have finished air-brushing, I used Vallejo black 70950 and brushed the edges of the camo to give the hard edge. The paint will blend in when dry. Thin it with water so it flows and you can use a few coats if needed to cover correctly.



8



8. The model is now given a Testors clear gloss coat only in the areas that the **decals** will be applied. The decals that came with the kit are used.

Micro Sol is used to set and flatten the decals. When dry spray the tank with Testors clear flat.

9



9. After the markings have dried completely the next step in the painting process is the fading. Fading helps tie the colors together, tone down the markings and get the Humvee the look that it has been in the elements. 2102 Afrika Braun mixed down with Testors airbrush thinner 10/1 are used for this. Set your airbrush at a high pressure so it almost dries after contact, making passes over the entire model, tracks and all. 2102 Afrika Braun was used to give a sandy appearance.

The more passes you make the more it will fade the paint. This step really ties things together and smooths out the hand painting!

Note the windshield is inserted after this step with white glue.

10



10. 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.

You can see the shovel has been painted and the pick handle is being painted now.

11



11. Next step is the **wash**. First I brush the model with clean turpentine. I put a dab of raw umber oil paint on a pallet, the **oil paint is thinned with turpentine on the pallet and then applied to the model** with a small brush. 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.

NOTE: Always use clean turpentine for each step!



12. Next step in the weathering process is the **worn paint**. Photo on the right shows worn paint effects with 2098 Afrika Khaki Braun... think very small!

12



Next step in the weathering process are the dark **paint chips & scratches**. I add chipped paint with raw umber oil 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. On older damaged areas first paint the chip with burnt sienna, then add the raw umber inside the chip so the sienna borders the umber. Use common sense and remember that less is more with chipped/worn areas, and think very small!

13



13. Next step is the **effects**. I use heavily thinned white mixed with naples yellow artist oil paint to give flat areas of the tank a look as though water that has mixed with dust and dried on the surface. In this case it will fade the paint as the sun does very fast in the desert.

I paint the area with clean turpentine as before. I put a dab of oil paint mixture on a pallet, the oil paint is thinned with turpentine on the pallet and then applied to the model with a small brush as dots. Blend in with clean turpentine being very subtle as you go over the model. Allow this to drain down the sides as it would in real life.

Make sure you diluted the mixture heavily with turpentine.

NOTE: Always use clean turpentine for each step!



14. I used pastel powder I made 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.

A final dusting of earth colored pastels that I ground into powder are brushed into the parts of the Humber to simulate the dust. **Apply the pastels dry.**

Do not over do the pastel dust, start with very little until you get the desired amount!

14



Use a Q-tip to wipe the pastel powder off leaving the dust in the cracks and recesses just like real dust and dirt.



Figure is from Tamiya. I used a Hornet head but sculpted the beret using magic sculpt. He was painted in Acrylic paints

Finished Model



Finished Model



Stay Tuned!

Be on the look out for more Step-by-Step Armor Finishing!



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