

Vol. 29

\$ 1.95 USA

Citroën

Russia 1943

Step-by-Step Finishing German Armor

By Glenn Bartolotti



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



I modified the airbrush bottle syphon to fit Testors Model Master paint jars and Tamiya jars so I can spray the paint directly from the bottle without having to mix in a new bottle.



Materials used for painting and weathering. In this Step-by-Step Acrylic paints are used to paint the model showing the same results can be achieved with enamel or acrylic paints!



I use a basic single action airbrush. Nothing special.

Citroën

Founded in 1919 by French industrialist André-Gustave Citroën (1878–1935), Citroën was the first mass-production Car company outside the USA and pioneered the modern concept of creating a sales and services network that complements the motor Car. Within eight years Citroën had become Europe's largest Car manufacturer and the 4th largest in the world.

Logo used from 1985 until 2009
The Eiffel Tower served as a billboard for Citroën from 1925 to 1934.

Citroën earned a reputation for innovation and revolutionary engineering, which is reflected in the company's slogan "Créative Technologie". Its history of innovation began with its founding, when André-Gustave Citroën introduced the first industrial mass production of vehicles outside the United States, a

technique he developed mass-producing armaments for the French military in World War I. In 1924, Citroën produced Europe's first all-steel-bodied Citroën, the B-10. In 1934, Citroën secured its reputation for innovation with its Traction Avant, not only the world's first mass-produced front-wheel drive Citroën, but also one of the first cars to feature a monocoque-type body.[8] In 1954 Citroën produced the world's first hydropneumatic self-levelling suspension system,[citation needed] then in 1955 the revolutionary Citroën DS, the first European production Citroën with disc

brakes.[citation needed] In 1967, Citroën introduced the first swiveling headlights in several models, allowing for greater visibility on winding roads.

Many booty cars, trucks and halftracks (Citroën Kégresse P14, P17, P19) were captured and used by the Germans. The Citroën-Kégresse P19 = Ci380(f) can for example be found in the Schnelle Brigade West. Many other vehicles were produced for the Germans between 1941 and 1944 like for example : - 3700 type 23 trucks - 6000 type 32U trucks - 15300 type 45 trucks (the majority of the trucks of Schnelle Brigade West)



My Citroën represents a Car used by a PK unit documenting the action at Kursk.

1



1. The **kit** used is Citroen Traction 11CV - Staff Car
1:35 Scale Tamiya Military Model Kit: 35301

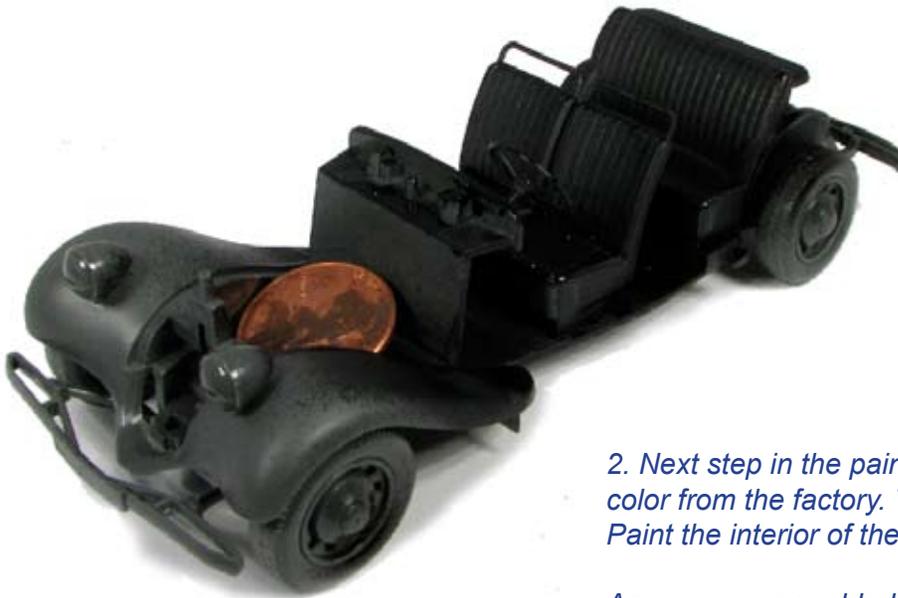


About the Model

This famous French sedan was produced from 1934 to 1957 and featured a lightweight monocoque body with a high performance torsion bar spring suspension. It also had a spacious interior and featured a front-wheel drive system and a low center of gravity. The Citroen proved to be very easy to handle and was used by the French Army, the occupying German Army, and the Free French forces. It was also used by German forces through out the European front and as far away as Russia.

- Length: 125mm, Width: 48mm.
- This is a 1/35 scale assembly kit model of the Citroen Traction 11CV.
- The elegant form of the body and fenders has been accurately reproduced.
- For easy assembly of the suspension, the number of parts is kept in check.
- You can choose to assemble either open or closed front doors.
- By assembling open front doors, you can enjoy viewing the the highly detailed interior.
- Set includes one driver figure.
- Markings for the German Army x 2, French Army x 1, and Civilian vehicle x 1 are included. (Total 4)

2



2. Next step in the painting process is the **interior** this is the main color from the factory. Testors Semi Gloss Black is used in this step. Paint the interior of the Citroen.

As you can see added a coin to the front and rear of the Citroen to add some weight to it.

3



Radome Tan

Available as:

→ Radome Tan FS33013 Acryl (F)- 1/2 oz. Bottle
 SKU# 4722 Price: USD\$ 3.69

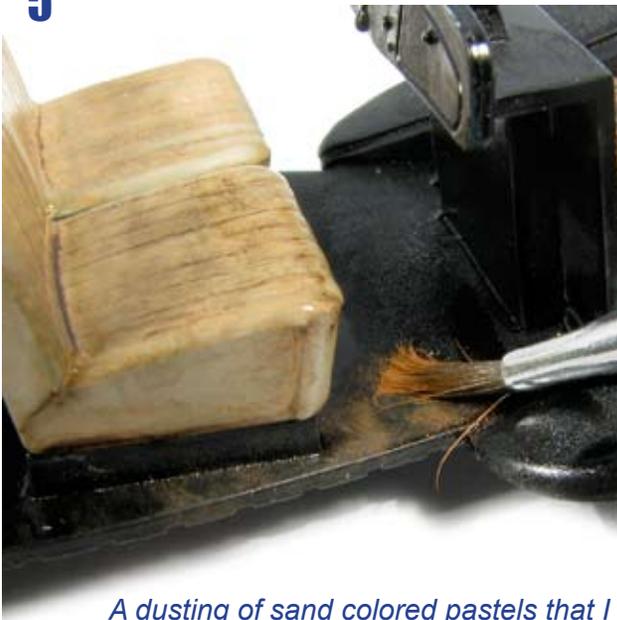
3. Next step in the painting process is the **seats**. The seats are given 2 coats of 4722 Radome Tan.

4



Next step is the **wash**. First I brush the seats of the Citroen 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 seats** with a small brush. See step 13

5



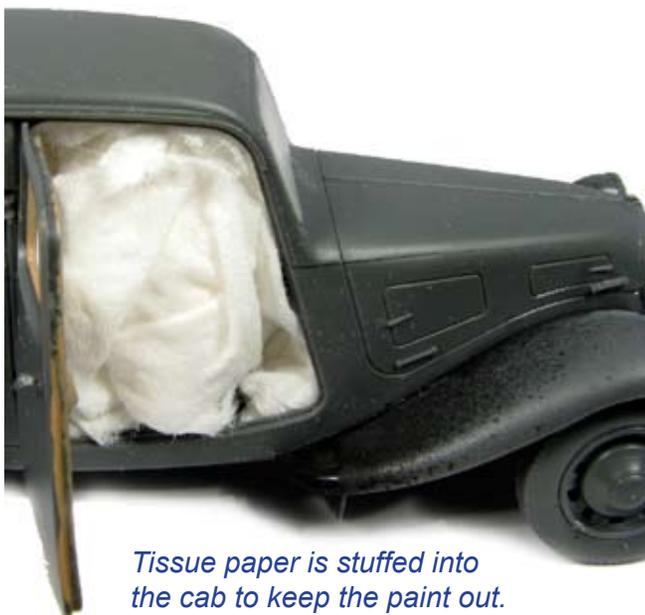
A dusting of sand colored pastels that I ground into powder are brushed into the interior of the Car to simulate weathering. **Apply the pastels dry.** See step 17

6



6. Painters tape is used to mask off the clear glas parts.

7



Tissue paper is stuffed into the cab to keep the paint out.

7. The model is given a **primer coat** to cover and protect the photo etch parts 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.



8



Burnt Umber

Available as:

→ Burnt Umber Acryl (F)- 1/2 oz. Bottle
SKU# 4605 Price: USD\$ 3.69

8. The first step in the painting process is the **pre-shade**. This is the darkest shadow color. Testors Burnt Umber 4605 is used. I painted the entire model this color.

9



Sandgelb RLM 79

Available as:

- Sandgelb RLM 79 Acryl (SG)- 1/2 oz. Bottle
- SKU# 4789 Price: USD\$ 3.69

9. Next step in the painting process is the **base coat** this is the main color. Testors 4789 Sandgelb is used in this step.

Cover the main parts of the Citroen.
As you can see you don't have to worry about being perfect just make sure you cover most of the model.

10



Sandgelb RLM 79

Available as:
→ Sandgelb RLM 79 Acryl (SG)- 1/2 oz. Bottle
SKU# 4789 Price: USD\$ 3.69



Flat White

Available as:
→ Flat White FS37875 Acryl - 1/2 oz. Bottle
SKU# 4789 Price: USD\$ 3.69

10. Next step in the painting process is the **high-light**. This is Testors 4789 Sandgelb and Flat White mix 4 to 1. 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 Citroen'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!

11



Olivgrun RLM 80
 Available as:
 → Olivgrun RLM 80 Acryl (SG)- 1/2 oz.
 Bottle
 SKU# 4790 Pri

11. Next step in the painting process is the **camo color**. Olivgrun 4790 is used. In painting this step remember that the airguns used by the crews did not cover large areas at a time so make sure your airbrush is set to do a small spray which is usually achieved by turning the air pressure lower, and making sure your paint is thinned correctly.

It is a good idea to practice first on some card stock.



The figure is from DML's Early Tiger I kit. I added the helmet and a few straps to upgrade it some. The base is made from Magic Sculpt and Static grass.

12



12. The model is now given a Testors clear gloss coat only in the areas that the **decals** will be applied. Micro Sol was used to flatten the decals down. I used some spare makings from the Italeri Opel Blitz kit. When dry, spray the tank with Testors clear flat and allow to dry for about 2 days. A flat finish is very important to my Step-by-Step finishing.

Note at this point the wipers are painted and attached.



13. Next step is the **wash**.

First I brush the area of the Citroen that will receive the wash 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.

13



Once the body of the Citroen wash has dried it is turned on its side and the wheels are given a wash. It is put on its side so the wash stays around the bolts and details not allowing the wash to drain down to the bottom of the wheels only. This gives all the wheel a even effect all around.

14



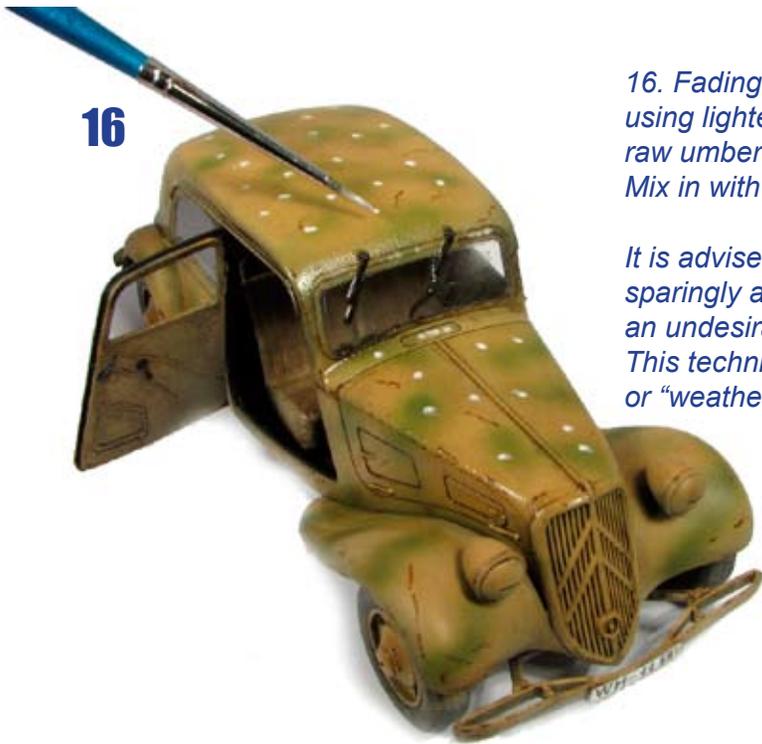
14. Next step in the weathering process is the **paint chips & scratches**. I add chipped paint with raw umber oil paint and a small brush. The key to chips are make them small and without any pattern, keeping them on the most abused edges and damaged areas. On older damaged areas first paint the chip 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!



15. Next the **tires** are given a wash of black acrylic paint thinned with water. The wash works well because stark black rubber is not realistic. Let wash flow all around the tire but not in the wheels.

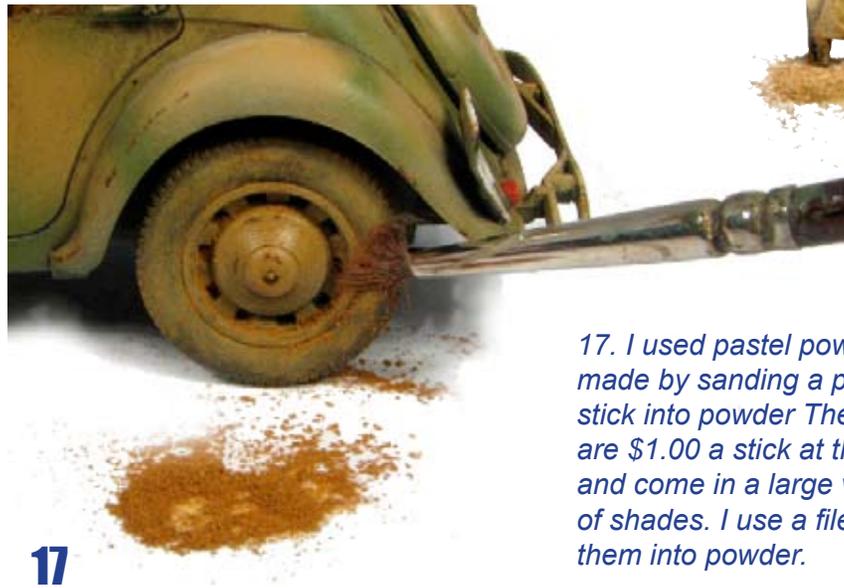
15

16



16. Fading effects of the sun can be achieved by using lighter colored dots such as white and raw umber oil paint mixed. Mix in with clean turpentine.

It is advised that white is used sparingly as this color can create an undesirable chalky appearance. This technique is termed "dot fading" or "weathering effects".



17

17. 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.



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



Finished Model



Step-by-Step Armor Finishing Sponsors



Armor Models
by Glenn Bartolotti



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Stay Tuned!

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