

**Vol. 41**

\$1.95 USA

**Type 95 “Ha-Gō”**

**Light Tank**

**North China**



# Step-by-Step Finishing Japanese Armor

**By Glenn Bartolotti**

**1/72 scale**

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

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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.



*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!*

# Type 95 “Ha-Gō” Light Tank



The Type 95 Ha-Gō also known as Ke-Goor Kyu-Go was a light tank used by the Imperial Japanese Army in combat operations of the Second Sino-Japanese War, at Nomonhan against the Soviet Union, and in the Second World War. It proved sufficient against infantry; however, like the American M3

Stuart, it was not designed to fight other tanks. Approximately 2,300 units were produced, making it the most numerous Japanese armored fighting vehicle of the time.

Type 95 proved sufficient against opposing infantry in campaigns in Manchuria and

China, as the Chinese National Revolutionary Army had only three tank battalions consisting of Vickers export tanks, German PzKpfw I light tanks, and Italian CV33 tankettes to oppose them. However, the Type 95, like the M3 Stuarts of the US Army, were not designed to fight other tanks, they were

designed to support the infantry, and due to the IJN's priority in receiving technology and steel for warship construction, tanks for the IJA were relegated to receiving what was left. By 1942, Japanese armor remained largely the same as they did in the 1930s, and were regarded as obsolete after 1941. The Type 95 was also used by Imperial Japanese Navy SNLF detachments in Pacific areas during the conflict.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

1



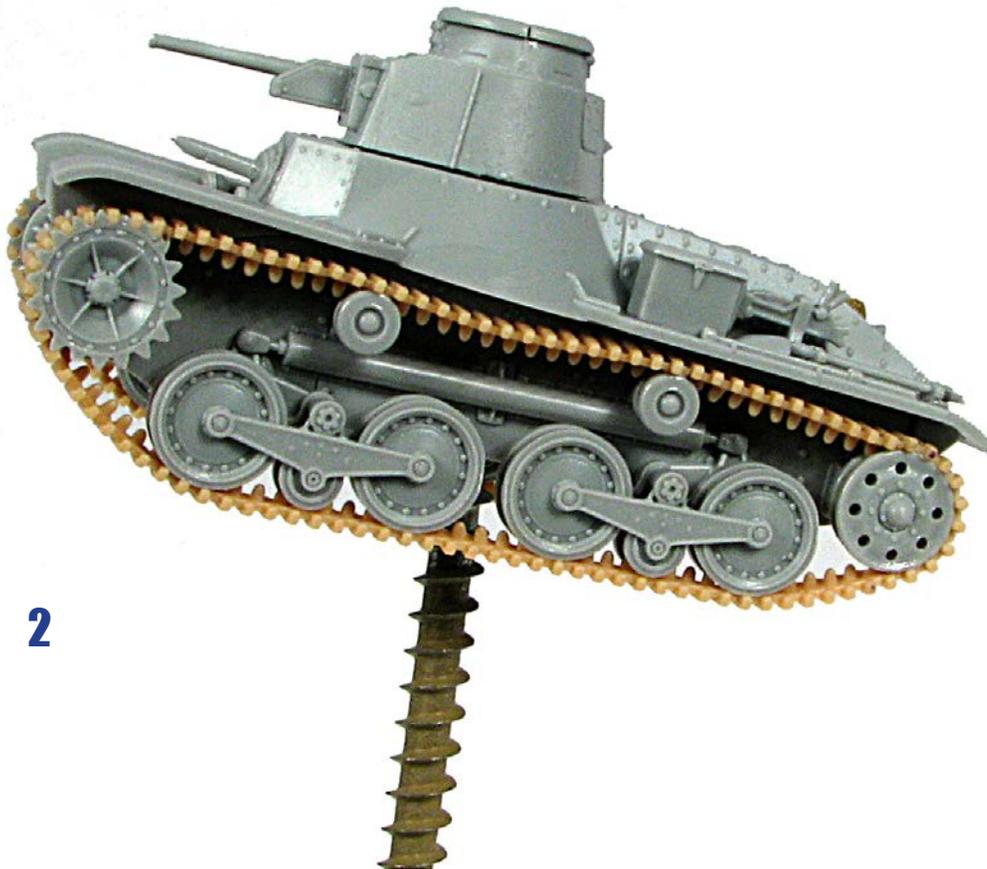
1. The **kit** used is DRA7402 Dragon Models 1/72 IJA Type 95 "Ha-Go" Light Tank, North China Version Armor Pro Series

#### **About the Model**

This is the second release of the Ha-Go. The original boxing represented a machine used in the Philippines in 1942, this one has earlier "Manchurian"-style suspension as used in northern China. The road wheels are the only parts that differ from the previous boxing, and in fact there's a large gap on the main sprue where the later road wheels would have been.

This kit is tiny, but with great small detail. In the box you get one sprue, the upper and lower hull parts, Dragon Styrene tracks, and one small brass fret with the screen which goes over the exhaust. A small decal sheet completes the package, and everything is individually bagged for protection.

2



2. To aid in handling the model during painting I drilled a small hole in the chassis and inserted a long screw.

3



### 3. **Primer coat - Base coat**

Since the model is in 1/72 scale I did not use primer as I do in most of my Step-By-Step process. This time I painted the lower part of the tank with a base coat of Testors 4768 Flat Black. This was done since the scale is smaller and with very fine detail so I did not want to put too many coats of paint on and build up paint on the model.



#### Flat Black

Available as:  
→ Flat Black FS37038 Acryl - 1/2 oz. Bottle  
SKU# 4768 Price: USD\$ 3.69



4



4. Next step in the painting process is the **base coat**. This is the main color. The model is completely air-brushed leaving some of the black primer showing through on the lower part of the tracks and road wheels..

I used Tamiya Acrylic XF59 Desert Yellow for this. I did this step first so the dark shades would be painted over the light base coat and not over the dark camo colors.

5. Next step in the painting process is the **1st camo color**. After studying the kit instructions for the camo scheme I decided to do the yellow disruptive line first. I used L5RS2003 Tamiya Acrylic XF-3 Flat Yellow for this. I did this step first so the yellow would be painted over the light base coat and not over the dark camo colors. I use a #1 flat brush. In this step it is important that your base coat has dried for 24 hours minimum. **Acrylics brush on very smooth and will dry with a flat finish and for most are much easier to hand paint.**



6. Next step in the painting process is the **2nd camo color**. The green shade of the camo pattern L5RR5903 Tamiya Acrylic XF-13 JA Green is used. I used the kit instructions and box art as my guide.



7



7. I added some high-lights to the camo shades by mixing white paint with the base camo color.

Just add a small amount of white and thin with water. Then blend into the center areas of the camo.

Here you see the green shade being high-lighted.

8



8. Next step in the painting process is the **3rd camo color**. The brown shade of the camo pattern is Tamiya Acrylic XF-9 Hull Red.

High-light the same as the green shade was.





9. The model is now given a Testors clear gloss coat only in the areas that the *decals* will be applied. The decals used are from the Dragon kit. Micro Sol is used to set and flatten the decals. When the decals dry you may have to puncture with a xacto knife blade tip any areas that don't set down and then reapply some Micro Sol.



9



The gun barrels are painted Model Master Acrylic Semi Gloss Gun Metal, Testors 4681



When dry spray the tank with Testors lusterless flat.



10. Next step is pastel pigment weathering. I use pastels in the same way you use pigments, but I make my own 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. I mix them with turpentine on a pallet and apply them with a brush. Make sure you thin the powder heavily because if not it will dry and cover to much, a little goes a long way!

The tracks get pastel washes using shades of rust, and olive green pastel powder. Apply the rust shade first and then add blotches of the brown and olive after. When the wash dries it is quite convincing giving a good representation of weathered iron. Add this same mixtures to the metal areas of the tools.

The tracks get pastel pigment thinned heavily with turpentine. **Make sure you thin the powder heavily because if not it will dry and cover to much of the tracks, a little goes a long way!**



10



The muffler guards get the same mixture of pastel powder as the tracks but with more of the rust color added.



11. Next step is the **wash**.

First I brush the area of the tank that will receive the wash with clean turpentine. I put a 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. Since this model is 1/72 scale the wash must be kept to a minimum and subdued.

Once the top surface wash has dried it is turned on its side and 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 only.



12



12. Next the **road wheels** are Painted thinned Black like a thick wash. Notice the wheel on the right has been painted. Yes I paint all the wheels on the model, if you can see it you can paint it and if you can't see it no one else can either, so you don't have to worry about behind the road wheels. Paint what you can see of the rear road wheels too. Take your time! The weathering washes will handle hiding any areas not touched or seen.

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.

13



13. 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.

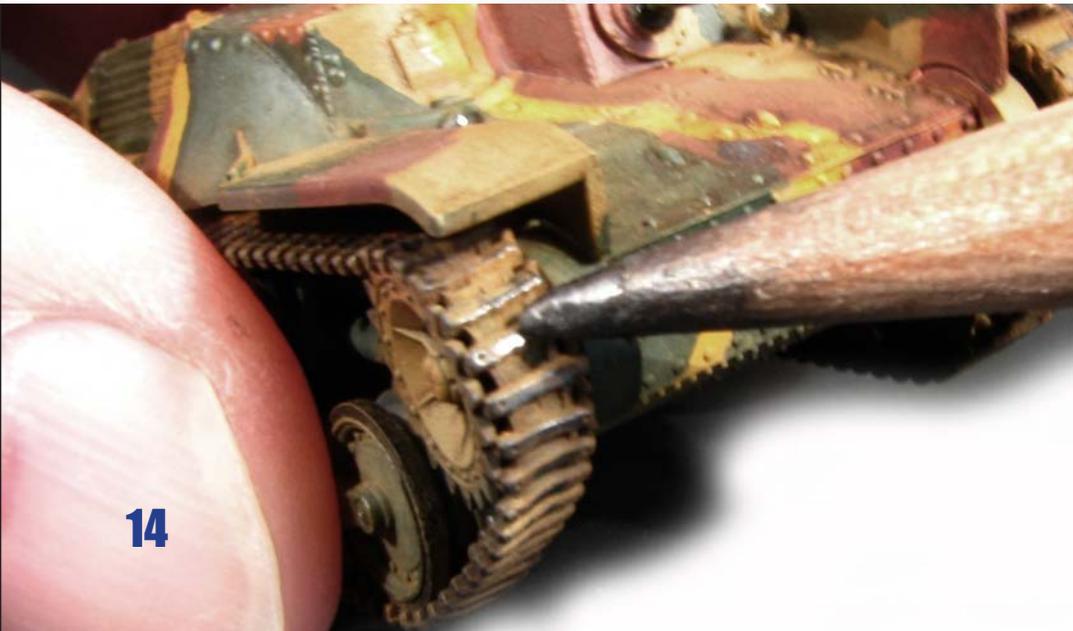
A final dusting of sand colored pastels that I ground into powder are brushed into the parts of the tank to simulate dust. **Apply the pastels dry.**

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



14. The pencil is also used on the **metal areas**. Just highlight the edges of the tracks and tools but not the entire metal area. Do the same for the drive wheel teeth.

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**1/48 scale**

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