

Sherman Tutorial

http://www.intobattle.com/Sherman_Tutorial.html

This week I decided to finally try painting some American tanks. This method will guide you through painting Sherman's to a very high standard and not spending every waking hour doing it. If you have any questions or feedback concerning this tutorial please contact me. All paints are Vallejo, except where noted.



As you can probably tell in the pictures, I tried a new style of primer for these Shermans. Rather than my usual airbrush primer application, I simply brushed on a white paint wash (2 drops of water to each drop of paint). I really didn't notice too much of a difference in the final look of the paint job, but I will say that this method is much quicker (don't have to clean up the airbrush afterwards, etc.). One coat was too light so I applied a second.

I did notice that the primer will come off very easily if you're too rough on it....so be careful after it's on there.



Your basecoat color should now be applied in a watered down wash consistency - again, 2 drops of water to each drop of paint. Base coat for these tanks is Brown Violet. Make sure to draw off the excess with a brush. I noticed that Brown Violet when left in recesses to dry changes to a bright lime green color (perhaps the pigment separating?). As long as you get all the excess this shouldn't be too much of a problem; and the wash in the next step should hide any that's left.



Mix up a black/brown wash and apply everywhere. I used 502 Abteilung oils. Pretty straightforward, all that's left are details.



Paint the details now: tools, tracks, rust stains, etc. I used Hull Red for the tracks and rust stains; Tan Yellow for the tool handles. Then dry brush your tracks with Natural Steel (or the metallic color of your preference).

Apply your decals at this stage; use MicroSol to help them fit to the contours of the tank. Once this is all dry, coat your tanks with a good coat of matte varnish. Typically I base my vehicles (see the Char B1 tutorial on how to do this) but some people don't like bases so I thought I'd try this platoon without them. I recommend another coat or two of matte varnish and then you are done!

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