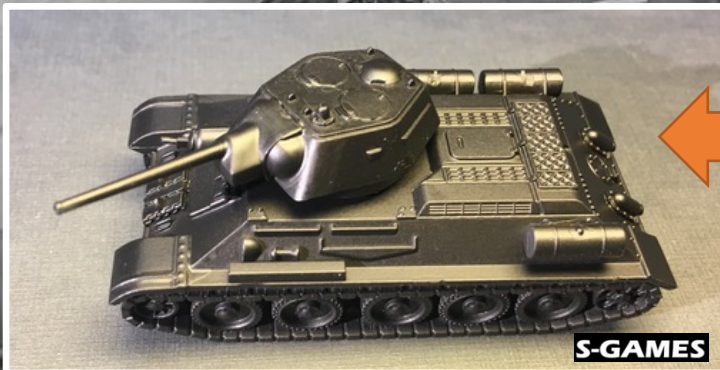
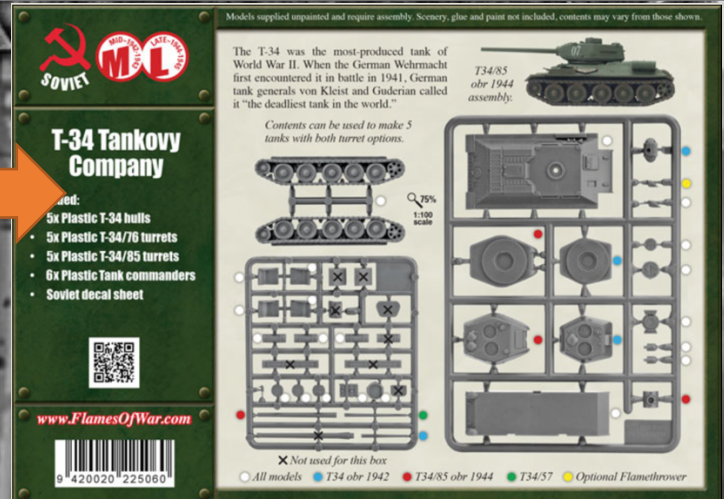


Painting guide Soviet tank «green» (MW)

This painting guide should help new players to get into Battlefront's wargame "Flames of War". I mainly use the airbrush. Well, you have never worked with an airbrush? Don't be afraid, I'm quite clumsy and I learned it quite quickly to use one. If you don't have any airbrush equipment I'm pretty sure you can lend one at your local hobby shop or at least get some information. (Any questions? Ideas? Write to me, Ben Seeling, me_109e@mac.com). P.S.: My mother tongue isn't English ... So, if you find any mistakes, forgive me.

1. Assembly

Well, I didn't take any pictures of assembling those beastly tanks here, but at the back of the box is a nice guide for that. I've used two models of Battlefront's "T-34 Tankovy Company" box. I decided to build two T-34 obr 1942 (blue marking). Unfortunately, I haven't got the new "T-34 (early)" models yet. But soon ... at least I hope so!



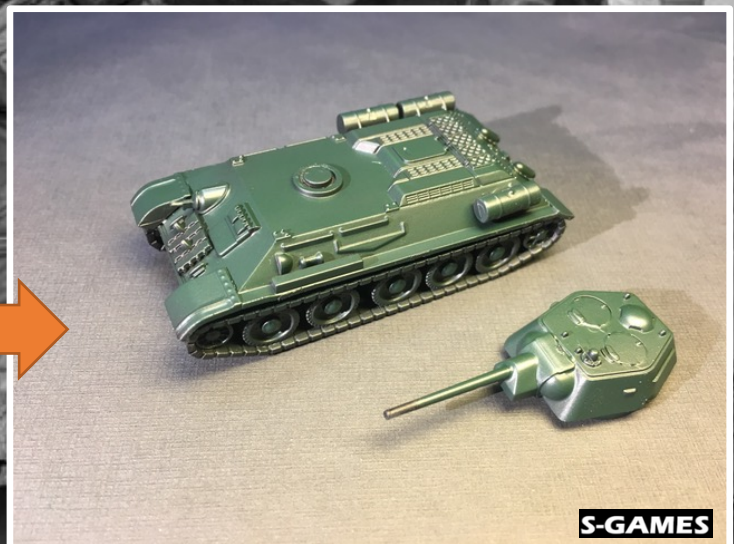
2. Priming the models

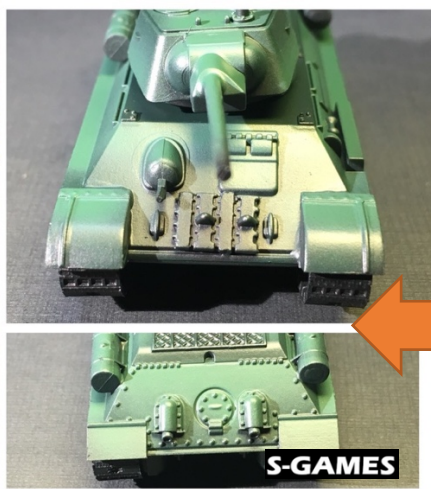
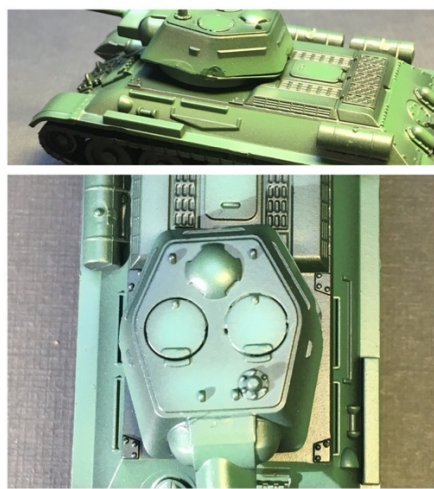
To prime our little Russian friends here, I have used "Premium Airbrush Black" (Vallejo) and applied it with my airbrush pistol (0.4mm, 2 Bar pressure). I used "Colani" of "Harder & Steebeck" but I'm pretty sure there are a lot of other good tools of other companies.

If you decide to work with 0.3mm or 0.2mm I would reduce the pressure and dilute the used color with an airbrush thinner.

3. Base color

Some time ago I bought the "Soviet Camouflages" paint set (AK interactive) with pretty cool different greens... too many greens! Which to take? Well, I decided to take a striking color! So, I took "3B AU Basic Protector" and applied it to the models, again with my airbrush. I tried to leave the grid at the back of the tank and the tracks black. That should make the impression of shadow. Well, as you can see I wasn't that successful leaving those parts black ...



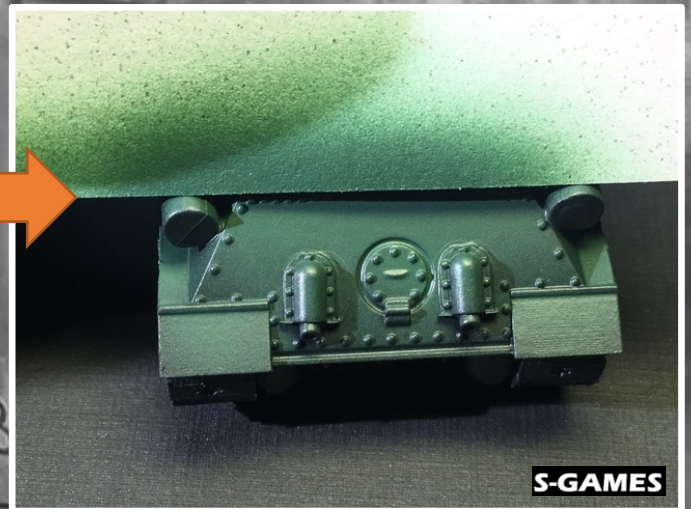


4. Highlight I

For this tutorial I highlighted twice but you can of course decide to highlight just once. However, I took some of the color of step 3 (3B AU Basic Protector) and added Pale Green (Vallejo). I applied the lighter color mix on more prominent areas. That procedure should underline the shadow effects. Color mix: 1:1

Intermezzo: „Step-modulation“

To achieve these hard edges between the two green shades you can see in these pictures, I took a business card of guys I won't call anyway. Ok ... now it gets tricky: I tried to hold the card with one hand as close as possible to an edge (example to the right) and cautiously sprayed with my airbrush right over the edge of the card. But be careful! You want to see the difference between the two green shades! Maybe practice it with your friend's models before.



5. Highlight II

Ok... once again I tried to work out some highlight as seen in step 4. This time I only took Pale Green (Vallejo), added some thinner and carefully repeated the procedure with the business card. Now it's even more tricky... because you want to see the base color, the first highlight and the second highlight! Wooaahh...



6. Tracks and wheels

This time no airbrush! I took a strong red-brown (Woodgrain, Vallejo, but Hullred is fine, too) and applied it to the tracks. The rubber tires were painted with a 1:1 mix of German Grey and Black (both Vallejo).

I really love the contrast on that picture!



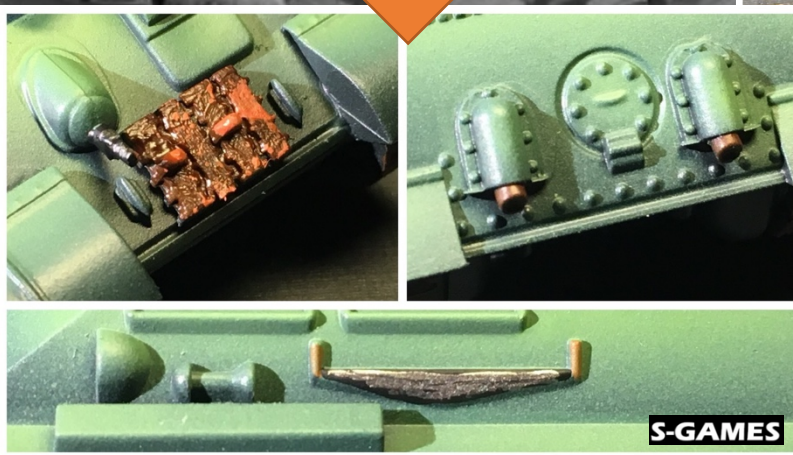
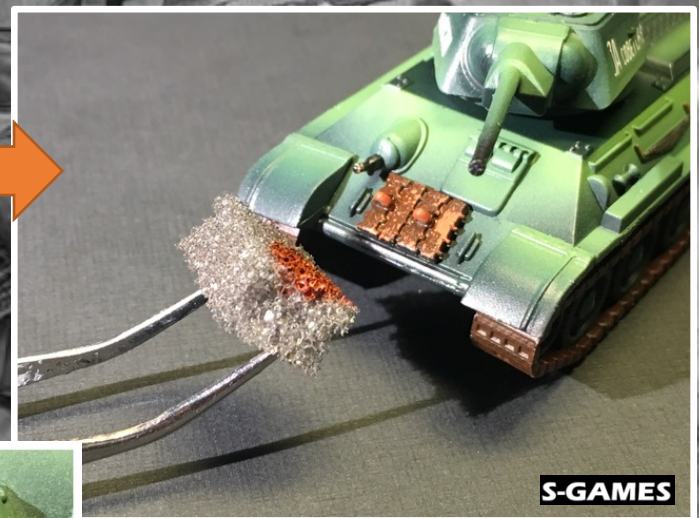
7. Decals

Yeah ... well... cut out the decals you want, soak it in water for a few seconds and apply the decal to your model. I recommend using Revell's "Decal Soft" as a kind of glue (it won't destroy the colors applied before) and a pair of tweezers may come handy, if you have got clumsy sausage-fingers like me....

P.S.: Sometimes it's a good idea to apply some glossy varnish over the spots where you want to have the decals. So, you shouldn't see the edges of the decals later.

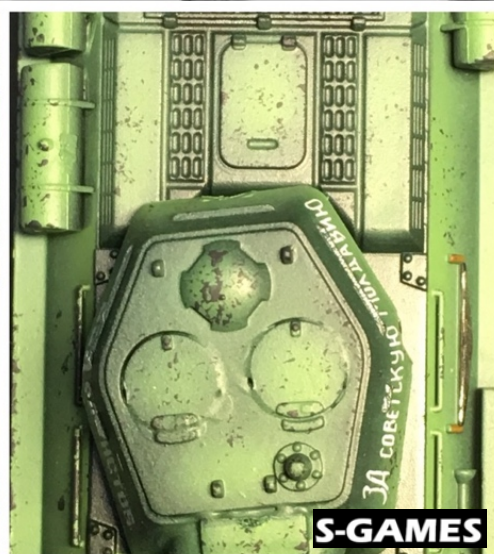
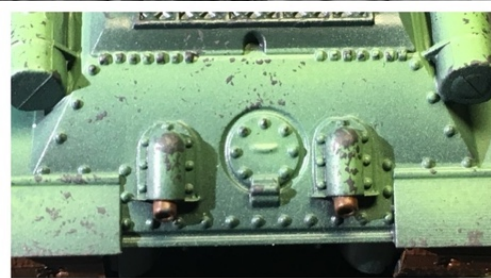
8. Tools, details

Now I worked out some details. The exhaust and the spare tracks at the front of the models were primed with Woodgrain (Vallejo). To create a rusty look, I took a bright orange (Light Rust, Vallejo) and a tiny sponge and applied it very carefully to the track. For the wooden handles of the saw I used Flat Earth (Vallejo), for the metal parts Leadbelcher (Citadel) and "washed" it with Nuln Oil (Citadel).



9. Chipping (basic)

Chipping means creating little scratches and marks of heavy wear. A more or less easy way to create those chips is, again, to use a little sponge. I dipped it in a color mix of German Grey and Black (both Vallejo), dabbed it on house hold paper and then very cautiously on the model. Again, I recommend to first try it out on your friend's model. No, don't. Just kidding.

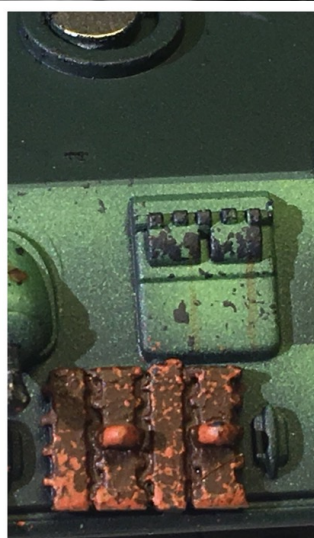


10. Streaking (basic)

When dirty water rinses down a tank it leaves behind ... well... streaks. That step is all about the basics of creating those dirty-water -running-down-your-tank-streaks!

Before we apply Rust Streaks (AK interactive) I really recommend sealing your model with satin varnish, because the streak-liquid is enamel based. That might rip off the decals or even the applied colors. Well, I tried to paint very subtle streaks vertically with a small brush and let it dry for about a minute. Afterwards I took a bigger brush, dipped it in odorless thinner and removed some excess color.

Those subtle streaks are the result. Maybe a sheet of house hold paper comes handy here.



11. Dust, mud

At the end I randomly applied Dry Dust (AK) and then Splash Mud (Vallejo) to the lower part of the model with the airbrush to create dust and mud.

Don't forget to **seal** your model! I really like an ultra-matte look!



Used colors

The colors I've used are just the colors I have got at home. There are many good brands out there.

For...	Brand	Product code	Color	Comment
Primer	Vallejo	63.020	Black	Priming by can is fine, too... I guess.
Base color	AK interactive	AK749	3B AU Basic Protector	from the Set AK 561, Soviet Camouflages
Highlight (added color)	Vallejo	71.095	Pale Green	Used pure as second highlight
Thinner	Ammo by Mig Jimenez	A.MIG 2000	acrylic thinner	I guess other thinners are as fine.
Tracks	Vallejo	70.828	Woodgrain	Any other red-brown is fine, too.
Wheels, Chipping	Vallejo	70.995	German Grey	I recommend to mix it with black.
Decal-Softener	Revell	39693	-	That product doesn't harm the applied colors.
Wood	Vallejo	70.983	Flat Earth	My favorite choice for wooden parts!
Metal	Citadel Base	Leadbelcher	„dark iron“	Gets really dark in combination with Nuln Oil.
Wash for metal parts	Citadel Shade	Nuln Oil	black	
Highlight rust	Vallejo	301	Light Rust	from the Panzer Aces Series
Varnish I	Vallejo	62.063	Satin Varnish	
Streaking	AK interactive	AK 013	Rust Streaks	
Streaking, thin out	Ammo by Mig Jimenez	A.MIG-2019	Enamel Odourless Thinner	
Dust	AK interactive	AK 723	Dust	
Mud	Vallejo	73.802	Splash Mud	That liquid is quite thick. If you use a nozzle smaller than 0.4mm I recommend to thin it down.
Varnish II	AK interactive	AK 183	Ultra Matte Varnish	That varnish is so matte. Really matte! Really.