



NOLZUR'S MARVELOUS PIGMENTS  
OFFICIAL PAINTING SERIES



HOW TO PAINT THE OWLBEAR  
- FANTASY VARIANT

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS®



THE ARMY PAINTER

# INTRODUCTION

Owlbears can be found in many environments; from deep and dense forests to the highest mountain peaks, in the swampy marshlands to the deepest dungeons of the under dark. For a miniature painter this is like going into a candy store – just pick your flavor colour and get started.



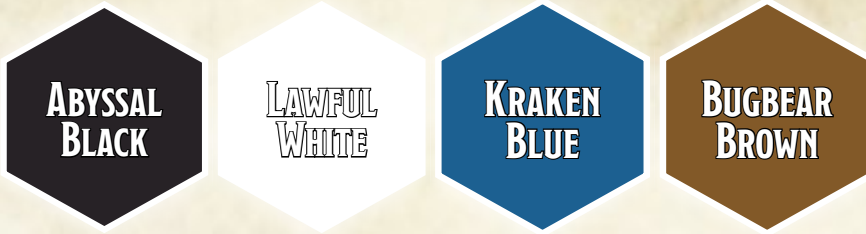
## WORK AREA SET-UP



## FOR THIS TUTORIAL: YOU WILL NEED:

- BRUSHES
- WATER
- MIXING PALETTE
- PAINTS
- NAPKINS

# PRODUCTS USED IN TUTORIAL



# OTHER PRODUCTS USED IN THIS TUTORIAL



Check out our online video tutorials here:



# GETTING STARTED...

We have already talked you through the process of painting the monster in our **official Owlbear Paint Guide** [link to pdf] or shown you how in our **video** [link]. Here we followed the classic brown/white/black colour scheme imitating the standard Owlbear interpretation.

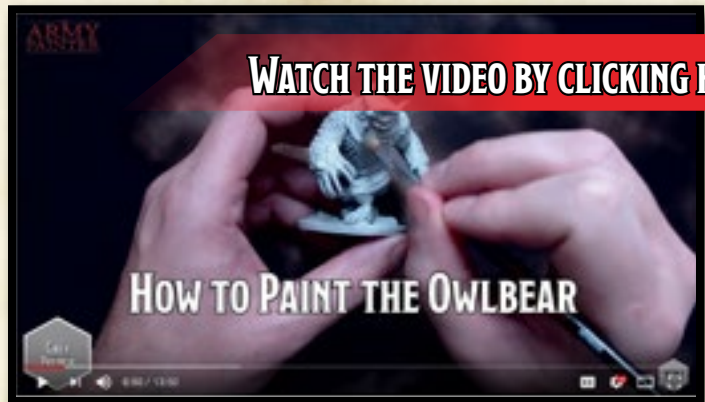
In this article we will look at painting a different colour scheme. We will not delve deeply in to the painting techniques like highlighting and drybrushing, referring to the basic Owlbear painting guides for a more in-depth explanation of the methods Instead.

## Fantasy Owl

This paint scheme for our Owlbear is really just an imaginary look and we are not inspired by any real-life animals. The techniques are super-fast, using mainly the dry-brushing techniques that are easily mastered.

We've used only the Nolzur's Marvelous Pigments D&D Warpaints found in the Adventurer's and Monster Paint Sets.

**READ PDF GUIDE BY CLICKING HERE**



**More great content can be found on the Dungeons and Dragons Site at [www.TheArmyPainter.com](http://www.TheArmyPainter.com)**

Already we have several guides to painting D&D monsters and heroes at the Dungeons and Dragons site online and more are coming!

**- SO STAY TUNED!**



## STEP 0: PRIMING

After the model was washed in some hot soapy water and left to dry, we started off by priming the whole of the model with **Colour Primer: Matt Black spray**.

The Colour Primer sprays makes your priming stage last seconds and provides you with a fantastic even surface, a fine canvas to start your painting. Just follow the instructions on the spray can carefully and leave to dry outside or in a well-ventilated room.

Optionally you can prime the miniature using the Grey Primer from the Adventurer's Paint Set and afterwards paint the whole of the miniature with Abyssal Black.



Matt Black  
CP3001



KRAKEN  
BLUE



FYEWILD  
EMERALD



## STEP 1: FIRST DRYBRUSH FEATHERS

We are going to build up the highlights by applying three drybrush "layers" on top of each other. When building up highlights this way it is important to progressively paint less and less paint, thus leaving some of the previous layer showing.

With this in mind our first drybrush layer must be fairly heavy, covering most of the feathers and leaving only black in between each feather. For this we used the **WARGAMER: LARGE DRYBRUSH**.

There is no dark turquoise in the Nolzur's Marvelous Pigments D&D Warpaints, so we mixed two paints: 3 parts **KRAKEN BLUE** and one part **FAYWILD EMERALD**.



## STEP 2: SECOND DRYBRUSH FEATHERS

For the second drybrush we used **MERFOLK TURQUOISE** straight from the pot. Now we applied less pressure and made sure the brush was thoroughly wiped off on the tissue. It is easier to control the drybrushing technique if your brush is very ... well, dry. You can always apply a few more brush strokes if you like.

It is always a good idea to start with the drybrushing, this way you can be messy without worrying about getting paint onto other parts of the miniature.



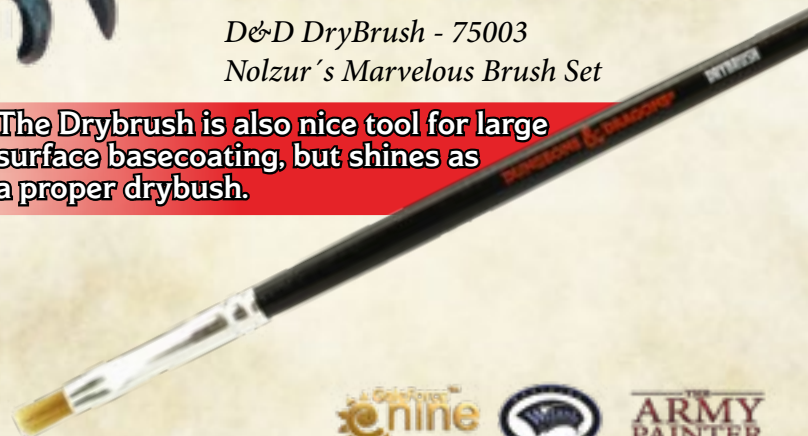
## STEP 3: THIRD DRYBRUSH FEATHERS

The last drybrush highlight was a 50/50 mix of **LAWFUL WHITE** and **MERFOLK TURQUOISE** applied with the **D&D DRYBRUSH** from the Nolzur's Marvelous Pigments Brush Set using only very little paint and pressure. The aim is to highlight only the tip of the feathers and the very raised areas.

The effect of highlighting black with turquoise is striking and the result is very easy to achieve.

*D&D DryBrush - 75003  
Nolzur's Marvelous Brush Set*

The Drybrush is also nice tool for large surface basecoating, but shines as a proper drybrush.





**BUGBEAR BROWN**

# STEP 4: CLAWS AND BEAK BASECOAT

The claws and talons were painted **BUGBEAR BROWN**, this time using the **D&D STARTER BRUSH** for more control. On top of a black undercoat you might find that two coats of paint give you a stronger colour, just let each coat fully dry.



**SKELETON BONE**

# STEP 5: CLAWS AND BEAK

Again, using the **D&D STARTER BRUSH** we highlighted the claws and beak using **SKELETON BONE**, drawing lines from the base of each claw towards the point. This is a little time consuming and requires patience and a steady hand, but the effect is very realistic.



According to how steady a hand you wield, choose a brush size you feel most comfortable with.

- D&D Starter Brush - 75001 Adventurers Paint Set
- D&D Basecoat Brush - 75003 Nolzur's Marvelous Brush Set
- D&D Detail Brush - 75003 Nolzur's Marvelous Brush Set

## STEP 6: CLAWS AND BEAK HIGHLIGHT

Switching to the **D&D DETAIL BRUSH** we highlighted each claw and the beak using **LAWFUL WHITE** making sure we only painted very fine lines towards the points of the claws. You want to be able to see some **BUGBEAR BROWN** paint from the first step and some **SKELETON BONE** paint from the second step, so be careful only to use only a



## STEP 7: TONGUE

The tongue was basecoated with **BEHOLDER PURPLE** and highlighted with a mix of **BEHOLDER PURPLE** and **LAWFUL WHITE**.





## STEP 8: BLACK EYES

The eyes were painted **ABYSSAL BLACK**, this time using the D&D Detail Brush for more control although they will end up being bright yellow, the black basecoat at this stage will end up leaving a thin black outline around the eyes.



## STEP 9: WHITE EYES

The next stage of the eyes is to paint the eyes **LAWFUL WHITE** (again) leaving a thin black line. This requires a steady hand and a fine detail brush. The **D&D DETAIL BRUSH** is nice and small, but we have even smaller variants in The Army Painter line of brushes, like the **INSANE DETAIL BRUSH** or the super fine **"THE PSYCHO" BRUSH**.



## STEP 10: YELLOW EYES

Next, we painted the eye with the vibrant **FIRENEWT ORANGE** – again using the **D&D DETAIL BRUSH**.



## STEP 11: BLACK DOT

... and we painted a small black dot in the center of each eye.



**AND THAT IS THE FANTASY-OWLBEAR ALL PAINTED.**

# THE BASE

We wanted to theme the base to the deep dungeons using grey rocks and dry tufts of grass.



## STEP 1A: BLACK BATTLEGROUND

Paint some **PVA BATTLEFIELDS BASING GLUE** onto the base and while wet, dip the model into the **BLACK BATTLEGROUND**. The **BLACK BATTLEGROUND** is basically a mix of pre-coloured gravel and just one of a part of basing material from The Army Painter Battlefields series.



## STEP 1B: DRYBRUSH BASE

Make sure the PVA is fully dry – this takes around 1 hour. Then lightly shake of loose gravel and drybrush the base with **DUNGEON STONE** using the **D&D DRYBRUSH**.



## STEP 1C: SECOND DRYBRUSH BASE

We gave the base a second drybrush using the lighter grey **ORC SKIN** and touched up the rim of the base with **ABYSSAL BLACK**.



## STEP 1D: TUFTS

With the paint fully dry we glued in some of the Battlefields Basing Tufts using a drop of **SUPER GLUE**. For the underground base we avoided the green tufts and went for a mix of **WINTER TUFT** and **WASTELAND TUFT**.



## PROTECT YOUR MINIATURES.

Job done! And that is the Fantasy-Owlbear all painted and based. To protect our masterpiece from the wear and tear of tabletop gaming we gave the miniature a thin coat of the **AEGIS SUIT SPRAY VARNISH**.

**Aegis Suit  
Satin Varnish**  
CP3027



*Aegis Suit Satin Varnish*  
CP3003

## AND YOU'RE DONE!

The possibilities of colour schemes are endless and whether you get inspiration from real world animals or use your imagination - you will have fun painting the Gales Force 9 Owlbear using Nolzur's Marvelous Pigments Warpaints.



The Army Painter website has loads of galleries and video tutorials on how to use the products and techniques featured in this guide.

Check it out at [www.TheArmyPainter.com](http://www.TheArmyPainter.com)