



**FREE**  
Please take a copy!

# PAINING GUIDE

Spray, Paint, Dip, Done

THE  
**ARMY  
PAINTER**<sup>™</sup>



**GET MORE TIME FOR GAMING**

# YOUR FUN HAS STARTED!

Here at The Army Painter, miniature wargaming is in our DNA. The company was founded with a desire to get miniatures painted for the tabletop as fast as possible. Our mission is to help gamers Get More Time for Gaming.

The first product The Army Painter developed and brought to market was our groundbreaking Quickshade™ Dip. A pigmented varnish that will develop rich contrast on your miniatures easy and fast. Over time, we have developed a full range of products to help assemble, paint, and shade your models. The Army Painter is a brand you can trust to always deliver the best possible quality paints and innovative hobby products – as well as supporting and sponsoring the Hobby for communities on all levels for the past 14 years.

I sincerely hope you will find this little booklet insightful and useful in your endeavours to paint your next army of miniatures.



Bo Penstoft, Founder.



# IT'S IN THE NAME

At The Army Painter, we are passionate gamers. Our company was born out of a desire to paint armies to a high standard – and fast!

This guide will teach you everything you need to know from unassembled sprue to finished masterpiece. We'll offer time-saving tips and tricks, as we detail our unique four-step approach – Spray, Paint, Dip, Done!

This award winning technique will enable you to paint any army no matter how large or small.

On top of our classic method, we've expanded this guide to include our revolutionary Speedpaints as well a section about using our Warpaints™ Air in your Airbrush!



**SPRAY**  
PAGE 16



**PAINT**  
PAGE 18



**DIP**  
PAGE 22



**SPEEDPAINT**  
PAGE 8



**DONE**  
PAGE 26

Become an army painting Black Belt like me!

## Meet Diplt

One morning, just as the founders of The Army Painter walked in to work, they saw...*it!* A tiny blue creature no bigger than a housecat. It was scribbling words across a stack of cans. "Quickshade," it read. Instead of squashing the little creature, the owners befriended it. Diplt, as they would name it, always wanted everything to be neat, colourful, and done the right way. If they weren't, it would magically explode in a mess of coloured paints. It would become a guiding principle on The Army Painter's efforts to always do right by our customers – and Diplt makes sure we never lose sight of that.



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The Army Painter  
Painting Guide  
Revised March 2024.

This guide contains photos of miniatures from Kromlech, Mythic Games, Mantic Games, Gale Force Nine, Yedharo Models, Titanforge and CMON. Several of the miniatures were borrowed from private collectors and we have endeavoured to list every company whose miniatures we photograph. Please contact us if we have not listed your miniature here.



# GAMING IN COLOUR

The tabletop gaming hobby is vast and varied. From boardgames to role-playing games and our personal favorite – tabletop wargames! Playing games with painted miniatures is 100% more fun than with grey, unpainted ones. Painted miniatures make your games more immersive and make every tabletop session come alive!

Read on and before long, you will be a master of the Spray, Paint, Dip, Done technique, so you can look forward to sharing both the joys of painting and gaming in colour with your friends and family.

## QR Codes

Throughout this guide you will encounter QR codes like this. Open the camera app on your smartphone and point it at the code. Should you be unable to scan them you can find all the videos in this guide on: [youtube.com/thearmypainter](https://youtube.com/thearmypainter)



Painting together can be an awesome way to find enjoyment in our hobby!

Don't feel like painting your army is a solo project, that has to get done before you can have fun. Here at The Army Painter HQ our social events often involve painting, because being focused on a miniature while talking and having fun is a great way to spend an evening with your friends.







THE  
**ARMY  
PAINTER**

Rangefinder  
Tape Measure

Targetlock  
Laser Line

Markerlight  
Laser pointer

# WARPAINTS™ FANATIC

What if the perfect miniature paint DID exist? We know that's impossible. But – that didn't stop us from trying. Designed for unsurpassed coverage while being incredibly easy-to-use, featuring intense pigmentation, and a Flexible Colour Triad system. Warpaints™ Fanatic are the new gold standard for miniature paints. Developed with feedback from the Hobby Community – For gamers, by gamers!

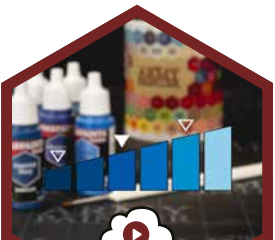


## INTRODUCING OUR NEW RANGE!



## FLEXIBL... WHAT?

The Warpaints™ Fanatic ranged is designed around Flexible Colour Triads to cater for any type of painting style. Simply, a family of 6 colours grouped to enable you to always have a corresponding shadow or highlight to your desired colour. You can use the neighbouring colour for smooth transition or decide to skip a colour for more contrastful layered highlights, that makes your miniatures pop.



**FLEXIBLE COLOUR TRIADS**



DEEP GREENS



## COVERAGE

Featuring an insanely pigment dense formulation Warpaints™ Fanatic deliver unsurpassed coverage while being incredibly easy-to-use. Whether you're working in dark, vibrant, or pale colours – each paint is individually tuned to maximise coverage and a consistent brush feel. This pigment rich paint can be thinned to extreme levels of transparency for advanced techniques, or applied right over a miniature for effortless coverage. Simply enjoy your painting.



FANATIC DEEP DIVE



Warpaints Fanatic is a completely new painting experience!



## LID COLOUR SYSTEM

The Warpaints™ Fanatic range uses coloured lids to signify what type of paint you will find inside. White is regular acrylic paints and all paints with white lids belong in a Flexible Colour Triad. Green lids are Effects, which encompass things like blood, rust, glowing, and varnishes. Reds are washes to create shade and Black is metallic paints.



## PRE-LOADED MIXING BALLS

All 18 mL bottles produced by The Army Painter today come pre-loaded with mixing balls, ensuring that you never have to worry about maintaining the consistency of your paints ever again. This isn't just limited to Warpaints Fanatic, but also includes our Speedpaint and Warpaints Air ranges of paints. Just shake the bottle and you're ready to paint!





# ONE COAT AND DONE!

Speedpaint is a true one-coat painting solution, and an alternative to using regular acrylic Warpaint™ Fanatic for painting your miniatures. Simply apply directly over a primed miniature and you're done! You can learn about priming on page 16.

Speedpaint is designed to leave your models with intense shading, vibrant colour, and a highlight effect in one application – giving you instant colour and perfect contrast. Are you ready to paint your hordes of grey plastic, armies of unpainted miniatures, and piles of miniature shame faster and easier than ever before? Then Speedpaint is the tool for the job – The true Get More Time for Gaming tool!



## PRACTICAL COLOUR NAMES

Our Speedpaint 2.0 labels now include a standardized system for accurate colour designation that aids colour-impaired and anyone who wants the most accurate paint selection.



## OUR SPEEDPAINTS™ RANGE

Speedpaint Medium	Grim Black	Gravelord Grey	Ashen Stone	Holy White	Blinding Light	Burnt Moss	Mummified Grime	Howling Sand	Occultist Cloak	Tyrian Navy	Cloudburst Blue
Runic Grey	Battleship Grey	Beowulf Blue	Royal Robes	Highlord Blue	Magic Blue	Tidal Navy	Caribbean Ocean	Raging Sea	Lizardfolk Cyan	Plasmatic Bolt	Thunderbird Blue
Ghoul Green	Absolution Green	Gunner Camo	Orc Skin	Shamrock Green	Forest Sprite	Camo Cloak	Algae Green	Ghillie Dew	Charming Chartreuse	Malignant Green	Maggot Skin
Rigor Mortis	Ochre Clay	Pallid Bone	Bony Matter	Maize Yellow	Ancient Honey	Zealot Yellow	Sand Golem	Nuclear Sunrise	Fire Giant Orange	Fire Drake	Bright Red
Blood Red	Poppy Red	Slaughter Red	Carmine Dragon	Murder Scene	Purple Alchemy	Familiar Pink	Moonlake Coral	Moody Mauve	Hive Dweller Purple	Purple Swarm	Periwinkle Purple
Peachy Flesh	Crusader Skin	Warrior Skin	Aged Hide	Goddess Glow	Noble Skin	Dark Wood	Satchel Brown	Dusk Red	Burnished Red	Ruddy Fur	Hardened Leather
Brownish Decay	Desolate Brown	Pastel Yellow	Pastel Salmon	Princess Pink	Pastel Lavender	Pastel Indigo	Pastel Seafoam				



Try the first-of-its-kind Speedpaint Metallics!



Hoplite Gold	Talos Bronze	Hoard Bronze	
Golden Armour	Polished Silver	Broadsword Silver	Brazen Copper
Glittering Loot	Enchanted Steel	Aztec Gold	



# HOW TO GET MORE TIME FOR GAMING



1 Start by priming your miniature with Colour Primer Matt White, or our Airbrush Matt White Primer for the best adhesion and vibrant results.



2 Shake the bottle thoroughly to mix your paints.



3 We recommend a dry palette rather than a wet palette.



4 Apply Speedpaint to the area of the miniature with the colour you desire and let it dry. You get the best results by starting with the lightest colour first.



5 Finish the base off using the many different Tufts and basing materials from our Battlefields Basing range.

It really is THAT simple! Speedpaint gets your units ready for the tabletop in no time at all. Letting you focus on infiltrating the enemy position.



5 SPEEDPAINT™  
BEST PRACTICES



# MAKING A PLAN

So you bought your first miniatures and you are super excited to start painting. We know that feeling and on the following pages we will guide you on your way to getting the army of your dreams painted and ready for the tabletop. Like many other big endeavours it all starts with a plan. The decisions you make now will guide your project until it is finished:

- m What colours will be your most prominent?
- m What is the story? Your bases will tell a lot about your army. Remember that you will often see your miniatures from above – so bases are an important visible feature of your army.

You are lucky though – as the internet is crammed full with awe inspiring armies – so spend a little time getting inspiration before you dive in.



## BE ADVENTUROUS IN YOUR PALETTE

Choosing contrasting colours - or colours close to each other (see the colour wheel) - all results in different looks. Sometimes least apparent combination of colours works the best - or colours not associated with a particular army, like white armour for dark elves, or pink for alien horrors from deep space. Go for it! It will turn heads at any gaming convention.



## AWESOME METALLICS

The Army Painters range of Warpaints™ Fanatic comprises of 18 different coloured-erd metallics. From the very realistic Gold, Iron, Silver and Bronze to the fantastical Gemstone Red & Dark Emerald.





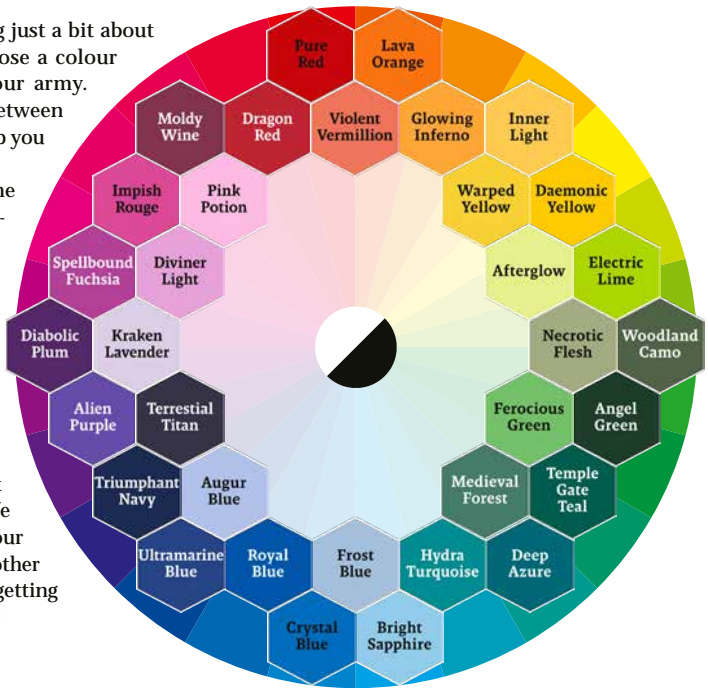
# COLOUR THEORY

Colour is complex – but knowing just a bit about colour theory can help you choose a colour scheme that works well for your army. Understanding the relationship between colours and how they mix can help you achieve great results.

Colours on opposite sides of the circle are each other's complementaries since they create a lot of contrast when used together.

Neutral colours like white and black can be thought of as being in the center of the wheel, and so naturally you can always add these in the amount you need to get your colour scheme to work.

Below you will find three examples of how you could select colours from the colour wheel. We started by selecting the skin colour for the model and decided on the other colours based on these patterns, getting widely differing results each time:



## COMPLEMENTARY

By using a complementary colour we can make certain elements *pop*. It is an easy scheme to paint. Here the muted blues of the orc's skin make his rusted armor stand out and emphasize the battle damage.



## SPLIT-COMPLEMENTARY

You can create even more life in your models with a split in the complementary colours. Here the shadows of the orc's skin is a cooler turquoise compared to the highlights and it also doubles as verdigris on the armour.



## ANALOGOUS

This scheme can help you get a realistic and balanced look, even when the subject is something fantastical and magical. By using only red, orange, and yellow hues this orc is radiating a scorching fire magic.



# ARMY PAINTING

Keep it simple!

Try your best to limit your palette to about 3 colours and a metallic and/or Matt Black. This will give your army a strong look of coherency and also save you time. You really shouldn't expect your whole army to be painted to perfection. When the models are on the table you won't be able to notice those details anyway. So set yourself a realistic goal. On [Page 10](#) we tried out some different painting schemes for our Orc army, but in the end we chose the most simple to accomplish a scheme of yellow, grey, and gun metal. Even going as far as having the goblins in just green and grey.



The narrative approach  
Having some lore or stories for your army, either made up by you or coming from your favourite system, can often help breathe life in to your army project by helping you make decisions on basing and colour options.



Have a centerpiece in your army  
While you save time by keeping your colour scheme simple, you now have the option of going to town on a few larger models in your army. We refer to these as centre pieces - and they are the stand-out miniatures that will catch the eye. Thus, they demand more attention to both details and bases than the common soldier. The centerpiece will elevate the look of your entire army and draw attention away from the areas where you focused on speed over details.



Establish a production line

If you want to get a large project done fast you need to compartmentalize your painting steps into manageable chunks. Plan a production line where you assemble, prime, and paint your miniatures in batches that makes sense to you. For example:

- m Paint a single colour on all your miniatures in a unit, before painting the next colour.
- m Drybrush highlights on the entire army as an improvement even if you started gaming with them.



By painting 5 or more similar models together in a batch you can speed up your painting. The paint dries while you repeat the current step that you are at on the next model.

Cheat everywhere you can

You do not need to paint absolutely every detail on a miniature. Give more attention to the face than the boots, so you do not waste your time on precious little details no-one will notice.

Work smarter - not harder!

Paint a test model!  
Always paint a test model. It will help you figure out if you're wasting your time at certain steps of your process, and help you decide if the colour scheme is right for you.



Reward yourself with a fun model between squads. This will give you a break from the line-painting and let you discover how far you have progressed.

## BASES MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The choices you make about how to base your miniatures are really impactful. Just take a look at our putrid warrior, standing on three different bases: On hometurf in a desolate wasteland, in overgrown elven territories, and far way in a scorching desert. The base

is as much a part of your army as the miniature itself and when displayed on the tabletop, the bases are some of the first things your opponent will notice. Consistent bases will make your army look coherent tying it together and tell a thematic story.



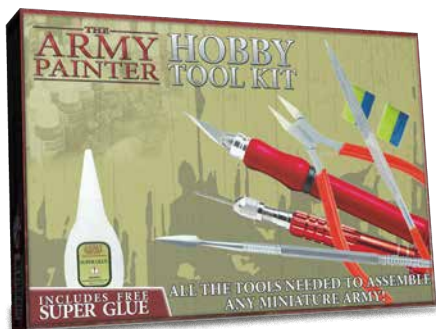


# ASSEMBLE YOUR MODELS

Assembling your miniatures is a fun part of the process of creating your personal army. It can also be quite daunting.

Unfortunately we have yet to invent the “Magic Bag of Assembly.” While it would be nice to dump your miniatures, bits, and glue into a bag, shake it a couple times, and out pops an assembled miniature – until we figure that one out you will have to do it the old school way. Fortunately for you, we have a lot of speciality tools making your life easier and enabling you to really enjoy this process where you create the look and feel for your army.

If you have any doubts about which tools to start with, we have made it easy for you by creating a Hobby Tool Kit with all the essentials needed to get you going.



## PLASTIC, RESIN, OR METAL?

Miniatures for games come in a wide variety of materials. From pewter to plastic and resin, knowing what material your models is made from and which tools to use is essential. The rule is: Use Plastic Glue for plastic miniatures – and Super Glue for everything else. You can tell resin from plastic by bending a piece of the sprue. Plastic will warp before breaking, resin is brittle and will just snap. Watch our assembly video to learn more.



**ASSEMBLY  
GUIDE**

# HOW TO ASSEMBLE



1  
Some forms of plastic have a bit of chemical residue from the molding process, so it is a good idea to wash them in soapy water before priming and painting. Rinse thoroughly afterwards with clean water.



2  
Clip the parts from the sprue with the flat side of the Plastic Frame Cutter facing the part. Using the back of the cutter creates bumps that need to be cut off afterwards.

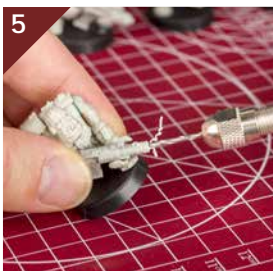


3  
Mold lines need to be removed before assembling as they can interfere with assembly and later painting.

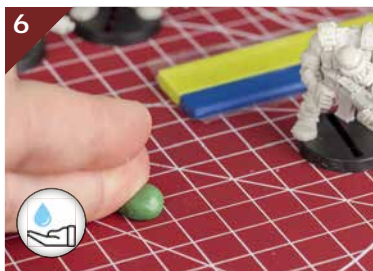


4  
Super Glue bonds when an airtight connection is formed. Make sure your joints fit and can be pressed tightly together for optimal results.

Assemble the miniature and let it dry while moving on to the same part on the next miniature. Here we use Super Glue since the miniature is made of resin. If it is made of plastic, Plastic Glue should be your glue of choice.



5  
For added detail, drill out the barrel of the gun with our Miniature Model Drill.



6  
To fix gaps in the joints or other mistakes you can use a bit of Green Stuff. Make sure your hands are moist when mixing and wash them afterwards.



7  
Use our Sculpting Tools to work the Green Stuff in to the gap and smooth it out. Let it harden for at least 4 hours. Now you are ready for priming.



Adding basing material before priming. A lot of people prefer to add a layer of basing material like our Brown Battleground or Battlefield Snow to the bases of their miniatures before the priming step (next Page). This helps create a texture you can paint and dry-brush later, and the Primer will fix the material better to the base. You can learn more about our basing materials on Pages 28-27.





# PRIMING YOUR MINIATURES

A Colour Primer is a unique combination of a Primer and a colour spray in one. We have developed a unique formula that works specifically well on metal, plastic, and resin miniatures. The Colour Primers leave a perfect matt finish so paint adheres better than the standard sprays on the market. The super-fine, heavily pigmented spray and specially-designed nozzle ensure that you get excellent coverage without obscuring the fine details on your miniature.

A Colour Primer gives you the perfect coloured base for a miniature and can save you endless hours applying that particular colour by hand. Simply pick the most dominant colour on your miniature and spray away.



## OUR COLOUR PRIMERS



Always a perfect match  
Our 2-in-1 Colour Primer Sprays save loads of time because they allow you to prime and basecoat your models – or entire armies – in one step. Unique to our Colour Primers is that they are colour-matched to the Warpaint™ of the same name. This makes touch-ups easy if you've missed any of those hard-to-reach details on the model or happen to paint "outside the lines."



COLOUR  
PRIMER  
MATCH

Greenskin

Greenskin



Spray your miniatures outside. Find a spot that isn't too windy and avoid priming your miniatures under difficult conditions like rain or snow.



Let the primer do the work  
The more you can let the spray do the hard work the faster your army will be complete. Steeds in particular are a good example of where you could use different colours and save time compared to basecoating with a brush. Glue the models together with Super Glue once dry.

Here is but one example of this, but the possible combinations are endless.

Greenskin

Desert  
Yellow





# HOW TO USE A COLOUR PRIMER



1 Mount the miniatures on a piece of cardboard or wood with either white tack or by spraying a bit of primer on the surface and attach the miniatures onto the stick before the paint dries. This is very easy and fast.



2 Open the sealed primer by pulling the tap off.



3 Shake in a clockwise/counter-clockwise motion for 1 min.



4 Spray at a distance of 15-20 cm (6-8"). Remember to only use our Colour Primers outside and not under adverse weather conditions. Move the spray at all times to avoid drowning the miniature in paint and obscuring the details.



5 Spray multiple thin coats in a constant passing motion, starting and stopping while pointing away from the miniatures. Allow the primer to be dry in between coats.



6 Empty the nozzle upside down after each use and store at room temperature, away from direct sunlight.



Now our model is ready to be basecoated, shown Page 17, or airbrushed shown on Page 20.

## Priming with an airbrush

Want to prime your miniatures in-doors or need the utmost retention of detail on your miniatures? Warpaints Air Primer is a superior airbrush primer with ultra-fine filtered pigments and a unique formula ready for your airbrush. Using an airbrush enables you to try out advanced techniques such as Zenithal Priming. Simulate light from the sun when it is at its zenith by building highlights on the raised areas of your miniature with your airbrush. You can read more about using an airbrush on Page 20.

Matt White  
Primer

Matt Black  
Primer

Matt Grey  
Primer

# BASECOATING

Basecoating is the first layer of paint on a model, after the spray priming stage with Colour Primers. Your chosen Colour Primer has a Warpaint™ Fanatic that is a 100% colour match, which you can use to cover anything you missed in the priming stage or to fix any mistakes down the road. Using a Wet Palette will keep your paints fresh throughout the project.

We recommend applying your paints in one or two layers. This helps preserve the detail on your miniature for a smooth result. You can thin your Warpaints™ Fanatic with clean water. And always remember to give your paints a thorough shake before using them.

## Recommended brushes for basecoating



The Hobby: Basecoating brush is our synthetic workhorse that will last you for many models.

For bulk painting, the Regiment Brush is the undisputed King of efficiency and speed during this step.

**HOW TO USE A WET PALETTE**

**PRO HANDLE**  
The Wargaming Brushes have ergonomic triangular handles giving you a more natural and relaxed grip. Enhancing your accuracy with details and basecoating!



## OUR BRUSHES

Brushes come in many shapes and sizes, each with a different use and purpose. At The Army Painter we have three lines of brushes; Hobby, Wargamer, and Masterclass. Each individual brush has been named to make it easy for you to pick the right brush for the job. Our red-handled Hobby brushes feature synthetic bristles and are the perfect for Speedpaints and Washes. The white-handled Wargamer brushes use our signature triangular handle for perfect grip as well as a variation of bristle types including Rotmarder Sable. Our Masterclass brushes are the best of the best! These specialized brushes feature black handles and premium Kolinsky Sable for the ultimate and professional painting experience. Watch the video on the left to find out which brushes to use for your next project.

**A BRUSH FOR EVERY JOB**

Take care of your brushes and they will reward you for it!



**Clean in cold water, immediately after use**

**Tips up!**



**Attention: Dried up paint ruins your brush!**



# HOW TO BASECOAT



1 Put a drop of Warpaint™ Fanatic on the wet palette and drag the paint over the wet paper to get a perfect consistency. If you're using a dry palette you can add a drop of water and mix.



2 Start out by painting the areas that are hardest to reach with your brush to avoid accidentally hitting areas you already painted. Here we are using Leather Brown for the cuirass.



3 When changing colours make sure you rinse out your brush thoroughly in cold water and carefully dry it afterwards.



4 Roll the wet brush against a damp towel or your palm to make the tip pointy again. Make sure you remove the tiny drop of water that always forms on the brush.



5 When picking up paint, don't overload the brush. You only need to load the front half of the bristles.



7 For the armor panels and shoulder plates we use Daemonic Yellow. Notice how even a difficult colour like yellow covers in one application of Warpaint Fanatic.



Don't worry if your layers doesn't look as good as our professional studio painter's. You will get better fast!

8 Keep adding the different colours: Uniform Grey for the trousers, and Skeleton Bone as bandages.



9 We finish off with Plate Mail Metal on all the metal areas.

Now you can go on to the next step: Applying washes on [Page 23](#). If you feel lost or need inspiration we have included a section on colour theory on [Page 11](#). Another method of basecoating is using an air-brush, you can learn about that on [Page 20](#).



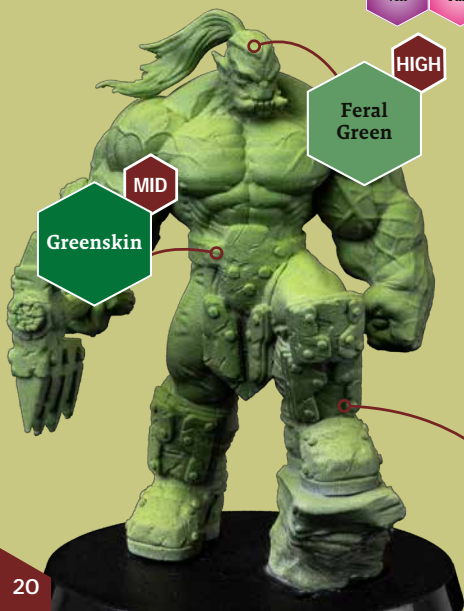
# USING WARPAINTS™ AIR

Basecoating miniatures with an airbrush is super efficient with our uniquely formulated Warpaints™ Air – featuring ultra-fine filtered pigments and ready-to-use colours right out of the bottle. With the extensive range of colours and perfect viscosity, you'll never have to fight with your airbrush again!

Warpaints™ Air paints are extremely easy to use thanks to the unique Colour Triad System based on 34 of our regular Warpaint™ colours and a corresponding Base and Highlight colour. This makes highlighting and shading a breeze and army painting even faster and more cohesive.



## OUR RANGE OF 126 WARPAINTS™ AIR COLOURS



### WHAT IS A COLOUR TRIAD?

All regular Warpaints Air colours fit into our innovative Colour Triad System which enables you to easily pick your base, midtone and highlight colours.

Save precious time on your army painting by removing the need for you to pre-mix and test. Confidently basecoat your entire wargaming army in just a few hours.

We chose our most popular colours and formulated a unique base and highlight for each. That also means you can be ensured that every midtone colour in your chosen Triad is a perfect colour match with a similar regular Warpaint.



Highlight

Feral Green

Midtone

Greenskin

Base

Savage Green

100% COLOUR MATCH



# HOW TO AIRBRUSH



1 When you're airbrushing Colour Triads it's easy to work on multiple miniatures at a time. Mount them on a stick, just like when priming.



2 Warpaints Air has Mixing Balls pre-loaded in the bottle, briefly shake the bottle before using.



3 Pour the **BASE** colour of your chosen Colour Triad in to the airbrush well. No need to add thinner.



4 Apply the **BASE** to the underside and lower parts of the model, you don't need to worry about hitting anything you do not want, since it will get covered shortly.



5 Empty any remaining paint from the well and rinse with water. Blow the water through the nozzle before filling the next colour.



6 Apply the **MID** colour at a 45° angle onto the miniatures, leaving some of the **BASE** showing in the shadowed recesses.



7 Apply a final highlight with the **HIGH** colour in a top down fashion, picking out the raised areas and where you want to draw the eye.



8 Your entire army is now basecoated with a zenithal highlight - in record time! Proceed by painting the rest of the miniature with a brush, apply washes, and highlights - like we demonstrate in this guide - and you will Get More Time for Gaming. Should you encounter any issues, check out our Troubleshooting video.



# APPLYING WASHES

Fanatic Washes are designed to quickly create spectacular depth and shading for your miniatures. Simply apply a wash to bring out impressive detail. There are a wealth of colour options at your disposal, and each of our washes are 100% mixable, making your go-to shading solution options virtually endless! For fantastic metallic effects, apply a coloured Fanatic Wash on top of a coat of metal! Try it out and quickly take your painting to the next level.



Recommended brushes for washing



The Hobby: Basecoating brush is perfect for applying washes.



The Monster brush is a great choice when you are painting a larger model or applying a lot of washes.

**Control the wash**  
If you are new to painting, covering the whole miniature in the same wash will give you a good result.

Controlling the flow of a wash is something you will get better at over time and you will find that using different tones on specific areas and materials becomes easier with experience.



Gold benefits especially well from Red Tone Wash which helps create depth and character.



You can change the colour of metallic armour by using half of a coloured Wash and half Wash Medium.



# HOW TO APPLY A WASH



1 You can use Fanatic Wash directly from the bottle or on the Wet Palette.



2 Generously apply your wash of choice to the miniature. Here we are using Military Shade for the green skin.



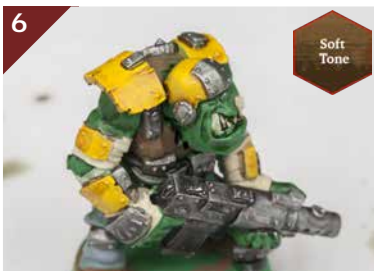
3 Sometimes the wash will pool in areas where you don't want it. Remove excess by soaking it up with the tip of your brush.



4 Fanatic Wash will pool where the brush is lifted from. You can use this knowledge to control where the wash flows by lifting your brush from the area you want the wash to flow to. Aim for the lower parts of the model.



5 When you are happy with the result let it dry before moving on to shade the next colour.



6 We chose Soft Tone to shade the yellow armor. That way it won't be darkened too much and keep the yellow looking bright and vibrant.



7 For the rest of the model – the metal parts, trousers, and bandages – we chose Dark Tone. Now you are ready to highlight the model following the steps on Page 27.



Create super smooth transitions  
With our Fanatic Wash Medium you can thin our Fanatic Washes to ensure an even smoother transition, by glazing it on in a couple of applications, or achieve a lighter shading effect that better fits lighter colours. Only your creativity sets the limits of what can be achieved with Fanatic Washes.

Controlling the flow of the wash is a skill you will get better at over time and improve your results!



# GET MORE TIME FOR GAMING



The original Quickshade™ is different! An entirely unique product on the market, it will enable you to paint the army of your dreams in no time at all. Just apply it with a brush or simply dip your basecoated miniatures, shake, and you are almost done. Watch the video to get a full overview of just how effective the technique is. Quickshade™ Dip is the foundation for The Army Painter Technique this guide is based upon and why chapter 3 is called Dip in the first place. The original Spray, Paint, **Dip**, Done!



SPRAY



PAINT



DIP



DONE!



## MORE CONTRAST IN THREE LEVELS

Quickshade™ Dip comes in our three classic levels of toning: Soft, Strong, and Dark. After drying for 24 hours you will see the result Quickshade™ Dip has created: More contrast than any wash will leave on your miniatures, perfect for a great result in no time!





## Recommended brushes



If your model is too large to dip in to the can you can use a brush to apply it generously.



If you want to correct an area after shaking off the excess, the Wargamer: Monster brush is a great choice.



Always start out by testing Quickshade Dip on ONE miniature. If you're happy with the result, you can safely dip the rest.

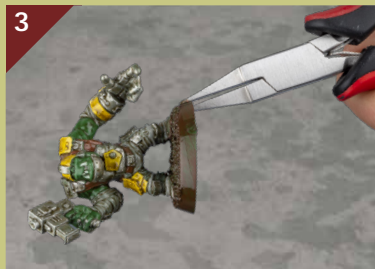
## HOW TO USE QUICKSHADE



Gently stir the Quickshade Dip thoroughly with a stick before using it. Do not shake the can as it will create air bubbles.



Dip the entire miniature into the Quickshade Dip. Do not panic if it looks ruined, once shaken it will look fantastic.



Shake you miniature in a whip-like motion to remove excess Quickshade. This step is messy so make sure you do this outside and that you are wearing appropriate clothing.



After drying for 24-48 hours the Quickshade is completely hardened and your model is finished. The miniature will dry to a gloss finish, which you can dull down with our Matt Varnish spray.



Now we can paint on a layer of highlights by carefully painting the edges of the armor and the skin. You can learn more about this process in detail on [Page 27](#) as well as adding finishing touches described on [Page 29](#).

An oil-based product  
Because Quickshade™ Dip is an oil-based product you can use mineral turpentine to clean Quickshade Dip off your brushes and clothes. Always use synthetic brushes as turpentine will ruin natural hair brushes.



# HIGHLIGHTING

Highlighting is where a model can really come to life. This is where you paint a lighter colour onto raised areas on the miniature. When it comes to army painting, this technique is mostly used on character models or centre pieces. Two highlights on a model that's been shaded with Quickshade Wash or Dip make for a very dramatic effect.

Highlighting is an advanced technique that requires time to master but it is a very rewarding process once you do. As fun as it is – highlighting can be very time consuming.



## DRYBRUSHING FOR EASY RESULTS



1 Make sure you load the bristles with paint, not just the tips.



2 Remove excess paint on a paper towel, leaving only the pigment on the bristles.



3 Gently flick the bristles on the raised surfaces only picking out the edge details.

Drybrushing is an easy technique that will give you great highlighting results, fast. Finishing a large army project gets quite a bit easier if you only add a drybrush step for the highlights. There are of course areas where this technique will give you better results than others. Miniatures with a lot of texture like fur, chainmail, stone, rubble and such will always prefer a drybrush to any other technique.



Fur is a great example of an area of a model that is perfect for drybrushing.



Likewise metal, especially chainmail and mechs with lots of edges can benefit greatly from this technique.



### Our Drybrushes



Our Masterclass Drybrush Set contains three size of brushes. The soft goat hair and round heads enables unparalleled smooth and subtle application of Warpaints™.



Our Wargamer Drybrushes with angled bristles are perfect for hard-to-reach areas on your miniature.

# HOW TO LAYER HIGHLIGHTS



1  
Add a drop of water or medium to thin down your Warpaints. When highlighting, you want to slowly build up layers and thinner paint makes it easier to achieve a smooth transition.

Recommended brushes



The Wargamer: Detail brush is perfect for fine edge highlighting and detail work.



The Wargaming: Kolinsky Masterclass brush is the pinnacle of precision to paint fine highlights and details.



2  
Start by painting Leafy Green on all the raised areas of the skin.



3  
Use Mossy Green to build up an even brighter highlight on the smallest details, hitting only the most prominent features.



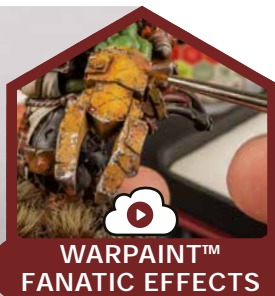
4  
Drag the brush along the edge of the yellow armour with some Brainmatter Beige to add some scratches.



5  
The metal is highlighted the same way as the armour, but with Shining Silver as the highlight colour.



6  
Add spots of Fresh Rust to the metal. This can be used to cover up any mistakes you are unhappy with and ties the whole thing together nicely. You can watch our Effects guide for more inspiration on how to paint blood, slime and other effects.



WARPAINT™  
FANATIC EFFECTS

## Advanced Highlighting

Besides the highlighting technique shown in this guide, there are a ton of ways to take your army centrepieces to the next level. We've collected all these techniques [on our website](#), where you can learn a lot more. Simple tips and techniques to make your miniatures stand out on the table and separate them from the rank-and-file.



Now we are ready to finish the model with a base on [Page 27](#). If you want you can add even more highlights, this part of the painting process can take up as much time as you want. But generally we recommend focusing your time on a few key highlights.



# FINISHING TOUCHES

Bases are often an overlooked part of the process; your choice of basing is an important one. It binds your army of generals, troops, and vehicles together as a coherent force and is a rewarding final touch. With the wide range of tools, basing materials, tufts, your possibilities for storytelling are almost endless! Forge your own narrative and let your imagination run wild.



Three different sizes in each pack of tufts.



Apply tufts with either Battlefield Basing Glue or Super Glue!



**Brown Battleground and Battlefield Rocks with Field Grass**



### Static Grass

Our static grass is easily applied with some Battlefield Basing Glue. Thin it down with a bit of water and apply a generous layer of your grass colour of choice. Finally, hold the base upside down and flick the back of the base with your finger to help the grass to stand up.



**Razor Wire**  
Most battlefields from WW1 and forward (even 40,000 years out in the future...) use Razor Wire. It is easy to use as you simply roll it around a brush handle or similar - and then proceed to cut out the length you need.



**Brown Battleground and Battlefield Rocks with Swamp Tuft**



# FINISHING OUR WARBAND



1 Start out by thinning the Battlefield Basing Glue slightly with water and apply it to your base with a brush.



2 Dip the base of the miniature fully in Brown Battleground and tap off the excess Battleground material. If some basing material is stuck to an area you are unhappy with remember to remove it or tap it down.



4 You could stop after the glue dries, but if you want even better looking bases you can basecoat it with a Warpaint™ Fanatic.



5 Drybrush a lighter highlight colour on top. You don't need to finish with highlight techniques, because you will cover parts of it with grass etc.



6 But, we do recommend applying a Quickshade Wash for more shadow.



7 Finally add some tufts for some interesting vegetation and added realism. Here we use Wasteland Tuft and a bit of Battlefield Basing Glue.



8 To protect your painted warband, unit, or regiment we recommend applying a layer of Satin or Matt Varnish, spraying at a distance of 25-30cm.



Now our squad of Orcs are done and ready for the tabletop!

# Texture, Cut, Paint, Done!

Our **GAMEMASTER** range of terrain materials, tools, and paints allows you to create amazing role-playing terrain in four easy steps which we call Texture, Cut, Paint, and Done. Letting you create the perfect scenery for your tabletop.



This method is thoroughly described in our booklet **How to build: Dungeons & Caverns** which you can read by following the link shown here.



**Character Starter**  
Role-playing Paint Set



**Terrain Brush Kit**  
**Character Brush Set**



**Terrain Kits**  
From the wild groves to a chilling tundra - build any kind of scenery!



# GAMING SUPPORT

Giving back to the wargaming community has been a priority for us ever since we filled our first can of Quickshade. We do everything we can to support wargaming events around the world as large as the Las Vegas Open, NOVA or the WTC – and as small as your regional grand tournament. We have always had our heart at the store level – where the real Hobby

Magic and introduction to the World of Wargaming happens. We have been very focused on being as affordable as possible by supplying gamers with the necessary paints, tools, and tutorials, which can be found in more than 1200 stores worldwide. You can easily spot our racks of high-quality paints and tools at your local gaming store.



Support your local game store!



The Army Painter is working with game manufacturers to create paint sets tailored for the needs of their players. Zombicide is a series we have supported for several iterations now. The boardgame paint sets are also a great way to get unique Warpants™ and in some cases special new miniatures – like Phil the Cop!







## NEW AND IMPROVED PAINTING GUIDE

I'm always thrilled to see what you come up with. Please show me what you paint using the #armypainter tag



This guide is all about how you can start playing your favorite games in colours – and it is the perfect introduction to the world of miniature painting - The Army Painter style: Quickly and very efficiently!

Save hours at the hobby desk and Get More Time For Gaming with the right techniques and tools. No more excuses about a lack of time or skill; this booklet is an exclusive insight into the many loopholes and shortcuts you can take to paint those miniatures to a high standard without spending months on it.

Visit our website for additional inspiration and tutorials and give follow us on social media to keep up with new releases, offers and behind the scenes scoops.



Find more at [thearmypainter.com](http://thearmypainter.com)

THE  
**ARMY  
PAINTER**<sup>TM</sup>

GET MORE TIME FOR GAMING

