

PAINTING WARMMASTER ARMIES

So, you've got a stack of the great new Warmaster miniatures and are eager to start painting your latest army. The scale may be smaller than you're used to, but we've compiled some helpful tips from three Warmaster Generals who prove that small can be beautiful...

'EAVY METAL PAINTING TIPS



The 'Eavy Metal team have found that painting large numbers of Warmaster stands is a lot easier if you first attach all the stands of a unit to a strip of thick card. Just take a strip of card

about 30cm long and attach the six stands in a row along its length using double-sided sticky tape. As you paint you can apply one colour at a time to all the stands in the unit. This method makes the painting a lot faster and ensures that all the stands within a unit have the same finish.

After you've painted all the stands in a unit, the next thing you'll want to do is get them on their bases. Before you rush to get the superglue out, it's worth bearing in mind flock. Once two stands are fixed to a base it becomes quite difficult

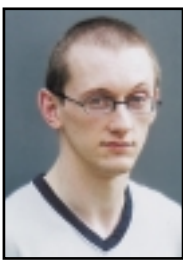
to glue flock between them. The best approach here is to fix one of the stand to the base first and apply your flock with PVA glue leaving the other side of the base bare. When this is dry, you can then glue the second stand to the base and flock the remaining area.

When flocking bases (not just Warmaster) try mixing brown and green flock together in equal amounts. The addition of the brown will stop the flock looking too flat and add an element of realism to it.

DRYBRUSHING

A quick way to paint Warmaster miniatures is to drybrush them. First undercoat the model with black spraypaint. Next choose an appropriate colour and wipe away most of the paint on the brush onto a tissue. Then lightly brush over the entire strip of models. The remaining colour will adhere to the raised detail leaving the darker colour in the recesses, providing shading. The more you drybrush over the model, the lighter the model will be.

SPEED PAINTING



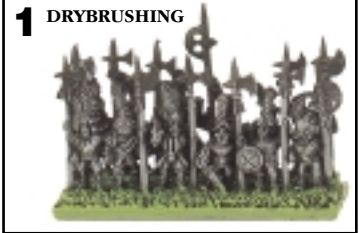
Graham Davey

I'm currently painting up reinforcements for my own Warmaster Empire army. For me, the most important aspect of painting the army is speed, the faster the better – it is the overall look of the army that matters, not the individual models. So far the entire army has been painted using just five colours and a Chaos Black undercoat. As for highlighting and shading, there is none! Note that unlike the 'Eavy Metal painters, I stick the models onto the base before painting – if I can't get my brush in to paint the back rank then it probably won't be all that visible anyway!

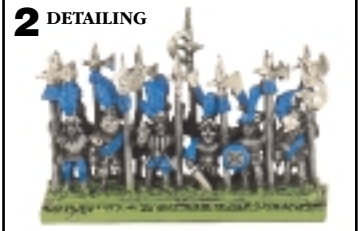
GRAHAM'S TOP PAINTING TIP

Graham's tip for this month makes painting large amounts of Warmaster miniatures much quicker. When painting regiments, paint the front rank to whatever standard you're prepared to spend the time on. As the models behind the front rank are mostly obscured from view you can skip on things like faces and clothing, just paint the bits that show. Doing this saves lots of time and will go unnoticed when you look at the army as a whole.

1 All the stands in a unit are first superglued to their bases. Extra superglue is applied around the edges of each stand and the base is then dipped in sand to texture it. Once the base is dry the stand is undercoated with Chaos Black. The entire stand is then drybrushed with Codex Grey. I then paint the bases Goblin Green (fairly roughly to leave some of the texture showing).



2 The next stage is detailing. First I choose a single colour (in this case Enchanted Blue) and paint the plumes plus one or two other bits on each trooper. I then paint all the armoured areas and weapons with Chainmail.



3 The final stage involves painting the skin on the face and hands with Elf Flesh, but I only bother with this stage for the front rank of the front stand of the unit. If the stand has a champion or standard you might want to add a few extra details or a symbol on the standard, but personally I'd rather get on with the next unit and get them onto the field of battle!



PAINTING



Stephan Hess
Warhammer
Champion '98

Before starting to paint, it is a good idea to try out a few colour schemes on test models first. I often paint up two or three bases to test different paint schemes I have in mind and choose the best.

There are some things to remember before you start to decide on the paint scheme. Author Douglas Adams shared his wisdom with us when he said that mankind is the only race in the universe to state the obvious all the time. So here it is: Warmaster models are small, they look small in your hands and look even smaller on the table. Besides being obvious, it is also important for your choice of colours,

patterns and highlighting. If you do a black and white check pattern on the trousers of your Wardancers in Warhammer it will look quite nice, but doing the same on a Warmaster model will look blurred and a bit of a mess. It is better to keep the paint scheme simple with areas of uniform colours.

On a Warhammer model, harsh highlights often look quite nice when the army is on the table. If you choose to highlight your Warmaster models, strong highlights confuse the overall look of the miniature, so it might be better to use a single subtle highlight, which you probably won't even see when the model is on the table, but which makes a difference when you give the miniature a closer look. In the same vein, you should avoid painting small details in contrasting colours as this too will be a distraction from the overall figure. At a distance it will look more like a misplaced spot of colour than a pouch or bottle. Also, too much contrast in the different parts of the uniform might result in a noisy look.

The choice of undercoat is rather important as it determines how quickly you can finish the paint job. A sensible choice will save a lot of time later. If you intend to paint your Warmaster miniatures metallic or dark colours then a black undercoat is a good start. If you intend to paint your Warmaster miniatures in bright colours then a white undercoat will make the colours more vibrant. Generally the preferred undercoat is black even if you are painting bright colours as you won't need to shade and this makes the whole process a lot quicker.

The first part of a Warmaster miniature I paint is the armour, using the drybrushing technique. This has two purposes. First it paints the armour and second it reveals all of the detail on the rest of the miniature, making painting easier later on. After armour comes the faces and while you're painting flesh colours you might as well do the arms too. As you apply the colours, you can leave a small amount of the black undercoat showing between the different areas of colour. This creates black lines that separate the flesh, clothes, armour and weapons and which neatens the finished miniature.

When painting horses it is often a good idea to keep them all the same colour to make them more uniform. First decide on the horse's colour. You can save a lot of time by using a dark coloured breed of horse.

If you have drybrushed metal on a black undercoat try applying a Chestnut wash directly over the metal. The ink over metal will look like a satin brown as if the horse has been sweating. Painting the mane is as simple as it gets. You take a lighter colour and draw the brush over the mane rather like drybrushing. The undercoat and ink will work as the shadows.

The painting of the accessories is straight forward, but as I said earlier don't use colours that contrast too much as the miniature will become confusing. You can apply highlights at this stage if you wish but this is only if you want to make the paint job that little bit better.

Bases are a very important part of any army. Just like Warhammer you can add static grass, stones and gravel or small scenery if the space permits. My personal favourite type of base are those that have really deep grass. I've also experimented with transparent bases made from perspex, which has the advantage of 'adapting' to any terrain you play on.

The Warmaster miniatures may seem a challenge because of their size, but remember they are quick and easy to paint, and they look great on a gaming table. Have fun!



Just a small part of Stephan's Warmaster High Elf army (on his own transparent bases!) marches through his Empire town.



Stephan's High Elf army arrayed for battle.