

AMPS Atlanta 2017 Club Project



PART 5

Painting Schemes

The M60A1 Tank has been painted in many color schemes. From the standard green applied at the Factory or Refit Facility, to the Desert scheme used in the Gulf Wars. It has also endured many experimental paint patterns, including the ones used by the 7th Corps in Germany.



The Dual Texture (DualTex) was an experimental modification of the MERDEC pattern. It was tested on Armor units of the 7th Corps in Germany. It generally followed the same pattern as the MERDEC scheme, but consisted of multicolored squares. There are not that many photos available of M60A1s in this scheme.



Another 7th Corps experimental scheme was the MASSTER pattern. It was a 4 color scheme.

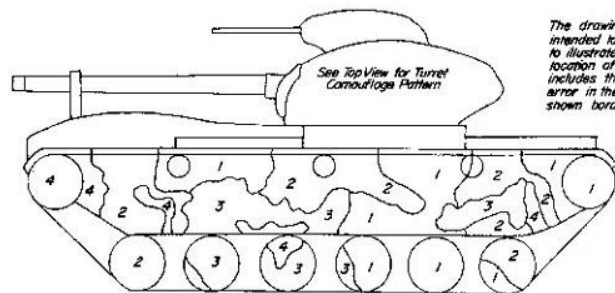
Color Code

1 = Brown	#30117
2 = Sand Brown	#30277
3 = Green	#34127
4 = Black	#37038



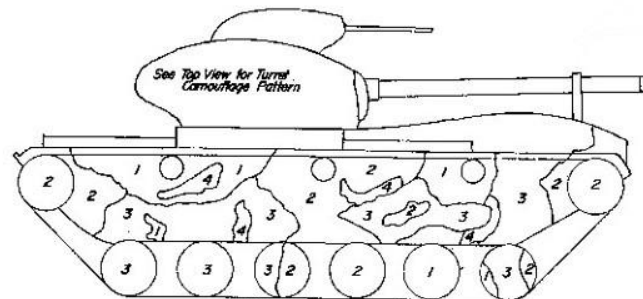
FOUR COLOR CAMOUFLAGE PATTERNS U.S. ARMY M-60 MEDIUM TANK & VARIANTS...

Reference: VII Corps Regulation 525-6, dated 1 June 1973

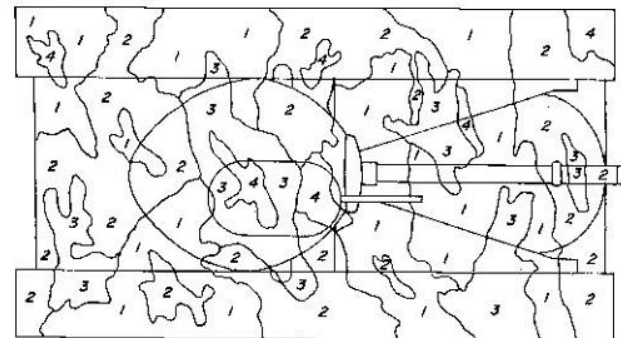


Left Side View - Tank & Tank Bulldozer

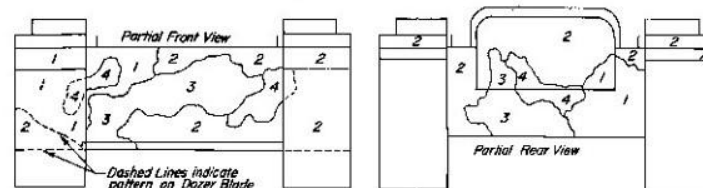
The drawings are not to scale and are not intended to accurately depict the M-60, but to illustrate the camouflage pattern and the location of colors. Note that the pattern includes the dozer blade face (1) and an error in the top view (where a No.1 patch is shown bordering a No.1 patch).



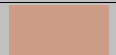
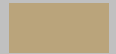










Right Side View



Top View - Tank & Tank Bulldozer



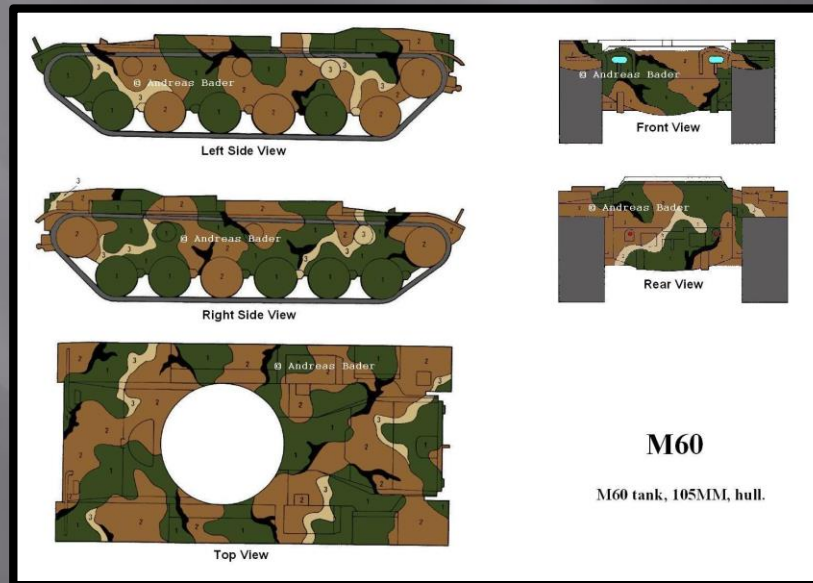
The Mobility Equipment Research and Development Center (MERDEC) scheme was widely used on all US Armor units in USAEUR and CONUS units. It consisted of 8 schemes dependent on the location and time of the year. It had 12 approved paint colors that made up these 8 schemes.

US Army Camouflage Paints		
Color Name	Color Chip	FS 595 Number
Desert Sand, DS		30279
Sand, S		30277
Earth Yellow, EY		30257
Earth Red, ER		30117
Field Drab, FD		30118
Earth Brown, EB		30099
Olive Drab, OD		34087
Light Green, LG		34151
Dark Green, DG		34102
Forest Green, FG		34079
Black, BL		37038
White, W		

The table below shows the nine camouflage color schemes used in the MERDEC schemes. Each scheme was chosen according to the expected operating environment for the vehicles. The most commonly used schemes were the Winter Verdant, Summer Verdant, and the Grey Desert schemes.

MERDEC Colors and Environments				
	Color Distribution			
Environment	45%	45%	5%	5%
Winter Verdant	FG	FD	S	BL
Snow with Trees	FG	W	S	BL
Snow w/Open Terrain	W	FD	S	BL
Summer Verdant	FG	LG	S	BL
Tropics Verdant	FG	DG	LG	BL
Grey Desert	S	FD	EY	BL
Red Desert	ER	EY	S	BL
Winter Arctic	W	W	W	W

Examples of the MERDEC schemes.



FS Colors with Model Master and Tamiya Cross Reference

FS #	Color	Abrv	MM #	Tamiya #
30279	Desert Sand	DS	2003	
30277	Sand	S	1704	XF-49
30257	Earth Yellow	EY	2136	XF-59
30117	Earth Red	ER	1701	
30118	Field Drab	FD	1702	XF-52
30099	Earth Brown	EB	1736	XF-64
34087	Olive Drab	OD	1711	XF-52
34151	Light Green	LG	1715	
34102	Dark Green	DG	1713	XF-5
34079	Forrest Green	FG	1712	XF-61
37038	Black	BL	1749	XF-1
37875	White	W	1768	XF-2



Several Companies now supply color sets that are specific for MERDEC and NATO colors.

AK Interactive:

AFV Series: MERDC
Camouflage Colors
Acrylic Paint Set

AK Interactive:

IRAQ & AFGHANISTAN
Set (Desert Colors)

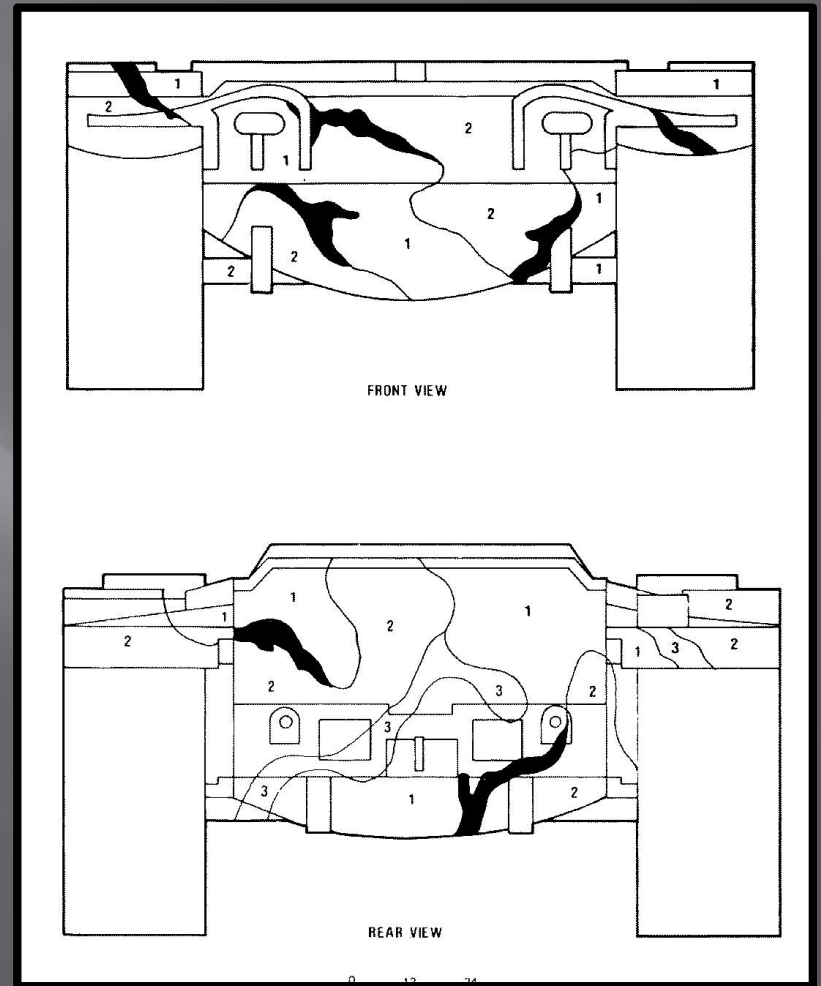
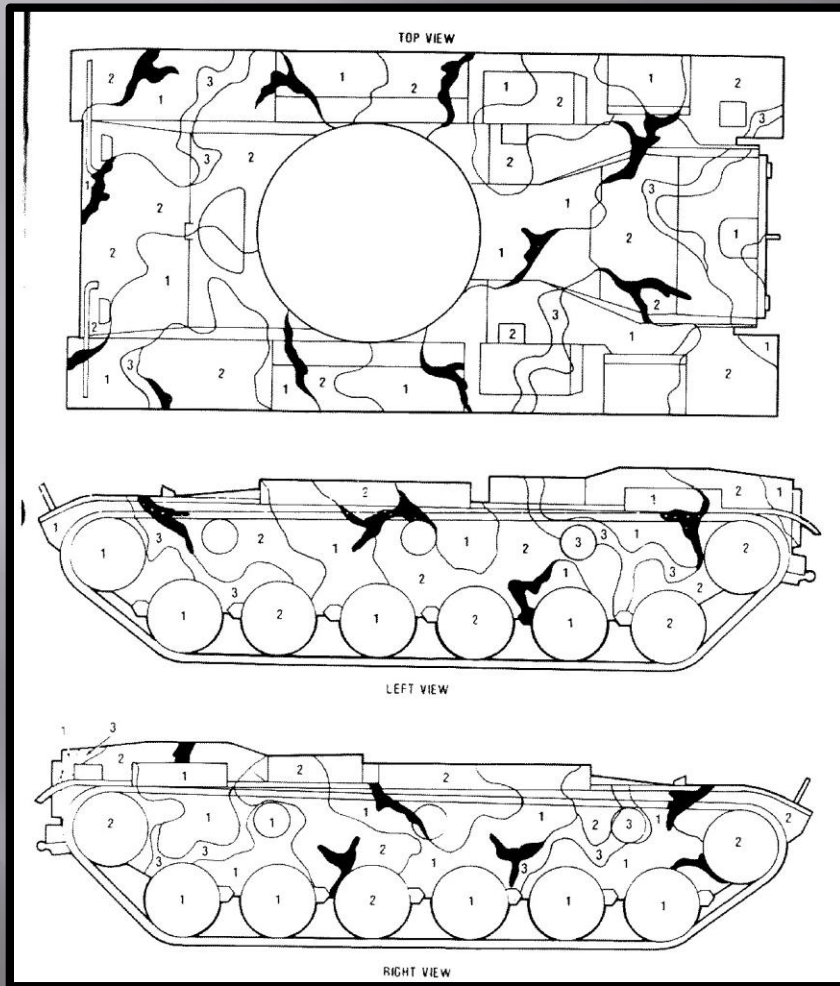
AMMO by MIG:

MODERN USA ARMY
COLORS (NATO)

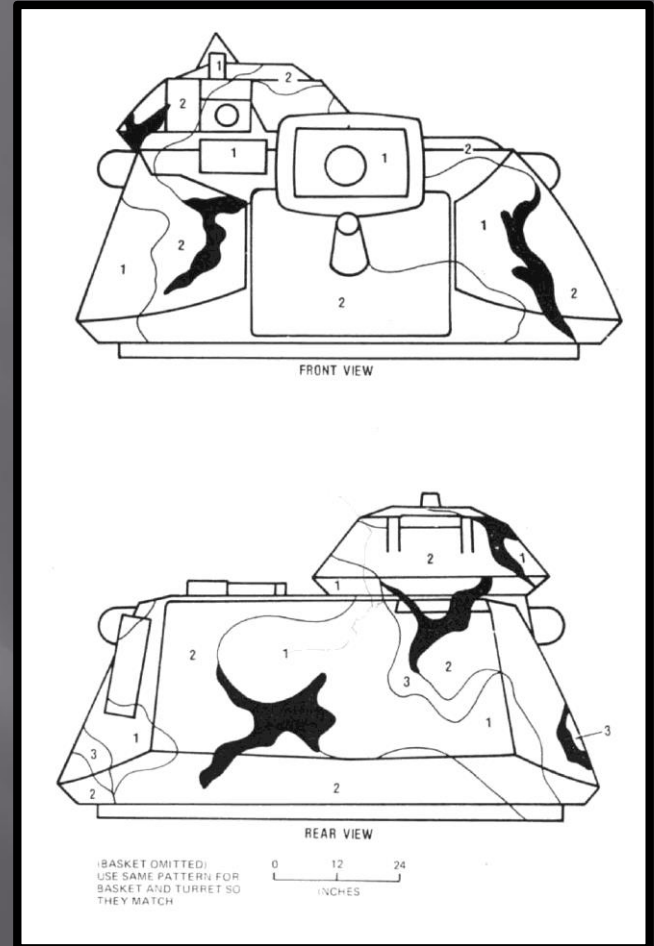
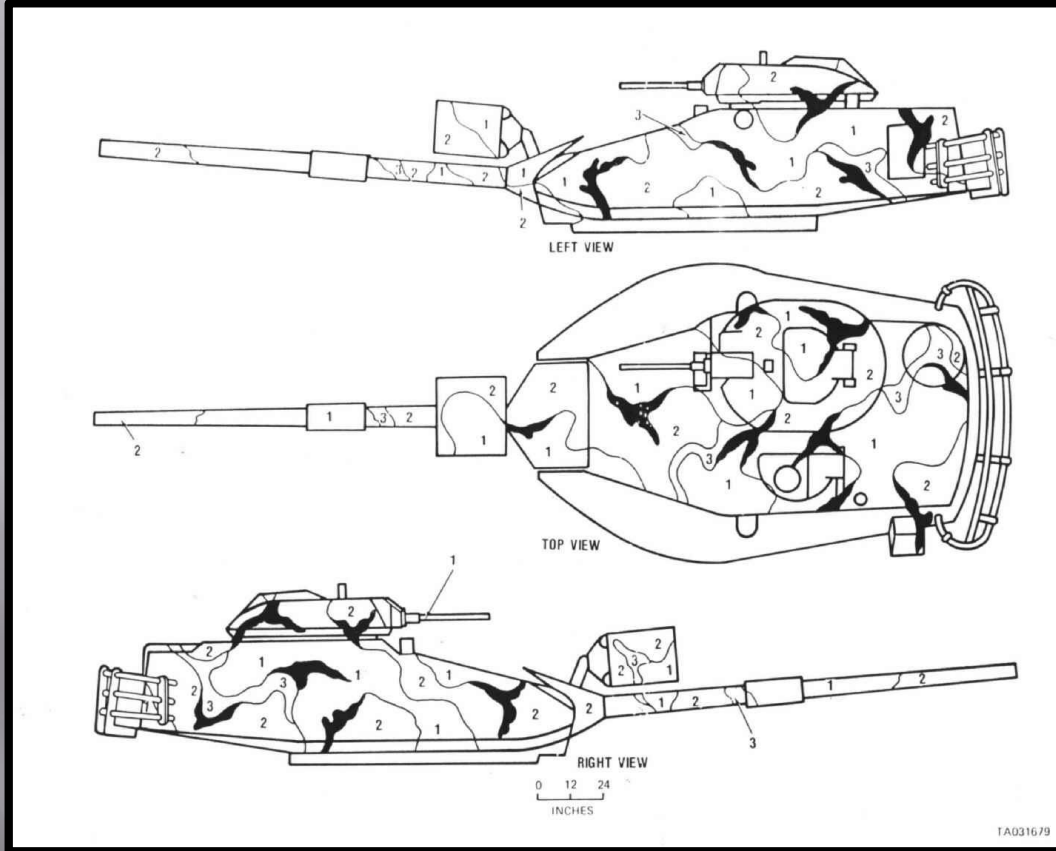
Life Color:

NATO MERDC
Camouflage Acrylic
Set

MERDEC Pattern for the M60A1 (Hull)



MERDEC Pattern for the M60A1(Turret)



The NATO Standard 3 color scheme

NATO Standard Colors

Black: FS# 37030 MM: 1749 Tamiya: XF-69

Brown: FS# 30051 MM: 1701 Tamiya: XF-68

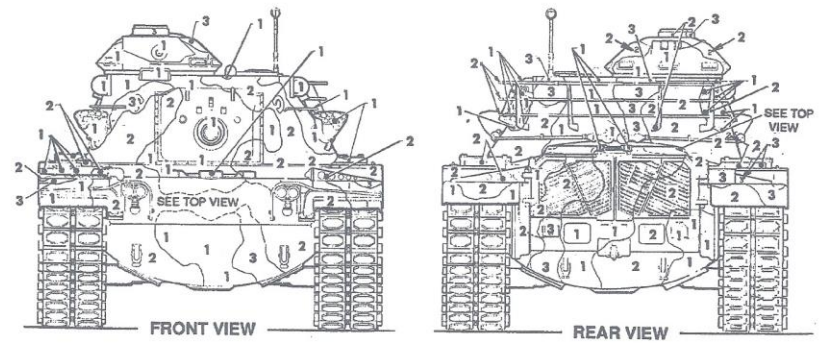
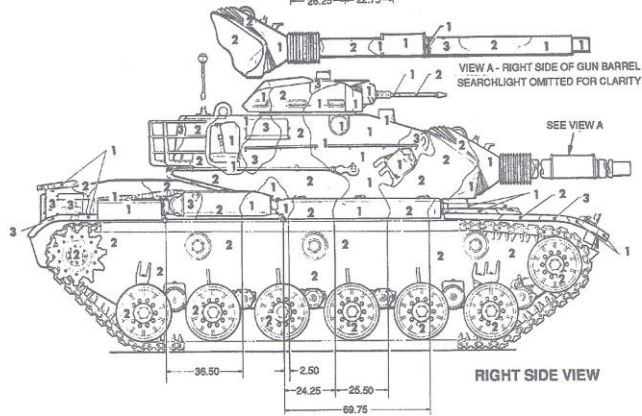
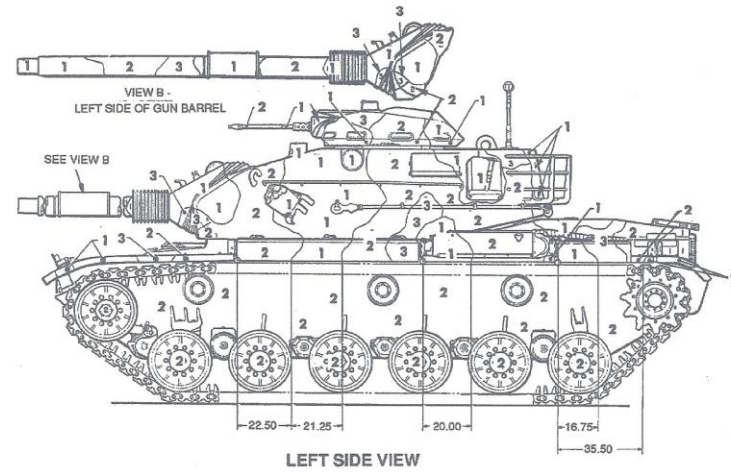
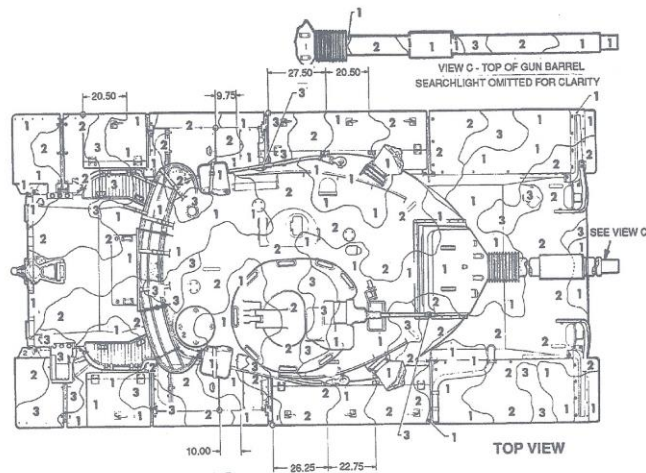
Green: FS# 34094 MM: 1710 Tamiya: XF-67

Life Color:

NATO MERDC
Camouflage Acrylic Set



The NATO Standard 3 color scheme was used, but not for long, as the M60s (Usually A3s) were soon replaced by M1s.



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ALL DONE