

## Winter Camouflage Painting – Episode 1 Slightly Weathered

By Roman Volchenkov

Winter camouflage is one of the most attractive finishes available for military models, and luckily also a rather easy one. However, as with anything in modelling one needs to study how that kind of finish can be done in a proper way to achieve scale realism and make a model attractive. Besides having proper tools in form of paints and weathering products we need to study reference images from WW2, or modern conflicts like Ukrainian crisis to see how the real vehicles look during the winter. One would notice that they all look slightly different and have a specific appearance, not present during the warm weather. Winter slows down all processes in nature and also slows rusting of metal; mud behaves differently and so on. Moreover, winter camouflages can have different nature – factory applied, field applied and different degree of wear.

In this series, I would like to show two of many possible options for winter camouflages – a slightly worn version and worn patterned winter camouflage. There are of course more variants and I highly recommend studying references to select a good variant before you paint and weather your model. In both examples I use 1/48 scale models as they offer quick finishing possibilities with still good surface detail in comparison to smaller scales.

And now please enjoy episode 1, where I will be demonstrating a vehicle with slightly weathered winter camouflage. Tamiya 1/48 Sd.Kfz. 232.



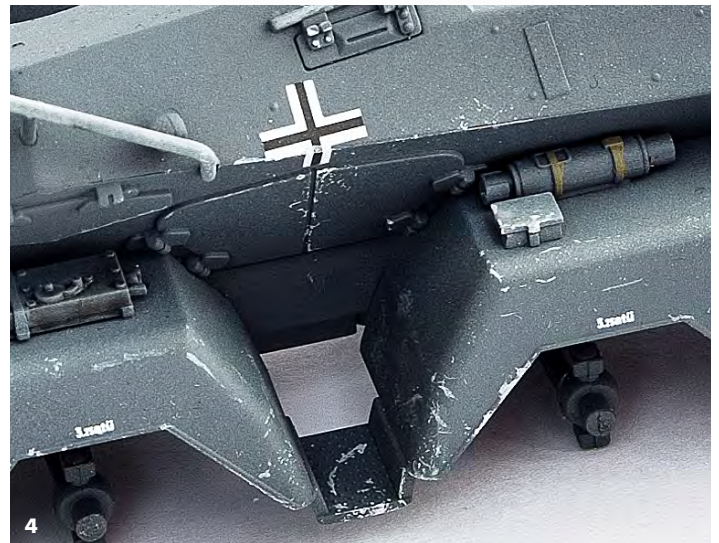




1 As mentioned above, this model in 1/48th scale has quite good detail, although not without omissions, therefore I detailed this model with additional photoetched parts from Hauler in most critical parts. Turned metal barrels are also obligatory for machine guns and perforated muzzle brakes.



2 First stage of the winter camouflage is creation of underlying basecoat. Here I did a zenithal highlight effect using Dunkelgrau and Stone Grey from AMMO. What is important to keep in mind at that stage is that if you invest too much effort here it will not be seen after the white wash is applied. Therefore modulating the basecoat seems unnecessary to me. The tires were airbrushed with matt black paint.



3 The areas for decals were airbrushed with glossy varnish and then the decals were set in place using a decal setting solution. Next I airbrushed glossy varnish again on top of the already transferred decals. It is important to do those steps to avoid silvering of the decal film in crosses and stencils.

4 I also added some scratches using the lighter grey color and painted the tools. However, as mentioned above chipping is not really necessary at this stage in case of lightly worn winter camouflage. After that stage I airbrushed the chipping fluid on the model concentrating in the areas where I would like to show maximum wear.



5 Matt white was airbrushed over top of the layer of chipping fluid, and as soon as it was dry I started rubbing it off using a brush with little amount of tap water on it. The water goes through the top paint layer and you can peel it easily. The areas of chipping should be logic. It is also important to use matt white and not gloss white as glossy paint gives thicker layers.





- 6 As you can see from that picture the chipping was done around the hatches, fenders and edges – areas where the surface would experience most interaction with crew and environment.



- 7 The weathering starts by making a light wash made of AMMO Interior streaking grime thinned with odorless thinner. This way we make the surface detail stand out. Wash is only applied in the corners and around raised detail so that I don't have to remove it when I am done.



- 8 Interior Streaking Grime was further diluted to a filter consistency and added generously to the fenders to show accumulation of dirt from the road on these surfaces.





9 Next the contrast is further increased with Dark brown wash. I also started adding streaking effects using the same interior streaking grime.

10 Streaking effects were done with tiny amounts of enamel products from AMMO. Here I used a fine brush and removed the excess with a clean brush and enamel thinner. Wheels got tiny amounts of pigments fixed with isopropyl alcohol (Tamiya acrylic thinner)



11 Fine drops of dirt were made using enamel products from AMMO, speckled on the model from a brush using a finger. If don't have experience with that technique - try it on a piece of paper to get a feeling how you need to drag the bristles of the brush and how much paint should be on it. I prefer not using an airbrush for blowing the drops, as you can't really control the force when you trigger it.



12 My next step is to refine white in some areas for visual interest, here I used Washable white paint. Certain areas were brightened up with fresh paint, while a few drips and spills were also added. It is a perfect solution when you would like to correct what was previously done on a model. Water soluble and flexible paint!



- 13** Finally, I add speckles on and around the wheels to add visual interest and realism. All using enamel products from AMMO like Dark earth or Kursk Earth.





## Winter Camouflage Painting – Episode 2

By Roman Volchenkov

Welcome to Chapter 2 where I continue our look into Winter Camouflage. In the first chapter I used an Sd.Kfz 232 to demonstrate slightly worn winter camouflage. In this chapter, I will be working the 1/48th BA-64 from Hauler to describe a distressed appearance.



- 1 This model is built from the full resin and photoetched kit from Hauler that was released some years ago and lacks a bit of scale realism especially when it comes to fenders and turret. Now there is also a Tamiya kit available.







- 2 In preparation for the accumulated snow and mud I will be placing on the vehicle, I apply acrylic paste to the lower areas of the chassis. I also took a few moments so paint the interior of the vehicle with flat white acrylic from AMMO.



- 3 The basecoat is 4BO paint from AMMO and it covers the resin perfectly when airbrushed at low pressure (see the AMMO blog entry from Rick Lawler for further info).



- 4 Next, I added highlight for visual interest by mixing 4BO and Flat white and misting lightly over the upper surfaces.

- 5 In this example, the winter camouflage will only cover the model in certain areas and so I added a wash before white camouflage in order to create contrasts and highlight details such as the welds and hatches. The tools, tires and gun were painted with acrylics.







6 If you refer back to my first example (Chapter 1, Sd.Kfz. 232) I am using the same tools as I did then, but the difference being that that both chipping fluid and flat white acrylics are brushed on this model! This way the appearance resembles the field applied white wash that is rough and uneven.

8 To enhance the worn effect I used green oil paints to mute, or diffuse the brightness of the white. You can see the effect on the front of the vehicle (dark green) and for example on the ventilation cover on top of the hull (bright green). Similar effects can be achieved with thinned acrylics or enamels. The tires were treated with pigments.

9 Streaking effects were done using Interior Streaking Grime, highly diluted with thinner to make it almost transparent. The muffler was painted in fine layers of rust washes from AMMO.



7 Next, using a wet brush I scrubbed off the white in some areas obtaining a worn look to the camouflage.



10 To place a model in context I put it on pre-shaped foam from Noch. The groundwork was then treated with AMMO enamel products so as to match the vehicle.





I hope that the described methods would be useful for other modellers when making winter camouflaged vehicles. As I already mentioned, references are very important here, as the BA-64 was painted using an Eastern profiles book as inspiration.

Happy modelling!

