

PAINTING ARMIES FOR THE GLORIOUS REVOLUTION

Here's a quick and easy guide about 'putting the paint' down on a selection of miniatures in the colours of the regiments that featured in the Monmouth Rebellion and Glorious Revolution.

By Paul Burkin

The miniatures I have used for this article are from Front Rank Figurines late 17th Century range. Having never painted anything from Front Rank before, it was a nice change to give this company's miniatures a go. It has to be said that I was very impressed when I received them. There was a small amount of flash, which was easily removed with the trusty files. This was nothing out of the ordinary, so it was a quick clean up and they were ready for basing. As you can see from the first picture, I always base my figures first.

In this case, I used grit normally used to cover the bottom of bird cages. I then sealed it with a coat of watered down PVA. This gives the basing some longevity and the grit doesn't start falling off as soon as you place the minis on the table. Other basing material such as sand could be done this way. Once based, I then undercoated the models with white primer. Any type of spray will do; I generally get mine from the local car auto shop. Matt Car body primer is generally nice, inexpensive and seems to cover fairly well.

So, as you can see, from the picture I have started with the flesh. I tend to start from the skin first. I know people who do the flesh tones last, but whichever order you prefer, the technique is the same. My basecoat for the flesh was GW Tanned Flesh. I like to water down my paint slightly so that it flows better. I applied two coats just to get a nice even coverage, then moved on to the eyes. I applied Vallejo Model Colour (VMC) white to the sockets and then carefully dotted some VMC Prussian Blue to represent the pupil. Once this stage was done, I went around the eye sockets in Tanned Flesh again just to tidy up any appearance of overly round eyes. I generally have to do this, because my hands and eyes aren't what they used to be! The second coat, a highlight for the flesh,

was a mixture of Tanned Flesh and GW Dwarf Flesh mixed, to a 50:50 ratio. Again, it was applied carefully, leaving the base colour in the creases to give me some depth and shade. Dwarf Flesh was then applied over this layer, again leaving the darker colours in the creases. Finally, I add GW Elf Flesh to the Dwarf Flesh in a 50:50 ratio and apply this to the highest points of the face. I tend to

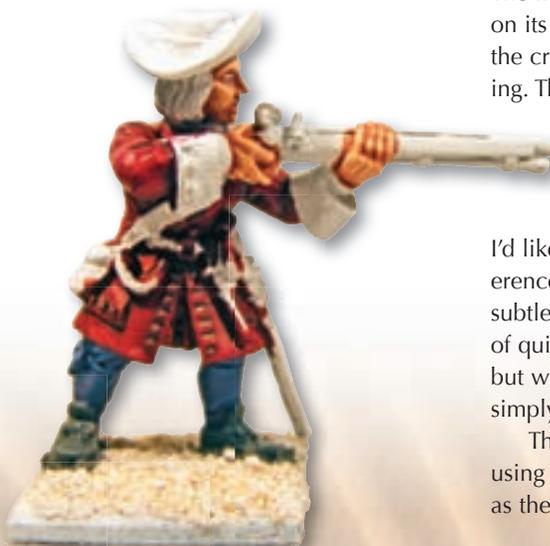


PAINTING

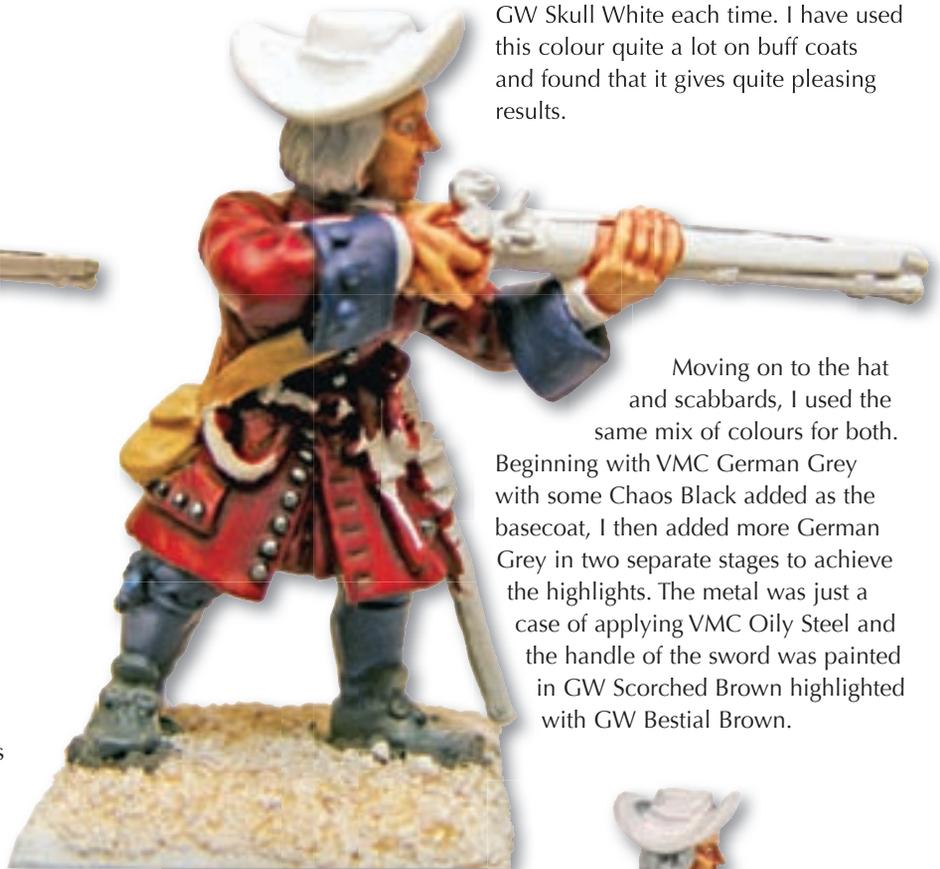
add more Elf Flesh to the latter mix to accent those highlights, but this is not essential. It all depends on how long you wish to spend on the faces of your minis. For an entire army, you'd probably want less detail. The final stage is to add a sparing amount of Elf Flesh to the very edges and raised areas. Sometimes I will then apply a wash to the skin to blend it all together and make it look more natural. I didn't in this case as I was quite pleased with how the faces looked.



The next stage was the bottom half of the figure. My base coat for the trousers was VMC Dark Prussian Blue. I then mixed a 60:40 mix by adding VMC Prussian Blue, layering it on as before leaving the darker colour in the creases. I then added more Prussian Blue to the mix at approximately 80:20 with the first mix. Finally GW Skull White was added and applied sparingly to the highest points.



The shoes were base coated with VMC German Grey and the highlight was achieved by adding varying amounts of VMC Black Grey. I decided to leave the shoe laces black, but made sure that they had the lightest shade of the colour so as to stand out.



Now for the tunic; the base colour was GW Scab Red and Chaos Black mixed at 60:40. This was applied in two coats to achieve an even coat. The first highlight was GW Scab Red on its own, leaving the base colour in the creases to help achieve the shading. The second highlight was GW Red Gore straight from the pot and finally a small amount of GW Skull White was added to the mix for the highest points. Here

I'd like to point out that my own preference for highlighting style is quite subtle. I have seen wonderful examples of quite strong contrasts between layers, but whenever I try to achieve this I am simply not happy with the results.

The cuffs on the coat were painted using the same colours and technique as the trousers. The final detail was a

dab of GW Chaos Black on the top of the buttons, which were then layered in VMC Oily Steel.

The next stage consists of the belts and bags. The colour I chose for these was Formula P3 Rucksack Tan from Privateer Press. This was applied straight from the pot as the basecoat and highlighted in three stages adding a little GW Skull White each time. I have used this colour quite a lot on buff coats and found that it gives quite pleasing results.

Moving on to the hat and scabbards, I used the same mix of colours for both. Beginning with VMC German Grey with some Chaos Black added as the basecoat, I then added more German Grey in two separate stages to achieve the highlights. The metal was just a case of applying VMC Oily Steel and the handle of the sword was painted in GW Scorched Brown highlighted with GW Bestial Brown.



The rifle was first base coated with GW Scorched Brown followed by GW Bestial Brown, a final highlight of GW Snakebite Leather was applied to finish the wooden stock. Again the metal on the barrel, trigger and firing mechanism was painted in VMC Oily Steel. I then gave all the metal parts a wash of GW Badab Black to reduce the shine.

PAINING



Somerset Militia

and breeches is a Dutch Foot Guard of William's invasion force. Finally, the cavalry model is of the 1st Troop Life Guards of James II. Information on the uniform colours was obtained from *From Pike to Shot: Armies & Battles of Western Europe 1685-1720* by C. S. Grant, published by Wargames Research Group.

The final stage was to apply a thin band of VMC Oily Steel to the brim of the hat. And that, my friends, is that. This is how I went about painting a soldier from King James' First Regiment Foot Guards.

I have painted a few more examples, using the same method, with variations in the basic colour scheme. The soldier with the white cuffs and breeches is painted as a member of the Scots Guards circa 1688-1700. The one with the yellow cuffs is a member of the Somerset Militia (circa 1685) and the gentleman in the blue coat with orange-yellow cuffs



Dutch Foot Guards

Scots Guard



James II 1st Troop Life Guards Cavalry

