



Introduction to our painting guide No 11

This WWII figure-painting guide has been produced for use with our British 'Mediterranean' Infantry range of 20mm/ 1/76th scale figures. It will enable you to paint your new desert fighting figures with a high degree of accuracy.

This guide describes a typical infantryman of the type that fought during the North African campaign between 1941 and 1942. In the range can be used to represent infantry that fought in the Sicily campaign and the first months of the Italian mainland landings during 1943. And also in the Far East.

The figures wear the Khaki Drill shirt, shorts or trousers. They carry their equipment on a set of 1937 webbing. They wear the MKII steel helmet painted sand yellow as an aid to camouflage. Although it has not been shown in our drawing the Thompson machine guns spare ammunition drums were carried in a small pack slung around the body on a canvas strap.

Those interested in finding out more about this exhaustive subject are recommended to read the Osprey men at arms book number 112. British Battle dress 1937-61 by Brian Jewell.

UNIFORM DETAIL	HUMBROL	VALLAJO	COLOUR PARTY
MKII Helmet	121 Matt Stone	819 Sand	MA63
KD Shirt	103 Matt Cream	847 Dark Sand	MA21
KD Shorts/Trousers	103 Matt Cream	847 Dark Sand	MA21
Webbing	93 Matt Yellow	819 Sand	MA63
Water bottle	186 Brown	879 Brown	MA14
Rank chevrons	34 Matt White	951 White	MA1
Boots	H/L Matt Grey	H/L 994 Grey	MA50
Wooden parts	186 Brown	879 Brown	MA14
Buckles	54 Brass	801 Brass	MT1
Cup	34 Matt White	951 White	MA1
Additional Uniform notes			
Battle dress trousers	26 Matt Khaki	921 Br. Uniform	MA63
Anti gas cape	102 Military Green	896 Dark Green	MA49

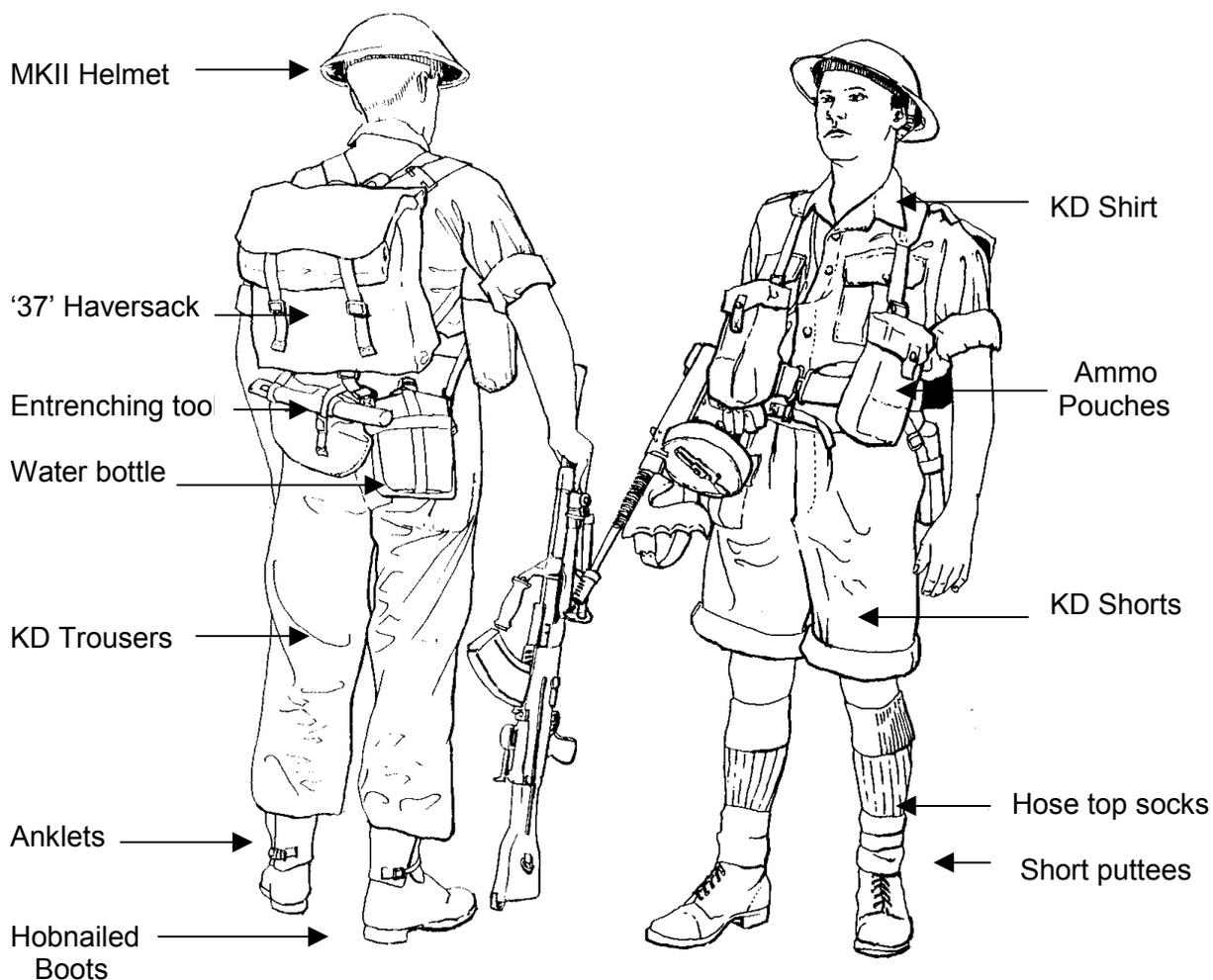
SOME USEFUL PAINTING TIPS!

To achieve the best results from your painting we recommend that you clean the figures with water and remove all flash/mould lines with a file before undercoating the figures with Matt Black paint. We also suggest that you use a good quality paintbrush such as a Kolinsky type brush with a fine point.

Any colour applied over the Matt Black will appear brighter and provide added depth to the model. Once the base colours had dried it is a good idea to highlight your earlier work. Mix a little white to the original colours and highlight the creases and raised parts of your model with this new lighter colour. If done carefully this will give the model a nice finish. Remember to varnish all finished work, as this will provide your figures from any potential damage.

This guide was prepared by S. Pearson and R. Rowell for SHQ Miniatures.

British "Mediterranean" Infantry



Personal weapons included the SMLE No1 Mill Rifle, Thompson machine gun and for squad support the excellent Bren light machine gun. Officers and specialist troops were also issued the Enfield No2 MKI 38inch revolver, usually carried on a lanyard.

UNIFORM NOTES

Insignia was rarely attached to the KD shirt. Removable Divisional badges were usually slipped over the shoulder straps, as were officer's rank badges. NCO's chevrons were sewn or attached to press-studs on the upper right arm only.

In the field the KD shirt and shorts were washed as frequently as possible and were exposed daily to the hot desert sun, this combination led to the uniform bleaching. Many shades of light and dark Khaki were therefore encountered within a squad.

The '37' set of webbing bleached in the desert sun, it was also washed regularly so again many different shades of webbing could be found.

It was not uncommon for British troops in North Africa to be issued the Khaki Brown battle dress blouse and trousers. Many troops suffered from the low temperatures at night and needed more layers of clothing when sleeping or fighting at night. The Battle dress tunic usually had Divisional, arms of service tapes and rank chevrons applied. More commonly worn were the BD trousers, which protected the wearer from insects, sand in the boots and from potentially poisonous plants.