

THE ARMY PAINTER

Wargamers' Guide to Basing

GET MORE TIME FOR GAMING



Making your bases

BASING YOUR ARMY Applying basing to your army is very important, as it binds the miniatures together as a coherent force with the same character and theme.

This is often the last stage in your journey to a finished army and a very rewarding step that can be. However, it is worth spending some time making sure you get your bases right. A little preparation will prevent hair pulling and models thrown into the garbage can later on.

Make a few test bases and get the feel for your whole army, taking into consideration the time you have available. No point starting on a too ambitious basing project, if what you really want is to take your army onto the tabletop as fast as you can. If nothing else, we hope this guide can offer you some inspiration to what kind of base you wish to go for.



A regiment of Viking Bondsmen have been through the first steps in The Army Painter Technique: Spray - Basecoat - Dip - Anti-Shine Matt Varnish. Now they are ready for basing.



A selection of different bases. Don't forget to consider the colour on the side of the base - it has an important impact on the look of your army. The most common colours are WP Leather Brown, WP Goblin Green, WP Oak Brown, WP Uniform Grey or just plain WP Matt Black.



On this Hail Caesar Celtic army all the bases are done exactly the same - even repeated on the movement trays.

Gaming standard made easy

Step-by-step guide for doing your bases The Army Painter style



GAMING STANDARD BASES MADE EASY: If you want good looking bases on your miniatures, but don't have all the time in the world, The Army Painter Battlefields Battleground basing scatter is the thing for you!

Made from 3 sizes of coloured-in gravel it gives the perfect foundation for building up a unique base. All you need to do is glue in onto the base of the finished model and then give it a quick drybrush - done! No need to waste time painting it over - we have already done that for you!

STEP 0: The model is ready for basing, the base was painted with Warpaints Oak Brown.



STEP 1: Using a mid size brush apply a layer of Battlefields PVA Basing Glue to the base. The water based glue comes white but will dry up transparent. You can thin the Battlefields PVA Basing Glue with plain water if needed and just rinse your brush in a little warm, soapy water once done.



Take care not to cover the feet of the model - no warrior stays in one place long enough for grass and dirt to grow on him. If the accident should happen, simply remove the PVA glue with a damp brush.

STEP 2: Use a few Battlefields Rocks on each base to add variation and



depth. Pre-coloured in grey and brown nuances it is a very simple to use and does not need to be painted and works perfectly in conjunction with the Battlefields Battleground.

Don't cover the whole base in Battlefields Rocks, just sprinkle on a few pieces. The cork Battlefields Rocks comes in many shapes and sizes - just apply randomly and you will get a realistic effect.

STEP 3: With the Battlefields Basing Glue still wet carefully dip the base in your pot of Battlefields Basing: Brown Battleground. Take care or the Battlefields Rocks might be pushed off the base.

The square 150ml pot makes it easy to apply the gravel without having it all over your work area. Once you've applied the Rocks and Brown Battleground to all your models, simply put the lid back on the Battlefields Basing pot and you have it ready for next time.



STEP 4: Before our Viking Warrior model is ready for the next steps you need to let the Battlefields PVA Basing Glue dry thoroughly. This takes at least an hour, but you might want to leave it longer.

The Battlefields PVA Basing Glue dry up clear and you might glimpse the dark brown colour (in this example WP Oak Brown) in between the gravel and cork.

The Army Painter basing products already come coloured, saving you the process of having to paint your sand or gravel. Once the glue is dry we will move straight to highlighting in the next step.

Oak Brown WP1124



Used in this fashion the 150ml pot of Battlefields Rocks will last you a lifetime



BASING: The Battlefields range consists of two lines; both has been designed to create some superb looking bases for armies of miniatures be they Fantasy, Sci-Fi or Historical.

ESSENTIAL RANGE: consists of basing grit, scatter and static grass - the basic stuff you need on all models. The essential range consist of 10 different Battlefield basings and comes in a square full 150ml. pot.

Black Battleground BF4101



Brown Battleground BF4102



Snow scatter BF4103



Black Battleground bases

Here is another step-by-step example, this time using Battlefields Black Battleground and Wasteland Tuft. Another quick and effective way to get your army onto the battlefield fast!

Uniform Grey
WP1118



Step 1: The base is painted WP Matt Black. Step 2: Apply Battlefields Basing PVA Glue with an old brush and dip in the tub of Battlefields Black Battleground. Leave to dry for at least 1 hour. Step 3: Drybrush the black gravel with WP Uniform Grey using the Wargamers: Small Drybrush.



Step 4: Give the base a 2nd lighter drybrush with WP Skeleton Bone.
Step 5: Using a drop of Super Glue attach a few Battlefields XP: Wasteland Tufts.
Step 6: The Cowboy Sharpshooter is ready for a game in the Wild West.

Northern Fury - snow bases

Once your normal bases are done, you can go back and add Battlefields Basing: Snow on top for a cool winter effect. Applying the Snow on top of your normal base, creates the illusion of the recently fallen snow.



Step 1: The Celtic Warrior on a base done with Battlefields Grass Green, Brown Battleground and Highland Tuft.

Step 2: Apply a coat of Battlefields Basing PVA Glue in the areas where you want the snow.

Step 3: Dip in the Battlefields Basing: Snow flock pot and shake off excess scatter. If you want, repeat step 2-3 for a deeper snow effect.

Arquebusier example: Notice the flat effect on the base. This base was done using only Battlefields Basing: Snow and the perfect Battlefields XP: Winter Tuft straight on the plain base.

STEP 5: Once the Battlefields Basing PVA Glue is all dry the next step is to highlight the Battlefields Brown Battleground and Rocks.

Desert Yellow
WP1121

The first highlight is done with WP Desert Yellow. Apply a fair amount of paint - a heavy drybrush, if you like. For this use either a worn out Wargamers: Regiment Brush or a Wargamers: Small Drybrush.

The dark brown scatter acts as your shading, no need to add an ink wash.

STEP 6: Add a second highlight using the lighter WP Skeleton Bone. Be careful you don't cover the previous layer of WP Desert Yellow - you want to build up the highlights, so just add a very fine drybrush this time.

As usual do your best to avoid getting paint onto the model. If you opted for a simpler base, you can leave out the drybrush steps and go straight to adding tufts or static grass flock. However, for a base a la The Army Painter Style drybrushing is needed.

STEP 7: Our Viking Warrior model so far. The pre-coloured Battlefields Brown Battleground and Battlefields Rocks forms the platform for direct highlighting - a super fast method to get your bases to this standard. We have spend less than a minute (less drying time, of course) so far. You can play around with the look of your bases, using different Wargamers: Small Drybrush. Here are 2 examples also made with Brown Battleground and Rocks.

STEP 8: The absolute coolest look of your bases is done with the Battlefields Tufts - if you are a Wargamer you need these in your life! Easy to use and stunningly realistic.

Battlefields Tufts from The Army Painter come in many different colours and lengths. In this example we have chosen the all round Battlefields XP: Swamp Tuft, a 6mm tuft with a greenish shade.

Take a pair of The Army Painter Hobby Pliers and pick up a lump of tuft.

Step 9: Add a tiny drop of Super Glue and place the tuft on your base. Even though the tufts appears to be pre-glued, this will not sustain the wear and tear of gaming, therefore it is suggested to use a spot of Super Glue. Try to put your tufts on the most even surface and avoid gluing it on top of the Battlefields Rocks - it looks a bit silly.

Step 10: The Tuft in place. You can now add more tufts of the same type or you can add a few more tufts using a few different types.

Done! Our Viking is now ready for gaming - a high standard base with less than 5 minutes work.

Get more time for gaming!



Battlefield Rocks
BF4110



Battlefields XP
Range



Battlefields XP Range :

Making unique bases has never been easier with the Battlefields XP series of tufts.

Each pack holds 77 individual tufts in three sizes for endless variations.

Using varied sizes of tufts in, and combining several colours gives you the ability to make absolutely stunning bases.

Wasteland Tuft
BF4206



Mountain Tuft
BF4207



Grass Green Flock
BF4104



Moss Green Flock
BF4105



Ash Grey Flock
BF4106



Field Grass
BF4107



Steppe Grass
BF4108



Summer Undergrowth
BF4109



The simple and fast bases

If you are looking for a very fast way to get your models based and on the battlefield, the Battlefield Basing Flocks is perhaps the products you are looking for.



Example 1: The base on this Dark Age Warrior was painted WP Leather Brown and Battlefields Grass Green Flock were glued on using Battlefields Basing PVA Glue.

Example 2: This Dark Age Warrior is on a base painted WP Angel Green with Battlefields Moss Green Flock .

Example 3: The base on this Zombie is done using the Black Battleground highlighted as detailed in the examples on the previous pages. A few spots of Battlefields Basing PVA Glue were painted on the base and some Battlefields Steppe Static Gras were applied.

Urban bases - using Razor Wire

As part of The Army Painter Battlefields XP series you'll find the Razor wire blister. In this blister you get a 250cm long steel wire - enough for hundreds of urban themed bases. Once the Razor wire is glued on the base, you can leave or paint it with Warpaints for added realism - like the one on the German Trooper below.



Step 1: Wind the Razor wire around a brush handle and cut it to the desired length using a metal Precision Side Cutter.

Step 2: Glue the Razor wire in place using Super Glue. Finish the base with Battlefields.

WW2 example: The Razor wire has been painted WP Gun Metal with WP Fur Brown as rust.

For the impatient...



Use Super Glue: Throughout this guide we have shown you how to use Battlefields Basing PVA Glue to apply Battleground and Flock. However, for those of you who cannot wait for the PVA to dry, simply use Super Glue instead and go for the instant drying using Magic Super Glue Activator.

However, use carefully as the Super Glue is not as forgiving when it comes to fixing mistakes.

Battlefields Hobby Gallery

Here's a selection of different looking bases to inspire your next army project.



Example 1: Battlefields Brown Battleground and Battlefields XP Winter Tuft.

Example 2: Battlefields Brown Battleground, Battlefields XP Swamp Tuft and Battlefields XP Highland Tuft .

Example 3: Battlefields Brown Battleground, Battlefields Moss Green and Battlefields XP Jungle Tuft



Example 4: Battlefields Black Battleground and Battlefields Snow.

Example 5: Battlefields Ash Grey and Warpaints Chaotic Red.

Example 6: Battlefields Black Battleground with plastic bits.



Example Warband: Battlefields Brown Battleground, Battlefields Snow and Battlefields XP Tuft.

The Warband above was all done with the same bases, linked to the gaming table scenery - in this case a snow landscape.

Woodland Tuft
BF4204



Battlefields Basing Set
ST5114



Battlefields Basing Glue
GL2003



Miniature & Model
Superglue
BF4206

