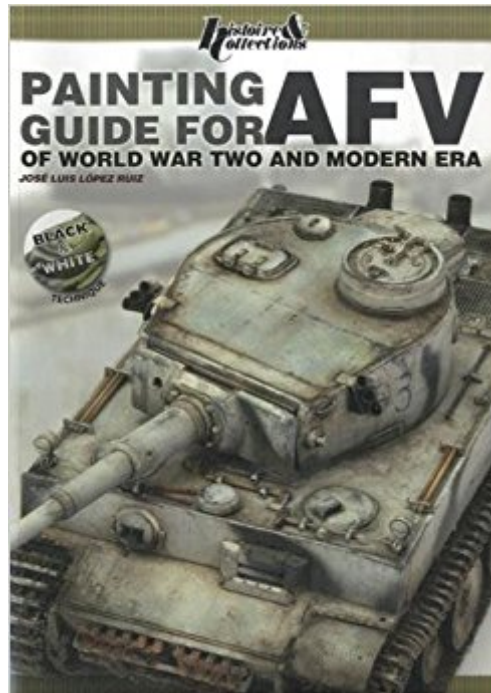




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Painting Guide For AFV: Of World War Two And Modern Era



Synopsis

Luis Lopez Ruiz is a renowned Spanish modeler, also well known to Steelmasters magazine's reader. The talented modeler spent the last years to develop and improve his own technique, inspired by the zenithal painting effect, to achieve a stunning color finish on his military scale models: the black and white technique. Following the best selling Paint Guide for Figures of WWII, this new book explains, through detailed step by step photos, how to give your model José the perfect enhance of contrast and a eye catching look. Variety of materials used, black and white priming technique and different type of weathering are presented. Five examples of AFVs, from WWII to modern era, are illustrated with many photos. The understanding and the mastery of these method and related techniques are essentials to give a striking realism to military vehicles of WWII and modern era. A gallery of finished scale models completes this highly recommended book for modelers.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

presented in an attractive format, and the modelling is to a very high standard. It goes well with the other title on painting figures which Histoire et Collections issued in the same series. (Military Modeling.com) "If you're a modeler and seeking to improve your painting techniques (like me!) then you need to check out this superb book" (Britain at War) "...packed with good captioned photos providing a thorough understanding to the technique implemented in the pages that is easily understood by the reader...As the author has said about his

goal of the book is "to write a book to help those who don't know where to start" and I feel he has done just that" (InScale)

This book is fantastic. If you are painting models, you need this reference.

Fantastic book. Got it right away.

This book is based on a simple premise: prime your AFV models in grey; then "pre-shade" them in black followed by four other shades of grey; then apply chipping and weathering in grey too; apply a base color in a highly diluted form. And voila! You have a professional looking kit. That's it. That's all. Now we need to ask ourselves, whether the above paragraph is worth any money? The author takes credit for this process and calls it the "Black & White Technique". He states that it's only a few years old and in this 84-page book, it's summarized in the equivalence of 2.5 pages of large font text. The author states that the beauty of this technique avoids the tendency for modelers to apply heavy base coats, followed by highlight coats, then weathering followed by "throwing mud" around. Unfortunately, what we're left with is a black and white coating process, still requiring highlighting, and weathering followed by "throwing mud" around. It's an oversized, softcover book, though sturdy enough to take some punishment. Mine came plastic-wrapped which was a very nice touch. After a couple of introductory sections covering paint choices and airbrushing, I was really excited to push on thinking this book would make a constant companion during my building forays in the months to come. The author's enthusiasm and sense of humor really were genuine. But then the book's weaknesses hit me. Its prime fault lay with the underlying principal of the Black & White Technique. You see, it's totally reliant on knowledge of another critical painting skill called the "Zenithal Technique". It's just that nowhere in the book, is the Zenithal Technique explained. Though you do get a brief hint to place your model under a lamp. Then appear its other two main shortcomings: 1. Poor English translation: Look, I've yet to find a publication such as Tamiya Model Magazine International or Model Military International without its regular share of typos. But there are points in this book where comprehension becomes impossible. Somewhere between Spanish and English things went off track. 2. Illustrations: The photos

accompanying the text are beautiful and some quite large. It's just that rarely do they show what the text is describing. Further, at times you'll only see one perspective of a model and as guide that's basically useless. I did pick up one tip from the text. And that's to paint small arms flat black and then highlight them with a graphite pencil. It avoids the need for gunmetal paint shading. So I will try that. Yet, that's about it. Otherwise, you're simply left with an oversized folio, offering shots of roughly 19 different AFVs and some with only one pic each, and a text that isn't educational at all. Language aside, had this book discussed Zenithal painting step by step, and then comprehensively focused on only just 2 kits from start to finish showing their total crafting and painting it would have been a true winner. Instead we're simply given single zoomed out shots of the odd paintbrush touching undefined spots, and paint pots sitting besides others. In a nutshell, this book will simply live amid my other modeling magazines merely as a pictorial collection, rather than a tool. If you're prepared to accept the price asked for this book in this way, you won't be disappointed. But if you're looking for a "guidebook", as its title suggests, you need to look elsewhere. One other thing I do give the author credit for: his use of oils to simulate grime. It comes as an aftereffect of his oil washes, but it is something I am going to try and replicate with acrylics if I can. If not, I still have a set of oil paints sitting by my side.

An outstanding book detailing the aspects creating realistic models. The photos are excellent quality and there are step-by-step instructions for the various techniques. I would recommend this book to anyone serious about improving their techniques for realistic model building.

I found the major selling point of this book to be a bit brief, the b/w technique is given a couple pages with a few example photos but it's enough to get the idea. It does not explain techniques in the excruciating detail of Rinaldis tank art series. And the author backs away from giving sub details as I have found to be a theme in Jimenez books too and rather serves to inspire by explaining the technique adequately and leaving it to the reader to experiment. The author frequently advises deviating from a strict formula for distressing a model and suggests working in very measured and considered approach. There are however several outlines for some weathering sequences depending on the vehicles use and location ie new tank doing field test or battle tested tank in Europe. I found the technique to be time consuming but it helped me elevate my models depth and

really added a lot of character to the model. It enhances small models and gives them a very striking appearance. When combined with weathering I'm very satisfied with my results. Something else I found refreshing is that the author doesn't seem to work for any hobby company. So you get an opinion on a wide variety of product brands that he favors and there is an explanation why. I think this is a solid buy for anyone who wants a little more artistic model result and who is willing to experiment with a technique without being directed by a more formulaic approach.

Excellent book, with very good photos and step-by-step explanation. Ideal for hobbyists like me re-starting after decades of inactivity. Only negative side is that the text is written in poor colloquial English by a foreigner who speaks English as a foreign language. The publisher didn't hire a good proof-reader or a proof-reader in the first place.

Excellent guide for advance modellers! Would not recommend for beginners.

Great reference with excellent builds.

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