

# Char B1

## a Tom Wise Painting Guide

Originally posted on the *Flames of War* forums, August 7, 2010 as "Char B1 Painting and Assembly Guide (prize support) Updated"  
 Miniatures shown are products of Battlefront Miniatures

These Char B1's are part of the prize support that I'm donating to the match at the Adventure's Guild (Harrisburg, PA) on Oct. 3, 2010. I'll be supplying an Early War Grenadier Company, two platoons of Char B1's, two Platoons of Matilda II's and a company of early war SS. I have the Grenadiers and Char B1's done. These will be randomly given to those attending, so everybody has an even chance of winning them. The winner has no leg up on anybody else. You have to be present to win them, I'm not shipping them.



Before Wash



After Wash - I applied a brown wash to tone down the Tan Yellow



### MATERIALS

#### Magic Wash

1/3 Kel's (Didi's Ink) Magic Sauce  
 1/3 water  
 1/3 Future Floor Polish

Extra Thick  
 Cyanoacrylate

Koh-i-Noor

Rapidograph Pens  
 3x0, .25

### PAINTS

818	Red Leather
863	Gunmetal
897	Bronze
	Green
912	Tan Yellow
950	Black
951	Flat White
983	Flat Earth

Numbers indicate Vallejo paint color code

## ASSEMBLY OF GE180 CHAR B1

I started by prepping the model by cleaning and filing model lines. The model is assembled except for the treads and crew figure there.

### Step 1 (Optional)

Since the hull already has a recess for a magnet I used one of my spare magnets that BF provides in other box sets and glued one to the hull and turret stub. You need to glue the 75mm gun to the hull and the front axle to the right side of the treads first before you glue the right tread to the hull. If you glue the right tread first you'll not be able to glue the gun and axle in place. You don't need the square box receptacle that goes on the rear hull when making an Early War version of the Char B1. So, glue the tow chain, left tread, and gun to the turret.



### Step 2

Glue the rear turret hatch to the turret and the right tread to the hull. Glue the hand rail to the hull, there are dimples on the treads where the hand rail to align to as well as holes in the hull. Next glue the exhaust to the hull; the right side of the exhaust may sit too high so you might have to file down the stub so that it fits correctly.



### Step 3

Paint 912 (Tan Yellow) on the vehicle, this may take several coats to get proper coverage.



#### Step 4

Mix 50/50 White (951) and Tan Yellow (912) together and dry brush this over the vehicle as your highlight color.



#### Step 5

I used my Rapidograph Pen and outlined the camo pattern I wanted to go on these Tanks.



#### Step 6

On the left I painted Bronze Green (897) on the areas where I wanted that color to go. On the Right I painted Flat Earth (893) on the areas where I wanted it to go. Optionally, you could use Flat Brown (984) in place of the Flat Earth if you wanted to match the chestnut brown that was used on some Char B1's.

#### Step 7

Mix 25% Flat White (951) in with 75% Bronze Green (897) and dry brush this over the base coat of Bronze Green.



### Step 8

Mix 25% Flat White (951) in with 75% Flat Earth (897) and dry brush this over the base coat of Flat Earth.



### Step 9

I went back over the camo edges with my Rapidograph Pen and defined a hard black edge on the camo. After that I dull coated the vehicle before continuing. The ink in a Rapidograph Pen is water soluble and will run when you apply decal set. The Dull Coat will prevent the running.



### Step 10

I go back over the tank and repaint the muffler, MG's, tow chain and treads black. Note: Every now and again I get a bottle of Vallejo Black that goes on with a gloss, don't worry it'll go away when it gets it's final dull coat.



### Step 11

On the left I dry brushed Red Leather (818) on the exposed parts of the muffler. On the right I mixed 50/50 of Flat White(951) and Red Leather (818) and dry brushed that over the base of Red Leather to simulate a rusty muffler.





Step 12  
I then dry brushed gun metal (863)  
onto the treads, tow chain and MG.

Step 13  
Finally, I did some limited blacklining on  
the major panels, applied decals and did a  
final dull coat. Optionally, you could either  
use Iraqi Sand (819) or a mix of the highlight  
color of Yellow Tan mixed with White and  
use as additional weathering. I chose not to  
do this as I didn't want to subdue the camo.  
You could also apply a brown wash to bring  
out the detail more, if you like.



With Brown Wash Applied

# Finished!

