

# ARMOUR MODELLING 101

## A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO THE 1/35 SCALE MODELLING WORLD



### MAJOR INJECTION-MOULDED KIT MANUFACTURERS

- Academy (a bit of everything)
- AFV Club (a bit of everything, but very good at softskins and artillery)
- Bronco (two kits so far – Comet and Hotchkiss H39 – with more hopefully to come)
- DML/Dragon (a lot of everything)
- ICM/Alanger (Soviet and German World War II, Soviet postwar)
- Italeri (a bit of everything)
- RPM (some fascinating prewar and obscure WWII subjects)
- SKIF (interesting postwar Soviet subjects – not for the faint of heart!)
- Tamiya (a lot of everything, with some unique subjects)
- Tasca (German World War II vehicles, with the promise of a Sherman)
- Tristar (German World War II vehicles)
- Trumpeter (a bit of everything, including some spectacular kits)
- Zvezda (interesting WWII and postwar Soviet subjects, plus DML and Italeri reboxes)

### MAJOR RESIN KIT MANUFACTURERS

- ADV/Azimut (a wide variety of subjects, of sometimes variable quality)
- Accurate Armour (some truly spectacular models – 1/35 U-boat and LCT!)
- Cromwell Models (variety of subjects, but many British and German WWII)
- Hobby Fan (mostly postwar US/NATO subjects)
- Panzershop (mostly Warsaw Pact subjects; very complex kits)
- PSP (mostly large softskins, plus a complete German armoured train and S-boat!)

### MAJOR AFTERMARKET GUN BARREL MANUFACTURERS

- ABER (complex metal barrels)
- ARMO (metal barrels)
- ArmorScale (some nice combination resin/metal; often include gun mantlets)
- Eduard (metal barrels)
- Jordio Rubio (metal barrels)
- LionMarc (some nice combination resin/metal)
- ModelPoint (metal barrels; some combination resin/metal)

### MAJOR AFTERMARKET TRACK MANUFACTURERS

- AFV Club (injection-moulded tracks, some workable)
- Armour Track Models (injection-moulded workable tracks)
- Fruilmodellissimo (white metal workable tracks)
- LionMarc (resin pinned workable tracks)
- Model Kasten (injection-moulded workable tracks)
- World War II Productions (resin “click-together” workable tracks)

### MAJOR PHOTOETCHED DETAIL MANUFACTURERS

- ABER (extraordinarily complex, detailed sets; some simple sets also available)
- Eduard (wide range of sets, some with precoloured parts and self-adhesive masks; simple “Zoom” sets also available)

- Lion Roar (complex, detailed sets)
- PART (wide range of sets, from simple accessories to complex, detailed sets)
- Royal Model (complex, detailed sets which often feature resin parts)
- Voyager (extraordinarily complex, detailed sets)

## **MAJOR RESIN DETAIL/CONVERSION MANUFACTURERS**

- Armoured Brigade Models (mostly Sherman conversions; superb quality)
- ATAK Models (resin zimmerit)
- Calibre 35 (very high quality multimedia detail sets and conversions)
- Cavalier (resin zimmerit)
- CMK (wide variety of subjects, with some superb vehicle interiors)
- Chesapeake Model Designs (fair variety of subjects; superb quality)
- Formations (almost exclusively US WWII subjects; superb quality)
- Hussar Productions (mostly wheels and gun barrels; superb quality)
- MIG Productions (wide variety of subjects, with some very original pieces)
- Tiger Model Designs (wide variety of subjects; good quality)
- Trakz (variety of subjects, with an emphasis on accessories for softskins)
- Verlinden (huge variety of subjects; highly variable quality)

## **MAJOR AFTERMARKET DECAL MANUFACTURERS**

- Archer Fine Transfers (superb dry transfers; a bit of everything, but lots of US, Commonwealth, and German World War II in particular)
- Echelon Fine Details (very well-researched waterslide transfers; specializes in postwar vehicles, but also has World War II subjects)
- Eduard (self-adhesive masks for painting markings)
- Quartermaster's Depot (waterslide transfers; specializes in Canadian subjects)
- Tamiya (some large waterslide sheets, including five German World War II sheets and some postwar sheets)
- Verlinden (lots of dry transfers, plus photoetched stencils for painting markings)

## **INEXPENSIVE REFERENCES**

- Concord (good photos and colour plates, both World War II and postwar subjects)
- Easy 1 Productions (US WWII electronic technical manuals)
- Osprey (New Vanguard series has excellent colour plates, good brief history)
- Service Publications (inexpensive softcovers exclusively on Canadian subjects)
- Squadron/Signal (In Action series an excellent start for photos and colour plates)

## **MAGAZINES/JOURNALS**

- AFV Modeller (glossy magazine with very nice builds and good photo references)
- Allied-Axis (photo journal of World War II subjects; excellent reference)
- Military Miniatures in Review (good in-depth reviews of a wide variety of products)
- Military Modelling (top-rate magazine with build and reference articles)

## **OTHER AFTERMARKET ARMOUR PRODUCTS**

- Eureka XXL (metal tow cables)
- Karaya (metal tow cables)
- Mission Models (.50 calibre and 20mm cartridges – amazing!)
- Moskit (hollow brass exhausts)
- Thachweave Products (woven bumpers for DUKW, GPA, LCM, LCVP, etc.)