

PAINTING:

If you plan on painting your kit with a brush we recommend that you seal the parts with primer. We use Krylon or Ace gray primer in a rattle can. It seals the wood well, it is inexpensive and final colors cover it well. Paint both sides of the wood with the primer. We have brush painted with both Floquil and Polly S successfully. Our preference for brush painting is Polly S or any acrylic paint for the easy cleanup.

When we build the kits for clients or during design phase we always paint final paint colors with spray paint. When using rattle cans for the final color do not use a primer. No primer coat is necessary if using an airbrush either.

We have also used a wood stain and India Ink/Alcohol mix for staining instead of painting. You will get some warping when using stain or India ink. If you saturate the wood with paint or stain from a brush, we guarantee it will warp. If the wood warps, let the paint or stain dry for a few hours, then cover the parts with wax paper or plastic wrap and press with a heavy object for about 24 hours. The parts should be much straighter after doing this. The drying process will take longer in a high humidity climate. Staining or painting the back side will help with warping as well.

We have found that the Krylon ColorMaster Paint + Primer fast drying paint works the best as you can paint and work with the parts in ten minutes. We try to use satin or flat finishes.

This is a list of colors we use in our kits:

53510 Ivory White
53502 Hunter Green
52504 Khaki
52501 Leather Brown
52118 Burgundy
53551 Classic Gray
51601 Black
1401 Bright Silver
K04293007 Camouflage Khaki
K04293007 Camouflage Olive
K04295000 Camouflage Sand
Colormaster Gray Primer
Colormaster Red Oxide Primer (used for bricks)

Use some dry brush on pigment colors for finishing the model. These work great for rusting up some iron looking things or dirtying up the structure at the ground line. Be careful, too much doesn't look good and the stuff doesn't come off once rubbed in. Try it on a scrap piece first to develop your technique. These can be purchased at your local hobby shop in kits of colors for weathering. India ink alcohol wash also works well.

Last but not least... Painting bricks, we use Red Oxide Primer for all of our brick kits. We like to assemble main brick structure then paint inside and outside. Make sure you turn the structure upside down and add second coat to assure all bricks are painted. Let dry and spray clear matte coat over entire structure. Use light weight spackle such as Onetime or Dap brand. Regular spackle will not work. Use your finger and rub in a light coat of spackle into the grout lines to represent mortar lines. Use a soft damp rag to wipe off excess. Allow to completely dry.