

**MIKE ASHEY
PRODUCTIONS**

Modeling Realistic Tanks and Artillery

An Illustrated Guide



Mike Ashley

About the Author



Some of the modelers instrumental in bringing you this book. Front, left to right: Bill Teehan, Daniel O'Keefe, Richard Boutin, Sr. Back, left to right: Glenn Johnson, Mike Ashey, Scott Weller, Jim Hudson.

Mike Ashey lives in Tallahassee, Florida, with his wife, Kelly, and their two sons, Thomas and Gregory. Mike has been building models since the early 1960s, and his interests are primarily military aircraft, ships, armor, and military vehicles. He has an undergraduate degree in Ocean Engineering. Aside from building models, Mike enjoys writing, scuba diving, flying, staying in shape, and being a father to two future model builders. He spent four years in the U.S. Marines and was honorably discharged as a sergeant. He worked for the Department of the Navy as a senior engineer and project manager, and as a technical advisor for the Navy's elite SEAL combat force. Presently Mike is involved in environmental protection and is the Assistant Director for the Division of State Lands for Florida's Department of Environmental Protection.

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TANKS AND ARTILLERY
AN
ILLUSTRATED GUIDE**

**BY
MIKE ASHEY**

FOR MY SONS
THOMAS E. ASHEY AND GREGORY M. ASHEY

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All photos are by Mike Ashey or Glenn Johnson.

MIKE ASHEY
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PRESENTS

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Computer Formatted
Into
ADOBE FILE TITLES

**Each chapter of the book is contained in a separate Adobe file
For easy access, viewing, enlarging and printing.**

General Book Information

Cover, Dedication, Forward, Manufacturers and Suppliers

Chapter 1

The Basics – Modeling Tips and Techniques

Chapter 2

Tires, Road Wheels, Sprockets and Tracks

Chapter 3

Building and Detailing Tanks

Chapter 4

Building and Detailing Self Propelled Guns and Towed Artillery

Chapter 5

Building and Detailing Military Vehicles

FORWARD

Modeling Realistic Tanks and Artillery was written in an effort to show modelers, with step-by-step sequential pictures, the techniques used to build realistic appearing scale models. Each chapter is designed to provide as much information as possible and I have sequenced the chapters to make it as easy as possible to locate specific information or review a technique. This book shows you in step-by-step pictures how to: build flawless models from start to finish; remove seams and fix fit problems; work with resin kits and fix resin casting problems with simple solutions; drill out gun barrels; work with brass photoetch; work with white metal and brass castings; work with flexible track sections and individual track links, build up interiors; do basic scratchbuilding; masking and painting, apply decals and adding basic weathering.

Since modelers create three dimensional objects, and much of the modeling process requires visual interpretation, the majority of us in this hobby fall into the category of being visual people and we respond well to visual stimuli. This book capitalizes on our visual sense by presenting pictures in place of words. While words are also valuable, it can take an entire page of text to describe just one picture. Since my motivation for writing this book was to pack as much information as I could within a limited number of pages, the best way to do this is to convey ideas, techniques, procedures and successes through pictures.

Another point I want to make is that if you really want to increase your model building skill level, learn new techniques or learn how to scratchbuild, the best way to do this is to build different kinds of models. If you love building tanks that's great, but build a military vehicle or an airplane if you really want to explore new ways to build better models. You would be amazed at the things you will learn and the new tools that you will discover. I discovered Waldrons products punch tool when building up an aircraft cockpit console. This tool has thousands of uses for building tanks, aircraft and ships. I discovered hundreds of uses for Bare Metal Foils plastic panel line scribe which was designed for scribing aircraft panel lines. Northwest Short Line's chopper and true sander were designed for model railroaders, yet I use these tools all the time when I am scratchbuilding parts for tanks, military vehicles, ships or aircraft. If I had not been exploring model railroading supplies I would have never found these handy, simple tools.

I think I have accomplished what I set out to do. Always remember that the true nature of this hobby is creating scale models by exploring and expanding the boundaries of your abilities and imagination and most of all -- having fun!

Happy modeling,

Mike Ashe

Manufacturers and Suppliers

There are dozens of aftermarket and cottage industry suppliers that manufacture an endless list of detail sets. I have listed some of the main suppliers. But the best way to accumulate infor-

mation on all these manufacturers is to send away for information whenever you see a manufacturer's advertisement or a new products release in *FineScale Modeler* or any other magazine.

Badger Airbrush

9128 West Belmont Ave.
Franklin Park, IL 60131
(Airbrush equipment)

Bare Metal Foil Company

P. O. Box 82
Farmington Hill, MI 48024
(Plastic polish, plastic scribe, small parts placer, and resin)

Borden Inc.

Department CP
Columbus, OH 43215
(White glue)

Cavalier Model Productions

Precision Parts Corporation
P. O. Box 305
Ogdensburg, NY 13669
(Resin detail sets)

Collectors Brass

P. O. Box 27191
Fresno, CA 93729
(Brass casting detail sets)

Creations Unlimited Hobby Products

2939 Montreat Dr. N.E.
Department 169
Grand Rapids, MI 49505
(Flex-I-File and Flex-I-File sanding sticks)

Detail Master

P. O. Box 1464
Sterling, VA 20167
(Engine wiring and detail sets)

Devcon Corporation

Danvers, MA 01923
(Two-part epoxy)

Dremel

4915 - 21st St.
Racine, WI 53406
(Drill bits, cutters, drill press, and drill press vise)

Eduard Precision Parts

P. O. Box 305
Ogdensburg, NY 13669
(Photoetched detail sets)

Evergreen Scale Models

18620-F 141 St. Avenue N.E.
Woodinville, WA 98072
(Plastic strips, shapes, rod, and sheeting)

Floquil Polly-S / Bondex International

206 Milvan Dr.
Weston, ON M9L 1Z9 Canada
(Paints, plastic prep, and paint/decal remover)

Grandt Line Products

1040 B Shary Ct.
Concord, CA 94518
(Bolt and rivet heads and detail parts)

Gunze Sangyo Detail Sets

Marco Polo Imports
550A S. Coralridge Pl.
City of Industry CA 91746
(Resin detail sets)

Jaguar Detail Sets

Marco Polo Imports
550A S. Coralridge Pl.
City of Industry CA 91746
(Resin detail sets)

K & S Engineering Co.

6917 W. 59th St.
Chicago, IL 60638
(Sandpaper, brass rod, and tubing)

Loctite Corporation

Cleveland, OH 44128
(Super glue)

Micro Mark

340-1513 Snyder Ave.
Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922
(Supplies and tools)

Microscale Industries, Inc.

P. O. Box 11950
Costa Mesa, CA 92627
(Decal setting solution)

Model Expo, Inc.

3850 N. 29th Terrace
P. O. Box 229140
Hollywood, FL 33022
(Supplies and tools)

NorthWest Short Line

P. O. Box 423
Seattle, WA 98111
(Chopper and True Sander)

Pacer Technology

9420 Santa Anita Ave.
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730
(Super glue accelerator)

Plastruct

1020 S. Wallace Pl.
City of Industry, CA 91748
(Plastic shapes and rod)

Scotch 3M Painter's Masking Tape

Box 33053
St. Paul, MN 55133
(Masking tape)

Small Parts, Inc.

13980 N.W. 58th Ct.
P. O. Box 4650
Miami Lakes, FL 33014
(Brass wire, tube, and stock)

Squadron Shop

1115 Crowley Dr.
Carrollton, TX, 75011
(Resin and plastic models, supplies, and photoetching)

Super Scale International, Inc.

Carson City, NV
(Decal setting solutions and white glue)

Testor Corporation

620 Buckbee St.
Rockford, IL 61104
(Paints, paintbrushes, putty, sandpaper, glue and glue applicators, sprue cutter, and airbrush equipment)

VLS Corporation

1011 Industrial Ct.
Moscow Mills, MO 63362
(Resin and photoetched detail sets and kits)

Waldron Model Products

P. O. Box 431
Merlin, OR 97532
(Waldron punch set)

X-acto

P. O. Box 5830
Statesville, NC 28677
(Blades and cutting tools)