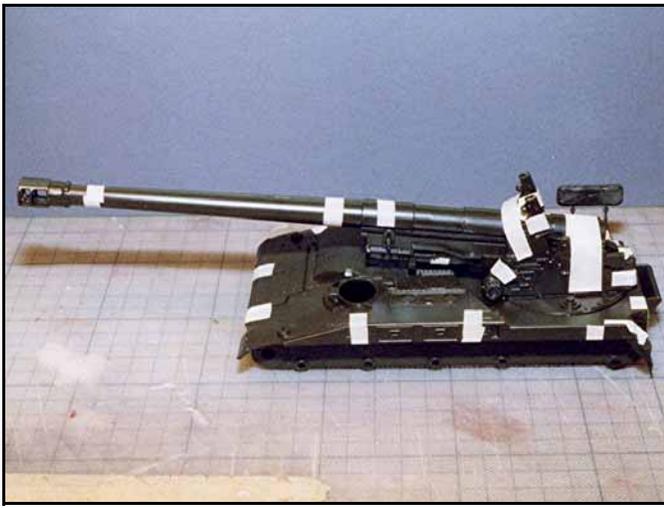




**MIKE ASHEY PRODUCTIONS
PRESENTS
BUILDING ITALERI'S 1/35 SCALE
M-110 SELF PROPELLED GUN
BY
MIKE ASHEY**

This scale model looked really cool once I started to glue all the subassemblies together. There were some minor fit, void and dimple challenges, but they were easy to fix. The barrel length on this kit is very long and the overall surface detail is very good. This kit had full length tracks which fit perfectly and the flexibility of the tracks allowed them to be sagged. The model was painted with Testors enamel paint and the tracks were painted with Testors metalizer paints.

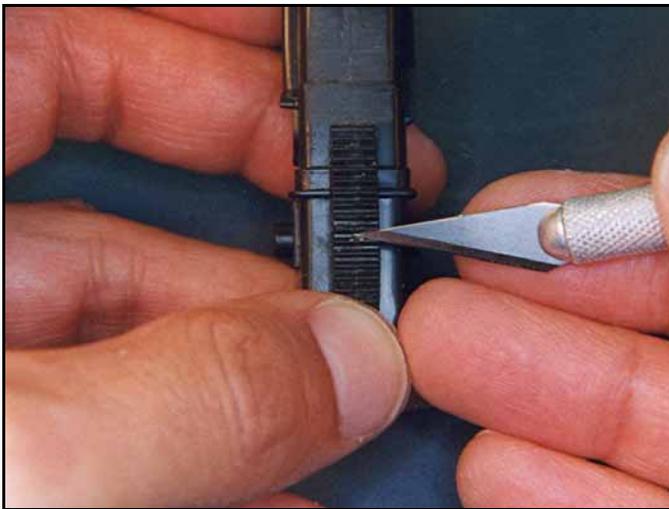
Finished photos of this model are posted on the [military ground vehicles web page](#).



I always pre-assemble all the main parts of a scale model to check the fit and I make notes on the instructions sheet. This process also gets me thinking about how to fix any identified problems.



The main barrel assemblies went together well. I checked the seam lines with Testors silver paint and then polished the plastic with 0000 steel wool.



To cleanup up the seams along the gear teeth I used the tip of a sharp number 11 X-Acto blade.



To fix the tiny void on the barrel slide I filled it with putty and then carefully sanded it smooth with cut down sanding sticks.



The dimples on the breech assembly face were filled with putty. I then ran the part across fine grit sandpaper to smooth out the surface.



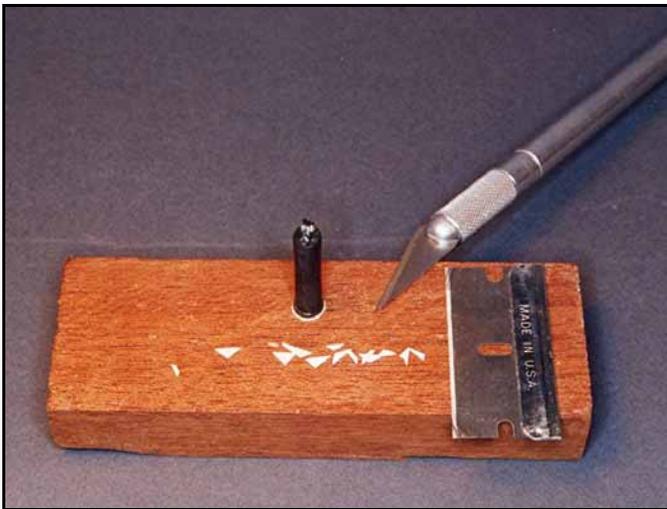
All the seams on the gun sub-assemblies were completed and double checked. I also checked the fit of the barrel in the slide and found that it fit perfectly.



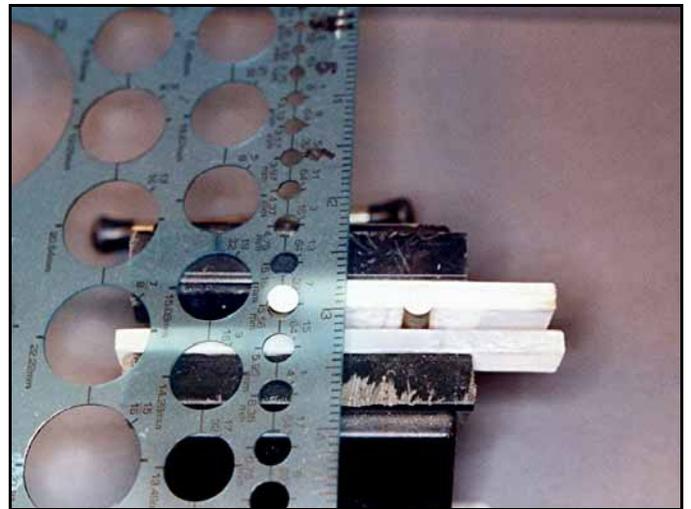
The one flaw I found with this kit is that the openings for the gun slide shock absorbers were too large for the inserts.



To reduce the size of the openings I laminated .015 inch sheet stock onto the face of each part.



The sheet stock was carefully trimmed and then sanded to the round shape of the edge of the part.



Next I used a drafting circle template to determine the center of the each circle. I then carefully drilled out the centers starting with a small diameter drill bit and worked up to the same diameter as the shock absorber slides.



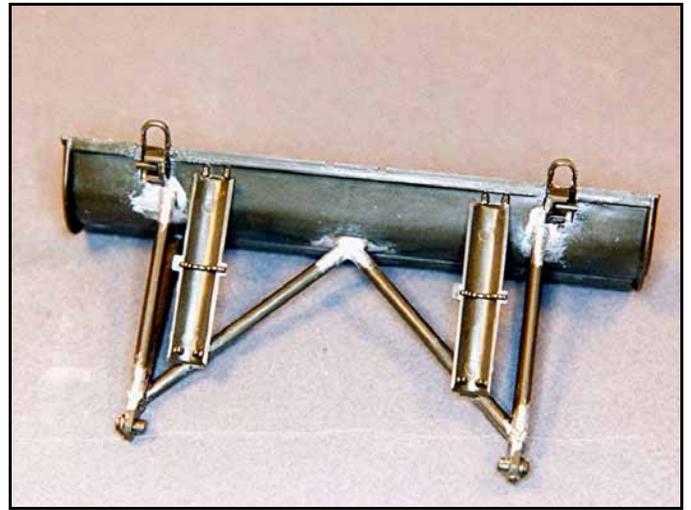
Now the slides fit perfectly into the shock absorber casings!



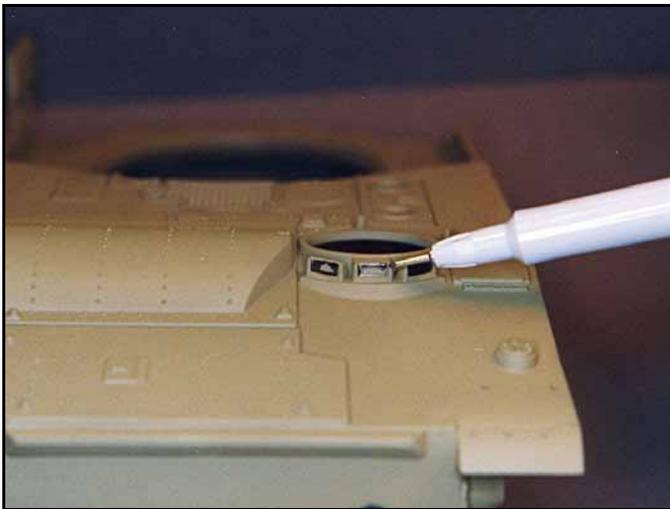
I carefully sand off the injection pin marks on the base of the gun mount using various grits of sandpaper wrapped around a small length of balsa wood.



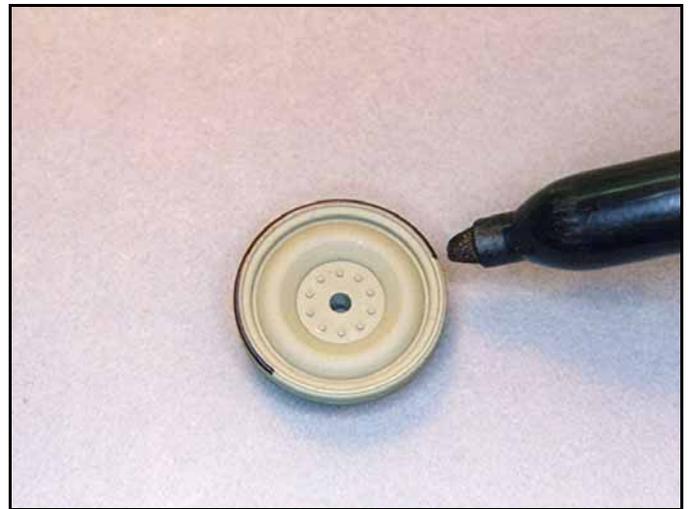
There were also lots of injection marks on the small parts. I filled these with ether putty or thin plastic disks punched out with my handy Waldron Punch Tool and then sanded them smooth.



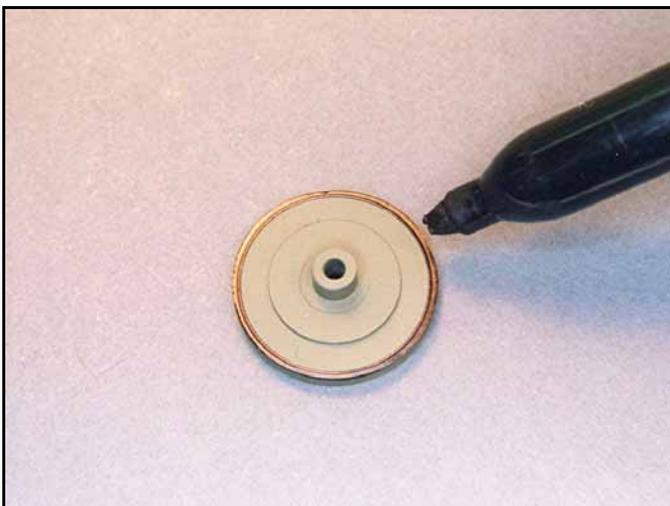
I filled the small voids between the shovel frame and the shovel with white glue and then checked the surfaces with Testors silver paint.



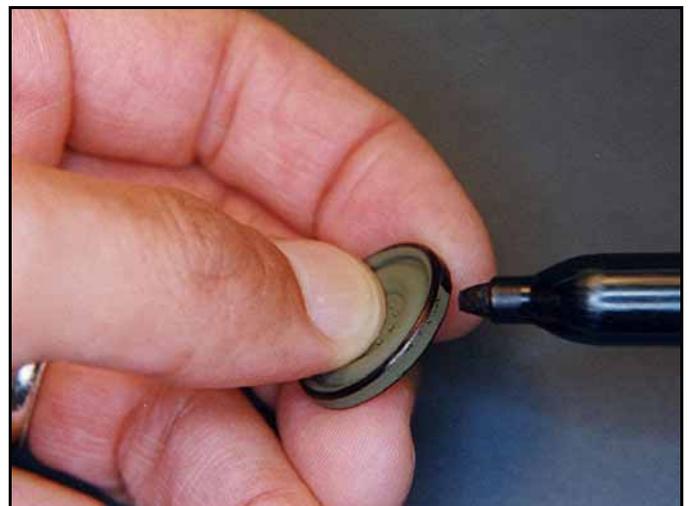
The model was painted Testors olive drab lightened up with some flat white. I used a drafting pen to color in the clear prism blocks.



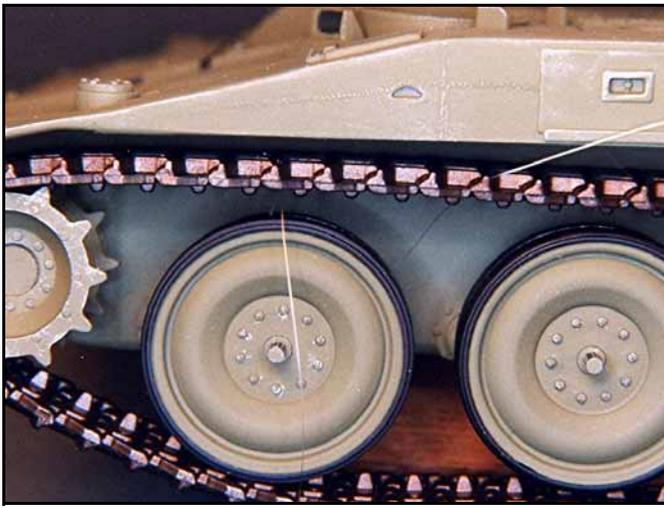
The rubber on the road wheels was painted with an indelible sharpie. I always do the edges first. The tiny raised plastic rim which defines the rubber is a perfect guide for the Sharpie's tip.



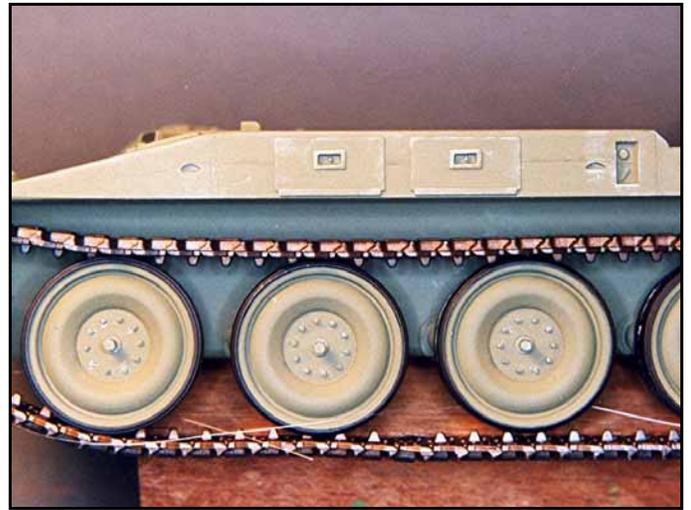
I color both sides of the rim first. Several coats are usually necessary.



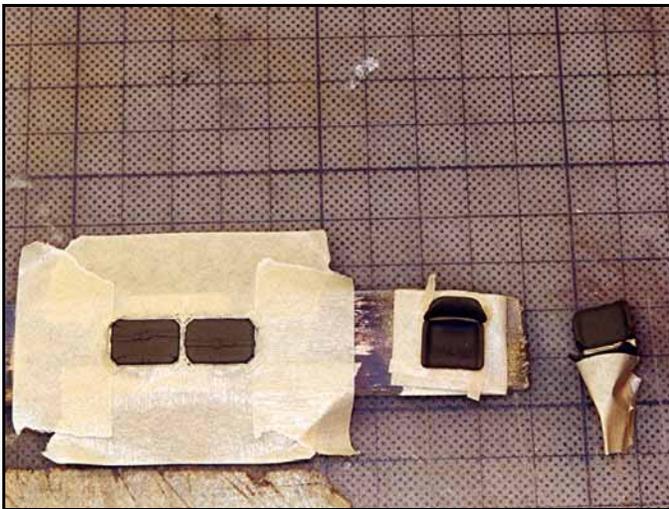
Once the rim is complete I colored the face of the road wheels. Several coats are necessary to cover the surface. The black color will appear streaky, but once you give the wheels a coat of Testors dullcoat the streaks will disappear.



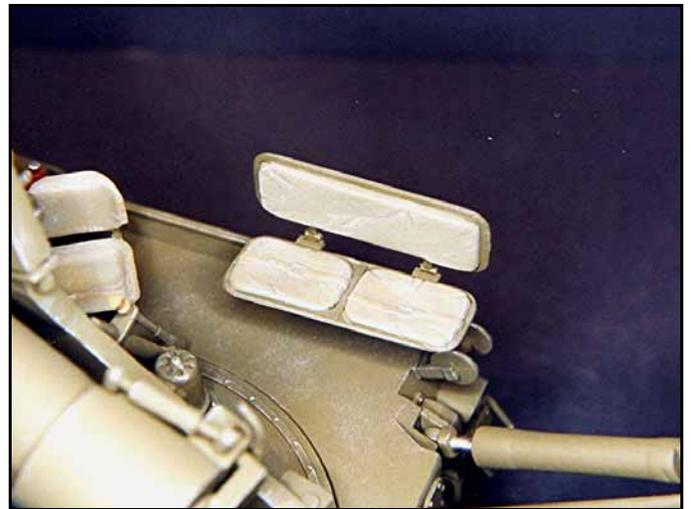
I used clear sewing thread to pull down the tracks so that they would have a slight sag. I threaded it through the tracks and around the wheel axles.



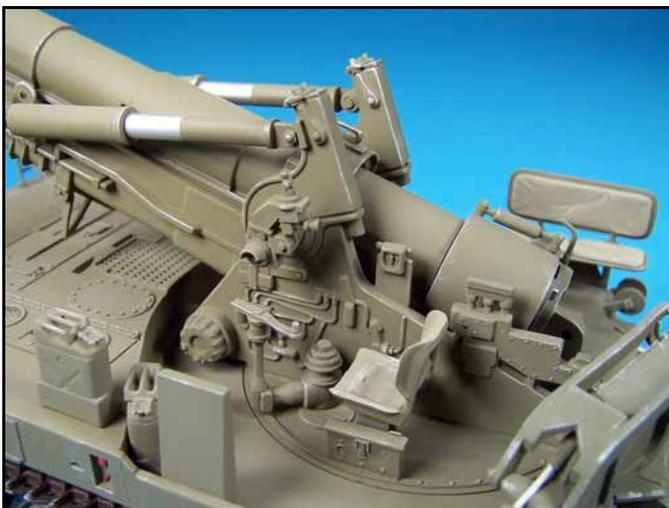
The threads were then slowly pulled tight, knotted off and then a drop of super glue was applied to the thread attachment points of the tracks. The excess was carefully trimmed off.



The canvas seats were carefully masked off with small sections of masking tape.



The canvas was painted with a very light olive drab color and then dry brushed with flat white.



As I assembled the model I carefully drybrushed all edges with Testors silver.



The fire extinguisher was hand painted with a detail brush.