

# Hints and Tips -

## Colour Guide - US Infantry

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March 2008

### U.S. Infantry

### U.S. Infantry in Greatcoats



Artizan figures by Andrew Taylor of Ares Painting



Artizan figures painted by Mick Farnworth

Item	Colour	Vallejo Model Colour
Helmet	Brown Olive	Brown Violet 70.887 (or see notes - US Dark Green 70.893)
Helmet Front Strap	Brown	Mahogany Brown 70.846
Helmet Cover	Brown Olive	Brown Violet 70.887
Wool Hat	Khaki	US Field Drab 70.973
Scarf	Khaki	US Field Drab 70.973
Greatcoat	Khaki	US Field Drab 70.973
Jacket M1941 Blouson	Beige	German Camo Beige 70.821
Jacket M1943 4 pocket	Brown Olive	Brown Violet 70.887
Jacket Mackinaw	Beige	German Camo Beige 70.821
Shirt	Khaki	US Field Drab 70.973, English Uniform 70.921, Flat Earth 70.983
Webbing	Sand	Iraqi Sand 70.819, Dark Sand 70.847
Webbing (variant)	Beige	German Camo Beige 70.821
Webbing (variant)	Pale Green	Deck Tan 70.912, Pastel Green 70.885
Pistol Holster	Brown	Mahogany Brown 70.846, Flat Brown 70.984
Trousers Wool	Khaki	US Field Drab 70.973, English Uniform 70.921, Flat Earth 70.983
Trousers Wool (variant)	Tan	US Tan Earth 70.874, (GW Snakebite Leather)
Trousers HBT	Dark Green	US Dark Green 70.893
Trousers HBT (faded)	Pale Green	Deck Tan 70.912, Pastel Green 70.885
Anklets / Gaiters	Beige	German Camo Beige 70.821
Boots	Brown	Mahogany Brown 70.846, Flat Brown 70.984

## Notes

American forces were issued with a wide variety of garments. Jackets can be very confusing. The M1941 jacket was a waist length blouson with two diagonal welted pockets. The M1943 jacket was a thigh length jacket with four cargo pockets. The Mackinaw Jacket was a thigh length winter jacket with two diagonal welted pockets.

Colours for items made from Herringbone Twill HBT are very difficult to describe. These cotton garments started out as dark green but faded to pale grey green.

Metal items were painted in Olive Green Drab. In the early years of the war, this was a brown shade (Vallejo Brown Violet 70.887) but from about 1943, the colour became more dark green (US Dark Green 70.893). My personal preference is to paint helmets, ammo tins and bazookas with US Dark Green 70.893.

## Insignia

Many units wore the US flag on their right shoulder and their unit badge on the left shoulder. Company B make waterslide transfers for these badges and symbols.

NCOs had a horizontal white stripe on the back of the helmet. Officers had a vertical white stripe on the back of the helmet.

## Further Reading

### Books

#### General

Andrew Mollo: **The Armed Forces of World War 2** (Little, Brown and Company)

This book is a very useful overview of uniforms and insignia. There are 250 colour drawings and 100 photographs which cover every nation involved in WW2. The original 1981 version is a large format book. There is an A5 reprint that does not include the Eastern front.

Chris McNab: **20th Century Military Uniforms: 300 Uniforms from Around the World** (Grange Books PLC)

This book is similar in style to Andrew Mollo's book and has many of the same illustrations.

**Osprey** books are also very good but there are several which touch the subject, so it is difficult to recommend one item.

#### America

Richard Windrow & Tim Hawkins: **World War II GI: US Army Uniforms, 1941-45** (The Crowood Press Ltd)

A very useful book with colour photographs showing original uniforms and equipment.