

TIPS AND TRICKS



ADVANCED GROUNDWORK



Rubber moulds are perfect to create pieces of rock or individual stones of various shapes and sizes.



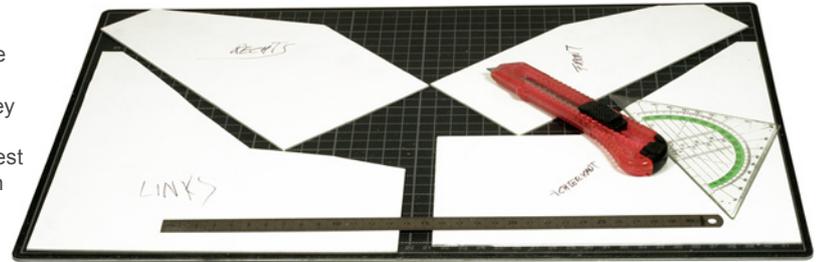
Ceramic plaster is best suited for this job as it dries quickly and becomes rock hard.



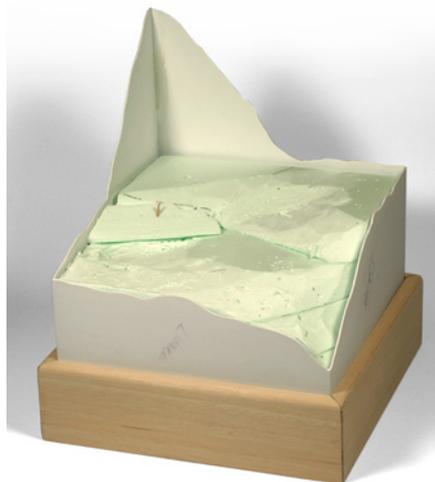
Always fill the moulds completely.



Pieces of foam are perfect to make the basic lay out of the ground work as they are easily cut to shape. They are best glued together with silicone glue.



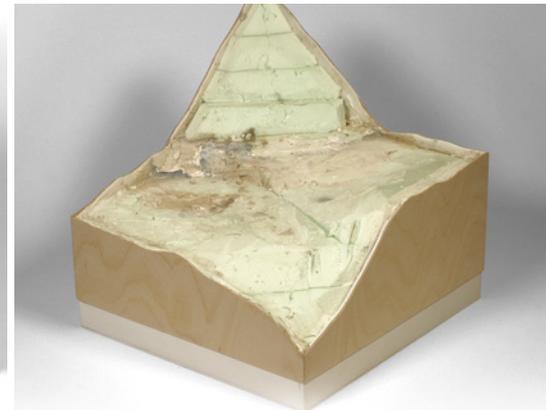
For the edges use plasticard with a thickness of at least 1,5mm to avoid deforming.



Dryfitting is important before you make the final cuts.



Make sure the wooden frame is sturdy enough to carry the weight of the entire base.



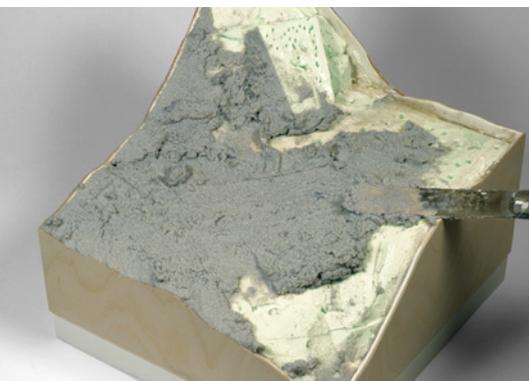
You can leave the plasticard as it is or cover it with veneer of your choice. Cut the veneer roughly in size and bring it to form once glued to the plasticard.



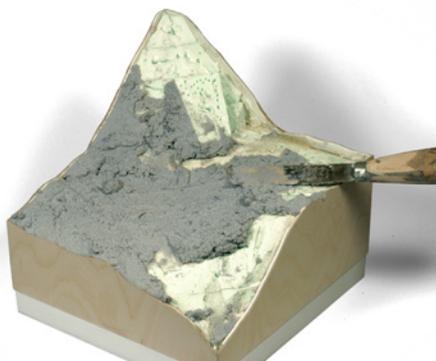
These are the basic materials needed to make up a decent groundwork. Most of them can be found in your garden.

It's recommended that you mix fine sand and wood glue into the plaster. The wood glue will help it stick to the foam.





Make sure the foam is covered with layer of minimum 2mm plaster.



A knife or a spatula are perfect to apply the plaster.



When you add the rocks use a brush and water to blend them in with the surface.



Fine stones or cat litter can be sprinkled in the still wet plaster.



If you want to add tire or track marks this must be done before the plaster is completely dry.



When completed, you can set the whole base aside to let it dry overnight.

Before painting make a test fit of the position of your vehicle.



Depending of where your model is situated you can apply the basecoat. But make always a bit lighter than the color you have in mind.



The perfect basecoat is just black.





The vegetation is sprayed in various green tones. Use a piece of paper to avoid overspray.



Apply several washes to bring everything together. This can be done with oils or with ready to use products.

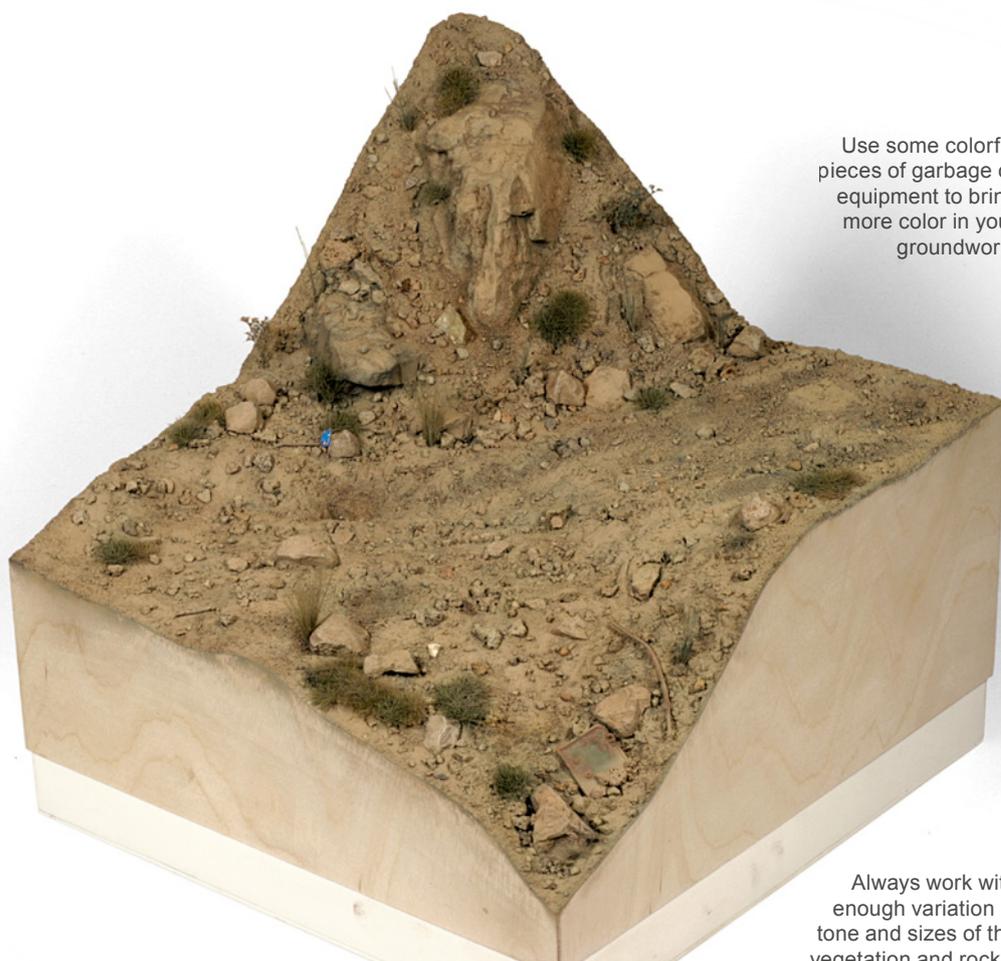


Some small stones are hand painted in several different color to add more variation in tone.

Garbage or pieces of vehicles are perfect to fill an empty corner.



Use some colorful pieces of garbage or equipment to bring more color in your groundwork.

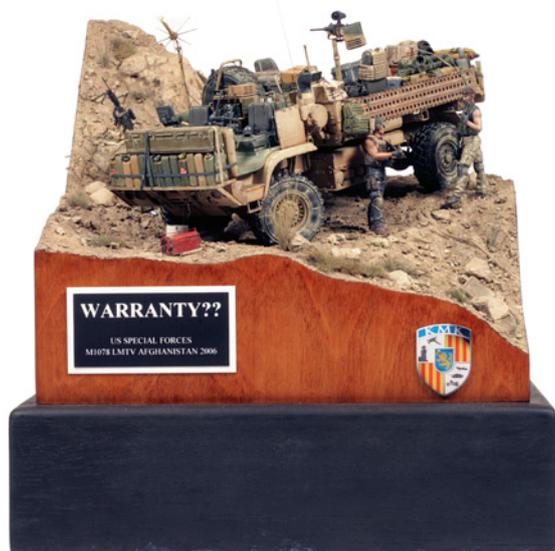


Always work with enough variation in tone and sizes of the vegetation and rocks.





The best way to attach figures and vehicles to the base is with metal pins. Attach some pins in the vehicles and figures and glue them in place in the corresponding holes made in the base.



Painting the wooden frame and the veneer section in the preferred colors is the final step.