

By Luc Po

The following details a step by step procedure for creating a weathered and rusty exhaust pipe or muffler.



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1. For this example we are using an exhaust from the Meng 1/35 Whippet kit. To start, the part is primed in a dark brown colour.

2. Using several colours from the AK acrylic rust set (AK551), a base coat of rust is sponged on. By applying the acrylic with a sponge, we create a subtle texture to indicate a greater rust effect. If the texture is not desired, then the acrylic can be sprayed on with an airbrush instead.

3. On old exhaust pipes we often see a dull colouration that has a very slight pink hue to it from the heat and oxidation. For this we first we apply a light coat of chipping fluid (e.g. AK089), and then mix up a colour using deck tan (RC019) and signal red (RC005) in a ratio of approximately 8:1. The mixed paint is lightly sprayed on to the part. For this step we use AK's real colours as they provide a very nice chipping effect.

4. The paint is dampened with a wet brush, and using controlled motions, we gently chip away the paint until the desired effect is achieved.

5. A selection of rust coloured oil paints from ABT 502 are applied to a piece of cardboard to wick out excess linseed oil. In this case we are using light rust (ABT060), dark rust (ABT070), and oxide patina (ABT260).

6. With a very fine brush we apply the oils in small dots to the chipped areas. We then go back with a clean brush to blend this, making sure that some of the lighter coloured chipped paint remains clean in order to create a contrast. We can also use a dark wash (e.g. AK045) at this time to pick out shadows around the exhaust mounting brackets.

7. For the final step, we take black pigment (AK039) and apply this to the tip of the exhaust to indicate soot stains.



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