



*How To Paint*  
**Kingdom Death Willow**  
Part 2 - Armor





## Armor

This time, we're going to take a closer look at the process of painting Willow's armor. This model was much easier to paint because of the existence of the full body artwork.

I studied the references and studied the direction of light and the reflections of the armor, and decided to paint the armor accordingly.

Start by painting the entire armor with AK 3rd S.C.C No. 1A Very Dark Brown, and then mark the areas that will be lightened with AK 3rd Dark Sea Grey. For the right leg, which will be the darkest, I mixed a little Tenebrous Gray into the Very Dark Brown to make it a little darker.





## Armor

Now paint the middle color using AK 3rd S.C.C No.1A Very Dark Brown + AK 3rd Dark Sea Grey (1:1), glazing the boundaries of the colors to create a smooth surface. It is important to leave the darkest parts of the figure to brown (under the chest, on the left side of the figure, etc.).





## Armor

Mark the shiny areas with AK 3rd Silver Grey, then dilute AK 3rd Silver Grey + AK 3rd Dark Sea Grey (1:1) to a glazing consistency and stipple the border between the two colors.

The shimmer is what gives the armor its texture and shape. Referring to the picture, try to shape the shimmer as closely as possible.

Of course, miniatures are 3D, so there may be some areas where you can't replicate the picture exactly. In this case, you can paint based on the principles you would normally use when painting a miniature: this model is getting light from the top right, so the side facing the top right will have a stronger sparkle.





## Armor

Once you have the shape, use AK 3rd Silver Grey to highlight the edges, and AK 3rd Ivory to lightly highlight the center of the sparkles.

The key is to use the Ivory is not too much – if you have a border that is hidden in shadow (like the bottom of the right leg), you can use a darker gray made by mixing Dark Sea Grey with a little Silver Grey.





## Armor

Now it's time to create the secondary reflections. Referring to the picture, use AK 3rd Orange Brown + AK 3rd S.C.C No. 1A Very Dark Brown (2:1) to create the reflections.

Then dilute Orange Brown + Very Dark Brown (1:1) to glazing consistency and stipple.

Stippling with glazing consistency is no different than regular glazing, it's just a matter of dotting. Don't forget to wipe off any excess paint from the brush before painting. Once you're happy with the shape, use pure Orange Brown inside to stipple only a small area.





## Armor

Use AK 3rd Orange Brown + AK 3rd Radiant Flesh (1:1) to create the inner shimmer of the secondary reflection, being careful not to make this shimmer too big. Again, I used the paint with stipple method.





## Armor

Dilute AK 3rd Contrast Darkoath Flesh very thinly and apply 2-3 coats to the entire area where you painted the secondary reflection. Remember to start your brush in the light and end in the dark. Be careful not to let the paint encroach on the gray armor parts.

Once this contrast paint dries, not only will the shading leading up to the shadow parts change naturally, but the shadow parts (which I used brown) will also have a subtly different tone than the gray parts.

Additionally, I used S.C.C. No. 1A Very Dark Brown + AK 3rd Tenebrous Gray (1:1) to highlight any gaps or deepest areas of the armor once more.





## Armor

Now that the armor is done, it's time to paint the fur. I decided to paint the fur to give it a fluffy look like the picture.

Start by painting the entire area that will be the fur with AK 3rd Grey Green. This green tinted fur will contrast with the secondary reflections, which are more of an orange tint.



## Armor



Next, use AK 3rd Grimy Gray to paint the fur. Focus on the overall volume, not the individual strands.

In case of area close to upper right corner, paint without distinguishing between the strands of fur, and as you move away from the light, leave a border between strand and strand.

The more distinguishable the boundaries between strands, feeling of rough fur will be stronger. So I painted the areas with the bright part with very few boundaries.

Afterwards, use AK 3rd Ivory + AK 3rd Grimy Grey (1:2) to highlight only the areas with the most light, following the strand of the fur. This will be barely noticeable though.





## Armor

Now all you have to do is paint the rest of the details and you're done!

I didn't write a guide for the rest of the leather, etc. because it's not that different from what I usually do.

If you have any questions, feel free to ask in the comments or send me an Instagram DM. I'll do my best to answer them.

Thanks as always.