

Gaming+



How To Paint
TOMB KING SKELETON

Tomb King Skeleton



Today we're going to paint the skeleton in Gaming+ quality.

This is a third-party model made by Highland Miniatures, but the painting recipe should work equally well for Tomb Kings.

Start by painting the entire area that will be the bones with AK 3rd Grim Brown. You don't have to use this paint, anything dark brown will do.

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Now drybrush all the areas that will be bone with AK 3rd Decomposed Flesh + AK 3rd Grim Brown (1:1). The exact mix doesn't matter, just make sure the transition from brown to bone color isn't too drastic.



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Thinly dilute GW Contrast Skeleton Horde and apply a thin layer of it all over the bones.

Think of this process as a filter. If you want a darker color, like an aged bone, you can apply multiple coats, while if you want a lighter brown tone, you only need to apply one coat.



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Now use AK 3rd Grim Brown to recolor the areas that need to be darkened.

For example, I used it to fill in the blurred eye sockets, gaps between the bones, or between the teeth during the drybrush process.

It's also a good idea to mark any scratches or cuts on the bones during this process. Unlike GW models, 3D printed models sometimes lose some detail during the modeling or printing process.

This is especially true for small details like teeth. If this happens, don't panic, just draw in the details and it will usually work out.

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Highlight the bones with AK 3rd Decomposed Flesh + Vallejo Game Color Bone White (1:2).

If you don't want to mix colors, you can just use Bone White for highlighting. However, it's more natural to blend in the foreground color a little bit. When highlighting, focus on the direction or part of the bone that is catching the light, not the whole bone.



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Now that the bones are done, it's time to paint the surrounding details.

Paint the model's worn straps with AK 3rd Tenebrous Gray. You can also use any other dark brown color.



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Highlight the edges of the straps with AK 3rd Leather Brown, and add as many scratches as you like.



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Next, it's time to paint the Tomb King's unique decorations. Use the AK 3rd Burnt Red to paint the red ornament and the AK 3rd Ocean Blue to paint the turquoise ornament.



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Highlight the edges of the turquoise trim with AK 3rd Aquatic Turquoise. I used AK 3rd Aquatic Turquoise + AK 3rd Ocean Blue (1:1) to lightly glaze the middle color, but if you don't want to bother, you can just highlight it.



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In the same way, you can use AK 3rd Carmine to highlight the red color as well.

I looked at the artwork and concluded that this is not jewelry, but rather painted armor. If you wanted to paint it as jewelry, you could use a darker color for the shadows and white for the reflections.



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I painted the white hat with AK 3rd Warm Grey, then lightly glazed it with AK 3rd Warm Grey + AK 3rd Grim Brown (3:1) to give the hat some contrast.

I then used Grim Brown to trim the lines of the hat as well. Since the official Tomb Kings model doesn't have much white trim, I kept this process simple.

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Now let's start painting the gold, which will be the Focus point in this Gaming+ quality.

But we don't want to overdo the NMM on the Gaming quality, so I'll do it quickly and with as few colors as possible.

Use AK 3rd Red Brown to paint all the gold ornaments, then AK 3rd Orange Brown to mark the areas that will receive light.



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AK 3rd Red Brown + AK 3rd Orange Brown (1:1) to remove the color boundaries, and then AK 3rd Sand Yellow for the final highlighting.

You can save yourself a lot of effort by using the stipple-glazing technique to raise the Sand Yellow from the beginning. I then only need to edge-highlight the top where the Sand Yellow will catch the light.

Additionally, I painted the wood with AK 3rd S.C.C. No.1A Very Dark Brown and the blades with AK 3rd German Gery, AK 3rd Dark Sea Gray, and AK 3rd Silver Gery. If you want a quicker paint job, just paint the Dark Sea Grey, give it a black wash, and highlight the edges with Dark Sea Grey or Silver Grey.

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Now let's give the spear a little bit of a rusty look.

I took a completely dry, broken brush and took some Vallejo Pigment Brown Iron Oxide, wiped the pigment off on a tissue like you would drybrush, and then drybrushed the pigment onto the spear blade.

Next, I applied some AK Enamel Liquid Pigment Rust Old Rust to the wooden pole and blade.

Once it's all dry, you should end up with the same situation as on the left. Finally, you can go over the scratches on the blade again with AK 3rd Silver Gray.



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Here's another model painted with the same recipe. You can see more scars on the face, rust effects on the spear blade.

A more detailed version of these simple recipes for the Tomb King side will be covered in the Settra Guide.

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And there you have it, a Gaming+ quality Tomb Kings model!

Thanks for reading this long guide!