

PAINTING AND FINISHING

WALLS

- 1 PAINT WITH MATT ENAMEL PAINT OF A SUITABLE BRICK COLOUR AND LEAVE TO DRY.
- 2 USING GLOSS ENAMEL PAINT, TO THE COLOUR OF YOUR CHOICE, PAINT THE DOORS, WINDOWS AND DRAINPIPES.

ROOF

- 1 PAINT THE INSIDE OF THE GUTTERING AND THE UNDERSIDES OF THE EAVES IN MATT BLACK ENAMEL PAINT.
- 2 PAINT MAIN PART OF THE ROOF IN MATT ENAMEL PAINT OF A SUITABLE SLATE COLOUR.
- 3 PAINT THE OUTSIDE OF THE GUTTERING TO MATCH THE DRAINPIPES.

FINISHING

IT ENHANCES THE APPEARANCE TO 'PICK OUT' A NUMBER OF BRICKS AND SLATES IN SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT SHADES OF MATT ENAMEL PAINT.

WITH A WELL DILUTED MIX OF GREY WATER COLOUR, LIBERALLY PAINT THE ENTIRE BRICKWORK AREA. WHEN DRY, THIS WILL HAVE COLLECTED IN THE MORTAR RUNS TO REPRESENT CEMENT. IF IT HAS 'GREYED' THE BRICKWORK TOO MUCH, SPONGE OFF EXCESS. (The exact shade of this mix is up to you - some mortar tends towards yellow).

WITH A VERY DARK GREY WATER COLOUR MIX, LIBERALLY PAINT THE ENTIRE ROOF AREA. TOUCHES CAN ALSO BE ADDED TO THE BRICK AREA TO REPRESENT 'WEATHERING'. WHEN DRY, SPONGE OFF EXCESS IF NECESSARY.

GLUE CLEAR PLASTIC
SHEET (A9) BEHIND WINDOWS.

A P

THE MODEL IS NOW FINISHED, BUT MANY MORE REFINEMENTS ARE POSSIBLE, AS THIS MANUAL SHOWS.

PRIMING

Although not essential, the application of a base coat will help combat absorption of the finishing coat by the porous Linka surface. A thinned emulsion paint is recommended, preferably in a similar shade to the final colour of the model, though plain grey is often a suitable alternative.

PAINING METHODS

THE BASIC PAINTING INSTRUCTIONS ARE GIVEN ON PAGE 8

The principle behind those instructions is to paint the entire model in a permanent paint of a colour matching the stone or brick effect desired, then to paint on a wash of water paint so that it collects in the cracks to represent mortar lines.

This method is quick, easy and flexible - if the final shading is not to your liking, or if you wish a new effect, it can be instantly changed by painting on another wash of water colour of a different hue.

An alternative principle is to paint the model in a grey or cream to represent the mortar, then paint the stone or brickwork in an appropriate colour, taking care to leave the already painted mortar untouched. This is best achieved by applying the paint with a foam painting pad, although it can be done with a brush if the paint is not too runny.

It is worthwhile to try both methods on various models until you find out which suits you best and gives the most realistic results.

THE PAINTS

ENAMEL PAINTS are the easiest to use and available in the widest range of colours, matt for stone, brick and texture work, gloss for doors, windows and other fittings. It is worth building up a large range of colours, especially around the stone and brick shades.

ACRYLIC PAINTS tend to be more expensive than enamels and are available in fewer shades, but are fast drying and mix with water. Like enamels, they cover the models well and give a good effect.

OIL PAINTS are the third option for the main painting of the model. Suitably thinned they can give just as good an effect but we do not recommend them unless you are already familiar with oil-painting techniques.

WATER COLOUR PAINTS are ideal for the mortar effects already described and essential for weathering. Tubes of water colour are easiest to use as the paint is already semi-liquid but blocks plus water are also satisfactory.

FELT TIP PENS AND BRUSHES are often overlooked, but the huge range of tip sizes and colours available means they can be useful for speedy colouring and shading alterations. The broader felt tips can be used for picking out separate stone and brickwork in different colours, and shading and toning for extra effect, the fine pens for lining and emphasising detail.

A constant even covering, economical use of paint and penetration of nooks and crannies are the normal advantages of using a paint spray (such as the Humbrol Modellers Airbrush) and these apply to Linka models as with any other airbrush use. Spray can also be used for special paint-flecked effects by changing to thicker paint and it is the only way to cover a model with fixative if you wish to make a water colour effect permanent.

FINISHING

ALL FINISHING CAN BE DONE WITH WATER COLOUR PAINT, AFTER THE MATT ENAMEL PAINT HAS DRIED.

MORTAR: Mix the shade of mortar required - a typical mortar grey would be four parts white, one part black and perhaps a touch of yellow ochre. Mix in plenty of water and with a soft haired wash brush, paint the model all over with generous quantities of this mix.

When dry, this wash will have gathered in the mortar runs to obscure the previous enamel paint. If it has discoloured the rest of the stone or brickwork too much (caused by adding too little water) simply wipe off the surplus with a damp cloth. If the mortar effect is not defined sufficiently (caused by adding too much water) simply repeat the wash.

If, on drying, you are not happy with the resultant shade, try the process again with a different mortar mix - this is a very quick process so two or three tries are not particularly time consuming.

WEATHERING: The principle is the same as for mortar, but you need a darker mix - typically two parts black to one part white, again with plenty of water. Paint it on more sparingly - under the eaves, dripping down from spouts, window frames etc. Once again, errors can be wiped off or re-done.

RISING DAMP, ETC: Damp and moss effects can be introduced into the mortar or weathering by adding a little green into the wash mix. Sparing use is most effective.

ACRYLIC PAINTS FOR MORTAR AND WEATHERING: Liquid acrylic paints (such as the Humbrol Bobcat series) can be used as an alternative to water colour paint and have the advantage of being permanent when dry. As with water colours, you will only need three colours: black, white and yellow. Mix the shade required and add water for the wash in the same way.

SMOKE STAINS: Unlike card or plastic models, there is no danger of damaging Linka System models with flame, so a lighted candle can be used to create pleasing smoke effects. This is especially useful on tunnel mouths, engine sheds etc.