

## Last Month's Demonstration: Methods For Finishing Glass Periscopes

by Scott Bregi

Armored vehicles from WW2 and beyond have periscopes or vision blocks made from thick glass. Getting these right on your model is a critical step to realism. Scott has several techniques that he applies depending on the circumstance. Here are the notes from his demo.

### TECHNIQUE: solid/opaque kit parts

1. Just paint it: after painting the part with the body color, use a dark color like Mission Models "Japanese Q1 Anti Glare Blue Black Cowl WW2" and then follow up with a clear gloss or Tamiya Clear Blue/Clear Green. This is a simple technique but it's difficult to paint straight lines and it doesn't look as realistic as other techniques.



2. Film negatives: cut film negatives into rectangles to match your part. Use CA glue to anchor it. Use dividers to transfer the size of the part to the film before you cut it.

3. Bare Metal Foil: burnish the foil over the part and trim away excess to leave the foil on the glass area. Seal/tint with Tamiya Clear Smoke or other clear paints.

4. Reflective film: Hasegawa Clear Hologram Finish reflects light and returns various colors so it simulates the modern-era periscopes with anti-laser reflective coatings. Cut out the shape needed and the self-adhesive will anchor it. If desired, treat with clear tints as in #3.



### TECHNIQUE: clear kit parts

1. Paint with clear tints: a multi-step process that yields a very realistic finish. Start by airbrushing a clear blue/green tint on the entire part. Use low air pressure for this job. Scott likes to use Alclad II Armored Glass Tint Lacquer but you can also use Tamiya Clear Blue/Clear Green. Even better is a custom mixture of the two. When dry, cut tape masks that fit over the exposed glass portion. Scott likes to use scraps from a Maketar Nose Cone Masking Kit. Leave the tape on and next airbrush a reflective silver. Scott likes Alclad II Polished Aluminum Lacquer because it's tough and has very fine metallic pigment. Next, airbrush Flat Black in a very light coat. Finish up with the body color of the vehicle or the stock color of the periscope - let your references be your guide. Peel off the tape mask and you're done.

