

CREATE NON-SKID TEXTURE USING WHOLE-WHEAT FLOUR

THE ROUGH SURFACES SEEN ON TANKS AND AIRCRAFT WALKWAYS is easily made with coarse flour from your pantry (also called stone-ground, whole-wheat, or whole-grain). It's simple to apply and paint over and looks realistic to boot.



1

To demonstrate the process, we'll use Academy's 1/35 scale Merkava Mk.IV main battle tank built by Karel Sutt for the March 2017 *FineScale Modeler*. He created a roughed-up look with layers of chipped paint.



2

First, spread thinned white glue over the area that will be non-skid. Then sprinkle on the coarse flour liberally and sweep away the excess with a soft brush.



3

Be sure to avoid parts of the model that should not have the bumpy texture, such as sides, ventilation covers, indentations, and other details.



4

Use reference photos to determine how even and closely spaced the non-skid texture should be. Here, unevenness and bare patches add to the realistic appearance.



5

Only begin painting when the flour is completely dry. The texture can stand up to both airbrushing and hand-painting techniques. Use caution when weathering the area though, as the flour can't tolerate the same chipping motion as untreated surfaces.



6

In the end, you're left with a realistically rough texture that is to scale and stands up to several layers of paint.