Rubbish, nothing but Rubbish - a project dedicated to the Mad Yank

Posted by Thod - 2007/01/21 09:46

Jim

Finally I finished it (up to a stage to present some photos. Still need some touchup jobs as well as some varnish). What was planned for a quick project turned out to take a lot longer – but I'm pleased with the result.

To quote you from one of you posts:

Just kidding, Thod; but now, I really AM curious.
WHAT were you going to do that was going to be dedicated to ME?
How have I earned such an honor? Or, conversely speaking, what did I ever do to YOU? (It's gotta be one or the other; I'm kinda of scared to find out which one!)

To let you know how you earned the honor and incurred my wrath at the same time – I quote your remarks to my sewer set which triggered it.

You've outdone yourself again! I cringe and hide in modesty and, well, not SHAME, just . . . no, not embarrassment, either;
De FEET! THAT'S it! It's de agony of de feet! Comes from slogging through all those sewer trenches, or something like that.

What a warm feeling, more, I want to see Jim in defeet again – but then you ruined it

Anyway, it looks great! Good job on a short budget - which is supposedly a major part of the whole scratchbuilding process, to see just how much you can do with improvisation.

Short budget, short budget – I just invested some $70+ at my local tile store and planned to invest the same amount again to have enough tiles from a single cololour. And you talk about short budget …

Somehow this did stick in my mind when I relived the sweet moments reading your post while riding on my bike into work. At the same time the bit about small budget did irk me – and the idea about a project on really, really minimal budget was born.

I hope you like it – extremely useful for any dungeon crawl – I would say an accessory you need in at least each second game – and done on a minimal budget – the rubbish pile – and best of all – dedicated to you in honor of inspiring me to this project.

Would love to see you on a webcam when you tell Sandy - look, someone dedicated his project to me, to me !! Sandy - What is it ! Jim - Silence - just for once :)

To complete the acknowledgements – somewhere in my mind Kradlos cries about my 'clean sewer' must have played a role as well. And then someone I don't remember used the bow ties ingeniously as piles of rubble. I should check up who this actually was.

I also have a few pictures about a how to – as well as how not to do – I will post them at a later stage.

Thod
http://dwarvenforge.com/images/fbfiles/images/21893/IMG_1737.JPG

http://dwarvenforge.com/images/fbfiles/images/21893/IMG_1734.JPG
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Posted by Ghenghis Ska - 2007/01/21 12:24

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eheheh, Broken HA does make good rubish.

Where are the little gray mice in the rubbish from?

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Posted by Thod - 2007/01/21 13:21

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Ghengis Ska

Broken, broken - they aren't broken. This is high quality dross, only the best I have selected for Jim - not broken pieces. I tend to use the scraping technique and for some of my projects I needed only several pieces from a mold - sometime doing 6 or 7 molds at a time.
And when I select the pieces I actually want I always look through the dross that is created by splilled over and scraped over plaster. The best looking ones don't go in the bin but instead in a plastic bag for later uses. I always feel these pieces look more natural compared to my attempts to break up whole pieces. And CrystaCal alphaK is hard to break anyway.

In regard to the mice. The originals are a set of three which have been in a Playmobil Adventscalendar of 2005. The ones you see are copies. I just added the original three to a mold I was planning anyhow. I felt they would just be great on a rubbish pile. I have to admit I have big problems casting them. The noses tend to be filled with an airbibble and out of 3 castings (9 mice) only a single one has a perfect nose - the other ones rather look like pig snouts.

Anyhow - I felt they give the whole lot an extra bit of colour and extra detail.

Jens

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Rubbish, nothing but Rubbish - a project dedicated to the Mad Yank

Posted by Thod - 2007/01/21 13:59

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As promised a few how to pictures.

The most important bit is to have a selection of debris. As Ghengis Ska points out - HA makes great debris - but I'm sure there are alternative sources to be found. Important is, that you undercoat everything ahead of time. You won't be able to reach into the inner (most dark) parts later and it will look silly if this is the part of your pile which looks white.
Instead of 'painting' I tried just to dip the pieces into the pot instead and save time. I gave up after the first one. It slipped and I had to fish it out again. Secondly there was too much paint on it and I had to brush the excess off. Therefore instead I just coated each individual piece.
A second grand idea also didn't work. I felt if I just pile up the still wet pieces in a passage corner I should get the right shape for a rubbish pile and would have hardly any work at all (this still assumed the drip into the pot method). To ensure it would stick to itself and not to the passage I use non stick baking paper.
All I can say - it was a mess and it didn't really stick well enough. Thoughts to improve by adding some PVA into my basecoat where never tried ...
So there I was - back to the simple method of piling the pieces up and glue them together with PVA. To keep the table clean I used some black plastic board (was the first thing coming in my hands while looking for some of the baking paper). I struggled to place the mouse where I wanted - and this is when it really struck me - why not glue it straight on the plastic ??
While this worked wonders for the stability I did encounter another problem. Too much PVA glue - loads of white patches. To get rid of them I applied a thin layer of Black Lava from Vallejo. I had bought the stuff in October to improve the bases of my painted figures. And it really worked splendid. The white PVA showed me where I still needed to apply some - and as the colour is really black it has a slight different colour once drybrushed.
And the last addition were the buttons aka mushrooms I got from the Haberdashery for 5 pence a piece.

So what are my recommendations?

a) collect a selection of dross and pieces early on. You need enough to make several piles to ensure you can select a piece the right size/shape when you build up the pile
b) you want to have at least two, three distinct colours to add some detail and to avoid it looking bland. This is why I added the broken doors and the mice. Some more colourful mushrooms would do as well.
c) If you add something in the middle of the pile which you want to be seen (like a chest, coins), then do some dry brushing half way through the project.
d) Don't worry to be perfect - this is a rubbish pile after all. The doors got some drybrush from the stones and it just looks as some dust.

Have fun - and next time the party searches a room for treasure they actually have something to search (or the snake, rat, centipede has a place to hide from which it attacks when the group is searching for valuables).

Thod

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Rubbish, nothing but Rubbish - a project dedicated to the Mad Yank

Posted by Thod - 2007/01/21 14:01

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oops - forgot the pictures
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http://dwarvenforge.com/images/fbfiles/images/21906/IMG_1720.JPG
http://dwarvenforge.com/images/fbfiles/images/21906/IMG_1604.JPG
http://dwarvenforge.com/images/fbfiles/images/21906/IMG_1739.JPG

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http://dwarvenforge.com/images/fbfiles/images/21906/IMG_1719.JPG
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Posted by jkratzer - 2007/01/22 08:52

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Thod;

I just shut up - in awe and appreciation.

WOW!!

Jim

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Rubbish, nothing but Rubbish - a project dedicated to the Mad Yank

Posted by Thod - 2007/01/22 10:48

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Jim

I was hoping that you like it. The original idea was to get it finished before Christmas and offer you one rubbish pile as a Christmas present.

Might be late - but if you are interested - just drop me a line and I need an address where to send it to.

Thod

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Rubbish, nothing but Rubbish - a project dedicated to the Mad Yank

Posted by Ghenghis Ska - 2007/01/22 11:05

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Well, when i said broken, to me more acurate, i should have said "miss cast".
I actually tend to glue my broken bits back together and still use them ;)
I use miss cast stuff for battle damage, and rubbish would work as well.

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