What about the DF Figures?

Posted by willypold - 2004/11/18 15:49

I've seen the DF miniatures on the product page and they look quite ok as fas as is possible to tell, but there is very little in the way of information about them, material and such. What is the general (or specific) opinion about them, compared to the offerings from other manufacturers?

Or... Convince me why I should buy them or tell me why I should rather spend money on more cave sections... :-)

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What about the DF Figures?

Posted by L - 2004/11/18 16:55

I think the general consensus is -- while the figs are really nice, spend your money on DF terrain first.

They are resin (I believe -- at least they are definitely not metal) They are nicely detailed and well painted, but they are expensive and, ultimately, not that "special" compared to your other options. If you want pre-painted minis, there's a TON out there. If you just want minis, there's obviously even more. These are okay, but they aren't the best out there.

I have one set of each -- all the available lizardmen, orcs, and skeletons without any duplicates. I'd say the skeletons impressed me least, esp. since they are so common as subjects and some are truly amazing. The orcs are nice, I particularly like the strung bows, but again, orcs are pretty common and unless you demand orcs that look precisely like this, I don't know that these would be your favorites. The lizardmen I really like, my only wish is that there were more poses on them -- there are only like four or five, and I'd rather have ten poses and twenty figures. The colors on them are great, I like the poses, and they are neat lizardmen. (technically, I can see people disagreeing with me here, so I'd admit that the same thing applies as with the others, only I really do want lizardmen that look precisely like this)

They are far superior to 99% of the prepainted plastics out there, certainly they blow away Mage Knight and a lot of WOTC stuff (in my opinion) but unless the thought of painting minis gives you hives, I don't know that it's worth it.

If the thought of painting gives you hives, though, it may be. They are some of the better prepainted miniis I've seen, I just think the consensus has been "We don't mind painting figures, it's cheaper, and there are more options"

Certainly DF seems to have lost interest -- there have been many new fantasy products but no new figs in a long time, and no sci-fi figures accompanied the SF releases. Also, I remember plans for a party of adventurers that never came to anything, and this was at least two years ago. I'd say the figures are not "where it's at"

L

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What about the DF Figures?
Posted by willypold - 2004/11/19 00:30

Thanks for the input!

My own reasons for buying minis are quite varied. I like the D&D minis for several reasons: getting prepainted figures with simple stats ready to be dropped onto the gaming table immediately is the main reason, the absolutely chaotic selection of warriors and strange creatures is the second most important reason (and let's not forget that I'm also a total sucker for the random booster ploy!).

If I want detail, adaptability, consistency and variation within a single army (orks, skeletons, whatever) I go for GW plastic and different skirmish rules or boardgames when I'm not playing W40K (which I rarely do as I prefer smaller* games like Space Hulk or GorkaMorka).

*Which is a fact that hasn't stopped me from creating a 30+ vehicle strong Ork Speedfreak army... :D

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What about the DF Figures?
Posted by MyLordVoid - 2004/11/20 15:06

Willypold,

DF Lizard Men Outshine the WotC by Miles, (Though I Like the WotC "Lizardfolk", I Don't Love them)... I Have Fantasized about Selling my Collection of Orcs (Which are pretty Nice), and Skeletons, (Which Blow WotC Humanoid Skeletons away)... But I Have NEVER even thought about Getting rid of the Lizard Men From DF... If You Are Really Curious (Anyone), Buy one of the Cheaper 3 Fig Sets of Skeletons, or Orcs Next time You Purchase some Terrain... Then Decide... Worse Case You Don't want to Pay the Big Bucks for Lots of the Larger Pricey Sets, or You Don't Like 'em... Then You Have Spent about $15.00 and Have 3 "Extra" random Monsters! Best Case Maybe you Have Founf Your Next Favorite Mini!

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What about the DF Figures?
Posted by L - 2004/11/20 16:09

I really dig the DF lizardmen, but I also like the latest lizardfolk from GW. I don't know really what the WOTC ones look like.

The GW ones give you some great options -- there are the little skink things, and the larger spikey sauruses, and the cool giant lizards they ride on. The poseability options in a plastic boxed regiment are pretty wide, you can put together a good tribe of varied types for pretty cheap (about $2-3 a fig, I believe) I am happy with mine.

Maybe I'll put some in the next fantasy pics I post ... . ..

L

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What about the DF Figures?
Posted by MyLordVoid - 2004/11/20 16:40

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I Think that there are 3 Models that are Available at this Point... (I Only have Two, the Lizardfolk "Rogue" and a "Lizardfolk"... (Total of 3-4 of Each... But only those Molds... So it is a Bit Limited...) By All Means Send the Pics...!!!!

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What about the DF Figures?
Posted by willypold - 2004/11/20 18:11

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The lack of variety is a definite minus in any figure range, which is why I'm quite fond of the interchangeability of GW plastic - especially when it comes to Orks/Orcs and Space and Chaos Marines.

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What about the DF Figures?
Posted by MyLordVoid - 2004/11/21 13:31

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Before D&D Pre-painred came along GW Plastic Sets were my Favorites... But I Hated that so many Sets would Have Combinations of Plastic AND Pewter... Plastic Vehicles with Pewter Weapons just does not make for a Very Sturdy Model in my Less than Humble... I Had Always wished they would Stick to Plastics... (GW that is)...

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What about the DF Figures?
Posted by willypold - 2004/11/21 13:46

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I definitely agree! Metal on plastic tends to fall off far too often and is more difficult to work with - I like rebuilding and modifying things too much! :-)

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What about the DF Figures?
Posted by MyLordVoid - 2004/11/21 14:58

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Willypold,

Plus the Weight Density Thing... Means that if the Model Falls of of a Table whatever, even on to Soft Surfaces like Couches Pillows whatever, It is the Bloody Metal Piece that will Go Bust... And Once you've Got all the Goop on the Model to try to get the Damn the Thing to Stick in the First place... Well it will not go back on with out a Fight!

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What about the DF Figures?

Posted by Guest - 2004/11/25 13:29

At one time, all the DF miniatures were put on sale for the celebration of this new website. The prizes dropped down to almost $1 per piece which was very reasonable.
DF miniatures are likely painted, better than any other pre-painted figures on the market. Of course, they are not display alone standard and no comparison to those who are hand-painted professionally.
There are several major problems. First, the regular price is too high. Second, they are made of resin and are very light and fragile. It can be easily broken if dropped. Despite in the original package, several of them will be chipped through transportation. Fortunately, repair is very easy. Overall, you have to handle them with care. They cannot survive through normal wear and tear. Third, the base is very small and often uneven. Therefore, many figures do not stand up steadily. I have to put in the putty at the base and repaint the bottom to make it more secure and look nice.
In summary, if you want hordes of sketelon warriors or orcs for display, go with a professional painted GW products. If you want normal daily gameplay, you want DnD minatures instead. They simply dont break. DF miniatures fail to meet both demand.
In my previous post, my recommandation for DF is drop these miniatures. It is sad to see them go. For them to be successful in the market, one has to:
1. Lower the price
2. Modify the figures - larger and steady bases, harder resin, etc.
3. Production of various races and special figures.
4. Introduction of a new game setting and rules for all DF figures.
This is too much for a small company to do at this point.

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What about the DF Figures?

Posted by willypold - 2004/11/25 14:33

Thanks for the input!

Normally I use tons of GW figures, primarily the plastic variety - with hordes of skeletons and orks, in fact, and use the D&DM figures for the easy to play rules and compactness of the game, in combination with the totally chaotic selection of figures - I sort of like that! :D

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What about the DF Figures?

Posted by wildger - 2004/11/25 15:37

IMO, the DF miniatures were intended to be used as accessories for the dungeon set. Unfortunately, the concept is doomed right at the beginning. It costs too much time, money and effort to make miniature figures than chest box, furnitures, etc.
The sketetal and lizardmen lines are rather unique. However, gamers and collectors will like to have a similar consistency in their game pieces and most of important, different varieties. DF failed to expand its miniature lines further by producing special characters, shamens, bone-mages, mounts, large monsters, etc. and therefore not able to capture a fair share of supporters.

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What about the DF Figures?
Posted by L - 2004/11/25 18:33

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I think the main problem with the minis was price. People are pretty forgiving about figures they don't think are PERFECT, but they are really uptight about price. Three figs for $15, that's just really REALLY expensive. If you like painting figs, it's kinda insane to pay that much, since Reaper gives you a much cheaper deal, or a boxed plastic box from GW. If you don't, the MK and WOTC figs are still cheaper.

The line wasn't going to be a big hit at that price. We don't mind paying high end for the scenery because it's unique and spectacular and useful. The minis, we can get better deals. It just wasn't a cost-effective market for a company of this size.

L

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What about the DF Figures?
Posted by MyLordVoid - 2004/11/27 09:38

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Law,

Yup and Not just Price... The Price was VERY High for a Piece that was THAT Fragile... I Still Love them... I Hope One day they will be Collectors Items... And I Would (As I Have Said Over and Over, ...), Love to see some "Special" Miniatures come with Specific Sets... A Barman/Wench with a Tavern Set etc... But at this Point I Would rather See DF remain Open for Business and Continue to release Kewl Sets as Well...

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