



HOW TO... MAKE A RUINED TEMPLE

For this month's 'How to...' Paul Davies applies again the techniques from his 'How to... Make Flagstone terrain', namely using a textured rolling pin to impress texture onto Styrofoam®, and then engrave individual flagstones, but this time takes it a bit further in order to create a ruined temple very loosely based on the Tholos at Delphi.

1. Cut out rings 1, 2 and circle 3. Keep the inner circles. Use the texture roller to texture the upper surface of the circles.
2. Glue rings 1 and 2 together and line the inner edge with DAS.
3. Paint the central area of the bottom circle 3, to represent the darkest depths of the pool. I chose a very dark green to suggest an ancient, stagnant pool.

MATERIALS

Styrofoam® or Craftfoam®

This material is similar to Foamboard®, but without the paper coating on both sides.

DAS® air drying clay

Plaster cake columns

A ruined model needs less columns because you can break columns in half to make two. If you're intending to feature broken columns then buy solid ones not hollow. I got mine from eBay for £0.25 each!

Clear acetate

Static grass

TOOLS

A texture roller

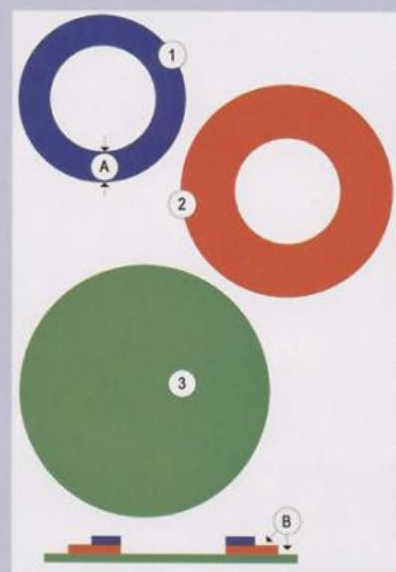
Making a texture roller was detailed in W1335, but basically, coat a wooden rolling pin with DAS® air drying clay. Make a ball of scrunched up aluminium foil; press it repeatedly into the clay. Set it aside to dry and that's it... your own unique texture roller.

A circle cutter

Large compass

PLANS

Available to download from wargamesillustrated.net



4. Using a ballpoint pen engrave the pattern of slabs onto assembly 1 and 2. Use a blunt screwdriver to engrave the clay coated inner edges. Also engrave the tiles onto the outer area of part 3. Paint assembly 1 and 2, and the outer area of 3. I used a dark grey undercoat followed by drybrushes of blue-grey, pale blue, and finally pale grey.

5. Cut a circle of clear acetate slightly larger than the aperture. Position it on 3, then pin and glue assembly 1 and 2 onto 3.

Next are the columns. I wanted my columns to be damaged or broken. I used an engraving tool to cut a line where I wanted the column to break. Don't 'snap' them; twist them as if you were wringing out a flannel. For broken column debris I placed two spare columns in a bag and then whacked it with a hammer! I decided that the model would look better if the columns were subtly different to the base, so I gave them a dark grey basecoat, and drybrushed with pale grey. The columns and rubble were glued in place using No More Nails®. Don't use too much of it otherwise you'll have to wipe off the excess because unlike PVA, it doesn't dry clear. I kept the rubble close to the columns because I didn't want to restrict the movement of figures too much.

Then I added clumps of static grass around the columns and on the base.

If you want a more overgrown look drape Army Painter® Battlefields Poison Ivy or Silfor® Ivy around the columns.

WHAT TO DO WITH THE CIRCLES?

6. For added flexibility you can use the circle cut from ring 1 or ring 2 as an insert, so the model can either have the stagnant pool at its centre or, 'something else'. I decided to feature a mystical pentagram. Fill the hole in the centre of the circle made when marking out and cutting the circle. Sand the edges of the circle so that it fits easily into the aperture. Lightly draw the lines for the flagstones and pentagram, and then etch them into the styrofoam. I decided to paint this inset differently to the main base, and used a similar technique to the columns.

Alternately you could give the other circle the plain flagstone treatment, and possibly add a statue on a plinth.

CONCLUSION

Depending upon your intended final use, you could perhaps add some Greek weapons and a shield or two, leaning against the columns or lying amongst the rubble, and for fantasy, who knows? Perhaps the skull of some mystical creature or the skeletons of some unsuccessful adventurers. Your imagination really is the limit.

