

# Painting Rocky Bases: Basic Techniques for Creating Realistic Miniature Bases

Are you looking to add a touch of realism to your miniature models? One often overlooked aspect of miniature painting is the base. While the miniature itself may be beautifully painted, a lackluster base can detract from the overall look and feel of the model. In this article, we will explore the basic techniques for painting rocky bases, helping you bring your models to life.

## Why Are Bases Important?

Although the miniature itself is the focal point, the base grounds the model and provides a sense of context. A well-painted base helps create a more immersive experience, enhancing the overall visual impact of the model. Rocky bases, in particular, can add depth and realism, making your miniature appear as though it is standing in a natural environment.

## Gathering Your Materials

Before we dive into the techniques, let's gather the necessary materials. For painting rocky bases, you'll need the following:



## Painting Rocky Bases (Basic Bases Book 1)

by Max Dubois (Kindle Edition)

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- Flat brush
- Palette
- Selection of acrylic paints (various shades of brown, gray, and black)
- Textured paint or modeling paste
- PVA glue
- Various sizes and shapes of rocks/pebbles
- Spray primer (optional)
- Varnish (optional)

## Creating Texture

The first step in painting rocky bases is to create an appropriate texture. There are multiple ways to achieve this, but the simplest method is by using textured paint or modeling paste. Apply the textured medium to the base, sculpting it to resemble rocks and uneven terrain. Let it dry completely before moving on to the next step.

## Basecoat and Drybrushing

Once the textured medium is dry, it's time to apply a basecoat. Using your selection of brown, gray, and black acrylic paints, create a natural-looking base color. Start with a dark brown or black, applying it to the recesses and crevices. Then, gradually layer lighter shades of brown and gray,

drybrushing the raised areas to create highlights. This technique adds depth and dimension to the rocky surface.

## **Adding Realism with Detailing**

To make the rocky bases more realistic, it's essential to add small details. Using a flat brush and a mixture of black and brown paint, carefully paint cracks, crevices, and small pebbles on the base. This step adds depth and visual interest to the model.

## **Final Touches**

Once you are satisfied with the overall look of your painted bases, you can add some final touches to enhance the realism. Consider drybrushing a light gray or white over the highest points of the rocks to simulate highlights caused by sunlight. If desired, you can also add a thin wash of darker colors to create shadows and make the rocks appear weathered.

## **Sealing and Protection**

After completing the painting process, it is crucial to protect your hard work. You can apply a spray primer to seal the base, providing a durable finish. Additionally, applying a varnish can further protect the painted surface, ensuring that your rocky bases will withstand handling and gaming sessions.

Painting rocky bases is a relatively simple yet rewarding process that can significantly enhance the overall appearance of your miniature models. By using the techniques mentioned in this article, you can create realistic, eye-catching bases that complement your well-painted miniatures. So, take your time, experiment with colors, and enjoy the process of bringing your miniatures to life with these basic techniques for painting rocky bases.



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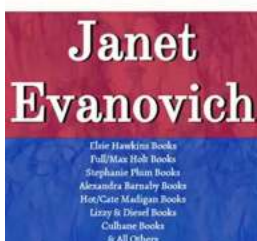


This book is a 12 step guide on making rock themed bases for your miniatures. It is straight and to the point.

The techniques in this are simple enough that any painter will be able to repeat them and create striking bases for your models.

About the author: My name is Max Dubois, and I am a miniature enthusiast from Quebec, Canada. Over the past decade, I've worked as a freelance miniature painter, producing high quality armies and models. I've also contributed to multiple blogs and websites about miniature wargames and painting.

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