

## British Vehicle Camouflage 1939-45 Part 2.

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Please discard or delete any versions earlier than this.

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The mixes here are the best at the time of writing. They represent matches for the standards rather than necessarily model colours. Colours not seen/ referred to are omitted. These are all based on primary research by Mike Starmer. Unless otherwise stated all paints are Humbrol.

*Please disregard all earlier dated versions.*

### **BS381C 1930**

#### **Light Bronze Green No. 22 a.k.a. Light Green G5**

Mix: Humbrol 226 + touch 60 OR use 159 which is dull. A simple but effective mix is Humbrol 159 and 38 in ratio 3:1. This gives a vivid grass green.

In use: 1938 - 41 usually as the light shade in M.T.P.20 schemes with G3/ Middle Bronze Green No. 23 or occasionally on its own.

Description: A light-medium grass green. Gloss until 1938-39.

#### **Middle Bronze Green No. 23 a.k.a. Khaki Green No. 3/ G3/ "Service Colour"**

Mix: Humbrol 226 + Revell 65 in ratio 3:2 approx. If unavailable then Humbrol 80 produces a slightly rich tone.

WEM ARB07 is very good match.

Humbrol 30 is a long way too blue and light. For dyed canvas tilts use Humbrol 117 as a basis.

In use: 1938 - 43. The usual basic colour until replaced in 1942 by S.C.C. 2. Used with G5 and less often with G4 or occasionally on its own. Specified as alternative dark tone in Middle East 'Caunter' scheme. Gloss pre-war finish overall until 1939. Description: In its gloss form this is a dark rich yellow-

green contrasting highly with G5 and much less so with G4.

**Deep Bronze Green No. 24 a.k.a. Dark green G4.**

Mix: Revell 65 + black in ratio 10:1 approx., Do not exceed this amount of black.

In use: 1938 -41. With G3 and pre-war on its own as a gloss finish.

Description: Very dark yellow-green almost black green.

**Silver Grey No. 28**

Mix: Humbrol 74 + 145 in ratio 5:2, or 74 + 34 + touch 27 approx.

WEM ARB08 is very good match.

In Use: Caunter scheme in M.E. and as disruptive colour for a period.

Description: Neither silver nor grey but a medium yellow-green, fades to blue-grey in extreme.

**R.A.F. Blue-Grey No. 33**

Mix: 77 + 67 in ratio 4:1 or 112 only but satin varnish overall.

In use: R.A.F. use only on ground vehicles 1935 till 1941 as semi-gloss finish. Then Post-war.

Description: A dark blue-grey, NOT Humbrol 96 which is uniform colour!

**Slate No. 34 a.k.a. dark slate.**

Mix: 32 + 81 + 117 in ratio 4:2:1 or 111 + touch 102 as fair alternative. Fades to grey about 111.

In use: 1940 - 42 Middle East as dark shade in Caunter scheme and then a disruptive colour over Light Stone No.61.

Description: A darkish dull grey-green.

**Terracotta No. 44**

Mix: 100 + 70 in ratio 6:5.

In use: Mentioned in unofficial sources as possible use in Egypt 1936-39 in disruptive schemes.

Description: A distinct red-orange colour.

**Red Oxide No. 46.**

Mix: 133 + 20 + 9 in ratio 18:2:1. There is nothing simpler.

In use: Egypt by 6 RTC in 1935 until 1939 and 11<sup>th</sup> Hussars from 1937.

Some other units may have used it.

Description: A strong dark red.

#### **Light Purple Brown No.49.**

Mix: 60 + 33 + 25 in ratio 8:3:1 OR Revell 331 + 10 + 25 in ratio 6:2:1 There is nothing simpler.

WEM ARB10 A very good match.

In use: Specified for use as disruptive colour as patches or bands over Light Stone No.61 in The Sudan. Possible use 1941-42.

Description: Strong red-brown with purple tinge.

#### **Pale Cream No. 52**

Mix: 74 + 34 + 103 in ratio 4:3:2.

In use: Egypt 1935 to 1939 by 6 RTC, 11<sup>th</sup> Hussars and some other units.

Description: 'Pale cream' describes this nicely - a light rich cream colour.

#### **Light Stone No.61 a.k.a. "desert yellow".**

Mix: 74 + 26 in ratio 8:1 OR Revell 16 + 1 ratio 2:1 approx. colour.

In use: 1939 - 43 as basic shade in Middle East.

Description: Medium toned yellow sand colour.

#### **Middle Stone No.62.**

Mix: 154 + 83 in ratio 5:3. Now accurately available as Humbrol 225.

In use: Adopted as basic colour in a two toned disruptive scheme specified in G.O 370 of July 1939.

Description: A powerful yellow sand colour, became R.A.F. Middle Stone.

#### **Dark Stone No. 63.**

Mix: Humbrol 83 is approx., no sample available at the time of writing.

In use: Mentioned once in a 13 corps document as short term basic shade for 1943 in Tunisia.

Description: Dark yellow brown, same family as above.

#### **Portland Stone No.64.**

Mix: 34 + 74 + touch 33 or 67 in ratio 4:3:t. A simple but effective mix is 196 + 74 + 34 in ratio 7:2:2.

In use: 1940 - 41 as basic shade in M.E.

Description: A pale sand grey/ very pale cream with a greenish tinge.

## NON-BS COLOURS 1940-42.

### **Nobel's Dark Tarmac Green No. 4.**

Mix: Provisional match, 91 + 33 in ratio 2 : 1.

In use: A.C.I. 1559 August 1941 authorises this use as disruptive over G3 on wood and metal bodywork only in M.T.P. 20 scheme, S.C.C. 7 and S.C.C. 1A to be used on canvas areas. A short term scheme.

Description: A very dark blue-green.

### **Dark Sand.**

Mix: Provisional match, Humbrol 110 only.

In use: In Egypt as disruptive over Middle Stone No.62 following G.O 370 of July 1939. Trials colour in ME 1936-39

Description: This was an experimental pre-war colour. Current matching to primary source in the PRO suggest it was a dull slightly red-brown.

### **Un-dyed canvas UK vehicles.**

Mix: Humbrol 84 + 90 in ration 4:1 gives a good basis.

In use: UK and with BEF France 1937-41.

### **Bleached canvas Middle East.**

Mix: 29 + 34 in ratio 1:1 to 3 depending on requirement.

In use: In Middle East, where vehicles were shipped with Khaki Green dyed canvas, tilts were chemically bleached.