

How to Review Figures: One Gamer's Notion

By Mike Crane

I am excited about the new review section that has been added to the *LW* blog. Like all solo gamers, I am constantly reading, buying, or looking for something to use in a new scenario. The review section will give us an opportunity to share interesting information and ideas about the complementary items that are so important to our hobby.

When thinking of the different things that would be appropriate for review, several topics come to mind and each one presents its own type of questions. There can be reviews about figures, models, terrain, games, books (history, novels, and rules), publications, films and other subjects that would fall under the miscellaneous category. Before writing a review, make a list so you will be able to answer the questions that you think will come to the reader's mind. Just for the heck of it, I made this check list for reviewing figures. Some of the ideas might be applied to other types of reviews as well. If I don't think of everything in the checklist, a reader can ask questions in the blog's comment section.

FIGURE REVIEW

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. The manufacturer _____
- B. The period _____
- C. The size of the figures: ____ mm or 1/____
- D. The number of figures
 - a. sold as single figures
 - b. sold as figures in a box, bag or set. _____
- E. The material
 - a. metal
 - b. plastic
 - i. soft
 - ii. hard
 - iii. color

II. PAINT

- A. Painted figures
 - a. Collector standard
 - b. Wargaming standard
 - c. Poor quality
- B. Unpainted figures
 - a. Easy to paint
 - b. Difficult to paint

III. SCULPTING

- A. Details
- B. Molding lines
- C. Flash

IV. PLAYABILITY

- A. Useful poses _____
- B. Unusable poses _____
- C. Robust figures
- D. Fragile figures

V. PERSONAL EVALUATION

- A. Cost
 - a. Price (\$) _____
 - b. Preparation (time) _____
 - c. Your opinions about the cost
- B. Usefulness in solo gaming
- C. Availability
- D. Personal Evaluation Scale: (5) Excellent; (4) Very Good; (3) Good; (2) Fair; (1) Poor

VI. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- A. Website addresses _____
- B. Email and postal addresses _____
- C. Books _____