

# SU-122 RUSSIAN TANK DESTROYER

1/35 MILITARY MINIATURE SERIES

**TAMIYA**  
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The Soviet Army was influenced by the German development and adoption of the 'assault gun.' This type of vehicle entered German service in 1940 in time for the Western Front campaign. By early 1940 the Soviets already had what they called an 'artillery tank,' the KV-2 armed with a 152 mm L/20 howitzer in a massive box-like turret with all-round traverse. It had many limitations, however, which included a high silhouette, an inability to fire on the move, traversing limitations of the turret if the tank was on an incline, and a dramatic increase of weight compared with the ordinary KV-1 tank. The unsatisfactory nature of the KV-2 became evident in the opening stages of the German invasion of Russia in June 1941, when the KV-2s were quickly overwhelmed by the German armour.

The Soviets began to re-arm to meet the German armour on more equal terms. The famous T34 was the most notable new vehicle and it rendered all German tanks then in service virtually obsolete. Self-propelled guns like the German 'assault guns' were developed. One of the first was the SU 76, based on the chassis of the T170 light tank. This appeared in 1942 and was intended initially as a tank destroyer; it proved to be too small and lightly armoured and was subsequently used as an infantry support weapon. Plans were put in hand to mount a 122 mm howitzer on the chassis and running gear of the T-34 to provide a replacement for the KV-2. A prototype was built in mid 1942. Stalin was greatly impressed and ordered immediate quantity production. By January 1943 the first regiment was equipped with the new vehicle designated SU-122.

The new vehicle utilised an adapted M1938 122 mm field gun-howitzer

mounted centrally on the front end of the T-34 hull. The turret was dispensed with and replaced by a low fixed superstructure. There was very limited traverse for the heavy weapon. The new superstructure took up all the space forward of the engine deck, and was distinguished by a well shaped front and a massive mantlet. A cupola for the vehicle commander was situated to the left front. The chassis used was the current 1942 T-34. A horn periscope and a radio were command aids on the SU-122. The frontal armour was up to 100 mm thick and there was a crew of four. As the SU-122 was available for supporting infantry it was decided that the SU-122 would provide fire support for the tank divisions. Platoons of three SU-122s would be attached to tank companies or battalions. There was thus some divergence from original German ideas, for the SU-122 often became a substitute for a tank. In February 1943 production of the SU-122 ended in favour of the JUS-152, a similar vehicle based on the chassis of the KV or JS series tanks. It had a 152 mm gun.

Die Soviet Armee wurde in Bezug auf Panzer-Fahrzeuge durch die deutschen Entwicklungen beeinflusst, hauptsächlich Interesse galt den - an der Westfront 1940 eingesetzten - Sturmgeschützen.

Russland hatte bereits Anfang 1940 einen Artillerie Tank, den KV II mit 152 mm L/20 Kanone in einem massivem Schachtelturm mit Rundumdrehung, jedoch auch mit vielen Nachteilen: Hohe Silhouette, kein Schussvermögen während der Fahrt und die Drehung des Turmes war auf Neigungen begrenzt. Ausserdem hatte dieses Fahrzeug ein enormes Gewicht gegenüber

dem KV I

Diese Nachteile zeigten sich ganz besonders, als die Deutschen 1941 im Juni diese KV II glatt "überrannten". Sofort begann die Gegenrüstung der Russen. Der neue T34 war vorgesehen, durch Umrüstung eine Gegenwaffe zu erhalten.

Eines der ersten russischen Sturmgeschütze war der SU 76 auf Fahrgestell des T 170 leichten Tanks und erschien 1942 als Tankzerstörer, war jedoch zu klein und zu leicht, daher nur als Unterstützungspanzer für die Infanterie einzusetzen.

Mitte 1942 wurde ein Prototyp des T34 mit 122 mm Kanone vorgestellt. Stalin gab sofort die Massenproduktion in Auftrag und bereits im Januar 1943 konnte das erste Regiment mit diesen neuen "SU 122" aufgestellt werden. Als Kanone war eine M 1938 Feldhaubitze 122 mm aufmontiert, zentral frontgelagert.

Der Turm wurde durch einen niedrigen Frontaufbau ersetzt. Die Kanone jedoch hatte einen begrenzten Schwenkbereich. Der neue Aufbau nahm den ganzen Raum vor dem Motorabteil und hatte eine massive Panzerung. Links Vorne war die Kommandantenkuppel, das Chassis war der 1942 gebaute T34. Rohrrohr und Funkgerät/Radio waren die Hilfe für den Kommandanten. 4 Mann Besatzung. Frontpanzerung 100 mm.

Der SU 122 stand der Infanterie zur Verfügung, diente aber auch als Unterstützungspanzer den Tankdivisionen. Züge mit 3 SU 122 wurden den Tankkompanien oder Bataillons beigegeben.

Im Februar 1943 wurde die Produktion des SU 122 eingestellt und durch den JS 152 - 152 mm Kanone auf Fahrgestell KV oder JS Serie - ersetzt.



# PARTS

## A PARTS

- 1 . Cylinder Tank Upper
- 2 . Cylinder Tank Lower
- 3 . Rear Grill R
- 4 . Rear Grill L
- 5 . Unnecessary
- 6 . Unnecessary
- 7 . Rear Panel
- 8 . Tool Box A
- 9 . Tool Box B
- 10 . Muffler
- 11 . Engine Grill
- 12 . Unnecessary
- 13 . Towing Hook
- 14 . Unnecessary
- 15 . Cylinder Tank Parts
- 16 . Muffler Cover
- 17 . Antenna Mount
- 18 . Unnecessary
- 19 . Unnecessary
- 20 . Spare Tracks A
- 21 . Shaft Stopper
- 22 . Unnecessary
- 23 . Unnecessary
- 24 . Light
- 25 . Final Gear Cover
- 26 . Unnecessary
- 27 . Unnecessary
- 28 . Spare Tracks B
- 29 . Unnecessary
- 30 . Wire Ropes
- 31 . Unnecessary

## B PARTS

- 1 . Road Wheel Cap
- 2 . Sprocket Wheel Cap
- 3 . Body Stopper
- 4 . Idler Wheel Cap
- 5 . Unnecessary

## C PARTS

- 1 . Road Wheel A
- 2 . Road Wheel B
- 3 . Idler Wheel A
- 4 . Sprocket Wheel A
- 5 . Sprocket Wheel B
- 6 . Idler Wheel B

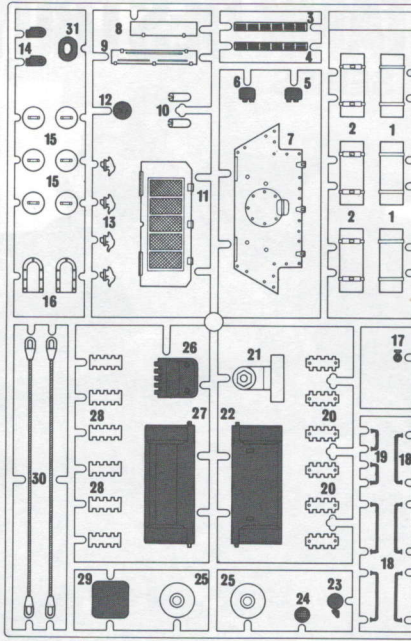
## D PARTS

- 1 . Periscope
- 2 . Driver's Hatch A
- 3 . Cleaning Rod
- 4 . Tool Stay
- 5 . Vision Port
- 6 . Horn
- 7 . Front Armour Plate
- 8 . Driver's Hatch B
- 9 . Tank Stay
- 10 . Upper Parts
- 11 . Rear Panel
- 12 . Pistol Port A
- 13 . Pistol Port B
- 14 . Top Plate
- 15 . Figure Body
- 16 . Figure Leg
- 17 . Figure Left Arm
- 18 . Figure Right Arm
- 19 . Driver Periscope

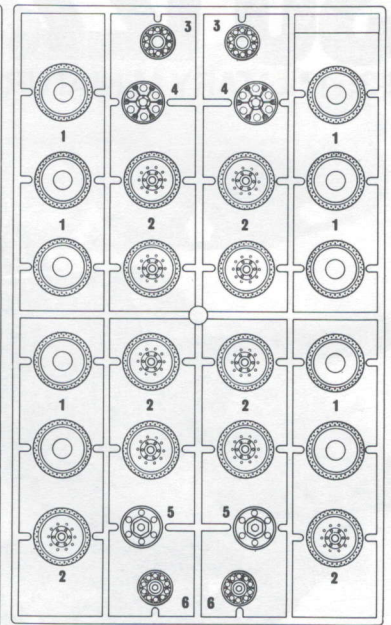
## E PARTS

- 1 . Gun Shield
- 2 . Gun shield Base
- 3 . Cannondrum
- 4 . Gun Shield Base Hook
- 5 . Gun Shield B Left
- 6 . Gun Shield B Right
- 7 . Gun Barrel A
- 8 . Gun Barrel B
- 9 . Gun Shield C
- 10 . Gun Barrel Stopper
- 11 . Cylinder Tank A
- 12 . Cylinder Tank B
- 13 . Figure Base
- 14 . Shovel
- 15 . Periscope
- 16 . Periscope Cover
- 17 . Head Light A
- 18 . Cylinder Tank C
- 19 . Commander's Hatch
- 20 . Hand Rail A
- 21 . Hand Rail B

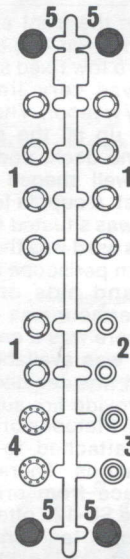
## A PARTS



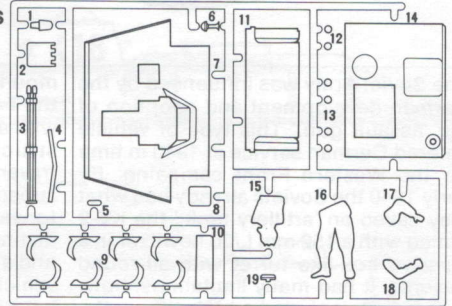
## C PARTS



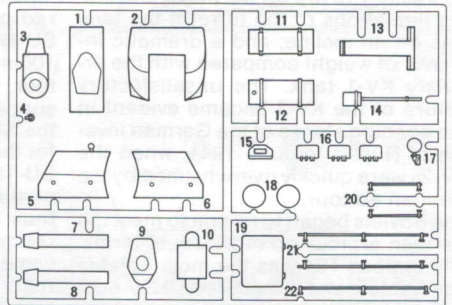
## B PARTS



## D PARTS



## E PARTS



Read Before Assembly  
Erst lesen - dann bauen.

★ Study the instructions before you start assembly. Make sure of parts shape and area to be cemented before you apply cement.

★ You will need a sharp knife, a screwdriver, a pair of tweezers, and a file.

■ This mark shows the colour this part should be painted. See also page 6.

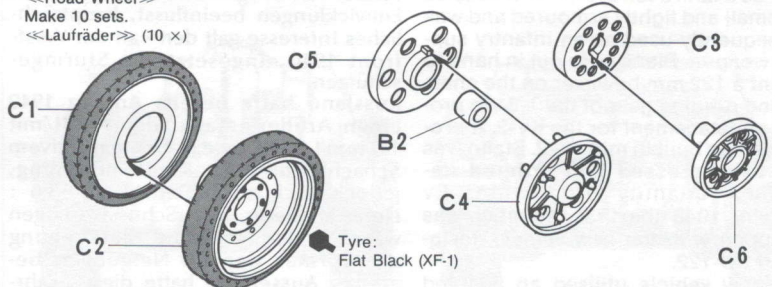
★ Vor Beginn die Bauanleitung studieren. Die Teile nach Bauabschnitten zusammenbauen. Teile nicht vom Spritzling brechen - abschneiden oder abzwicken, vor Kleben zusammenhalten - auf Passung achten.

★ Nicht zuviel Klebstoff verwenden. Kleine Teile mit Pinzette halten.

★ Abziehbilder vorsichtig im Wasser abschieben, auf richtigen Sitz achten und gut trocknen.

## 1 Construction of Wheels Zusammenbau der Räder

- ◀◀Road Wheel▶▶  
Make 10 sets.
- ◀◀Laufäder▶▶ (10 x)
- ◀◀Drive Sprocket▶▶  
Make 2 sets.
- ◀◀Keffenfribrad▶▶ (2 x)
- ◀◀Idler Wheel▶▶  
Make 2 sets.
- ◀◀Leitrad▶▶ (2 x)



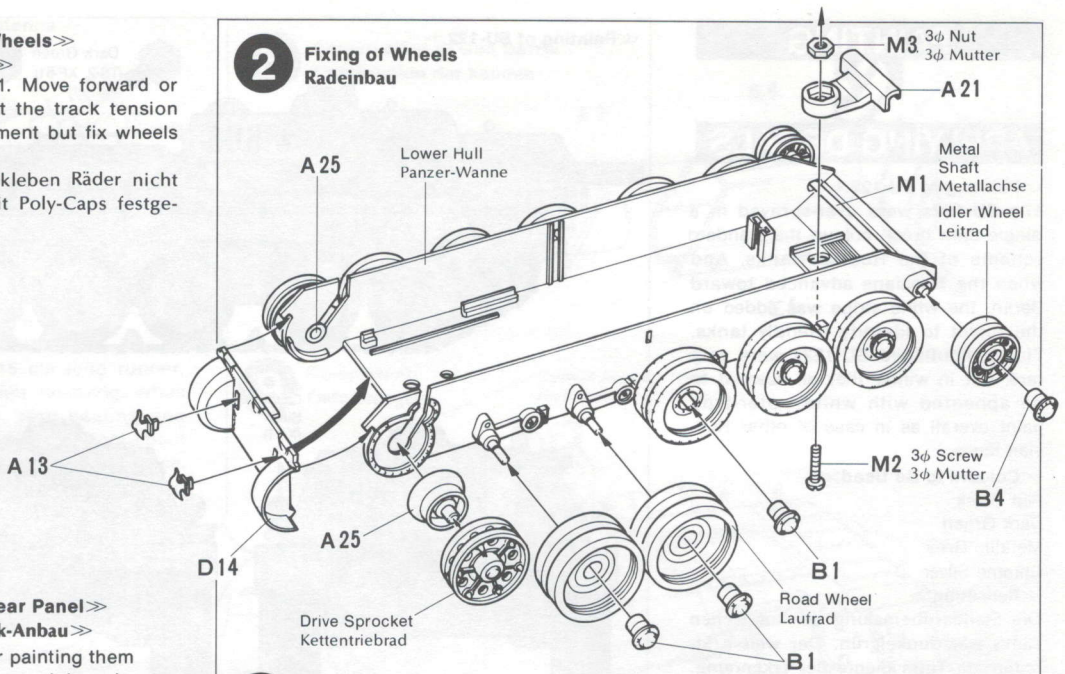


## 2 <<Fixing of Wheels>>

### <<Radeinbau>>

Do not cement A21. Move forward or backward to adjust the track tension and fix. Do not cement but fix wheels with Poly Caps.

Teil A 21 nicht einkleben Räder nicht kleben, werden mit Poly-Caps festgedrückt.

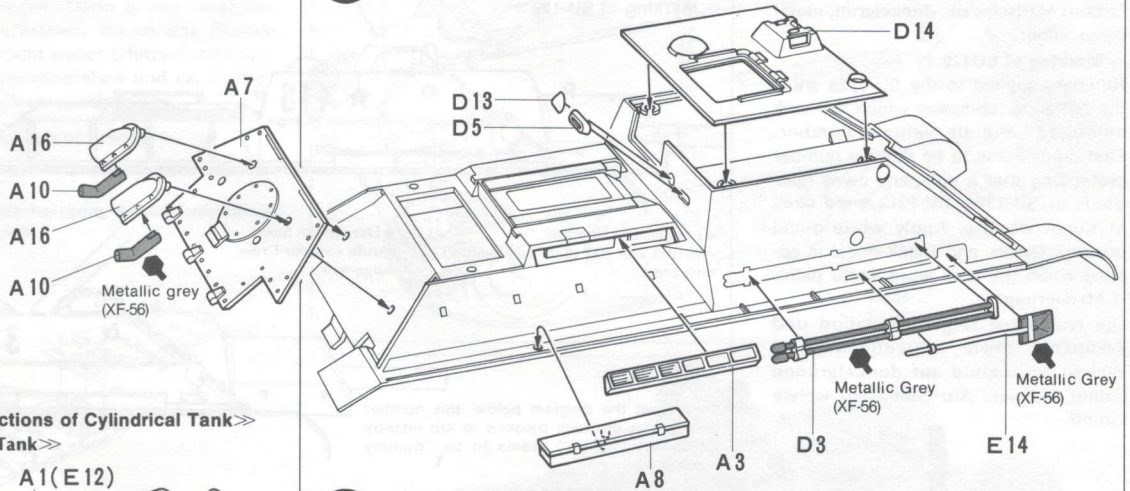


## 3 <<Fixing of Rear Panel>>

### <<Panzer-Heck-Anbau>>

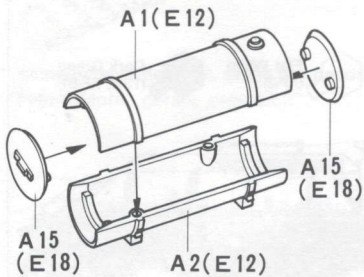
Fix D3 and E14 after painting them  
D3 und E14 einkleben nach bemalung

## 3 Fixing of Rear Panel Panzer-Heck-Anbau

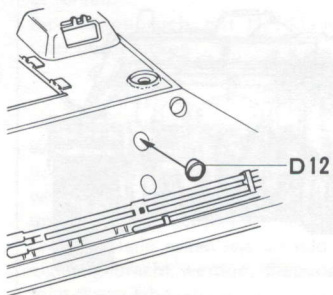


### <<Constructions of Cylindrical Tank>>

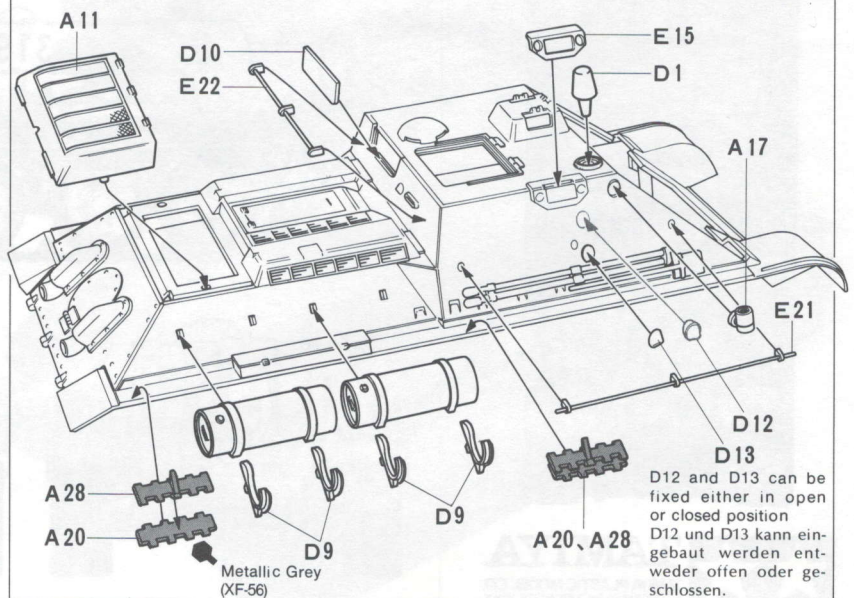
#### <<Cylind, Tank>>



★ Fixing of D12, see the sketch below.  
★ D12 siehe Bild



## 4 Construction of Upper Hull (1) Panzer - Oberteil (1)



D12 and D13 can be fixed either in open or closed position  
D12 und D13 kann eingebaut werden entweder offen oder geschlossen.



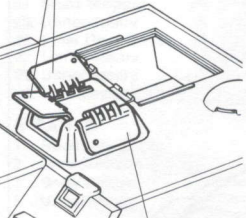
**5** <<Construction of Upper Hull (2)>>  
 <<Panzer—Oberteil (2)>>

E4  
E2

<<Construction of E16>>

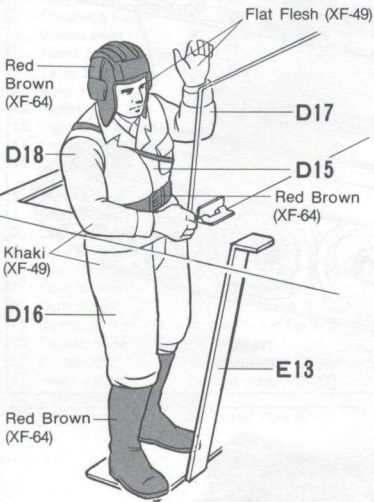
<<E16>>

Open position  
offen



Closed position  
Chlossen

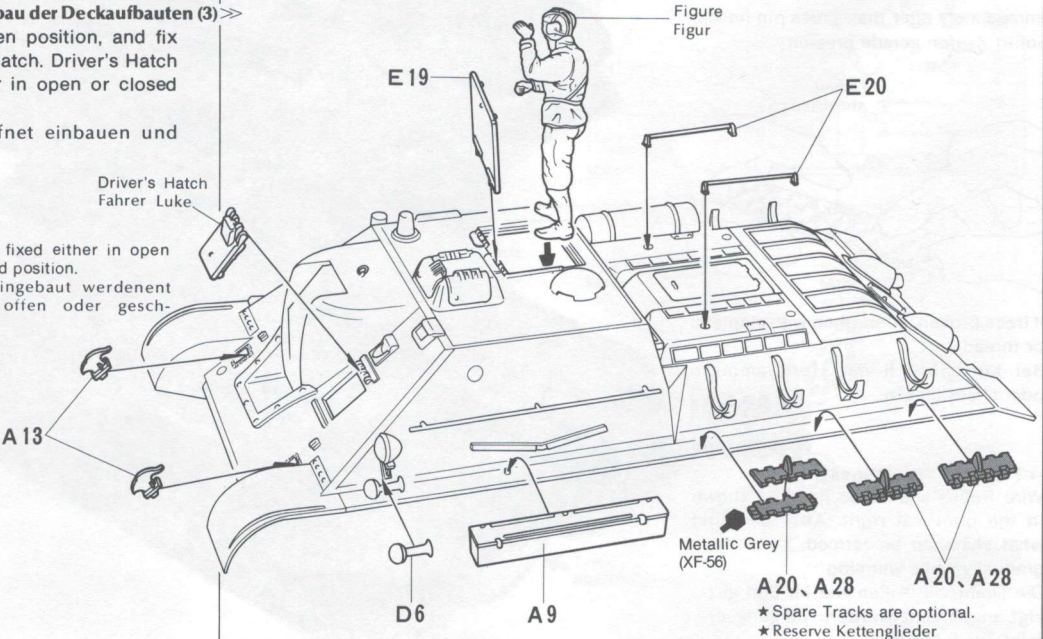
<<Construction of Figure>>  
 <<Männchenbau>>



**7** <<Construction of Upper Hull (3)>>  
 <<Zusammenbau der Deckaufbauten (3)>>

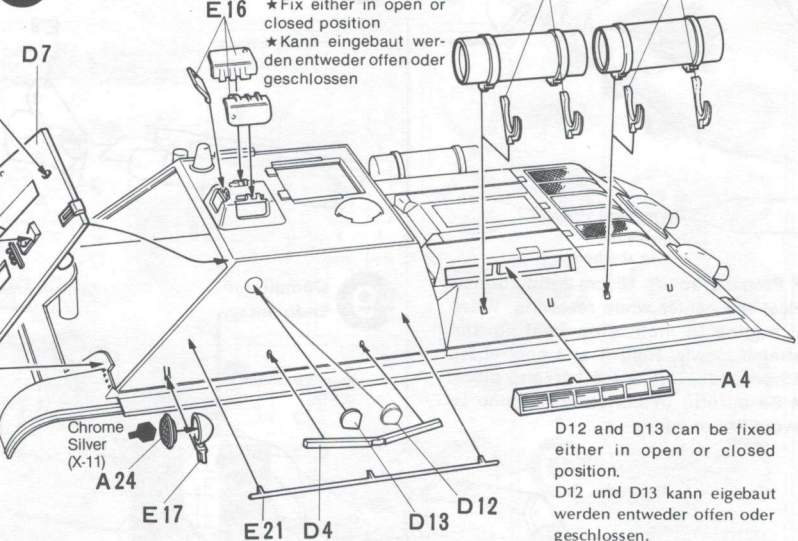
Cement E19 in open position, and fix Figure inside this Hatch. Driver's Hatch can be fixed either in open or closed position.  
 Fahrer-Lucke geöffnet einbauen und Fahrer einsetzen

Can be fixed either in open or closed position.  
 Kann eingebaut werdenent weder oifen oder geschlossen.



\* Spare Tracks are optional.  
 \* Reserve Kettenglieder

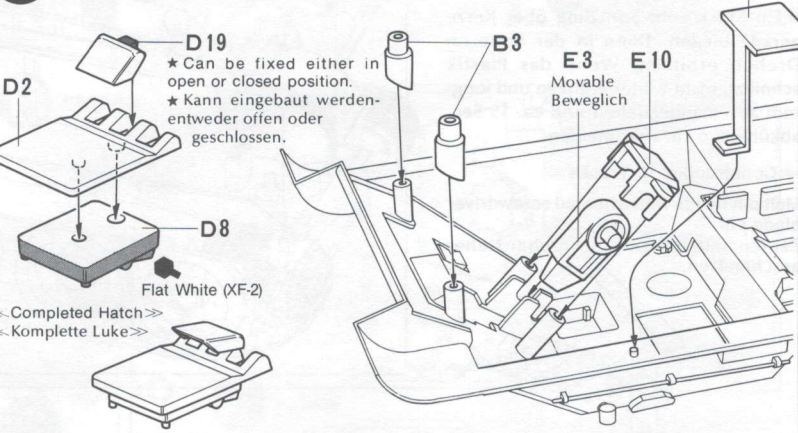
**5** Construction of Upper Hull (2)  
 Panzer - Oberteil (2)



\* Fix either in open or closed position  
 \* Kann eingebaut werden entweder offen oder geschlossen

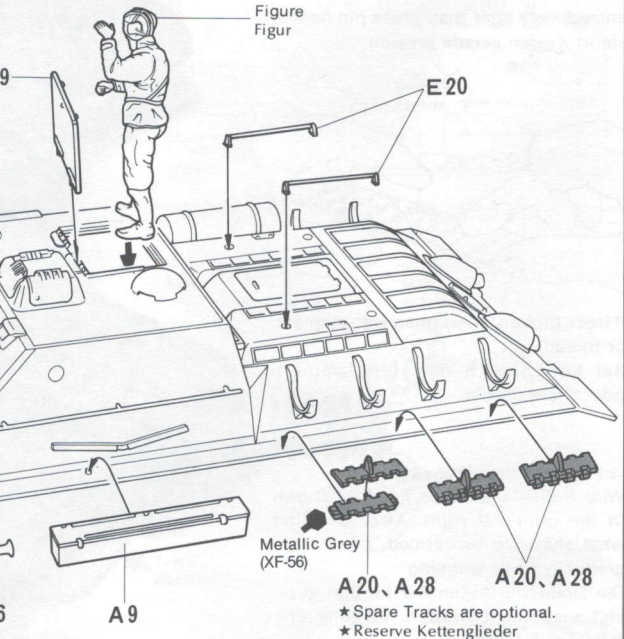
D12 and D13 can be fixed either in open or closed position.  
 D12 und D13 kann eingebaut werden entweder offen oder geschlossen.

**6** Construction of Driver's Hatch and Upper Hull Inside  
 Fahrerlucke und oberes Innenteil



\* Can be fixed either in open or closed position.  
 \* Kann eingebaut werden entweder offen oder geschlossen.

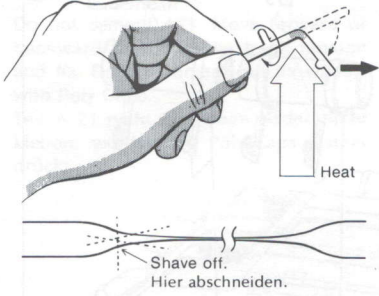
**7** Construction of Upper Hull (3)  
 Panzer - Oberteil (3)





<<How to Make Antenna>>

<<Antennenbau>>

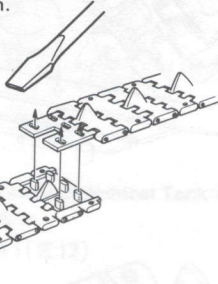


★ Prepare about 15 cm long runner. Heat the center while revolving. When it begins to melt, stop heating and stretch slowly. Hold it and cool about 15 seconds. Cut one 6 cm-long piece.  
★ Be careful in handling a flame to avoid fire or injury.

★ Ein Stück vom Spritzling über Kerze gerade biegen. Dann in der Mitte im Drehen erhitzen. Wenn das Plastik schmilzt, nicht weiter erhitzen und langsam auseinanderziehen und ca. 15 Sec. abkühlen. 6 cm abschneiden.

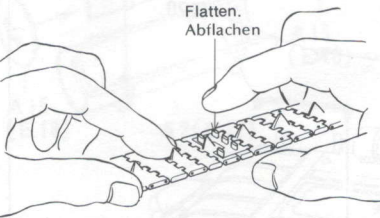
<<Construction of Tracks>>

Melt pin heads with a heated screwdriver blade etc. Zapfen mit heissem Schraubenzieher anschmelzen.

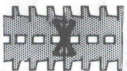


Immediately after that, press pin heads. Sofort Zapfen gerade pressen.

Flatten. Abflachen



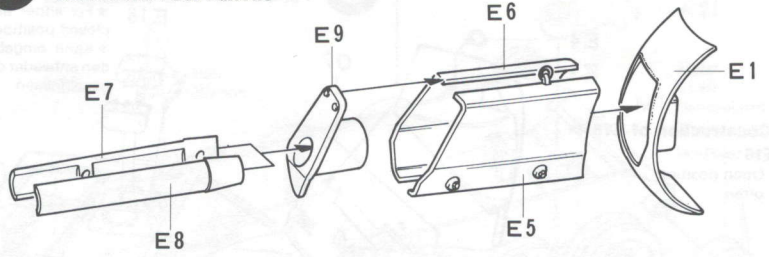
If track broken, strengthen with staplers, or thread. Bei Kettenbruch mit Heftklammern oder Draht flicken.



<<Fixing of Wire Ropes>>

Wire Ropes should be fixed as shown in the photo at right. After deciding what shape to be formed, bend them gradually while warming. Die Drahtseile sollen wie im Bild gezeigt angebracht werden. Biegung erfolgt durch Erhitzen.

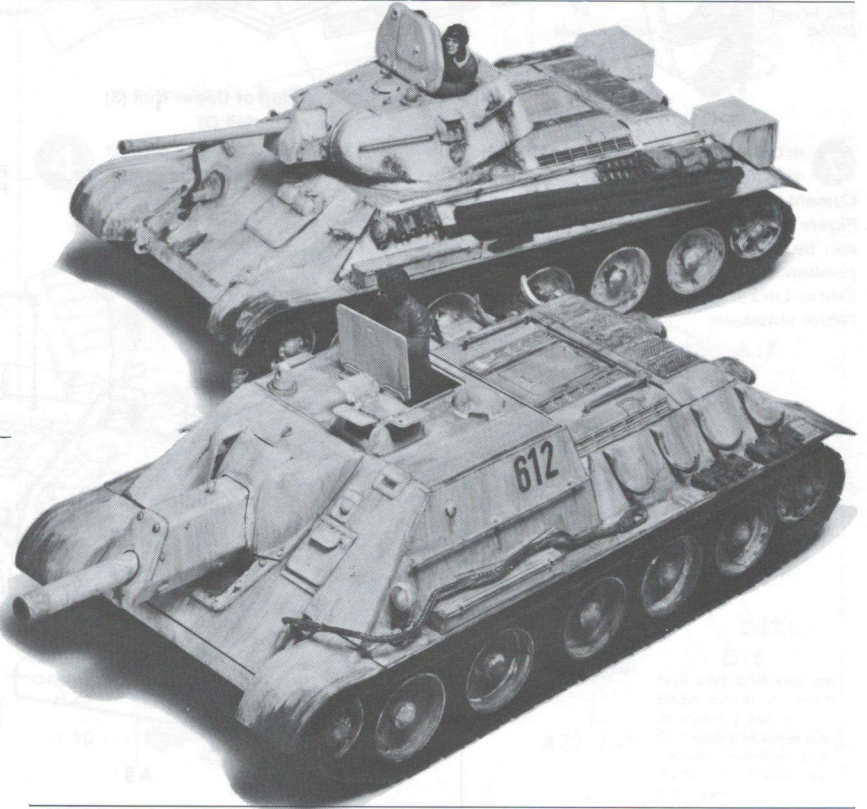
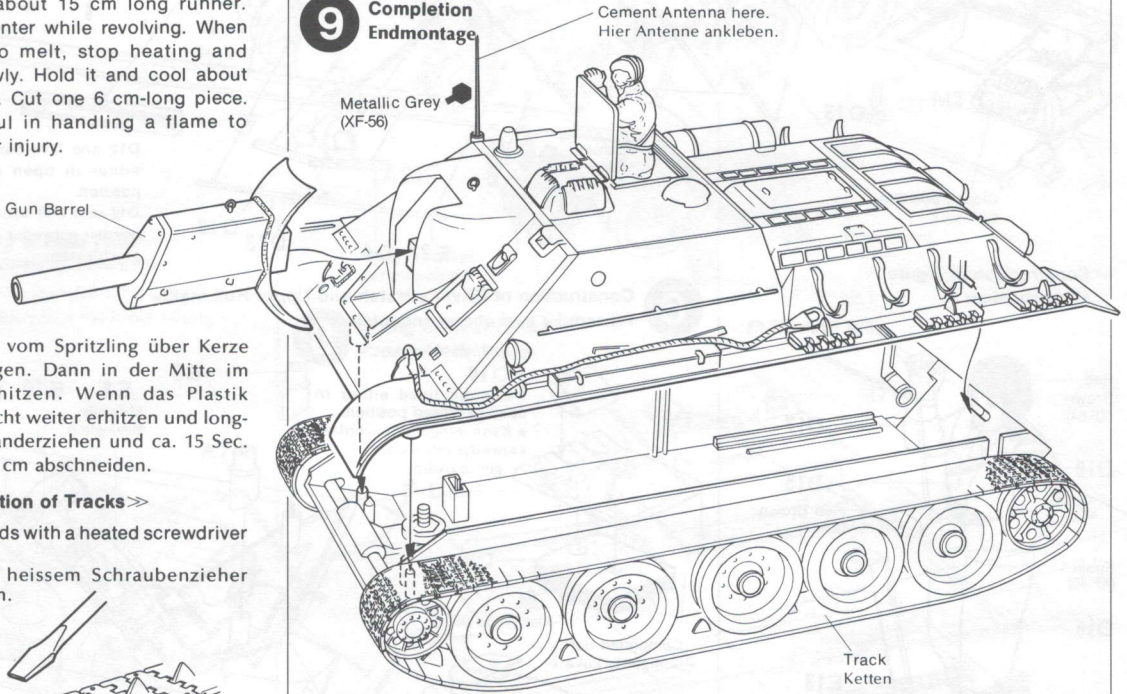
8 Construction of Gun Barrel  
Construction der Kanone



9 Completion  
Endmontage

Cement Antenna here. Hier Antenne ankleben.

Metallic Grey (XF-56)





# PAINTING



# APPLYING DECALS

## <<Painting of SU-122>>

The SU-122s were over-sprayed in a single dark green colour, the standard scheme of the Russian tanks. And when the Russians advanced toward Berlin, the white stripe was added on the turret to identify friendly tanks. The camouflaged SU-122s were very rare, but in winter they all seemed to be appeared with white water-type paint overall as in case of other Russian tanks.

## <<Colours to Be Used>>

- Flat Black
- Dark Green
- Metallic Grey
- Chrome Silver

## <<Bemalung>>

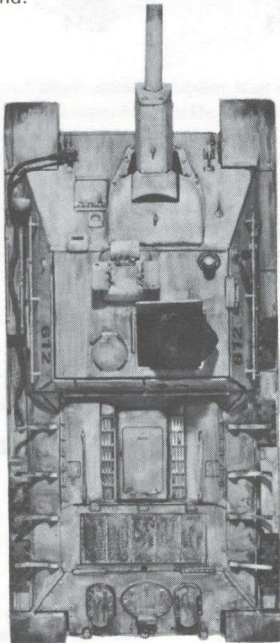
Die Standardbemalung der russischen Tanks war dunkelgrün. Der weiße Streifen am Turm diente der Erkennung. SU-122s in Tarnfarben waren selten, jedoch im Winter erfolgte weiße Bemalung. Farben: Mattschwarz, dunkelgrün, metallgrau, silber.

## <<Marking of SU122>>

Numbers applied to the SU-122s show the battalion, company which the tank belonged, and its vehicle number. First digit seems to be dummy number pretending that a company owns hundreds of SU-122s. SU-122s were used at Kursk warfare. Apply white decal on Dark Green, and Black decal is applied when the tank wore white paint.

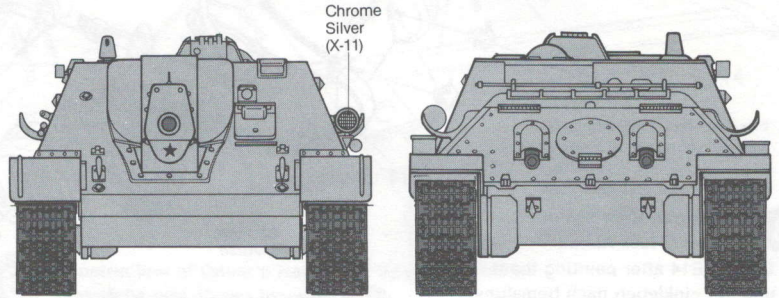
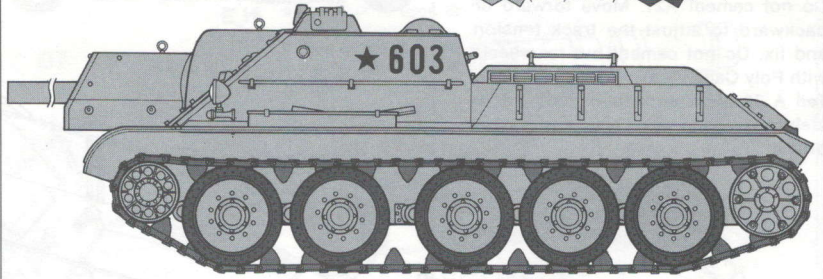
## <<Markierung>>

Die Nummern zeigten Battalion und Kompanie sowie Fahrzeugnummer. Weiße Abziehbild auf dunkelgrünen Grund, Schwarz Abziehbild auf weiße Grund.

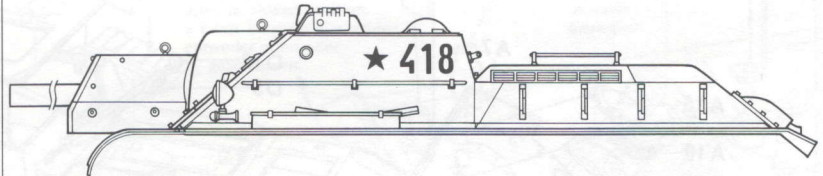


## <<Painting of SU-122>>

- Dark Green (TS-2, XF-61)
- Flat Black (XF-1)



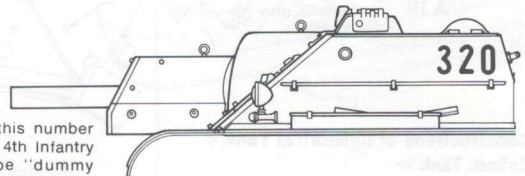
## <<Marking of SU-122>>



### ★ Location of Number

It seems that star mark was painted by tank crew.

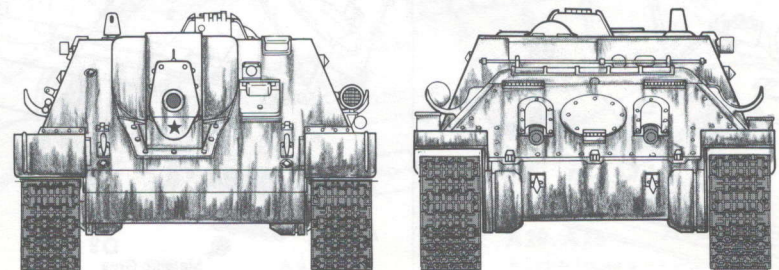
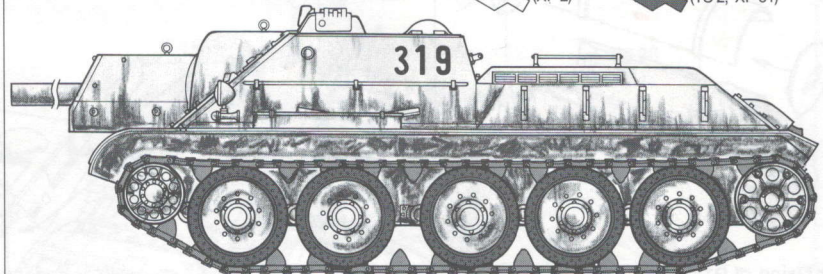
### ★ Der weiße Stern wurde von der Crew aufgemalt.



Seen from the diagram below, this number means that the tank belongs to 4th Infantry Company, and '3' seems to be "dummy number".

## <<Painting of SU-122>>

- Flat White (XF-2)
- Dark Green (TS-2, XF-61)



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