



The Armory

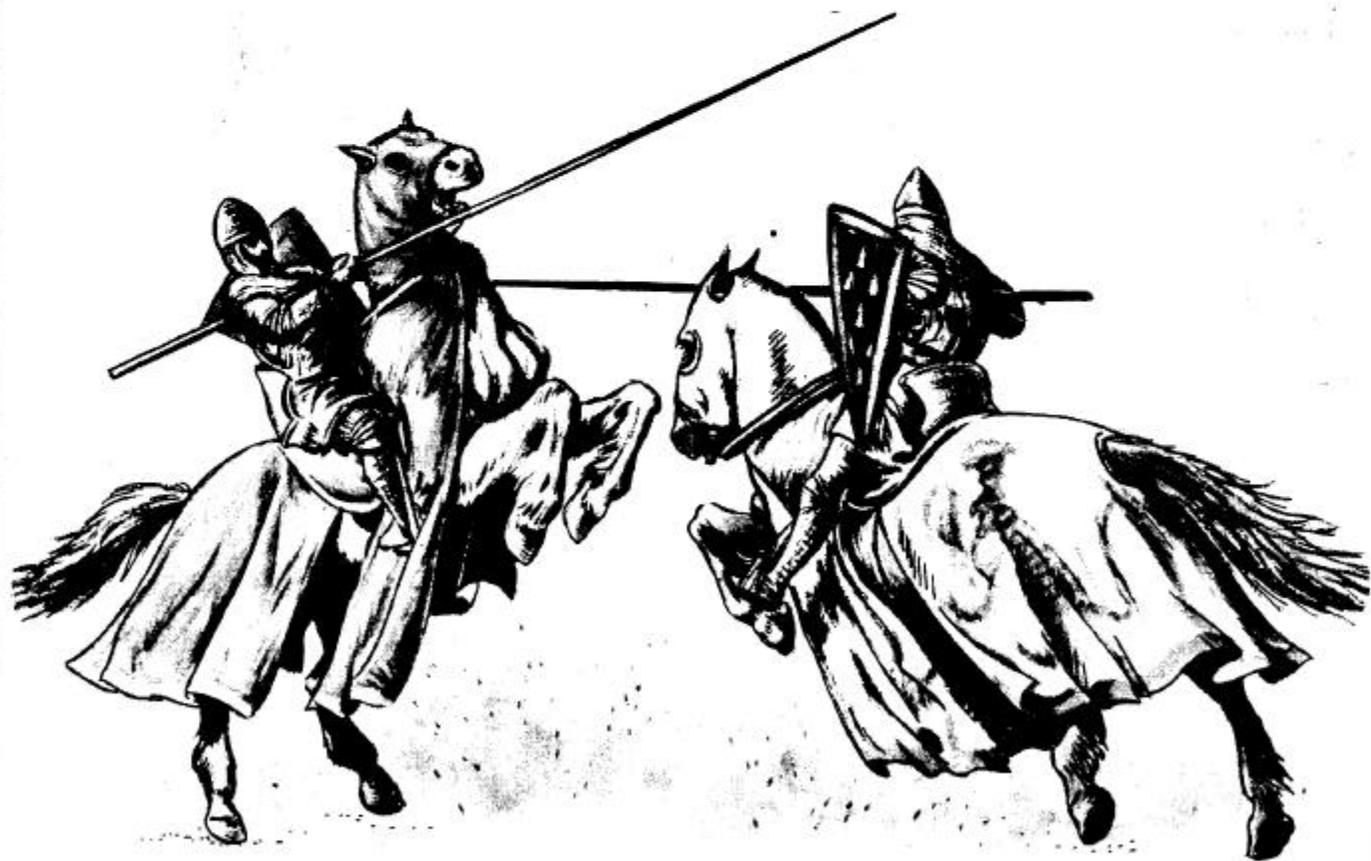
PAINTING GUIDE

TO

HORSES

\$2.00

by Anne Hyke Smolinski and Jeff Losoff



POINTS OF THE HORSE

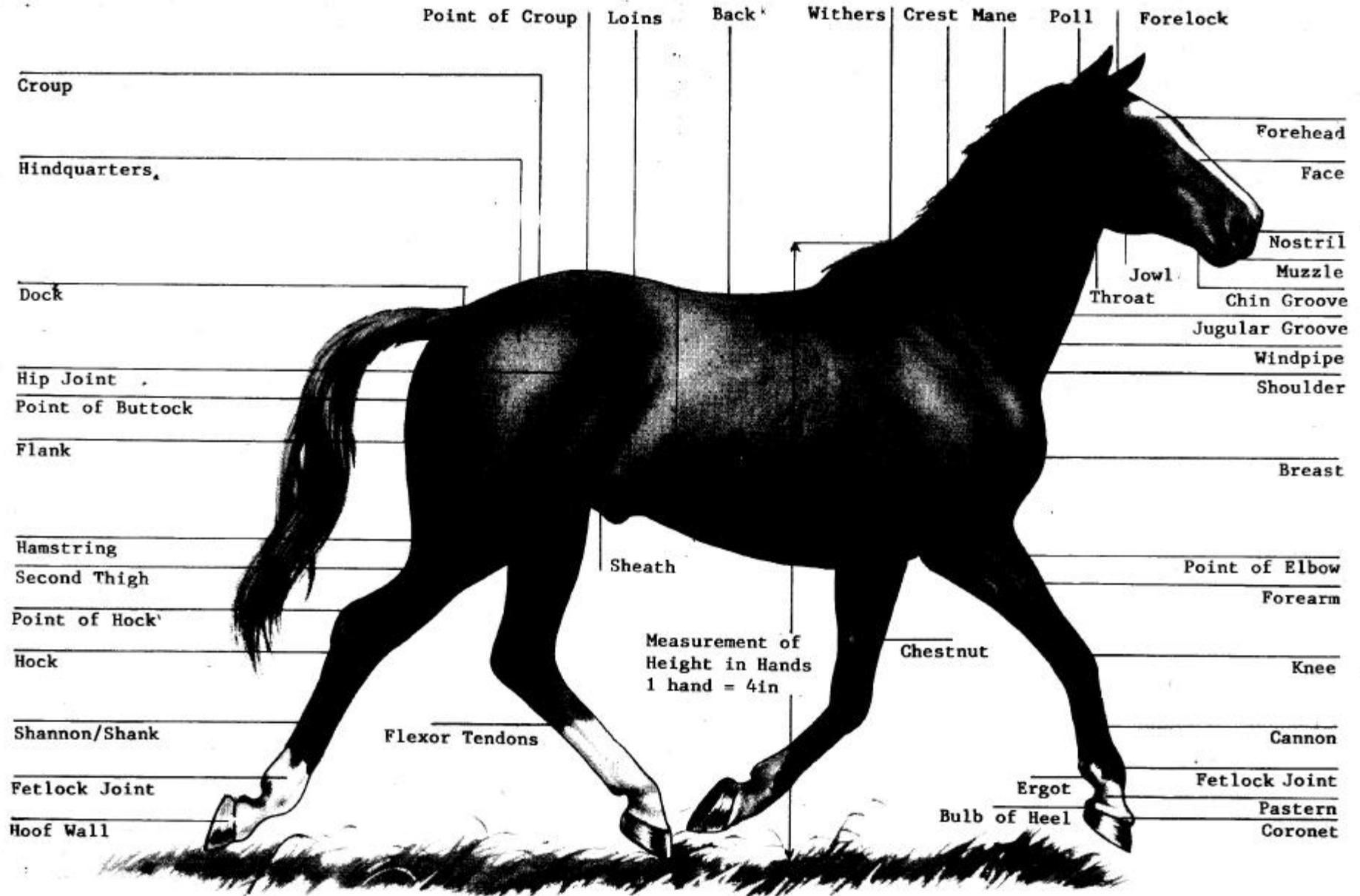
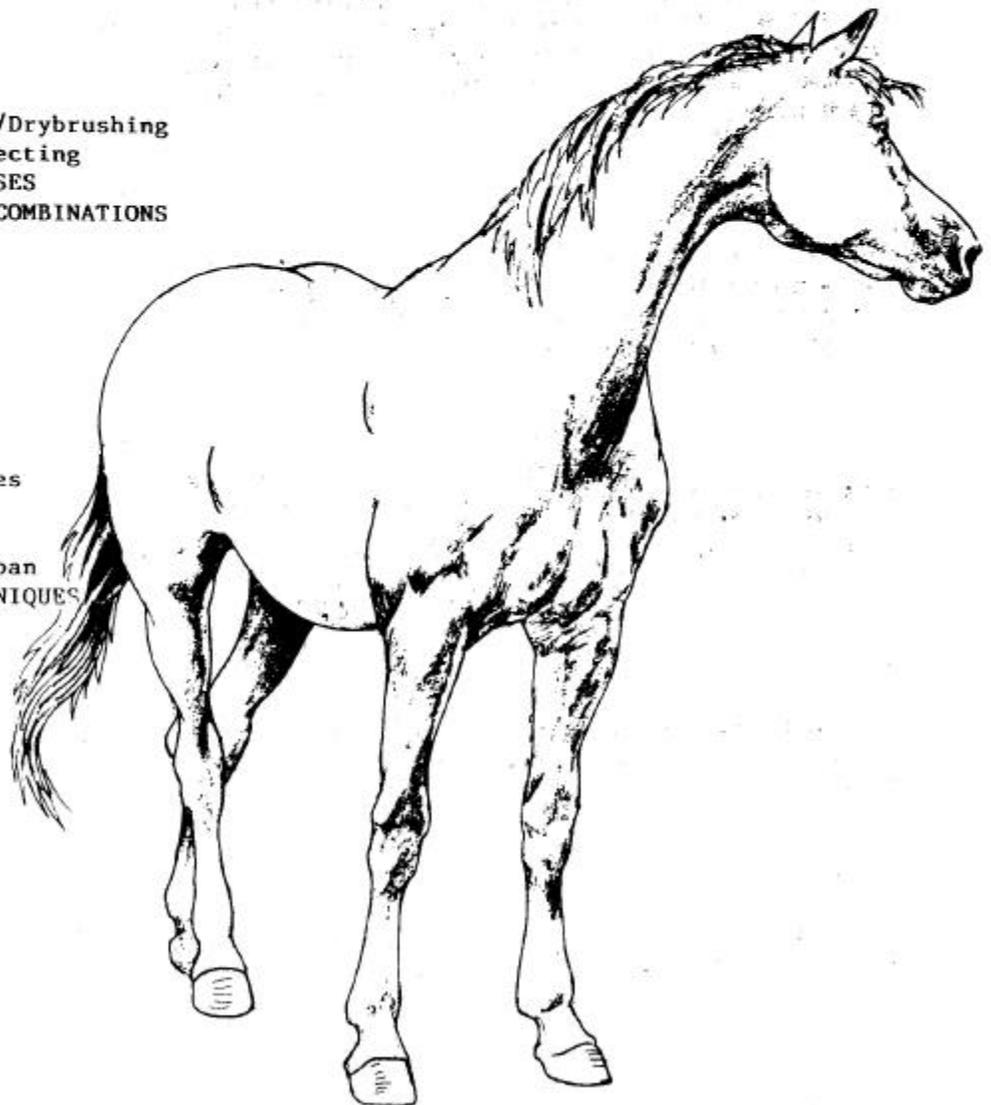


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**The
Armory**
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REAL HORSES FOR IMAGINARY BATTLES
(A Painter's Guide)

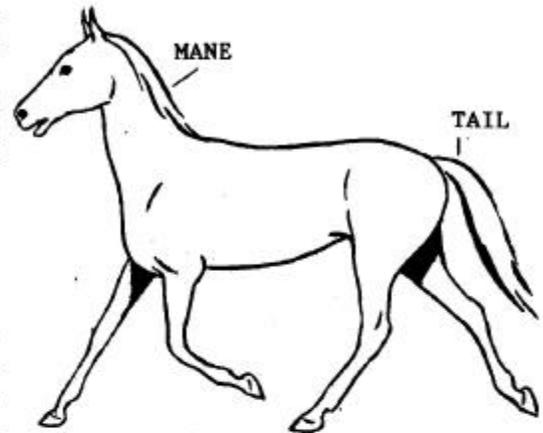
by

Anne Hyke-Smolinski and Janelle Losoff

The purpose of this manual is to help you paint horses that are true to life. In order to paint horses, a basic understanding of their colors and markings is needed. Most horse breeds come in several colors. There are also a variety of markings possible on a horse involving the limbs, head and body. Only those markings appropriate for small scale painting will be discussed here. A section on basic painting techniques is included for the novice. First let's consider horse colors.

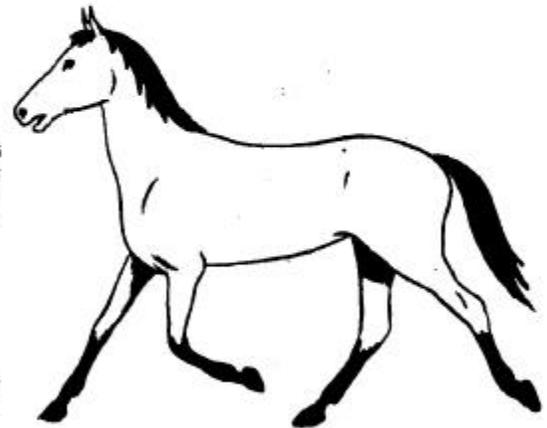
HORSE COLORS - BODY

Common horse colors are: black, brown, gray, chestnut and bay. Other more unusual colors are: cream, blue roan, strawberry roan, and buckskin. The Palomino is a color type, while the Pinto and Appaloosa are specific breeds noted for their color arrangements. White is sometimes considered a type of gray since many gray horses become white as they grow older. The Color Combination section describes these choices in more detail.



POINTS

These points have nothing to do with keeping score! On horses, points are the colors of the mane, tail and all four lower limbs or legs. If a horse has points, they are usually dark brown or black. Otherwise, these parts of the horse are the same color as the body.



HEAD MARKINGS

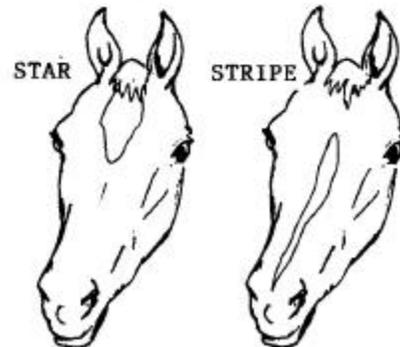
For painting purposes, markings are areas of white on the head, body and limbs of the horse. A horse can have both points and markings. The normal head markings found on a horse are the star, strip, blaze, snip, and the white or bald face.

Star

A Star is an area of white on the forehead of the horse. It can be diamond or oval shaped. It can also be combined with a stripe, blaze or snip.

Stripe

A Stripe is a narrow white mark down the horse's face. It does not reach the forehead or muzzle of the horse and it can be combined with either the star or snip or both.



Blaze

A Blaze is a broad white mark down the face of the horse. It extends between the eyes and to the tip of the muzzle. It is wider than the stripe and can be combined with either the star or snip or both.

Snip

A Snip is an area of white on the muzzle, usually between the nostrils. It can be combined with the star, blaze, or stripe. When a snip and star are combined there would be two distinct areas of white on the horse's head, rather than one continuous area of white.

White Face (Bald Face)

A White face or bald face is a very broad white area including the forehead, eyes, nose and parts of the muzzle of the horse. This white marking sometimes goes around the eye area, and down the side of the head to the muzzle. Horses with white close to the nostrils will sometimes have a pink muzzle.

LIMB MARKINGS

Like the head markings, these are areas of white. They appear on the lower limbs of the horse. The easiest limb marking to paint on 25cm or smaller figures are the stocking and the sock.

Stocking

A stocking is white and surrounds any leg. It extends from directly above the hoof to the knee or hock (rear "knee") of the horse. Sometimes, the stocking will travel from the hoof up to the chest or inner thigh, then it is called a full stocking.

Sock

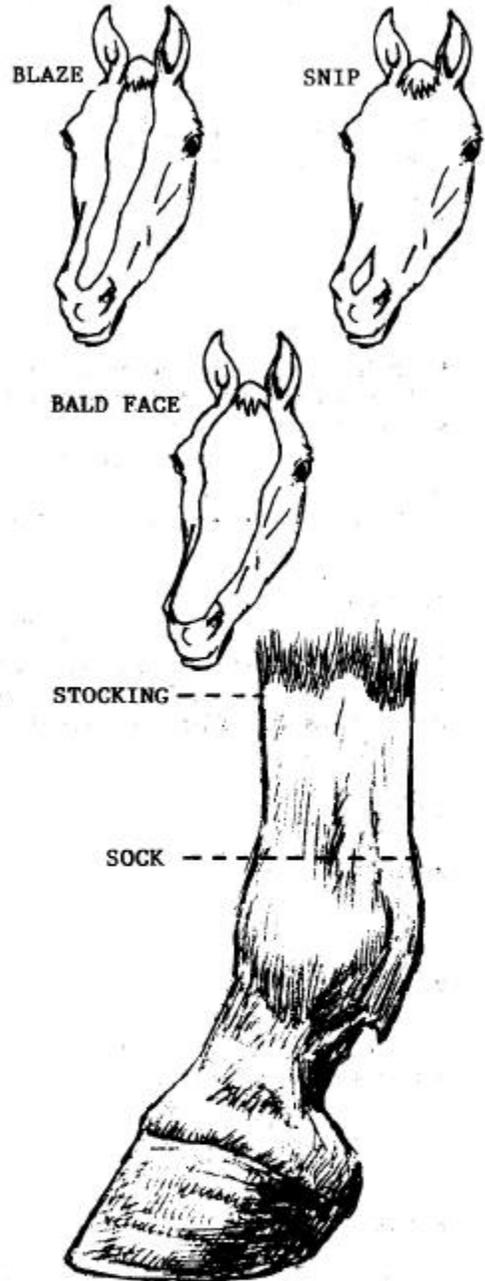
A sock is like a stocking but shorter. It is white from the hoof to part of the cannon bone. A horse can have white leg markings over its lower leg points without causing conflict.

BODY MARKINGS

Markings on the body of the horse are different from the other markings discussed earlier. They are areas of white or another color and are normally different from the main body color. The Pinto and Appaloosa breeds usually have these markings. These markings and others such as the dappled and flea-bitten gray will be described in the painting section.

EYE COLOR

Most horses have dark brown eyes but sometimes the eyes may be blue



(often called a wall eyed horse). More rarely, a horse will have one eye of each color; then it is called a glass eyed horse.

PAINTING

There are specific terms used throughout this manual to describe the steps in painting. Please become familiar with these definitions and techniques. This list is in a sequence that represents the order for painting most figures.

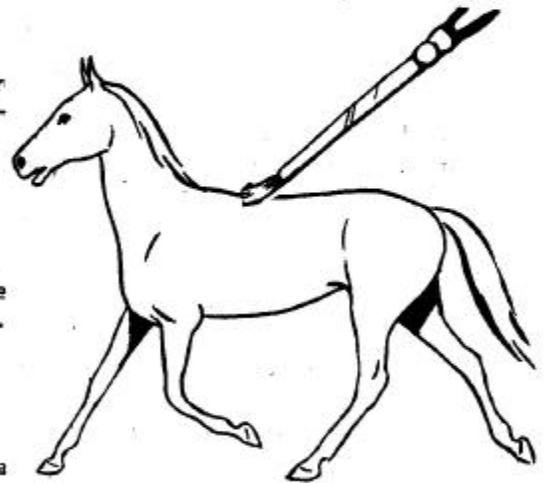
Priming

Primer is a special paint used to seal the surface of the casting, so that the base coat will adhere properly and not appear to be blotchy. White primer makes successive paints appear more vibrant. Gray primer intensifies contrasts when you are using several colors for the base coat. Primer can be applied with a special sponge tip applicator. Two light coats of primer are better than one heavy coat.



Base Coating

The base coat is the paint coat that is applied on the figure after priming. It serves to define the colors of the figure before enhancement (for example, highlighting, drybrushing, washing, etc.).



Stain

A stain is one part paint to three parts water. It is used to create shading on selected areas of the figure by bleeding into the base coat.

Wash

A wash is one part paint to four to eight parts water. Like a stain, a wash is used to shade a figure. It can be applied over areas that have been stained to create varying intensities of shading. See the section on special effects.

Highlighting/Dry Brushing

A technique used to produce a shading effect by adding a lighter color onto the base color, touching only the raised areas of a figure. This shows off the more prominent parts of the figure by making them stand out. Remove all excess paint from your brush so that the brush is almost dry. Use a downward stroke of the brush, keeping in mind the direction of the light falling on the figure.



Re-highlighting/Dry Brushing

This is dry brushing with a still lighter color, on top of an area already highlighted.

Removing excess paint from flat tip brush before drybrushing.

Sealing/Protecting

After the paint is thoroughly dry, apply a special sealant coat over the entire figure. This will protect the finish of the newly painted horse from being chipped, scratched or smeared. Use a flat coat such as Armory 66-070.

PAINTING HORSES

Horses are easy to paint. Following are a few steps to remember:

1. Make sure that the figure is completely clean before painting. First, remove excess metal and flashing with a hobby knife or file. Then clean the metal casting by washing with a detergent solution or by pickling in a mild acid solution (for example, vinegar). Thoroughly rinse after cleaning to remove all traces of cleaning solutions. Be sure to allow the figure to dry completely before starting to paint.

2. Prime the figure in order to prevent the paint from soaking into the metal and causing blotches and uneven color.

3. Be certain that the figure is completely dry between steps to prevent colors from becoming muddy.

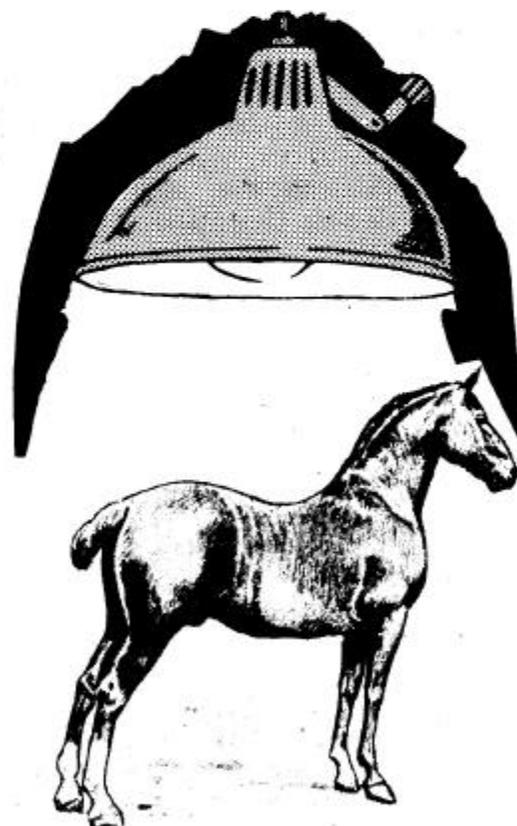
4. Base coat the figure. If the entire horse is to be one color, then paint the figure that color. If the mane and tail are to be lighter, then base coat those parts in the lighter color only after you have base coated and finished staining or washing the body. If the mane and tail are darker, then reverse the order; finish them before you do the body. This will allow you to cover any mispainting. Remember, always paint from dark to light. In other words, **body dark, body first!**

5. Stains or washes are normally painted on top of, and after the base coat. A stain is usually a darker color than the base coat. A wash can be any color.

6. Decide on the direction from which the light is shining. (In a vignette or diorama the light direction should be consistent.) Based on the light direction, highlight an entire area of the figure using the dry brush technique. After highlighting, some figures need to be re-highlighted with a color lighter than the original high light.

7. After body, mane and tail are base coated, stained and highlighted, paint all leg points, if any. Next paint the eyes a dark brown or black unless it is a blue-eyed horse, in which case use a pale, light blue. Then paint white limb and facial marking, if any. Next, paint the hooves. Hooves are normally black or dark gray. A white horse may have light gray hooves as can the limb of any horse with white socks or stockings. If a hoof is raised and the horse is to appear shod, paint a horse shoe using iron colored paint; detail it for horse shoe nails with either a flat black or chain mail paint.

8. When the horse is finished, paint the equipment (bridle, stirrups, saddle, bit, reins, blanket, etc.) and the base. Use a fine brush to do the bridle and reins. Paint the blanket and saddle bags before the saddle. Don't forget the cinch strap and buckle that keeps the saddle on the horse. Paint the base, being careful not to paint over the hooves. If you make a mistake, carefully repaint.



Place figure under a strong light to see where highlighting areas are.

9. Coat your figure with a sealant to protect it and prevent chipping and smudging.

HORSE COLOR COMBINATIONS

These horses are listed in order from the easiest to the most difficult to paint.

Black Horses

A black horse is just that. It is painted completely black, but can have white face and leg markings. Use a dark gray to highlight the mane and tail, and any other area that may have sunlight on it. Recommended Armory colors are:

- Midnight Black
- Equine Black
- New Equine Gray
- Dapple Gray
- Equine White
- Blaze White



BLACK



BROWN

Brown Horses

Brown horses come in several shades, from milk chocolate to coffee to almost black. They may have both white face and leg markings and/or darker brown to black points. Do not confuse this horse with chestnut which is a reddish brown. Avoid using any red browns to base coat or wash/stain their overall body. Instead use blacks or true browns, even a deep purple, to shade them. The same holds true for highlighting. Use a true brown or tan, never a red or orange brown. Recommended Armory colors are:

- Liver Chestnut
- Thoroughbred Brown
- New Equine Brown
- Claybank (Red Dun)



GRAY

Gray/White

Gray/White is not a color, but a lack of color or pigment. In some breeds white is considered a shade of gray. Many gray horses become white as they age, like the famous Lipizzaner horses that are born dark gray to near black and lighten as they mature. Gray horses can have white face and limb markings and darker gray to black points. Gray/White horses range from simple to simply beautiful. Recommended Armory colors are:

- Blaze White
- Equine White
- Lipizzaner Gray/White
- New Equine Gray
- Dapple Gray
- Equine Black

Solid gray horses are the easiest of these to paint. Base coat the entire horse your chosen shade of gray. Next wash or stain it with a darker shade of gray or black for very dark gray horses. Highlight



LIPIZZANER

using base coat shades of gray, then re-highlight using a still lighter shade, touching only those areas where sunlight would strike. White works well for re-highlighting on very pale gray horses.

Flea-bitten gray horses are similar to the solid gray, the difference being that they have masses of darker gray speckles on areas of their bodies. Paint this horse the same as the solid gray horse, then add the speckles with the smallest brush available. If the horse has points, the speckles might be the same color as the lower limbs and spread in patches up the limbs, becoming less dense as they spread. Be careful when choosing shades of gray; if the shades are too similar, the speckles won't show up; if they are too dissimilar (for instance, black on pale gray), the horse won't look real. Recommended Armory color combinations are:

- Blue Roan
- Dapple Gray
- New Equine Gray
- Lipizzaner Gray/White

Dappled gray horses are beautiful. The spots and mottling of dappled color recall classic gray marble to mind. Dapples can appear anywhere on the horse, but rarely on the face. The mane and tail may be subtly striped with two or more shades of gray. Dappled horses occasionally have points. Markings are rare, with leg markings being the same color as the major body color. To paint, first base coat the horse gray. Choose a darker gray and apply it over the areas you want "dappled". After the darker gray dries, paint irregular dots in the base coat color over these darker areas. The larger the area, the greater the number of dapples. Avoid having any large blotches of color (like Pintos have). Last, carefully shade the horse with dry brushing, being careful not to cover the dappling.

NOTE: Dapples can also appear on dark brown horses, with black being the darker color.

Chestnut

Chestnut horses range in color from a beautiful copper orange to a rich dark red--almost purple brown, called liver chestnut. The mane and tail are either the same color as the body or lighter. If a chestnut horse has a flaxen mane and tail, the horse is called a sorrel. When painting a sorrel, paint the body before the mane and tail. Chestnut horses NEVER have points, but can have white face and limb markings. Always use red, red browns or deep purples (for liver chestnuts) when washing/staining them. Recommended Armory colors are:

- Liver Chestnut
- Chestnut
- Flaxen

Bay

Bay horses are similar to chestnuts in color but the bay horse ALWAYS has points and the chestnut does not. Both can have white face and limb markings. Bay horses range in color from a rich yellow brown to an almost dark red brown. They are NEVER a pure brown. To paint a bay horse, first base coat and stain dark mane and tail. Next, base coat, stain/wash and highlight the major body color. When dry, add coffee brown or black leg points. Last, add any white face and leg



LIVER CHESTNUT



DAPPLE GRAY



markings desired. Recommended Armory colors are:

Liver Chestnut
Chestnut
New Bay

Buckskin

A buckskin horse looks like a bay with dark mane, tail and limbs, but its body is tan or pale yellow brown. Paint it in the same order as the bay. Recommended Armory color is:

Dun/Buckskin

Palomino

A Palomino is a horse that is the color of a newly minted gold coin with a cream, flaxen or silvery white mane and tail. The color is not restricted to any breed of horse and can even be found in ponies. Palominos can have white markings. Recommended Armory colors are:

New Palomino
Flaxen
Equine White

Pinto

Pintos are one of the few breeds that have body markings. They are also called Paints. There are two basic color combinations; one is black and white and is called a Piebald; the other is brown, chestnut or bay and white, and is called a Skewbald. Recommended Armory colors are:

Equine Black
Bay
Chestnut
New Equine Brown
Equine White

There are two patterns for Pinto horses. The first, Overo, has white patches starting from the belly and extending upwards. Its back, mane and tail are normally the darker color. Its face is white. The Overo has wall or glass eyes (blue eyes).

The other Pinto pattern, Tobiano, has no regular scheme to its patches except that they normally start on the back. White legs are common as is a dark face and brown eyes.

The Pinto should be painted white first, and shade for the white only. Wait for the white base coat to be completely dry before painting the darker color. The mane can also carry the color patches. Highlight for both colors carefully.

Unusual Horses

Appaloosa - is similar to the pinto but has white patches on its rump, in special patterns. Like finger prints, no two are alike. The best way to paint one is to find a picture and use it as a model.



PALOMINO



PIEBALD (PINTO)

Blue Roan - is a mixture of black and white, creating a blue-gray.
Recommended Armory color is:

Blue Roan

Red Roan - is a mixture of chestnut and white, and has a slightly darker mane and tail. Recommended Armory color is:

Roan

Strawberry Roan - has more white than chestnut mixed in its coat and is a pinkish red color. Recommended Armory colors are a mixture of:

Roan

Equine White

Three color American wild horses.

NOTE: These horses and pintos were not allowed in the U.S. cavalry.



STRAWBERRY ROAN

SPECIAL TECHNIQUES

Here are a few tips for special effects.

Muddy horse -- wash with brown on the lower limbs or stomach.

Recommended Armory colors are:

Earth

Spring Mud

Sand storm -- wash with yellow brown on the lower limbs and on and around the muzzle. Recommended Armory color is:

Desert Sand

Horse in snow -- use a pale gray or white with pearl luster on areas where snow would collect. This effect can be extended to the chest, neck and over the whole body of the horse, if desired. Remember, the rider gets snowed on too. Paint the base white, wash with gray, then pearlize it. Recommended Armory color is:

Pearl

Hard running horse -- A hard running horse sweats. This effect can be achieved by overcoating selected body parts with a shiny clear finish coat applied as a wash. Recommended Armory product is:

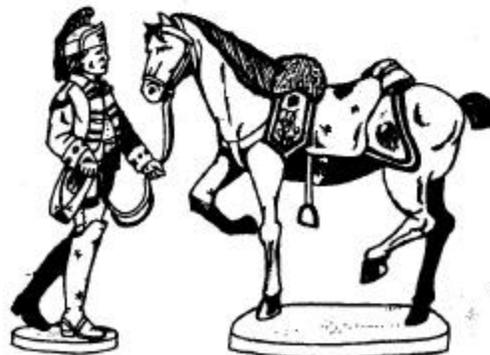
Armor Coat-Gloss



CONCLUSION

In this manual, you have learned about horse colors, points, and face, body and limb markings. Horses are found in many more varieties than are listed here, but the ones described lend themselves to historical settings and to small scale painting. For more information, consult a good reference book. We recommend "International Encyclopedia of Horse Breeds" by Jane Kidd (H.P. Books, Inc.).

Please choose your horse, find your colors and brushes and begin to paint for display and play.



Armory Acrylics

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			GE-001	1oz. POLYMER PAINT EQUINE WHITE	\$1.99
			GE-002	1oz. POLYMER PAINT EQUINE BLACK	\$1.99
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			GE-007	1oz. POLYMER PAINT CHESTNUT	\$1.99
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			GE-014	1oz. POLYMER PAINT DAPPLE GREY	\$1.99
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			GE-019	1oz. POLYMER PAINT PEARL	\$1.99
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			GE-021	1oz. POLYMER PAINT EARTH	\$1.99
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			PG-02	PAINTING GUIDE TO HORSES	\$2.00

24 NEW! EQUINE *Paint* COLORS



DAPPLE GRAY



PALOMINO



PIEBALD (PINTO)

