

Weathering

Weathering

Weathering is a term used to describe altering the finish of a model to do the following:

- Accentuate or enhance detail
- Rust, stain, dirty-up, damage
- Chip, fade, discolour

...all to make a model appear more “realistic”

Types of Weathering

There are many different types of weathering, and ways to do them.

However, the “basic” weathering techniques to be discussed here are:

- **Washes** – enhance surface detail by increasing the appearance of depth
- **Drybrushing** – highlight details

Washes

A **wash** is the application of very thinned paint of a dark(er) colour.

The darker paint accumulates (by capillary action) into corners, thereby accentuating the details by darkening the corners. Excess wash is typically removed.

- **Broad washes** – applied with large brush to saturate an area containing lots of detail. *(Example, finned engine cylinders)*
- **Pin washes** – for accentuating fine details one at a time

<http://www.scalemodelguide.com/painting-weathering/weathering/paint-washes/>

Washes – Types

Homemade

- Easy to make
- You get the exact colour & type of paint you want



Commercial pre-made

- Ready to use
- Available in many colours, types



Washes – Types

Acrylic

- Dry more quickly
- Less working time
- More difficult to remove excess

Enamel, Oil

- Dry more slowly
- More working time
- Easier to remove excess

Lacquer

- NOT RECOMMENDED

Washes – Surface Preparation

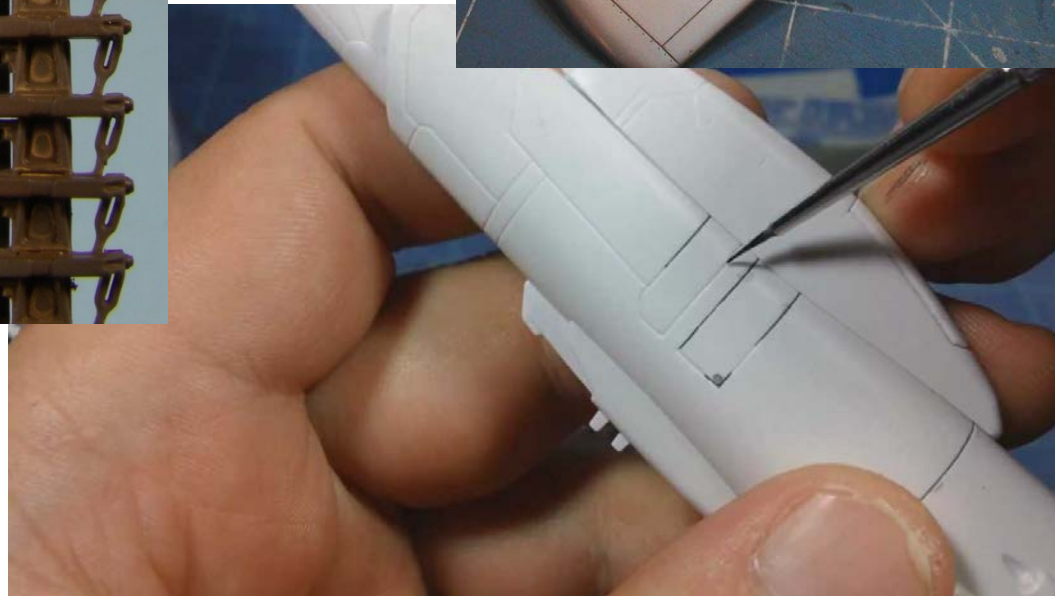
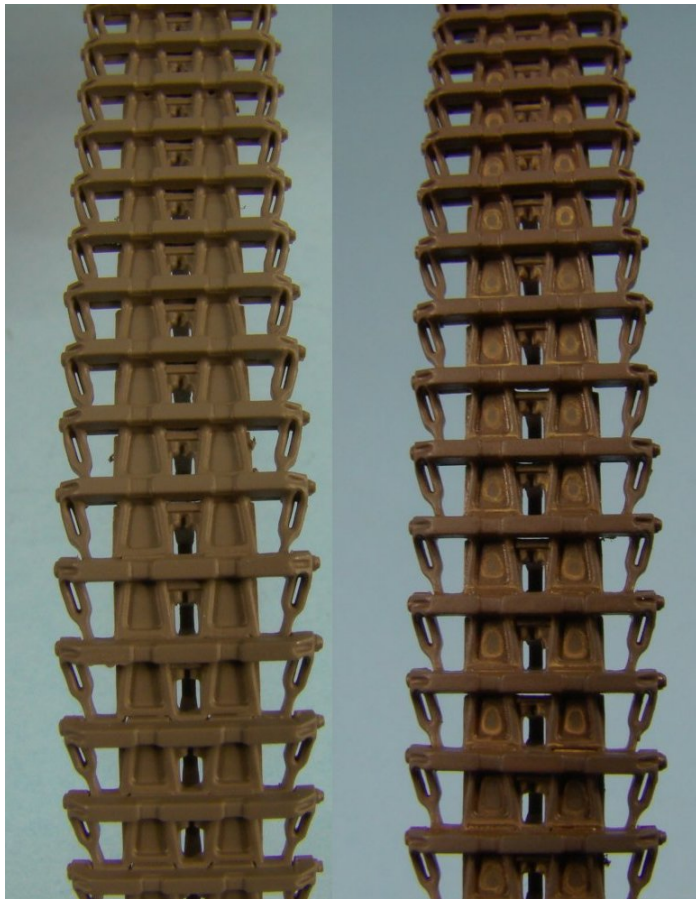
SMOOTH (gloss) surface

- Washes flow more easily
- Wash accumulates in corners
- Easy to remove excess wash

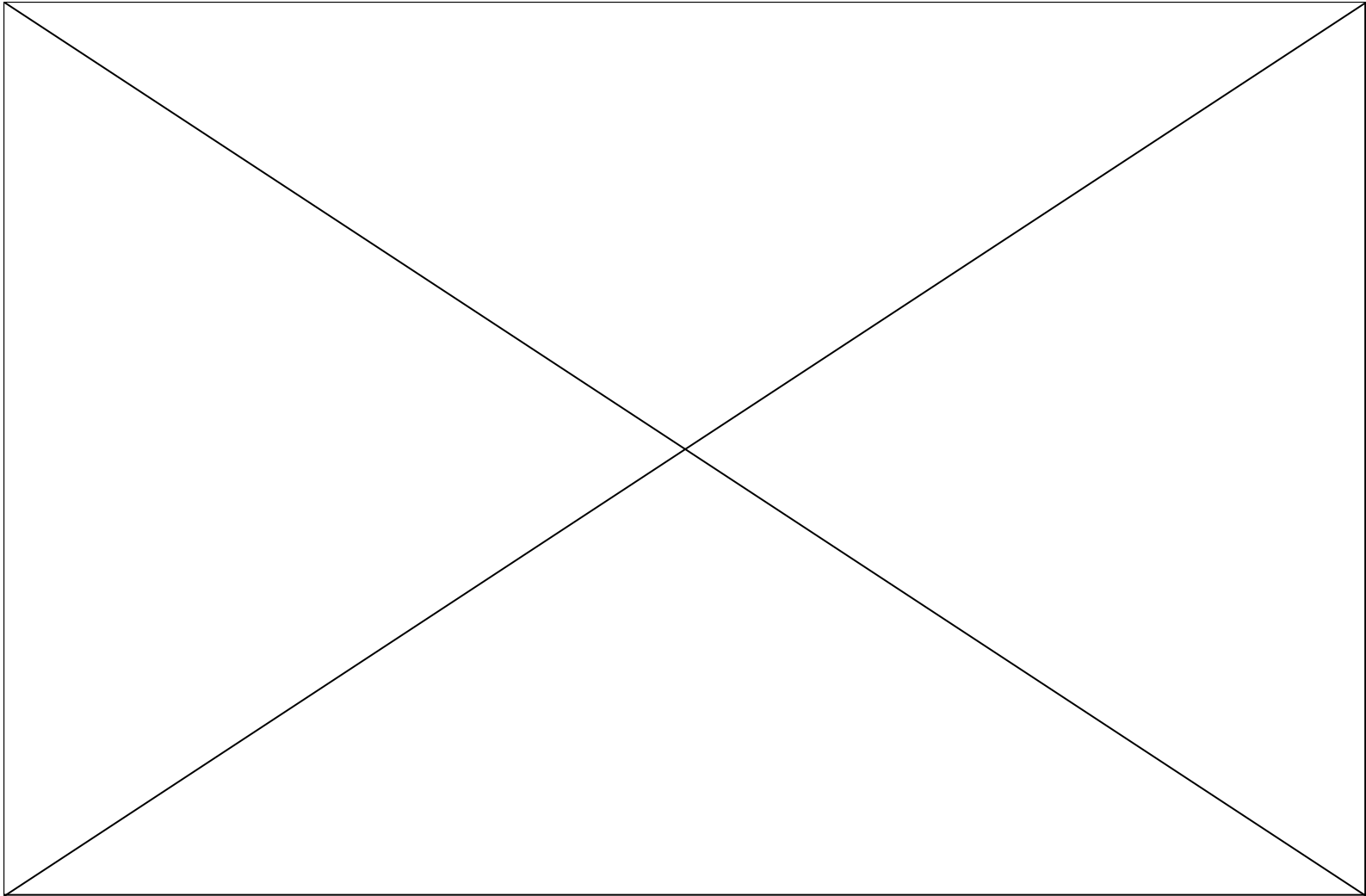
ROUGH (flat) surface

- Washes do not flow easily
- Wash colour stains rough surface
- Difficult to remove excess wash

Washes – Examples

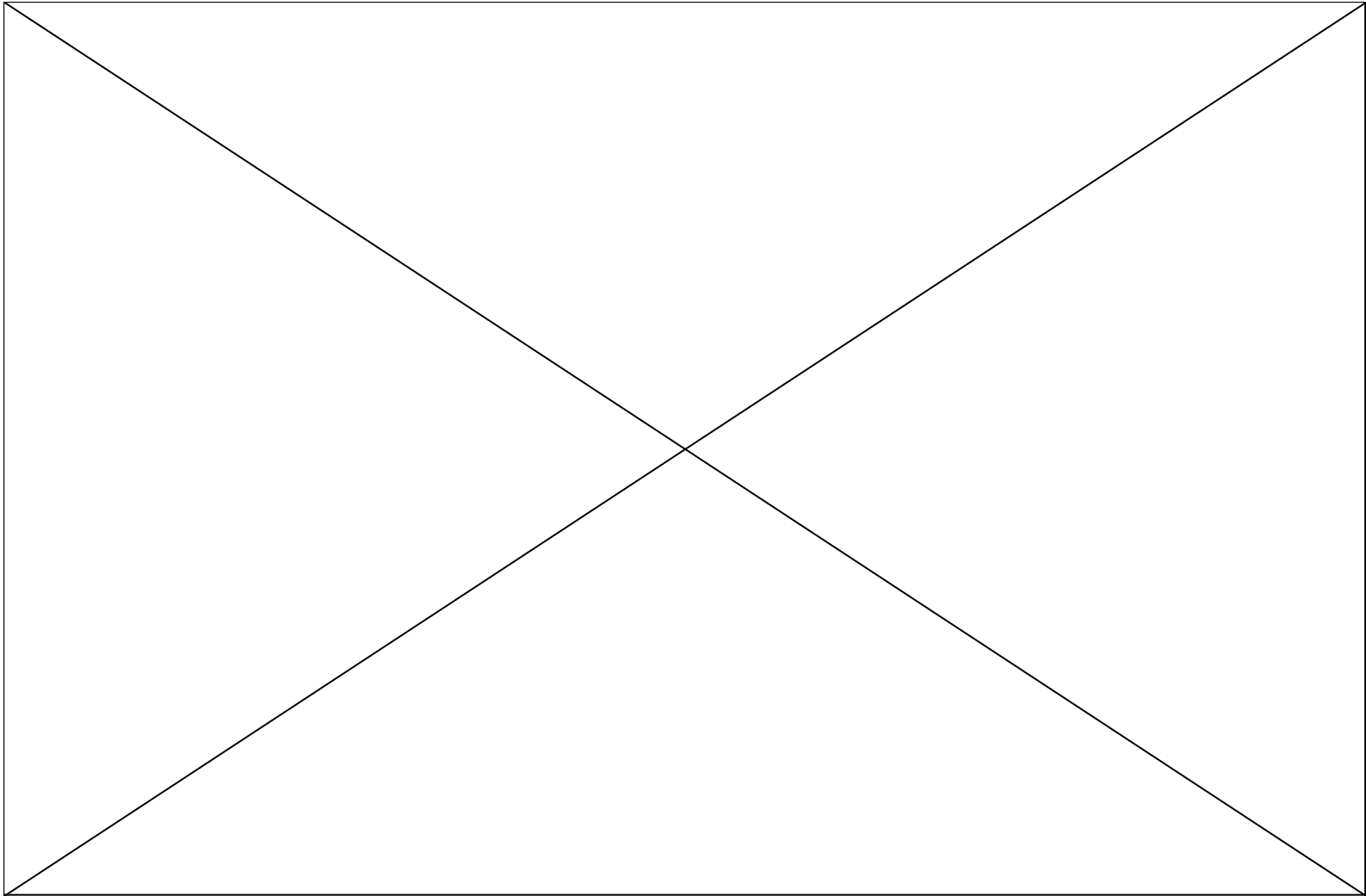


Washes – Video 1



<https://www.youtube.com/v/MkzzmrcHc04>

Washes – Video 2



<https://www.youtube.com/v/pwxlB0aFjJo>

Drybrushing

Drybrushing is a painting technique that highlights raised details & emphasize textures.

A paintbrush is loaded with paint, and then 95% of paint is removed.

The paintbrush – with little paint on the bristles – is then lightly rubbed across the desired areas. Edges & high spots of molded detail pick up the paint.

<http://www.scalemodelguide.com/painting-weathering/painting-guide/general-info-drybrushing/>

Drybrushing

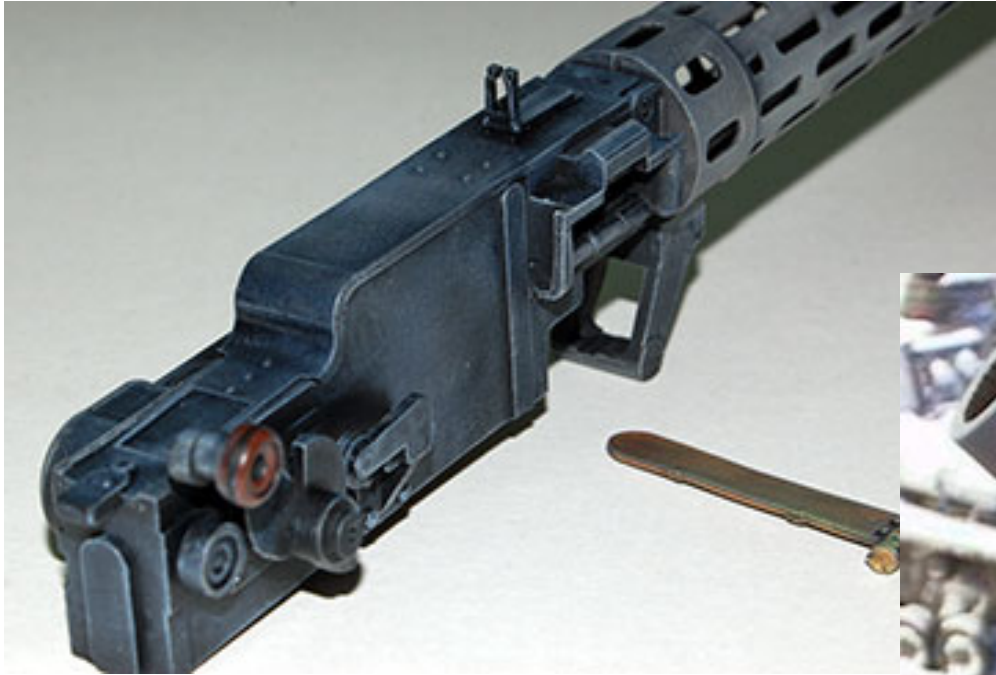
Subtlety is key!

Drybrushing should be done in stages to build up colour.

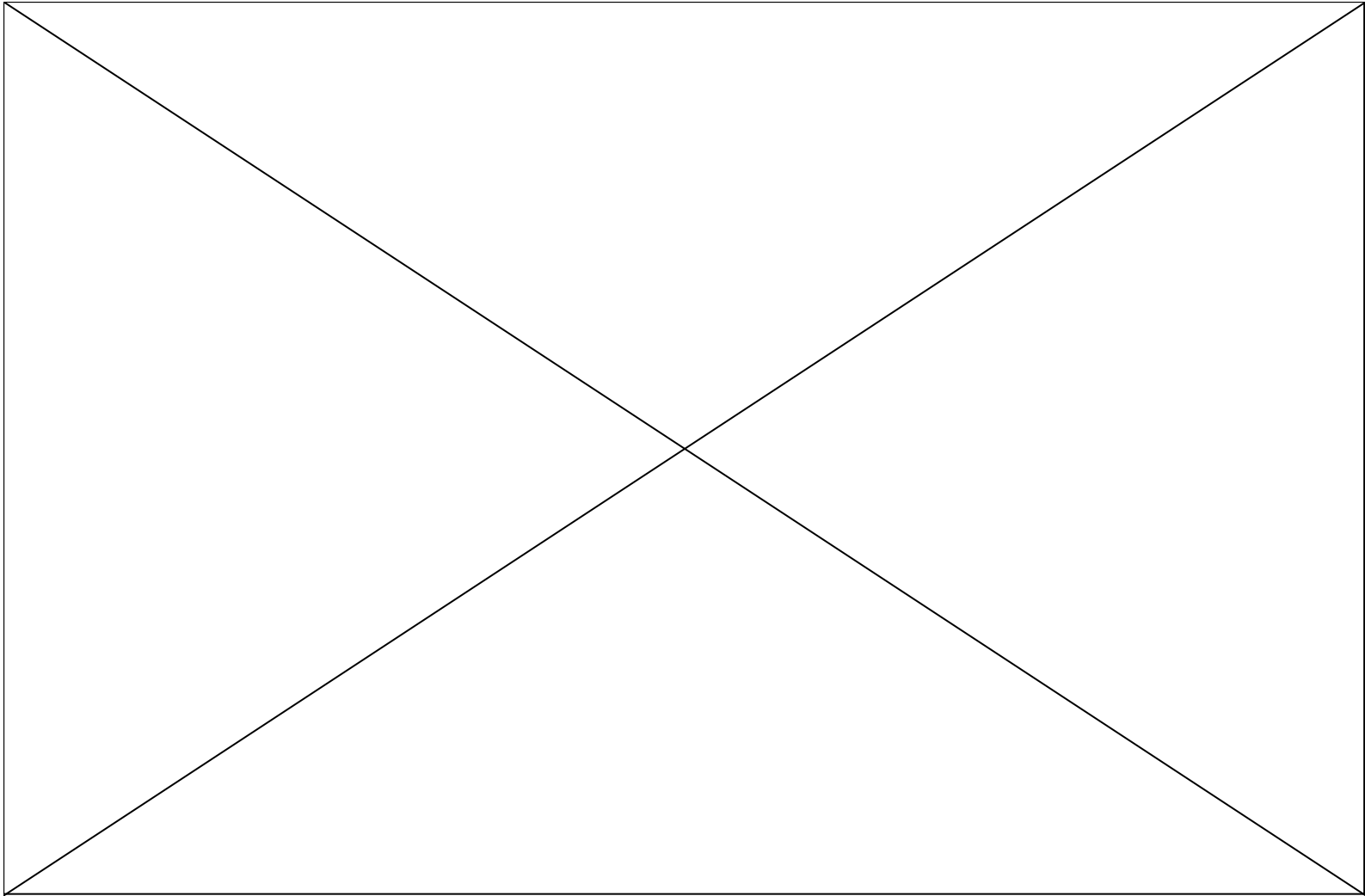
Adding paint is easy... removing excess paint is NOT.



Drybrushing – Examples



Drybrushing – Video 3



https://www.youtube.com/v/kRyy_Ecu92E

References

Online tutorials

- There are many online videos (example, YouTube) that cover a wide range of painting & weathering techniques

Websites

- There are also many different websites that provide plentiful information about painting & weathering techniques.

Example:

<http://www.scalemodelguide.com/category/painting-weathering/>