

Painting Fire in a Forge

This instructional is not very involved. It is just one way to make your Forge model (or other fireplace, camp fire etc.) have the look of hot coals.

Materials: You will need some white (PVA) glue (I used wood glue, which is also fine to use), and your model Forge from your kit. You will need some fine or medium ballast (tiny rocks/sand) to make the 'coals' from. You will also need some acrylic paints (discussed later in this tutorial), water, brushes and paper towel for messes. Make sure you have a workspace that can get messy.

Build Your Model: You will need to build your model Forge first. I find it helpful to paint all the parts as well. My forge was made to look like it was made from grey stone.

Dry: Make sure all your parts and paint are actually dry on the model before you go on to these next steps.



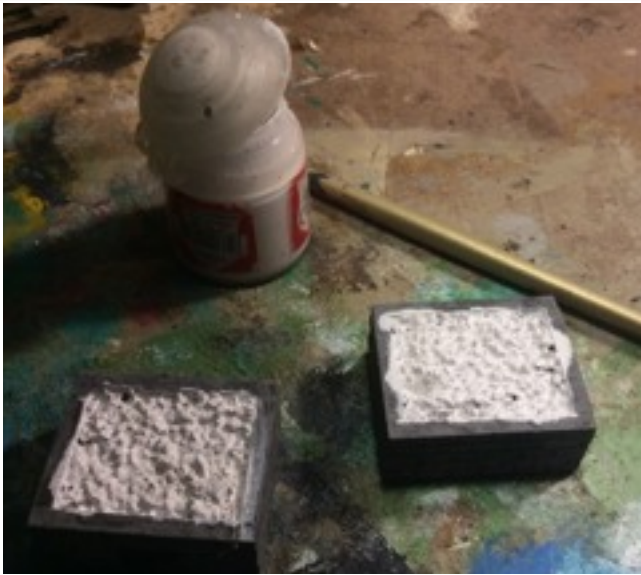
Step One: Get your built Forge model. What you need to do is fill the top of the model with some PVA glue. Tacky Glue is even better as it sets up faster (Tacky Glue is PVA glue formulated so that it is thicker and dries faster but, Wood Glue and normal PVA white, school glue work fine too). It's best to coat the surface as shown and not just glob on the glue until it's overflowing. What you want is a thick enough amount to grab the ballast by, but not so much glue it all ends up overflowing and just being a mess. If you over do it, just wipe off the extra.



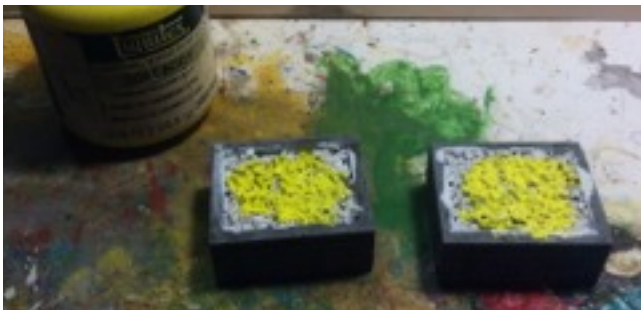
Step Two: Carefully pour the ballast into the area with glue.



Step Three: Let this dry completely!



Step Four: Paint some white on the dry ballast. You want to absolutely cover these rocks so none of the original rock color is showing. Just all white.



Step Five: paint the center areas a bright yellow (you can paint the whole area yellow - it's just not required as much of it will be covered). I personally allow a bit of white to peak through when I paint on the yellow, as this makes it look like white hot coals. That means I do not fill it in with paint but, rather I dab on the yellow paint.



Step Six: I then dab red paint around the yellow, being careful to allow the center areas (shown) to have yellow peeking out. Once again, we are not looking for a thick complete coverage. You'll just need to dab your small brush on it to get the desired effect.



Step Seven: Using the very same technique with the brush, you will now apply black paint and dab it around the very outside edges (make sure these edges are black, as this is where the coals are darkest). Very carefully work towards the outer edges of the middle with the black. In my photo you can see there are tiny bits of black here and there to make it look like some unburned coal. The point is not to saturate the bright whites, yellows and reds. That is the optical illusion of a "hot spot" in the fire.



Step Eight: You will want to tidy things up with the stone grey color on the forge so it looks cleaned up. It's now ready to be sealed. I prefer the look of a glossy sealer on the brightly colored fire areas as this makes it look best.