

# Welcome To My German Boots PDF

## Toys City Gebirgsjager Boots



The Toys City boots shown above left are compared to the DiD boots in the centre. The Toys City one's are made of a softer 'pleather' type of material and they press down better onto the leg, so that I can get a tighter look around the ankle. This helps me to get the same look with the cloth items, as the moulded plastic Dragon boots and puttees. **Note:** Also with the laces from the boots wound around the boot tops before tying them off, this also helps to get the tighter look to the puttees. In the picture above right, I have given the boots on my figure a coat of some acrylic Model Color 540 Matt Medium, to both dull them down and to take away the new look that they have. I also painted over the metal cleats on the sole with some Gunmetal paint to make just those shiny.

With the footwear that I wanted to use with my Cable Layer figure, I again used the Toys City Gebirgsjager boots as shown on the right as they are softer than the DiD boots and they take the pastel chalks well. I have included in the picture a pair of new boots on the outside, with the pair I have altered on the inside. With this figure I not only wanted the boots to look old and used, I also decided to have some scuff marks on the toes as well.



I did this by folding a small piece of sandpaper in half so that it caused the cuts in the leather, and I sanded gently to cause the marks. I also sanded the toe slightly to add the scuff and wear marks. I again repainted the metal parts on the soles of the boots with the enamel Gunmetal paint, and then used a Light Brown pastel chalk powder to add a dust effect to the boots. I made up a mix of White and Light Brown pastel chalk mix, which was then drybrushed over the top to bring out the edges and add some highlights. **Note:** With all of the boots I am currently using for my figures, I replace the laces with some similar sized Black thread. The purpose of this is that I can lace the boots up, and still have enough lace left to wrap around the boot tops, and tie a bow as shown below.

### Boots Update

One thing I have meant to do for a while is a step by step, about how I laced up the Gebirgsjager boots. And in the pictures below, from the left to the right show how I do it. The first two pictures show how I have replaced the laces with some longer thread; this then allows me as I the third picture to tie a bow in the lace. In the fourth picture I have tied another bow; this is to keep the lace tight.





The fifth picture shows how I have made the loops in the bows smaller, by putting each loop in turn back through the lace at the side of the boot, and then pulled tight towards the knot. The purpose of this is that the loops are now getting smaller, and as shown in the last two pictures, once the puttees are in place the loops are more in scale and the knots are hidden.

### DiD Gebirgsjager Boots

Below are a pair of DiD Gebirgsjager boots that have had the same treatment done to them, as the Toys City boots above.



The pictures above show the boots before and after I have painted over them with the acrylic Model Color Matt Medium paint. I have found that this paint is very good for dulling down the new shiny look they have, plus it dries both clear and with a matt finish. So I don't have to worry about matching the paint colours of the item that I am re-painting. **Important note:** I have also added a scuff mark to the front of these DiD boots, but I do advise being **very careful** doing this with the boots. Since the 'pleather' material is a lot thinner than the Toys City boots and it tears very easily, so if you try this be very gentle with the sandpaper.



The pictures above show how I have used the Brown pastel chalk to add a dust effect to the boots, this is applied with a flat brush to get the chalk into the edges and sole cleats. I then use a large fan brush to blend it in, and also to remove some of the dust from the flat parts of the boots. I then use a dry tissue to carefully wipe over all of the flat parts of the boots, to remove some more of the dust so I only have the dust detail as shown.

## Toys City Jackboots



With these pictures I have changed the above boots to lose the glossy shine that they have, the first picture is when they are new, the second picture after I have repainted them with first some Black artist's acrylic paint, and then a wash over with the Matt Medium paint. The third picture above is after I have given them a drybrush with some Brown pastel chalk, the last picture shows how I have rubbed the chalk into the material joints and the sole edges. I then gave the boots a wipe over with a clean dry tissue, to leave only the dust where I wanted it.

## Repainting DiD Boots

I bought the Brown DiD boots shown on the right for an experiment that I had in mind for changing the colour of them. Because when I looked around the online shops and eBay for a pair of Black gebirgsjager boots, not only did I discover that they can be hard to find, the postage charges on some of the Black boots cost a lot more than the boots themselves.



So I obtained a pair of the Brown one's, and with some Daler Rowney Cryla Acrylic No 036 Mars Black paint I then went ahead and gave the boots a repaint. With this type of paint I find that the thicker consistency spreads better when mixed with water, plus it soaks in better on the edges of the vinyl material that the boots are made from.

**Note:** The only problem I have found with this paint is the cost, but after shopping around online I have found a shop in the UK that has quite reasonable prices for the tubes of paint.

I have also found once the boots are dry, that the paint gives them a nice flat dull look which can help the pastel chalks to stick better to them. Also the paint does not crack or peel off when I press down on the top of the boots.



In the picture on the right, these are the boots after I have finished the repaint, but before I have added a drybrush of some pastel chalks to them. I have also replaced the laces with a slightly thinner thread, as to me this looks more in scale. I have also given the metal cleats on the sole a repaint of some Gunmetal acrylic paint. And I have used some fine sandpaper to gently remove the paint from the lace eyelets.

The next step that I would do with these boots, is paint them over with some Model Color Matt Medium paint to dull them down a bit more, and then I would add some weathering to them, to make them look older rather than the new look here.



The boots as shown above are from the left a pair of new DiD boots from the box, the centre pair are after being repainted Black and the last pair of boots on the right, have been repainted with Daler Rowney Cryla Acrylic No 223 Burnt Umber paint.

### **Gebirgsjager Trousers**



I recently bought some Gebirgsjager trousers loose, and they are from the Dragon Edvard Borsheim figure. And upon checking them on my latest figure I found them to be well made, and I have found that the buckle on the bottom of the trouser legs really does work, plus it will help me to tighten up the trousers very nicely under the Toys City puttees.

### **Puttees**

The Toys City puttees themselves proved to be a real headache for me, with working out how they go together. But once I realised that the buckle part comes apart as shown below left. It was just a case of wrapping them around the boot tops and then carefully parting the buckle, so that it could be pushed behind the last puttee strap.



With the puttees as shown above, I could not work out how they went together until it was pointed out to me that the buckle has an opening as shown above left. **Note:** This buckle I believe is plastic, so I have had to be careful handling them in case I break them. The next pictures show how I have wrapped the puttees tightly around the boot, and then opened the buckle and gently pushed it behind the thin strap to keep it all in place.

### Boots & Gaiters



This shows how I fit the gaiters on my German figures. And as shown above left I have tied the laces as tight as I could. Also I have tied the trouser bottoms as tight as I can, so that all the slack has been taken up which help when I fit the gaiters. The next picture above shows the gaiter placed around the boot, which is pulled tight on the gaiter material **and not** by the straps.

**Note:** Because as I have found that if you pull the straps too hard they will break. So to make sure that I can get the gaiters tight, I pinch them together at the top and sew a couple of stitches in place (middle picture), making sure that they cannot be seen from the front. The point of doing this is that the tightness of the gaiter is held in place by the thread, and not by the fabric straps.



And as shown by the next picture above right, I have done up the straps by making sure that I press the gaiter together at the top and bottom when I am doing this, so that there is less chance of the straps breaking. And in the picture shown above right I have bloused the trousers out over the top of the gaiters. **Note:** I always leave the straps long as shown, just in case I have to remove the gaiters for any reason and I usually cut these shorter after I have finished the figure.

### Gebirgsjager Gaiters



With the DiD gaiters that I wanted to use with one of my kitbashes, I found that I could not get them as tight on the leg as I wanted, and I found that the problem is that they only had one thread for the lacing at the top as shown above left. So I replaced the thread as shown in the next picture, but for the lace here I used a longer piece of thread. **Note:** I have found to get the thread though the eyelets easier, I put some superglue on the each of the thread ends, I then wiped it on a cloth and left it to dry.

Then I put one end of the thread through the eyelet at the bottom of the gaiter, and pulled it up loosely inside the gaiter. And I then used the other end to lace the outside as shown, and after

putting this through the eyelet at the top I now have two thread ends inside the gaiter to tie off. So now I can put the gaiters on the figure, and I can also pull the threads on the outside tighter to make the gaiter look more realistic.