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› [Tamiya 1/35 German Tiger I Early Production Tank Plastic Model Kit Instruction Manual](#)

TAMIYA TAM35216

Tamiya 1/35 German Tiger I Early Production Tank Plastic Model Kit

Brand: TAMIYA | Model: TAM35216

1. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

This manual provides detailed instructions for the assembly and finishing of your Tamiya 1/35 German Tiger I Early Production Tank plastic model kit. The Tiger I, officially known as the Panzerkampfwagen VI Tiger I Ausf. E, was a German heavy tank developed in 1942 and used in World War II. This kit accurately reproduces the early production version of this iconic tank, featuring its distinctive thick armor and powerful 8.8cm KwK 36 L/56 main gun. This model is designed for adult hobbyists and requires assembly, painting, and detailing.



A fully assembled and painted model of the German Tiger I Early Production Tank, showcasing its detailed features, including the main gun, turret, and tracks. The model is finished in a standard grey camouflage scheme, typical of early war German tanks, and includes a commander figure in the open cupola.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

WARNING: SMALL PARTS. NOT FOR CHILDREN. This product contains small parts which may pose a choking hazard. Keep out of reach of young children. Always use appropriate ventilation when working with paints, glues, and thinners. Read and follow all safety instructions provided with modeling tools, paints, and adhesives.

3. WHAT'S IN THE BOX

Your Tamiya 35216 1/35 Ger. Tiger I Early Production Tank Plastic Model Kit includes:

- Plastic sprues containing all tank components
- Detailed flexible tracks
- One commander figure
- Decal sheet for markings
- Instruction manual (this document)

4. ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

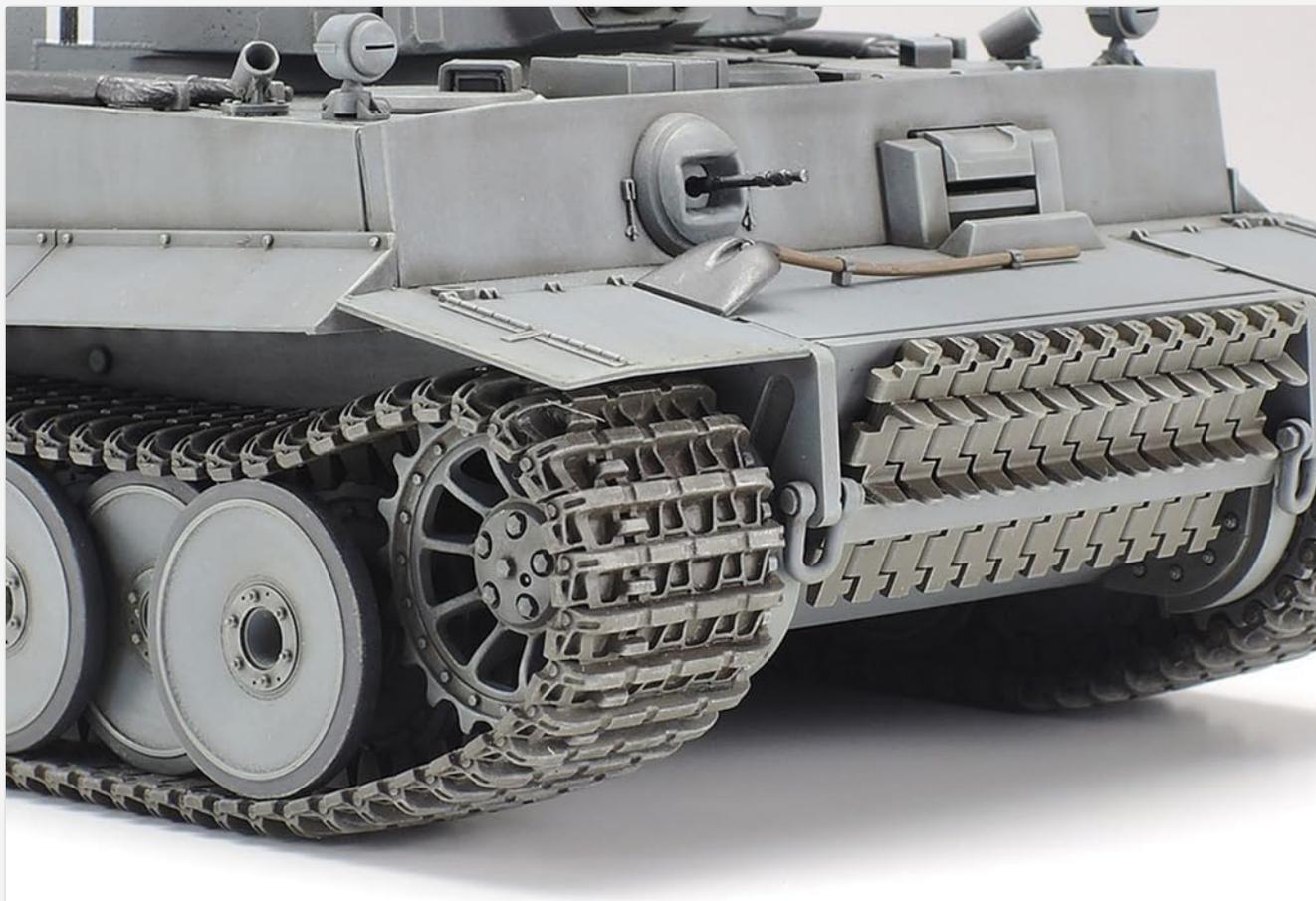
Follow these steps carefully for optimal assembly. Refer to the included diagrammatic instructions for part identification and placement.

4.1. Preparation

- Carefully remove parts from the sprues using a hobby knife or nippers.
- Clean any flash or mold lines using a hobby knife or fine sandpaper.
- Test fit parts before applying adhesive.

4.2. Lower Hull and Suspension

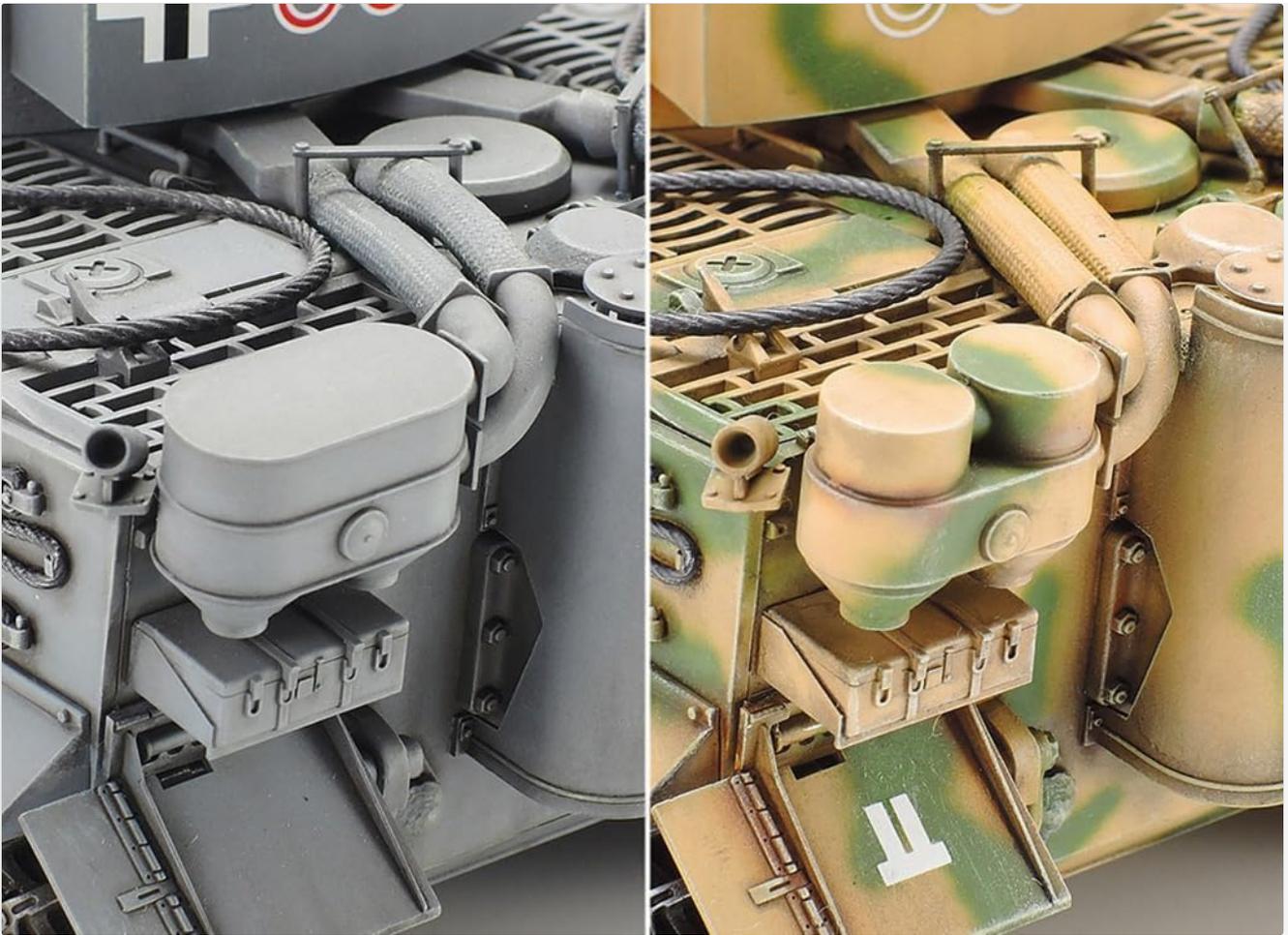
Begin by assembling the lower hull components, including the suspension arms and road wheels. Ensure all parts are aligned correctly before gluing.



A detailed close-up showing the front section of the tank's tracks, road wheels, and the lower hull. This view emphasizes the intricate track links and the robust suspension system of the Tiger I, along with the front armor plating.

4.3. Upper Hull Assembly

Attach the upper hull sections, including the engine deck and fenders. Pay attention to the alignment of all panels to ensure a seamless fit.



This image focuses on the rear engine deck of the Tiger I, displaying the exhaust mufflers, air filters, and various tools and equipment mounted on the hull. The detail of the engine grilles and the overall rear superstructure is clearly visible.

4.4. Turret Construction

Assemble the turret, including the main gun, mantlet, and commander's cupola. Ensure the main gun can elevate and the turret can rotate freely if desired.

4.5. Track Assembly

The kit includes flexible tracks. Carefully join the ends of the tracks as per the instructions. Ensure they fit snugly around the road wheels and drive sprockets.

4.6. Detail Parts and Accessories

Attach all small detail parts such as tools, spare track links, and the commander figure. These details significantly enhance the realism of your model.

5. PAINTING AND FINISHING

Painting is a critical step to bring your model to life. The Tiger I early production tanks were typically painted in a dark grey (Dunkelgrau) scheme. Later, some units applied field-applied camouflage patterns, including dark yellow and green. Refer to historical references and the kit's painting guide for accurate color schemes.

- **Priming:** Apply a thin coat of primer to ensure paint adhesion.
- **Base Coat:** Apply your chosen base color evenly.
- **Camouflage:** If desired, apply camouflage patterns using masking techniques or freehand.

- **Weathering:** Techniques like washes, dry brushing, and chipping can add realism.
- **Decals:** Apply decals carefully using decal setting solutions for a painted-on look.



A side-by-side comparison illustrating two different painting options for the Tiger I model kit: a classic grey scheme and a desert camouflage pattern. This demonstrates the versatility in finishing the model to represent different operational theaters.



This image provides a rear-side perspective of the assembled Tiger I tank, featuring a desert camouflage pattern. It highlights the engine deck details, exhaust pipes, and the intricate track system, along with the rear hull armor.

6. MAINTENANCE

Once assembled and painted, your plastic model requires minimal maintenance. To preserve its appearance:

- **Dusting:** Regularly dust the model with a soft brush or compressed air to prevent dust buildup.
- **Display:** Display the model in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight to prevent fading and warping.
- **Handling:** Handle the model by its base or main body to avoid damaging delicate parts.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

Here are some common issues and their solutions during model assembly:

Problem	Solution
Parts do not fit together	Check for excess plastic (flash) on the edges of the parts and carefully remove it. Ensure correct part orientation.
Paint is not adhering or looks uneven	Ensure the surface is clean and free of oils. Apply a primer before painting. Apply paint in thin, even coats.
Decals silvering (clear film visible)	Apply decals over a glossy surface. Use decal setting solutions to help the decal conform to the surface and eliminate air bubbles.

Problem	Solution
Small parts break easily	Handle with care. Use appropriate tools for removal from sprues. If a part breaks, use plastic cement for a strong bond.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Brand	TAMIYA
Model Name	1/35 Ger. Tiger I Early Production Tank Plastic Model Kit
Model Number	TAM35216
Scale	1:35 Scale
Material	Plastic
Color	Grey (unpainted kit)
Item Dimensions (L x W x H)	15.13 x 9.63 x 2.75 inches (packaging)
Item Weight	7 ounces (0.2 Kilograms)
Number of Pieces	1 (kit)
Recommended Age	16 years and up
Country of Origin	Japan
UPC	885131947413, 797681988399

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For information regarding product warranty, replacement parts, or technical support, please refer to the official Tamiya website or contact Tamiya customer service directly. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase.