

Hints and Tips -

Colour Guide - German Afrika Korps

By Michael Farnworth

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German Afrika Korps



Artizan figures painted by Mick Farnworth

Colonial Style Uniform at the start of the North Africa Campaign

Item	Colour	Vallejo Model Colour
Sun Helmet	Sand	Iraqi Sand 70.819, Dark Sand 70.847
“Colonial” Uniform	Khaki Green	Russian Uniform 70.924
Shirt	Sand	Iraqi Sand 70.819, Dark Sand 70.847
Boots - Fabric Uppers	Khaki Green	Russian Uniform 70.924
Boots - Foot	Brown	Mahogany Brown 70.846, Flat Brown 70.984

Later Uniform

Item	Colour	Vallejo Model Colour
Tropical Uniform New	Khaki	US Field Drab 70.973, English Uniform 70.921, Flat Earth 70.983
Tropical Uniform Faded	Sand	Iraqi Sand 70.819, Dark Sand 70.847
European Uniform	Field Grey	German Field Grey WW2 70.830
Boots	Brown	Mahogany Brown 70.846, Flat Brown 70.984

General Items

Item	Colour	Vallejo Model Colour
Helmet Camouflage	Sand	Iraqi Sand 70.819, Dark Sand 70.847
Straps & Pouches	Brown Leather	Mahogany Brown 70.846, Flat Brown 70.984
Webbing & Pouches	Sand	Iraqi Sand 70.819, Dark Sand 70.847
Bread Bag	Khaki Green	Russian Uniform 70.924
Canteen	Khaki Yellow	Desert Yellow 70.977
Water bottle Cover	Brown	German Camo Red Brown 70.826, Flat Brown 70.984
Water bottle Lid	Black	Black 70.950

Notes



The first issue Tropical Uniform was a very smart looking colonial style khaki green jacket and trousers with long lace up boots and a sun hat. This proved uncomfortable and was replaced.

The later uniform was khaki when new but quickly faded to a creamy sand colour. Boots and straps were brown leather with shades ranging from tan to dark brown.

Often, the soldiers had a very mixed appearance as hats, trousers and jackets in field grey were also worn.

Insignia

German army soldiers wore Heer symbols on the collar.
Afrika Korps wore an "Afrika" band on the lower left sleeve

Further Reading

Books

General

Andrew Mollo: **The Armed Forces of World War 2** (Little, Brown and Company)
This book is a very useful overview of uniforms and insignia. There are 250 colour drawings and 100 photographs which cover every nation involved in WW2. The original 1981 version is a large format book. There is an A5 reprint that does not include the Eastern front.

Chris McNab: **20th Century Military Uniforms: 300 Uniforms from Around the World** (Grange Books PLC)

This book is similar in style to Andrew Mollo's book and has many of the same illustrations.

Osprey books are also very good but there are several which touch the subject, so it is difficult to recommend one item.