

Making Movement Trays

Making movement trays is both simple and cost effective. It's entirely possible to create custom movement trays for your army in an afternoon for less than ten dollars.

Materials

- Sheetstyrene (.040 to .080 is ideal)
- Plastic rod (rectangular tubing 1/8" thickness)
- plastic cement

Tools

- Ruler (steel is preferred)
- fine point marker
- wood file or Fine sand paper
- hobby knife
- A spare base of the appropriate size

Step 1.

Begin by measuring your unit. Obviously, units of five cavalry bases and twenty rank and file soldiers are going to require different trays. You want to measure the both the width and depth of the unit and write these numbers down. If you want, you can place the ranked unit on a piece of paper and trace around the outside edges and take your measurements from there. Add a quarter of an inch to the over length and width to allow for the sides.

It's worth repeating: Add ¼" to your measurements to allow room for the rectangular tubing.

Step 2.

Measure and mark your base on the sheet plastic. Double check your measurements before moving on to step 3.

Step 3.

Use your hobby knife or scissors to cut out the base. If you're going to use scissors, cut outside the line you marked as the offset blades will make cutting a even line difficult. It is much easier to trim away the excess later.

Step 4.

Measure and cut one length and two depth pieces from the from a plastic rod. Again, making them a little longer than you think you need is not a bad idea. Once cut, square the edges while shortening the pieces as little as possible.

Step 5.

Run a bead of glue down the length edge of the sheet you cut for the base and attach

the length piece of rod. You have some time to work with getting the front edge as neat as possible, so don't be afraid to shift things around a bit.

Step 6.

Run a bead of glue down each side of the base and up the front rod where the sides will contact it. Fit your sides into place and square them up. Use the spare base to help check for square and the overall size of the tray so far.

Step 7.

While the front and sides are still drying, measure the distance between the two sides along the back edge and cut a section of rod to fit. Make sure to leave a bit of excess rod if your cuts are not square. File the rod ends square and check the fit.

Step 8.

When the back piece seems to fit, glue it into place as you did the front and sides. Use the spare base to help check for square and the overall size of the tray.

Step 9.

Use a wood file or fine grit sand paper to smooth out the sides and generally cleanup the shape of the tray.

Step 10.

Apply white glue to the outside and top edges of the tray. Dip the tray into the texture material you prefer and allow it to dry.

Step 11.

Once the plastic and white glue has dried, you can prime and finish the tray in whatever manner suits your army.