



NOLZUR'S MARVELOUS PIGMENTS
OFFICIAL PAINTING SERIES



HOW TO PAINT THE OWLBEAR
- SNOW VARIANT

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS®



THE
ARMY
PAINTER

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INTRODUCTION

For many gamers the Owlbear from Gale Force 9 is the highlight of Nolzur's Marvelous Pigments Monster Paint Set – towering over the helpless adventurers the bulk Owlbear is a menace to all that dares cross its path.



WORK AREA SET-UP



FOR THIS TUTORIAL: YOU WILL NEED:

- BRUSHES
- WATER
- MIXING PALETTE
- PAINTS
- NAPKINS

PRODUCTS USED IN TUTORIAL

D&D
WARPAINTS

ABYSSAL
BLACK

LAWFUL
WHITE

GREY
PRIMER

BUGBEAR
BROWN

CAMBION
CRIMSON

SKELETON
BONE

PIXIEDUST
PINK

FAIR
SKIN

FIRENEWT
ORANGE



OTHER PRODUCTS USED IN THIS TUTORIAL

D&D
BRUSHES

D&D Starter Brush - 75001 Adventurers Paint Set

D&D Basecoat Brush - 75003 Nolzur's Marvelous Brush Set

D&D Detail Brush - 75003 Nolzur's Marvelous Brush Set

D&D DryBrush - 75003 Nolzur's Marvelous Brush Set



Check out our online video tutorials here:

YouTube

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THE ARMY PAINTER

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GETTING STARTED...

We have already talked you through the process of painting the monster in our official Owlbear Paint Guide or shown you how in our video. Here we followed the classic brown/white/black colour scheme imitating the standard Owlbear interpretation. But the D&D universe is vast and the Owlbears of the many worlds vary and differ depending on the region and local environment.

For a miniature painter that means giving your imagination free reins.

In this article we will look at painting a different colour scheme. We will not delve deeply in to the painting techniques like highlighting and drybrushing, referring to the basic Owlbear painting guides for a more in-depth explanation of the methods Instead.

Snow Owl / Polar Bear

For this very simple colour scheme we were inspired by the polar bear from our world – all white with a black nose and claws. This is super straight forward – but painting “white” can be a little tricky... here's our take on it using only the Nolzur's Marvelous Pigments D&D Warpaints found in the Adventurer's and Monster Paint Sets.



More great content can be found on the Dungeons and Dragons Site at www.TheArmyPainter.com

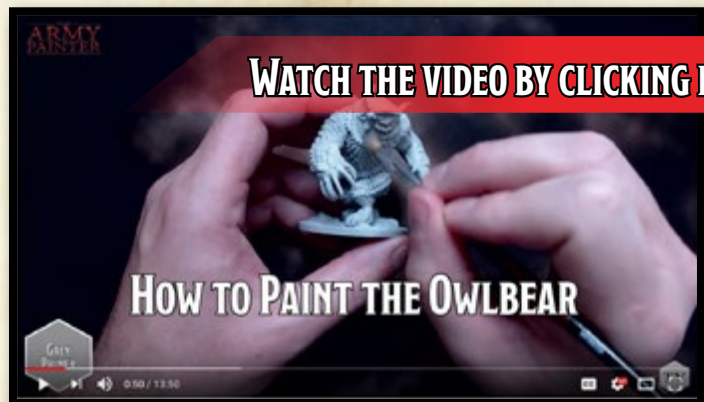
Already we have several guides to painting D&D monsters and heroes at the Dungeons and Dragons site online and more are coming!

- SO STAY TUNED!

[READ PDF GUIDE BY CLICKING HERE](#)



[WATCH THE VIDEO BY CLICKING HERE](#)



STEP 0: PRIMING

After the model was washed in some hot soapy water and left to dry, we started off by priming the whole of the model with **GREY PRIMER**. Use a big brush to get this over with as fast as possible so we can start the painting in earnest.

For this Snow-Owlbear we will not be using the D&D Warpaints Washes (the special shading paints with the red lids). Instead we will build up the shading by starting off with a dark basecolour and highlight with a lighter colour. The trick with painting "white" is not to shade it too heavily. It might sound obvious, but the **more white** you use the better the end result.

If you add a wash – like **SHADOW WASH** – the overall feel of the model can end up dark grey.



STEP 1: BASECOATING FEATHERS

We basecoated the feathers – i.e. almost the whole of the model in a light grey. Even though you get a choice of 10 + 36 D&D Warpaints, sometimes you will have to mix your Warpaints. The dropper tip pots makes this super easy as administering the exact amount of drops is easy.

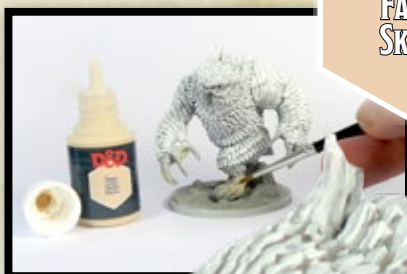
We used a 50/50 mix of **LAWFUL WHITE** and **ORC SKIN** to create a light grey basecolour. And then off we went again – painting the entire model in a thin layer so not to obscure the details.



STEP 2: HIGHLIGHTING FEATHERS

With the basecoat fully dry, we went straight to the first and final highlight of the feathers with **LAWFUL WHITE** straight from the pot.

We painted each feather with a layer of **LAWFUL WHITE** using the **D&D BASECOAT BRUSH** taking care to leave from the of the light grey paint in the recesses. For a faster result, you can opt to use the drybrushing technique, but for the sake of neatness we chose to paint each feather, one at a time.

FAIR
SKIN

STEP 3: FEET AND HANDS

The hands and feet “highlighted” with **FAIR SKIN** to add a little colour to the white Owlbear model. We took care to leave some of the grey in the recesses and painted the skin to the most raised areas in a combination of a highlight and basecoat in one. Very fast and efficient.



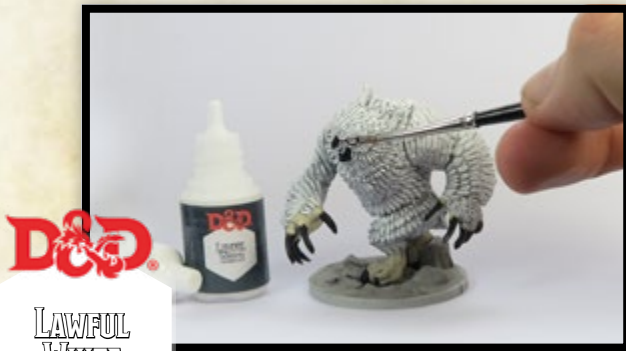
The Drybrush is also nice tool for large surface basecoating, but shines as a proper drybrush.



*D&D DryBrush - 75003
Nolzur's Marvelous Brush Set*

STEP 4: CLAWS AND BEAK.

The claws and talons were painted **ABYSSAL BLACK**, this time using the **D&D DETAIL BRUSH** for more control. We also painted the eyes black and although they will end up being bright yellow, the black basecoat at this stage will end up leaving a thin black outline around the eyes.



STEP 5: WHITE EYES

The next stage of the eyes is to paint the eyes white (again) leaving a thin black line. This requires a steady hand and a fine detail brush. The **D&D DETAIL BRUSH** is nice and small, but we have even smaller variants in The Army Painter line of brushes, like the **INSANE DETAIL BRUSH** or the super fine **"THE PSYCHO" BRUSH**.



According to how steady a hand you wield, choose a brush size you feel most comfortable with.

D&D Starter Brush - 75001 Adventurers Paint Set

D&D Basecoat Brush - 75003 Nolzur's Marvelous Brush Set

D&D Detail Brush - 75003 Nolzur's Marvelous Brush Set

STEP 6: YELLOW EYES

Next, we painted the eye with the vibrant **FIRENEWT ORANGE** – again using the **D&D DETAIL BRUSH**.



STEP 7: BLACK DOT

... and we painted a small black dot in the center of each eye with **ABYSSAL BLACK**.



STEP 8: TONGUE

The tongue was basecoated with **CAMBION CRIMSON** and highlighted with **PIXIEDUST PINK**. The red tongue and the yellow eyes really stand out in the otherwise white/black colour scheme.



**CAMBION
CRIMSON**

**PIXIEDUST
PINK**



STEP 9: FINAL DETAILS

The Talons, beak and claws were highlighted with a thin line of **ORC SKIN**, while the black dot in each eye was given a tinier dot of **LAWFUL WHITE** to create the effect of the light reflecting in the evil eyes of the monster. And that is the Snow-Owlbear all painted.



**ORC
SKIN**

**LAWFUL
WHITE**

STEP 0A: THE BASE

We wanted to theme the base accordingly to the cold settings of a Snow-Owlbear. We decided to do a winter base.



STEP 1A: PAINT THE BASE

First, we painted the base **BUGBEAR BROWN** using the large **D&D BASECOAT BRUSH** and taking care not to get paint on to the feet of the Owlbear. And the rim of the base with **ABYSSAL BLACK**.



D&D
ABYSSAL
BLACK

D&D
BUGBEAR
BROWN

STEP 1B: BROWN BATTLEGROUND

Paint some **PVA BATTLEFIELDS BASING GLUE** onto the base and while wet, dip the model into the **BROWN BATTLEGROUND**. The Brown Battleground is basically a mix of pre-coloured gravel and just one of a part of basing material from The Army Painter Battlefields series.



STEP 1C: DRYBRUSH BASE

Make sure the PVA is fully dry – this takes around 1 hour. Then lightly shake of loose gravel and drybrush the base with **SKELETON BONE** using the **D&D DRYBRUSH**.

This leaves us a nice earthy looking base – a canvass for newly fallen snow.



D&D
SKELETON
BONE

STEP 1D: SNOW

First mix 50% **LAWFUL WHITE** with 50% **PVA BATTLEFIELDS GLUE**. Normally PVA dries up see-through, but by mixing in a little white paint we created a white-glue base for our Snow Flock.

Paint the glue-white-mix on to the base, leaving some of the brown dirt showing. You decide how much or how little snow has just fallen.

While wet, dip the base into the container of Snow Flock, just like before.



LAWFUL
WHITE



STEP 1E: TUFTS

With the glue fully dry (another hour) we glued in some of the **BATTLEFIELDS BASING TUFTS** using a drop of **SUPER GLUE**. For the cold winter base we avoided the green tufts and went for a mix of **WINTER TUFT**, **WASTELAND TUFT** and **FROZEN TUFTS**.



STEP 1F: SNOW ON TUFTS

As the final finishing touch, we drybrushed a little **PVA BATTLEFIELDS BASING GLUE** on top of a few of the tufts and dipped the base in the Snow Flock once more – simulating that a bit of snow has fallen on top of the tufts recently.



PROTECT YOUR MINIATURES.

And that is the Snow-Owlbear all painted and based. To protect our masterpiece from the wear and tear of tabletop gaming we gave the miniature a thin coat of the **AEGIS SUIT SPRAY VARNISH**.

Aegis Suit
Satin Varnish
CP3027

THE
**ARMY
PAINTER**

AEGIS SUIT

THE PERFECT SATIN VARNISH FOR
MINIATURES ALL MATERIALS
PAINTED & MODELS FOR THE
TABLETOP USE ON THE TABLE

Aegis Suit Satin Varnish
CP3003

AND YOU'RE DONE!

The possibilities of colour schemes are endless and whether you get inspiration from real world animals or use your imagination - see Fantasy Owlbear Tutorial - you will have fun painting the Gales Force 9 Owlbear using Nolzur's Marvelous Pigments Warpaints.



The Army Painter website has loads of galleries and video tutorials on how to use the products and techniques featured in this guide.

Check it out at www.TheArmyPainter.com