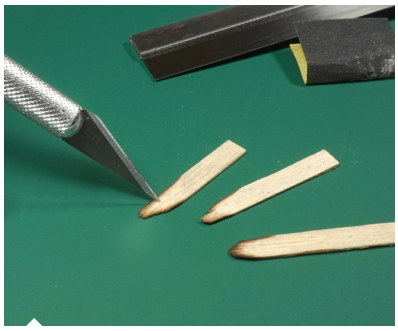
CHARRED WOOD

By Luc Po

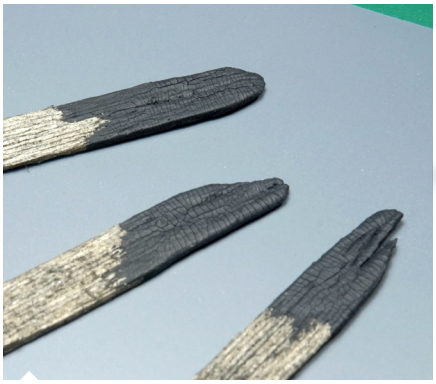
AK 8033
LIGHT & DRY CRACKLE EFFECTS

This product was developed to recreate dry and crackled dirt on dioramas and lower surfaces of vehicles, but we can also add dry pigments to the product to tint the colour in order to represent other types of cracked effects. When black pigment is added, we can use the product to create a charred look on wood. Perfect for dioramas depicting buildings or trees burned by fire.



1. Starting with small pieces of basswood, we use a flame to give a natural shape to the edge of the wood. As the piece of wood is small, it will simply burn to ash before a charred look can be achieved if it is allowed to burn further.

2. Once the shape of the burned edge is established, we can proceed to weather the basswood in a typical fashion. Here wood grain and texture is emphasized with a hobby knife, and an aged grey colour is achieved by staining the wood with a mix of 5-10% black India ink and isopropyl alcohol.



3. Using AK Interactive's Light & Dry Crackle Effect, we mix in black dry pigments (AK039) until we tint the product to the desired colour. It is important to only tint with dry pigments as this material does not interfere with the crackle effect as the product dries. A thick layer of the mixture is applied to the area of wood we want to be charred.

4. Once dry, the crackled effect is evident. It is important to allow the product to dry naturally, as accelerated drying time (e.g. by hairdryer) will interfere with the crackle effect.

5. Using black (AK039) and dust (AK040) coloured pigments, we can blend the painted effect with the rest of the wood by applying with a small brush.

6. The finishing touch is achieved by carefully applying small amounts of dark steel pigment (AK086) to the individual crackle effects. It is recommended to apply the pigment using a pointed silicone brush, as this allows us to accurately place the pigments without overdoing the effect.