CHAPTER 1

NECRONS OF THE NIHHLAKH DYNASTY

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HOW TO PAINT NECRONS

NECRONS OF THE NIHILAKH DYNASTY

Chris Peach, one of the Design Studio’s professional army painters, has collected and painted a sizable force of Necrons from the Nihilakh Dynasty. Here, he explains how he painted it.

Inspiration

Chris: The image of legions of metal machines marching in silent unison – pausing only to unleash dazzling bursts of weaponry so advanced as to appear almost arcane – has always appealed to me. This faceless menace is a very cool aspect of the Necrons, and one that is epitomised by the Canoptek guardians of the Tomb Worlds. I had already painted a large army of Necrons hailing from the Nihilakh Dynasty, but there are so many awesome Necron models that I knew I had to expand the army to incorporate them. It was very much a case of using new miniatures to embellish my original collection, making a cool army even cooler!

I wanted to include as many different options as I could, as this would add plenty of variety to the overall look and feel of the army. I ended up painting three squadrons of Tomb Blades, each equipped with one of the different weapon options. I applied the same logic to my Canoptek Wraiths (I love those models!), with each one given a different weapon option. I knew that by painting so many new miniatures to join the original Nihilakh host, I wouldn’t be able to field them all in the same army, but that wasn’t as important to me as giving the army lots of units and options to choose from. I could always use them all in a game of Apocalypse if I wanted to. My final additions were the fantastic Triarch Stalker and a pair of Canoptek Spyders to shadow the army’s vehicles and make battlefield repairs. I assembled one of these with a twin-linked particle beamer and one without.

Codex: Necrons is the definitive guide to fielding this advanced race of androids in battle, with full army list, bestiary and ‘Eavy Metal showcase.
HOW TO PAINT NECRONS

PAINTING THE NIHILAKH DYNASTY

**Chris:** I knew right from the start that I wanted to include a Triarch Stalker in the army, especially as I had already painted some Triarch Praetorians for it to go with. It looks really impressive, standing proud amidst the Necron infantry phalanxes it accompanies.

The Triarch Stalker was also a perfect model on which to demonstrate the painting techniques I used throughout the Nihilakh army. Because it is such a big model, each of the techniques used in the rest of the army can be found on it, so once you’ve painted it you’ll have mastered all the techniques to paint the rest of the army which you can see later in this book.
HOW TO PAINT NECRONS USING THIS GUIDE

On the following pages you will find a step-by-step guide to painting the Citadel miniatures showcased in this article. In each case you will see a quick reference guide to painting the featured model. While these guides make a great starting point, you will find far more detailed information on the Citadel paints, tools and techniques featured here in How To Paint Citadel Miniatures. For best results we heartily recommend that you keep your copy near to hand while following these guides.

To one side of every page that showcases a model’s paint scheme you will see our quick reference guide. This is laid out in numbered steps and gives you the basic information required to paint your models so that they match those shown.

The top part of each step of the reference guide points out the Citadel paint, wash or glaze in use, while the bottom refers to the specific type of Citadel paintbrush that is being utilised. The small band of colour on the left of the brush name is colour coded to match the ends of the brushes in your Citadel Brush collection, making it even easier to pick the correct tool.

- Colour-coded technique bar
- Stage number
- Which brush to use, with reference to the colour-coded Citadel Brush Range
- Colour title and paint swatch
HOW TO PAINT NECRONS

PREPARATION

Chris: In my experience it is often best to paint the more complicated Necron kits as a series of sub-assemblies before gluing the finished pieces together. In the case of the Triarch Stalker, however, I decided that it could be built in its entirety as I would be able to use a combination of the Citadel Spray Gun and Shades to detail the areas that would be harder to reach with a paint brush. I also needed to consider that a large part of the model would be painted to appear metallic. As such the obvious choice was to apply a basecoat of Leadbelcher using the Citadel Spray Gun.

As with any model, however, the first stage after I had finished assembling the Triarch Stalker was to apply an undercoat. I used Chaos Black Spray, as it would provide the best foundation for the metallic basecoat I had planned. Once this was done I used the Citadel Spray Gun to apply the Leadbelcher basecoat.

Chris undercoated the model with Chaos Black Spray to provide a foundation on which to apply Leadbelcher with the Citadel Spray Gun.
HOW TO PAINT NECRON METALS

HOW TO PAINT SILVER

1. Basecoat
   - Leadbelcher
   - Spray Gun

2. Wash
   - Nuln Oil*
   - Wash Brush

3. Wash
   - Agrax Earthshade*
   - Wash Brush

4. Layer
   - Runefang Steel
   - Detail Brush

* Each of these stages was repeated a second time after the initial coat of Citadel Shade had fully dried
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HOW TO PAINT POWER CELLS & ARMOUR

TURQUOISE ARMOUR

1. Basecoat
   - Sotek Green
   - Basecoat Brush

2. Drybrush
   - Skink Blue
   - Large Drybrush

3. Drybrush
   - Tyrant Skull
   - Medium Drybrush

4. Wash
   - Steel Legion Drab*
   - Wash Brush

5. Drybrush
   - Tyrant Skull
   - Medium Drybrush

6. Glaze
   - Lamenters Yellow
   - Wash Brush

* Water down Steel Legion Drab and apply as a wash
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HOW TO PAINT POWER CELLS & ARMOUR

POWER CELLS

1. Basecoat
   - Caliban Green
   - Basecoat Brush

2. Layer
   - Warpstone Glow
   - Standard Brush

3. Wash
   - Biel-Tan Green
   - Wash Brush

4. Layer
   - Moot Green
   - Detail Brush

5. Layer
   - White Scar
   - Fine Detail Brush

6. Glaze
   - Waywatcher Green
   - Wash Brush
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POWER CELLS

1. Basecoat - Caliban Green
   Basecoat Brush

2. Layer - Warpstone Glow
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1. Basecoat: Caliban Green, Basecoat Brush
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HOW TO PAINT GOLD

1. Basecoat
   - Balthasar Gold
   - Basecoat Brush

2. Layer
   - Gehenna’s Gold
   - Standard Brush

3. Wash
   - Agrax Earthshade
   - Wash Brush

4. Layer
   - Runefang Steel
   - Detail Brush
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HOW TO PAINT NECRONS
NIHILAKH DYNASTY SHOWCASE

The finished Triarch Stalker looks suitably imposing with the turquoise armour and gold details contrasting nicely with the darker metal tones of the machine parts. Chris also decided to add some gold to the two endmost armour panels on the legs to break up what would otherwise be a large area of the same colour.
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Canoptek Spyder

Canoptek Wraith