

## Craggy Hills

These craggy hills are really straight forward and provide a great alternative to bombed out ruins.

I would recommend viewing

Winters SEO, as basically this is what I followed <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A9ROmG0JWxY>

### Step 1

Following materials required



Expanded polystyrene = B&Q 2m X 4m £8 – jablite insulation board (have fun getting into the car. In hindsight should have tried a different source

PVA glue any good craft store, DIY etc.

Grit – sand, stones – garden centre, or perhaps your neighbour's garden

Flock - game store

Paint – Primer, spray cans (black, brown, grey)

The biggest cost here is the primer – depending on size of the pieces can get 5-6 pieces. All other materials will not be used up and can be used for further batches. The spray is acrylic graffiti paint brought online. In addition substituting spray paint for brush on paint (cheap acrylic paints) pushes cost down.

Based on making 12 pieces (using 2 primer sprays), each piece works out on average £3-£6.

## **Step 2**

Break the polystyrene up into interesting shapes. Form a hill like structure. Apply a good helping of PVA glue to each layer and allow to dry completely (overnight). I wanted line of sight blocking terrain so went for quite steep and high.



## **Step 3**

Once dry, cover the whole model with PVA. This reduces the melting of the polystyrene caused by spray paints. Whilst the melting can cause a nice affect it can be difficult to control and you can end up wasting paint. Personally I apply a thorough PVA coat (no watering down), trying not to miss any part of the model. At this point grit can be added, both to the rocky layers and the top surfaces. This helps show where the PVA has been put but also adds a nice affect, by softening the rounded look of the polystyrene balls. I prefer a generous amount of grit and sand (overnight)



## **Step 4**

Once dry, apply a coat of primer. Halfords grey primer goes along way and provides a nice finish. A black primer would be preferable as would help eliminate step 5, but as yet have not found one that compares in cost to the Halfords primer, in a spray form. This could all be done using a tinned acrylic paints, it is just a toss-up between cost and time.



### **Step 5**

Coat of black paint applied. Once again spray or tinned. Not all sprays are equal – the black I used (Dope) seemed to melt more than the Halfords primer and also the other Dope colours



### **Step 6**

At this point you could go straight to dry brushing with chosen colours. However I tend to apply sprays of further colour. Firstly a grey. This is applied with very light pressure on the trigger and from a distance of 30cm +. This prevents solid colour build up in areas and “dusts” the model. Spraying focused on the rocky layers



### **Step 7**

Brown applied. Light dusting as with the grey on the rocky layers. In addition hold the spray above the terrain, with the nozzle pointing directly down over the terrain and apply a heavier layer to the flat tops. This looks like mud where flock is not applied.





Example of larger piece



### Step 9

Dry brushing – This will be very much a personal choice and also may be depend on what paints are to hand. 4 colours comprising, grey, brown, light brown and white. The important one is the white as this really makes a difference to the look of the piece

Army painter – Ash Grey – used on rocky layers and scattered rocks

Army painter – Dirt splatter – used on rocky layers and flat surfaces

GW – Zandri dust – used selectively on rocky layers, rock falls, and flat surfaces (particularly in areas where flock is not going to be used)

Army painter – white – selective final dry brush on all features



### **Step 10**

Apply PVA to areas where grass is required. Recommended that flock is applied to ledges as well as flat areas to help break up the layers. Leave areas of bare surface on the flats



### **Step 11**

Spray Varnish.

### **Step 12**

Go mad and scale it up





