

REAPER DUNGEON DWELLERS™

Painting *Rictus the Undying*

by Michael Proctor

Welcome to our first set of quick painting guidelines for anyone who would like to paint their Reaper Dungeon Dwellers miniatures just like the Reaper studio models. *Rictus the Undying* was sculpted by Bob Ridolfi who was inspired by the classic Dungeon Dwellers miniatures line. We asked one of our favorite miniature painters, Michael Proctor of Clever Crow Studios, to give us his tips and color choices that he used on the Reaper studio model of *Rictus the Undying*.



In painting *Rictus the Undying*, I was asked to capture the "old school" vibe of Bob Ridolfi's sculpt and go for a gritty, dirty look. I chose to go with dark metallic paints for the armor and a dark red cloak.

Prep - I carefully cleaned the figure of any of the minimal part lines. *Rictus'* shield is a separate piece, and once I clipped it from the sprue I glued it into place with cyanoacrylate glue (super glue). It fit perfectly without any trimming required.

Next, I primed *Rictus* in white. I chose to use a white spray-on primer just to make things go a little quicker, although I could have used Reaper's 09108 **Brush-On White Primer** which works great on metal and plastic models.



Rictus, primed and assembled.

Armor and Weapon - Prior to painting any the hard surfaces with metallic paints, I basecoated the areas I wanted to read as steel with a flat blue color (09057 **Ashen Blue**), and any area I wanted to read as bronze I painted a flat green color (09083 **Highland Moss**). This technique deepens the effect of the metallic colors once they're applied; painting metallic colors over a white surface can "wash out" the effect of the metallic paint.

Once the basecoats of blue and green were down, I applied the metallic paints. For the steel areas I used 09196 **Aged Pewter** and for the bronze areas I used 09197 **Old Bronze**. I painted all of the armored areas at one time, making sure to get a nice smooth coat of the metallic paint.



Armor and weapons basecoated.

Cloak - After the armor was done, I moved to his tattered cloak. I basecoated the cloak with **09401 Dragon Red**. After that, I shaded it with a mixture of **09401 Dragon Red** and **09235 Red Shadow**. Once that was dry, I highlighted it with **09406 Sunrise Orange**, then mixing in **09144 Creamy Ivory** for the brighter highlights.

For the freehand design on the cloak I used the **09755 Dark Elf Skin Triad**, shading further with **09066 Blue Liner** and highlighting further with **09144 Creamy Ivory**. I used blue liner to draw out the areas of the design making them wide enough to then paint the red rune. I used the same reds for the rune that I used in the cloak. Side note: the rune design on the back of the cloak was inspired by some random doodles sculptor Bob Ridolfi was drawing while we were playing a late-night roleplaying game. You never know where you'll find inspiration!



Freehand on the cloak

Bones - For Rictus' bones and the horns on his helmet, I used **09432 Desert Sand** as my basecoat, shaded with **09064 Brown Liner** and then highlighted with **09144 Creamy Ivory**.

Finally, I didn't want Rictus the Undying to be standing on a regular base, so mixed up some **75006 Green Stuff** and sculpted some dungeon tiles. I made sure that they were very rough to look like he's been in the dungeon for a very long time. Once the green stuff dried, I basecoated the stones **09085 Shadowed Stone**, and then highlighted them with **09086 Stone Grey** and a little **09432 Desert Sand**. After that, I used **09066 Blue Liner** in the stone creases.



Rictus' new base made from Green Stuff

That's pretty much it! Remember, there's no wrong way to paint as long as you're having fun. Keep on painting!



Michael Proctor & Clever Crow Studios

Michael is an award-winning painter from Evergreen, Colorado. He's one Reaper's staff painters and has also painted studio models for Dark Sword Miniatures. In addition, he is the executive administrator of the MSP Open painting competition at ReaperCon. When not painting, he enjoys mountain biking, scuba diving and spending time with his wife Michelle. You can see more of Michael's impressive work at <https://www.facebook.com/CleverCrowMinis/>