

# REAPER DUNGEON DWELLERS™

## Painting the *Ratpelt Kobolds*

by Tish Wolter

Welcome to our quick painting guidelines for anyone who would like to paint their Reaper **Dungeon Dwellers** miniatures just like the Reaper studio models. The **Ratpelt Kobolds** were sculpted by Bobby Jackson who was inspired by the **Dungeon Dwellers** range from Heritage Miniatures. We asked award-winning painter Tish Wolter to give us her tips and color choices that she used on the Reaper studio models of the **Ratpelt Kobolds**.



The September 2018 **Dungeon Dwellers** are these fierce but undeniably cute kobolds! Though small, their faces are expressive and their stances convey action.

### Prepping Your Kobolds

I checked each of the two kobolds for mold lines and flash. I removed the small amount of flash with an X-acto knife and used diamond files to remove the mold lines. Give them a good scrub to remove any residue. I used MSP brush-on primer, applying black on their skin and weapons, and white on their loincloths.



*Kobolds based and primed*

### Skin

Paints Used: 09022 Nightshade Purple, 09071 Chestnut Brown, 09110 Oiled Leather, 09074 Palomino Gold, 09061 Linen White

Reaper directed me on the color scheme for these guys, as they wanted them to be consistent with kobolds painted by other artists.

For the kobold skin, I started out by applying a base coat of **Chestnut Brown** over all exposed skin.



*Kobold, basecoated and beginning highlights*

I started filling in the shadows by adding small amounts of **Nightshade Purple** to the **Chestnut Brown**. I added more **Nightshade Purple** as I filled in the deeper recesses (inside their ears, under their arms, the innermost areas of their legs, and down the sides of their noses). I used slightly watered down **Nightshade Purple** to outline their fingers, claws, mouths, and toes. Once the shadows were established I started building up the highlights, first mixing a small amount of **Oiled Leather** into the **Chestnut Brown**. With the next layer, I used straight **Oiled Leather**, but covered a smaller area of the highlight. On the next pass, I added **Palomino Gold** to my **Oiled Leather**, then used straight **Palomino Gold** for my highest highlights (brow bone, bridge of nose, cheekbones). I then used a glaze of **Chestnut Brown** to smooth out any rough transitions.

**Loincloths - Paints Used:** 09110 Oiled Leather, 09074 Palomino Gold, 09061 Linen White

I used very basic steps for the kobold's loincloths. I started by applying my base coat of **Oiled Leather**, then built up my highlights by adding **Palomino Gold** followed by **Linen White** on my highest highlight. I used the same palette on the sling that one of the kobolds is holding.

**Eyes - Paints Used:** 09022 Nightshade Purple, 09061 Linen White, 09039 Pure White

I filled in the entire eye area with **Nightshade Purple**. I just barely hit the corners with **Linen White**, then added a small highlight of **Pure White** on the iris.

#### **Noses and Claws**

**Paints Used:** 09037 Pure Black, 09061 Linen White, 09022 Nightshade Purple

I painted the entire nose with **Pure Black**, then added a small amount of **Linen White** to add a highlight across the top of the nose and around the nostrils.

I used the same technique and colors on their claws, but I outlined the areas closest to their skin with **Nightshade Purple**.

#### **WHAT'S A GLAZE?**

Painters are often asked, "What's the difference between a glaze and a wash?", and you'll likely get varied answers regarding paint/water ratios. While both glazes and washes are diluted paint, a **glaze** is used for a more precise applications and needs to remain just thick enough to stay where you put it. For me, diluting the paint to the consistency of whole milk works well. I use it to smooth transitions on my blends, and it can also be used to add hints of color exactly where you want them. A **wash** is thinner and meant to flow easily into crevices, and you load more onto your brush than you would a glaze. It's a quick and easy way to "pick out" feathers, scales, and small details if you're in a hurry.

**Horns - Paints Used:** 09061 Linen White, 09110 Oiled Leather, 09074 Palomino Gold, 09137 Blackened Brown

I painted the entire horn **Linen White**. I used **Oiled Leather** with a small amount of **Palomino Gold** at the base of the horn near the scalp and painted short stripes up into the **Linen White** (but not all the way to the tip). I then used **Blackened Brown** to make more short strokes up into the **Linen White**, but I only added a few **Blackened Brown** stripes, just to give it a bit more interest.

**Shield - Paints Used:** 09136 Walnut Brown, 09061 Linen White

I covered the entire shield with **Walnut Brown**, then began adding small amounts of **Linen White** to add highlights and create an old, worn woodgrain effect. I kept adding more **Linen White** until I got to my hottest highlights around the edges of the wood.

**Metal Bits and Mace - Paints Used:** 09037 Pure Black, 09796 Aged Pewter, 09022 Nightshade Purple, 09039 Pure White

I gave the mace and all other metal bits a base coat of **Pure Black**. I then covered almost all of the metal areas with **Aged Pewter**, leaving the very deepest shadows and the areas closest to the skin **Pure Black**. I used a glaze of **Pure Black** to smooth out those two transitions and add more depth to areas where light would not be reflected. I added limited **Pure White** highlights on the spikes on the mace, around the curvature on the mace, and on the top corner of the belt buckle. I used **Nightshade Purple** to outline the areas nearest the skin.

**Base - Paints Used:** 09037 Pure Black, 09066 Blue Liner, 09086 Stone Grey, 09087 Weathered Stone

I used Green Stuff on the base to create the look of old, damaged flagstone. Once it cured, I gave it a coat of Black Primer. I used Stone Grey as my base coat on the flagstone, then worked up to Weathered Stone, giving it a worn, primitive appearance. I outlined the stones in Blue Liner and gave the rim a quick coat of Pure Black.



*Kobold Warrior's base in progress*

The techniques and color palettes I used on these guys are simple but effective! I hope this guide helps you get the same look, and I hope you have as much fun painting them as I did!



*Ratpelt Kobolds painted and ready to annoy adventurers*

Tish Wolter is an award winning miniature painter based in Houston, Texas. She's attended many ReaperCons as both a student and teacher, and can sometimes be found teaching painting classes at 8th Dimension Comics in Houston. Tish is a history enthusiast and loves to travel with her husband and two young daughters. You can find Tish on the Reaper forums as "Duliniel" or on Instagram (tishwolter)

