

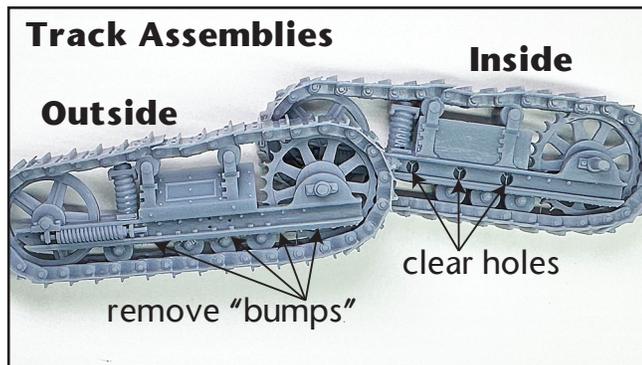
Working with the SierraWest 3D Printed BEST Sixty Dozer

by Brett Gallant

Please handle these parts very carefully! While I use a high strength tooling resin that is very flexible and strong, these parts contain incredibly fine detail that must be handled carefully to prevent damage. Before you begin construction be sure to download: *“Working with SierraWest 3D Printed Castings”*. These instructions cover all of the basics and provide essential information you will require before proceeding. There is a wealth of information Online about the history of the BEST, HOLT, and Caterpillar tractor companies as well as many examples of the various common paint schemes. That will not be covered here.

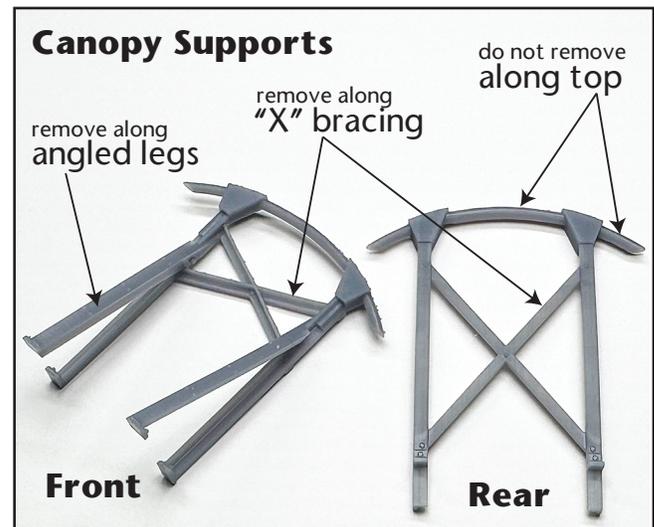
General Notes

Look at the paired track castings and notice there are two distinct sides on each. The side that faces the body of the tractor (the “inside”) includes three small locator holes and a locator pin or “boss” at the rear axle. The outside does not have these. The flat side of the track is the bottom.



Ninety plus percent of the 3D printed supports have been removed for you. A few remnants remain that need to be removed now, prior to priming. Notice on the outside of both track assemblies there is a series of small “bumps” along the bottom of the transverse support as indicated above. Use a #11 blade or a small file to remove these bumps. There is no need to remove the bumps on the inside track assemblies as it is hidden upon assembly.

Notice the small bumps on both front and rear canopy supports. These assemblies are very fragile so handle with care. Gently file the bumps away as indicated along the top side of the “X” bracing and face of the front angled legs. There is no need to remove them along the top of the supports as this will be hidden upon assembly.



Prepare and prime all of the parts as outlined in the *“Working with SierraWest 3D Printed Castings”* download. Be sure to prime the styrene and/or wood components at this time as well. Leave the corrugated plain for now.

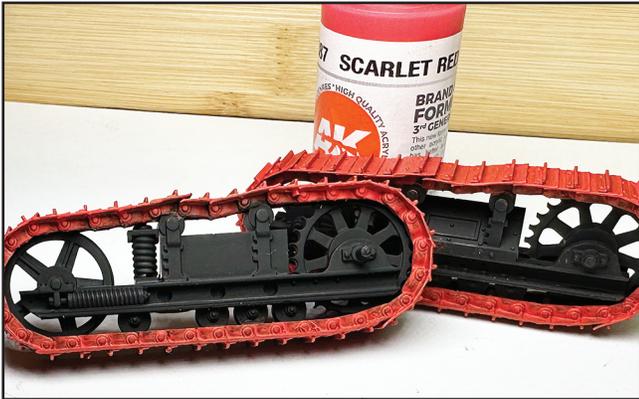
Allow the primer to fully cure before proceeding. I primed all of the parts in this kit with a quality flat black spray paint. Except for the primer, all paint used is AK Interactive 3rd Generation water based paint. (Unless otherwise noted).

Paint and Weather the Components

I chose to paint my Sixty the original paint scheme of black and red. It appears that the Online tractor resources agree this was the earliest of the various color ways. In the following photographs, I have included a bottle of the paint color(s) I used on that assembly. This color was applied over the cured, flat black primer. Final weathering including dry brushing and chalking will be applied after.

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The track pads are painted Scarlett Red.



Don't be intimidated by the very complex and detailed main body. It is very easy to weather. Epoxy the tow hitch assembly in place. This may be added later if you want to adjust the height to accommodate a specific model. Now use a soft bristled, rounded brush and dry brush grey paint over the body. You want a very small amount of paint, almost dry, on the brush. Use a very light hand to highlight just the raised areas. Do not use so much paint that you are coloring the casting grey.



The gas tank is painted grey then chipped using the technique described in the Online video "Creating Peeling and Chipped Paint Effects" posted at my "University" link.



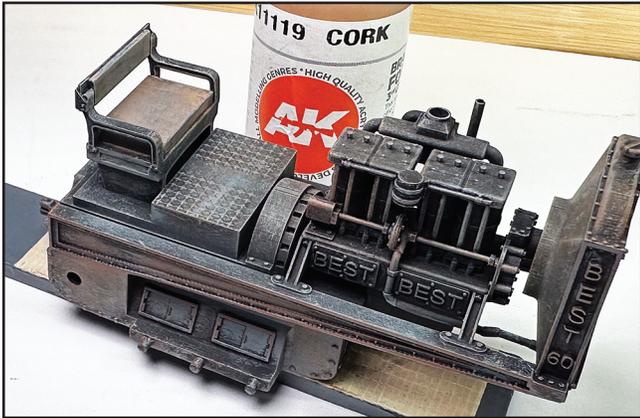
Dry brush dark rust over the radiator, especially the grill. Do not use a bright colored rust paint, make sure to use a muted color that blends well with the overall scheme.



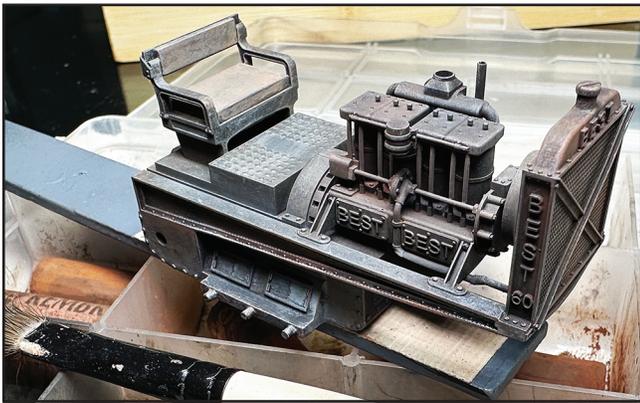
File the bottom of the very fragile control cluster, removing any bumps. Next paint it grey along with the tow hitch assembly and two canopy supports.

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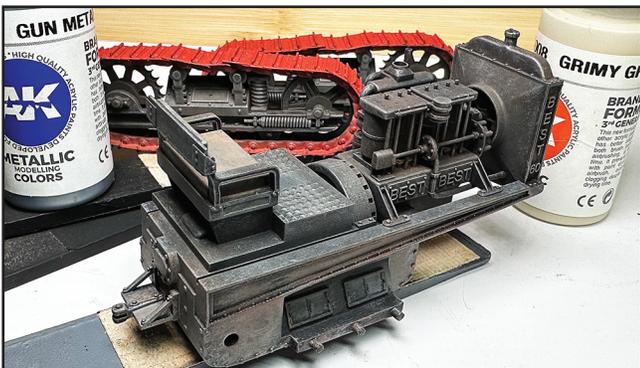
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Paint the seat and seat back light brown.

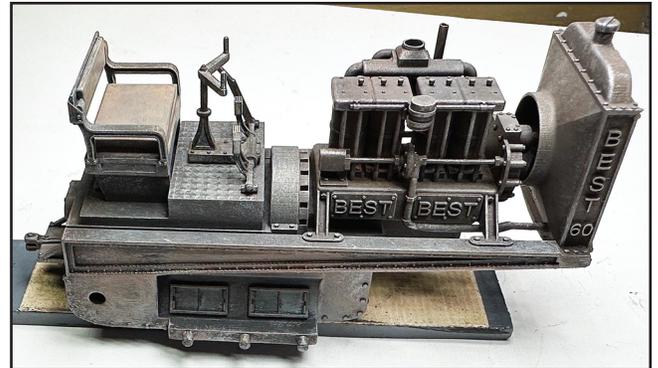


Chalk weather all of the components once the paint has fully dried.

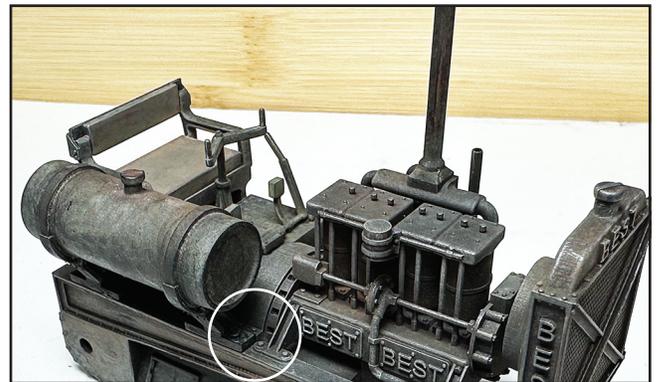


Dry brush the components and interior of the track assemblies with gun metal. The gun metal will provide a subtle metallic sheen that looks fantastic. Be very stingy with the gun metal, a little goes a long way in creating the desired effect. Use a very light grey to highlight the raised lettering.

Assemble the Components



Epoxy the control cluster and gas tank in place. Use the photograph below to place the gas tank. If you epoxy it too far toward the rear it will interfere with the fit of the rear canopy support. Use the photographs on the following pages to cut the stack to size. Chalk weather it then epoxy in place.

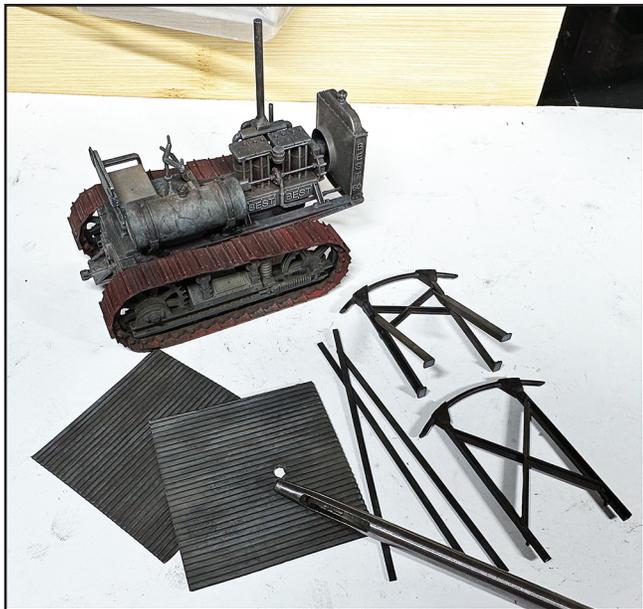


Apply a heavy brown chalk weathering to the red treads then epoxy them in place. Use weights to make sure the treads are flat. Notice the spacing between the body and treads are the same on both sides and not touching the body.

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Add the Canopy

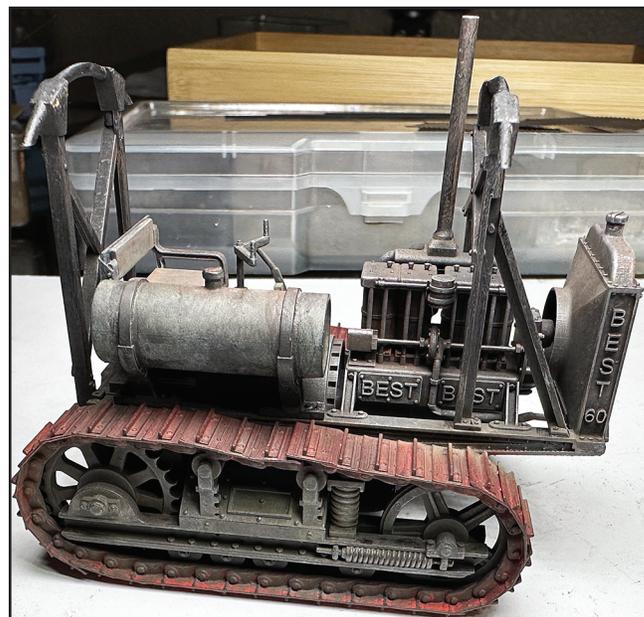


Cut the two corrugated panels to size using the template supplied in the kit then punch one panel as indicated. A small steel hole punch set can be purchased inexpensively and is a very useful tool to own. Now spray paint both sides of the corrugated grey then once dry, bake in a small toaster oven at 350 degrees for five minutes. This will permanently set the paint. Do this in a *very well ventilated* area as harmful paint fumes will be released.

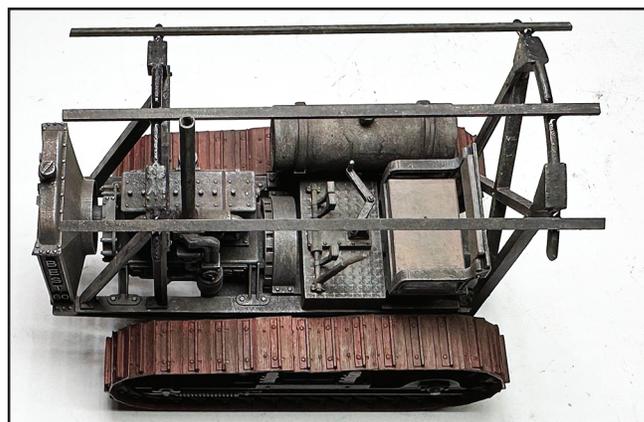


Chalk weather the corrugated. I use a combination of grey, brown, black and rust with a little rubbing alcohol to streak the colors.

Use the rear support to locate any bottle that is about the same curve as the top as shown. Now gently roll the corrugated under the bottle on your worktop's flat surface. This is super easy to do. Be sure to bend the pieces with the ribs facing opposite the bend as shown in the photographs.



Epoxy the canopy supports in place. Be sure they are straight and even.



Cut the roof purlins to length. These are supplied either styrene or wood. Touch up the just cut end, chalk weather, then epoxy in place. Lastly epoxy the corrugated panels in place.

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