

# PAINTED METAL MODELS - AN OVERVIEW

54mm hand-painted metal figures and accessories.

We offer a wide array of metal figures from leading manufacturers. Produced in a constant 54mm scale, these figures are available in "Traditional," "New Toy Soldier" and "Photo Realistic" styles.

## Traditional Style



First established by Britains around the turn of the 20th century, the Traditional Style features limited sculpting detail and gloss paint jobs. In this style, such elements as facial distinctions (eyes, nose, ears, mouth) are usually painted on, rather than sculpted into the figure. The same goes for uniform and weapons detail - there's very little of it in the actual sculpt - it's painted on. These figures have a charm all their own, and remind collectors of "the good old days" of soldier collecting.

We carry Traditional figures from the following manufacturers:  
Alymer  
Britains  
Britains Vintage Replicas  
British Bulldog  
Dorset  
Imperial  
Tradition

## New Toy Soldiers

In 1966, an international law was passed,



to cease production. For several

years things looked bleak. But then several new manufacturers sprang up, making their figures out of tin, antimony and pewter. Some, like Tradition and Dorset, made their soldiers in the traditional Britains style. Others, notably Marlborough, Imrie/Risley and Guard Corps, established a new "look" for their figures. This New Toy Soldier Style added more detail in the sculpting of faces, uniforms and weapons, while retaining the gloss paint job.

As this style gained in popularity, several older manufacturers shifted all or some of their production to match it. Now, for example, Alymer, Britains, Dorset and Tradition all offer New Toy Soldiers as well as Traditional ones.

We carry New Toy Soldiers from the following manufacturers:  
Alymer  
Bastion  
Blue Box  
Britains  
Dorset  
Guard Corps  
Imrie/Risley  
Marlborough  
Mithril Miniatures  
New Hope Design  
Tradition

While this style has come to dominate the marketplace, it has also alienated a lot of collectors. They feel the figures, while amazingly detailed, have lost some of the charm and "feel" of the old days, and still prefer the Traditional and New Toy Soldier Styles. Needless to say,

many collectors purchase all three styles, finding figures they like from a variety of manufacturers.

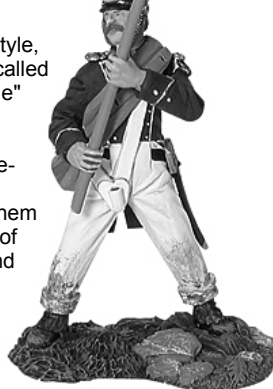
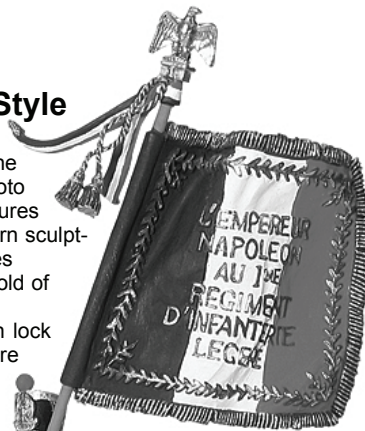
## Photo Realistic Style

In the mid-1990s, another style was introduced to the field. This was called "Photo Realistic," because its figures were as detailed as modern sculpting and molding techniques could make them. Every fold of cloth, every button and shoulder patch, every gun lock and facial expression were clear and concise and there for the collector to marvel at.

In addition, this style, also sometimes called the "Chinese Style" because it was pioneered there, features machine-painted figures. This really sets them apart from most of the Traditional and New Toy Soldier manufacturers, which are still cottage

industries. Most Traditional and New Toy Soldier firms still cast their figures by hand, then send out the unfinished metal castings to be painted by neighborhood artists. The Photo-Realistic manufacturers, on the other hand, have revolutionized the production process by sculpting and painting on a factory level. An artist still does the sculpting, but modern production techniques allow the castings to be painted on an assembly-line basis, with each figure traveling beneath a series of perfectly-placed screens (like mosquito netting). Different colors of paint are sprayed on the figures through a series of stages, with the finished product a dazzling display of colors offering the most realistic look of all the styles available today. These figures are painted in a matt (non-shiny) finish, which also sets them apart from the other paint styles, which tend to be glossy.

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We carry Photo Realistic Soldiers from the following manufacturers:  
BMC  
Britains  
Conte  
Troiani Historical Miniatures

## Take Your Pick

We stock thousands of sets of painted metal figures in the three different style explained and illustrated here. You can find them all on our website at: [www.toysoldierco.com](http://www.toysoldierco.com)

We also sell fully illustrated individual catalogs from the following makers:

Alymer (full color) .....	\$ 12.00
Britains Current Range (large full color catalog) .	\$ 5.00
Britains Current Range (small full color catalog) .....	\$ 1.00
Imrie/Risley (black and white) .....	\$ 12.00
Marlborough (black and white) .....	\$ 20.00
Tradition (full color) .....	\$ 6.00

In addition we have almost every Britains metal figure catalog they printed, going back to the 1980s. See the price list on page 13.

## We buy collections!

If you have any Britain's sets or figures to sell or trade, give us a call.

You can see thousands of metal sets, many of them out-of-production (but in stock), IN COLOR and FULL SIZE on our website!

