

# WARBOSSTAE 2016 PAINTING CHALLENGE

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the 2016 WarbossTae Painting Challenge! It's the 31-Day project that will help you finish some minis, build the community, and maybe even create an entire story to fuel your work.

This handy booklet will be your guide as we prepare to embark on this journey together, so save it, download it, or print it out and have it by your side as you work!

So grab your brushes, fire up that compressor, charge your camera battery, and let's get to work!

## FIRST THINGS FIRST

Before you go any further, make sure you have a profile at <https://www.mywargaminglife.com/>

As always, we will be posting our work on YouTube and Google+, but this year we are partnering with MyWargamingLife to post our work there, as well!

"My Wargaming Life is a community dedicated to all things wargaming, no matter your period, genre or experience; if you roll dice and push lead (or plastic) then you're very welcome to join."

**Username:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Password:** \_\_\_\_\_

Make sure you check out the other groups in the forum, as there is a lot going on all the time! <https://www.mywargaminglife.com/search/forums>

Just make sure you join the WarbossTae 2016 Painting Challenge, as well!  
[https://www.mywargaminglife.com/group/WBTPC#tab\\_qanda](https://www.mywargaminglife.com/group/WBTPC#tab_qanda)

## CHOOSE YOUR DIFFICULTY LEVEL

Next, choose your difficulty level (check one or more of the following):

**ADVENTURER**

The casual, most basic level of participation. At the beginning of your Challenge, you commit to a project, check in with updates and answer the daily questions when you can, but mostly work independently and film a wrap-up at the end of the month with a summary of what you were able to accomplish. Ideal for those who are involved with other projects, or have little time on their hands, due to other responsibilities.

**LORD COMMANDER**

A more advanced level of participation. Challengers not only work on their projects, but update as often as possible, up to one video or post a day, answer the Daily Questions, and fulfill the Secondary Objectives (listed below). For those Challengers who want the full, original WarbossTae Painting Challenge experience and have the time to devote to it.

**LOREMASTER**

The creative level of participation, for those who want to tell stories, as well as work on their projects. Not only are you working on your own project, but you will create and keep track of your own story, with checkpoints dependent on your work for the project. As you meet or fail to meet each week's goals, your story will change. At the end of the month, you will share your story with the community! For all you English and Creative Writing Majors!

**EMPEROR**

For that rarest Challenger who wants to attempt it all. This level of participation combines the creative challenge of the Loremaster level and the fortitude of the Lord Commander level, and takes it a step further by posting a video or update every single day of the month, as well as the Secondary Objectives each week.

## CHOOSE YOUR PROJECT

Now, choose the project that you want to work on for your Challenge! It can be anything from a single miniature, to a squad, to an entire army. A piece of terrain, or an entire gaming table. Assembling, converting, scratch building whatever you choose! You can start with your models unassembled and still on the sprue, or you can choose to finish some minis that have been half-painted for months. Whatever stage you want to start and finish at, is completely up to you! Use the following space to be as descriptive as you want:

**MY COMMITMENT** (ex. "Build and paint two Protectorate of Menoth warjacks", "Paint an entire Space Marine Battleforce", etc.)

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## METHODS OF POSTING

Now that you are thinking about your project, we should think about how you're going to be posting your progress! Do you have a smartphone? DSLR camera? Webcam? All of these can take pictures or video or your progress! And if you've got a computer or your smartphone has internet access, you will have no problem posting updates on Google+ <https://plus.google.com/b/108553534245889998713/communities/116452114371573215989>, YouTube (Don't have one? Make one today!), and MyWargamingLife!

You can film videos right on your camera, or take pictures and put the photos into a slideshow with narration or just subtitles. There is no restriction on the format of your posts, as long as you can share what you're working on! I use iMovie on my iPhone to make slideshows and put my videos together.

## PROJECT DATES

Take a look at your calendar now and choose the 31 days you will be working on your project. They can be any 31 days within the 92-day period between May 1 and August 1, and they do not need to be consecutive. They can be from different months, and the days don't even need to follow a pattern. Just block out 31 days you know you can devote to either working on your project or posting about it.

## THE PRE-CHALLENGE BOOT CAMP

Previously known as April Boot Camp, this very casual, 5-day warm up can be taken at any time before you begin the 31-Day Challenge, and is meant for beginners and veterans alike, to get into the spirit of participating! The entire Challenge has been simplified in all aspects, and you do NOT have to work on whatever your main project will be. Your commitment and daily questions are listed below. Remember, you can do this at any time before your actual start date.

The Boot Camp is formatted so that you work and update for five consecutive days, but if you're spacing out your Painting Challenge project, feel free to space out the Boot Camp days, as well!

Don't forget to post all of your work on YouTube, Google+, and MyWargamingLife!

- BOOT CAMP COMMITMENT** (what will you be working on during the warm up?):

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- Day 1 –Please share your plans on what are you will be working on for the main Challenge? Why did you choose it? What are your thoughts on how you're going to complete your project?
- Day 2 – Sometimes we listen to music or podcasts or play videos to just occupy our brains while we work. Sometimes, we need to buckle down and grind out some painting, either to meet a deadline, or just to finish something before we can put it down and procrastinate again. This is when we listen to what I call our "JAM" song, because we can just put that track on loop and play it over and over, and like a Bard, it infuses our paintbrush with speed and the work just flies. (mine is "The Touch" from the Transformers 1980's movie, you know, the good one.)
- Day 3 - What is the last movie or television/online show you watched, either in the cinema/theatre or on television/online? Tell us what you thought of it!
- Day 4 – Very few of us eat or drink at the paint table anymore. It's a nasty habit that I'm glad to have kicked within the past year. But some of us don't realize how terrific the snacks or treats we consume at other times throughout the day are! So share with us one of your favorite foods or drinks to snack on or enjoy!
- Day 5 – How did you do at Boot Camp? Did you meet the goal that you had set five days ago? Are you ready for the 31-Day Challenge now? How do you feel about your level of commitment? Talk about what you are going to do (Adventurer, Lord Commander, Loremaster, or Emperor) to help you achieve your goals. Finally, what advice would you give to anyone who wants to take on the Boot Camp in the future?

## DAILY QUESTIONS

A question for each of the 31 Days! You can answer them in your video update, or put your answers in a post, it's up to you! Answer one a day, or if you are behind on your posts, throw all of the

answers into your next update. This community-building section is geared to help us all get to know each other a little better. Some of the questions may be familiar to veterans of the Challenge, but you know how much difference a year can make! Check off each day as you finish answering the questions and see if you can make it to the end!

- Day 1 – What is one of your non-miniatures related talents or hobbies? Describe it, show something off, share it with the rest of us! For you Challenge veterans who've answered this one previously, share with us something new or different!
- Day 2 – What is your favorite miniature from the last year that you painted? Why is it your favorite? Show it off!
- Day 3 – What is the next single model or boxed set you plan to add to your collection? Anything from a box of tactical marines, to a Warmachine Colossal, to a Malifaux boxed gang set; a Gargantuan Squiggoth, Tau Manta, or a Greater Daemon. Why is this your next purchase?
- Day 4 – What is one of your favorite painting tools? Something that you use and absolutely love? How do you use this product? How has it made you a better painter?
- Day 5 – What is your favorite miniatures wargame? What is it about that game that stands out the most for you? The rules? The miniatures? The fluff?
- Day 6 – Share a podcast or YouTube channel that you like to listen to or watch, or have playing in the background while you work.
- Day 7 – “That Guy” story time!!! Tell us a story about THAT guy that hangs out at your local hobby store! The one you see all the time that’s just a little...off. He may be well-meaning, but eccentric, maybe he’s an obnoxious know-at-all that everyone barely tolerates, maybe she’s a really avid anime fan that has her own novels of fanfic already written. You know: That Guy! Who knows? Maybe...it could even be...YOU!
- Day 8 – THE CLOSET OF PURGATORY!!! Dive into your closet of shameful purchases and share an impulse buy that you know you may never get to!
- Day 9 – What is your favorite fictional universe? What is it about this setting that really motivates you?
- Day 10 – What painting/modelling technique or skill do you want to improve over the next year? For Challenge veterans, do you remember answering this question last year? Have you improved?
- Day 11 – If you could own any weapon, armor, or piece of gear from any fictional universe (excluding living, undead, demonic or otherwise sentient beings), what would you want? How would you use it/show it off?
- Day 12 – If you could be a background character in any upcoming movie, what would you want to be? In the behind-the-scenes footage for The Force Awakens, J.J. Abrams told all of the extras in the Maz Kanata cantina scene that they could be the main characters of their own movie. What would the spin-off movie of your background character be about?
- Day 13 – Time travel is not possible!!! Yet...If you could travel back in time to live a day in any time period, anywhere on Earth, where would you go? This amazing theoretical time travel tech also makes you invisible and unable to interact with anyone or anything, so you could go anywhere and see anything but wouldn’t be able to change

the course of history. What major historic event would you like to witness? Or would you just want to see an ordinary day in a long lost culture?

- Day 14 – There are some very weird and wacky names for epic weapons and armor in various video games and fictional settings. *Terminus Est, Pillar of Autumn, The Black Pearl*, etc. If your paintbrush had an epic name, what would it be? Challenge veterans who've answered this question already, choose another of your hobby tools to give a suitable title of honor!
- Day 15 – RETURN TO THE CLOSET OF PURGATORY – Dive back into that closet of impulse buys and share with us another of your purchases that you are afraid you might never get to! WARNING: This is the beginning of Week 3, which is traditionally the TOUGHEST week to get through! Keep positive, stay motivated, and continue to post!
- Day 16 – Take the camera out of the mancave day! Show us your pets, or the view outside your window, or your backyard! Or simply show us the rest of your painting area that we normally don't get to see! Tell us about where you live! What's the weather like? For those of us who will probably never travel too far from home, it's always awesome to see those outdoor videos from other hobbyists around the world!
- Day 17 – The 2016 Painting Challenge is in full-swing! Future generations are watching you and contemplating taking part in the Challenge next year! If you could talk directly to these prospective Challengers, what would you tell them? What advice would you give at this point, halfway to the end of the WarbossTae Painting Challenge? How are you feeling about your project and what are your plans to carry you to the finish line?
- Day 18 – Many of Games Workshop licenses have been, or are being turned into video games (Warhammer: Total War, Battlefleet Gothic, Warhammer Quest, Mordheim, etc.) What kind of video game would you like to see? Could be from any fictional universe? What kind of genre would it be? First person shooter? Platformer? Role-playing game? What would the gameplay be like? What would the story be?
- Day 19 – What is your favorite Science Fiction or Fantasy movie? Why? If you want to choose a franchise (Harry Potter, Star Wars, etc.), choose only ONE, and talk about why it stands apart from the others.
- Day 20 – A very wealthy producer is going to make a live action movie (think World of Warcraft) of your favorite wargame! What would you want to see make it to the big screen? Who would be in it? Is there any scenario or story in the fiction that you'd want to see made into a film?
- Day 21 – If you could have a small creature as a pet/companion from any miniatures wargame or fictional universe, what would you want? A baby squig? A Watcher in the Dark? A Jawa? A grot rigger? Why would you choose it? NOTE: your tiny companion cannot come up higher than your waist in height. NO WOOKIEES!
- Day 22 – THE CLOSET OF PURGATORY 3 (THE PURGANING!!!) Once more, return to that closet full of impulse buys and to-do projects. Share another project that you want to finish one day!
- Day 23 – Which game just isn't gaining any popularity in your area that you wish was more popular. It could be any wargame, or even a paper and pen RPG. For whatever reason (buggy rules, ugly and hard-to-work-with miniatures, too much of a monetary

investment) this game just didn't catch on, but you really can't help but want to keep playing it.

- Day 24 – WEEK 4! We're into the final stretch, gang! Keep up the great work!
- Day 25 – Bring an army back from the dead! What discontinued army or game (Tomb Kings, Chaos Dwarfs, Squats, Gorkamorka, Necromunda) do you want brought back and supported with new miniatures, a new ruleset, etc. How would you design it?
- Day 26 – If a miniature were to be produced just for you, in any fictional setting, what would you want to be immortalized as, in miniature form? Which game/fictional universe would you be in, and what would your pose be? What equipment would you have? Be as creative as you can!
- Day 27 – Great moments in wargaming! Tell us an epic story of the dice going your way, great victory or heartbreaking loss at the table. We live for these stories as gamers, and I always enjoy hearing them! Wargaming, roleplaying, or even a video game, tell us a great story in gaming!
- Day 28 – Many people get into miniatures wargaming because of the excitement of commanding huge amounts of soldiers on the field of battle. If you could actually command an army in battle from any of the wargames, from the safety of a secure fortress, orbiting space station, or impregnable hiveship, which army would you want to command? Which army would you want to fight against? What do you think, according to the rules, would be some awesome things to see in this battle?
- Day 29 – The CLOSET OF PURGATORY 4 (THE PURGATORY AWAKENS) For the last time, share an impulse buy that you haven't used as much as you'd like to. Now, take all four Closet of Purgatory items, and choose AT LEAST ONE and commit yourself to painting or playing it by next year's project!
- Day 30 – The end is nigh! One more push into the breach! For today's Daily Question, imagine that you are again addressing future participants in the WarbossTae Painting Challenge. What lessons have you learned? What wisdom do you wish to impart on future generations?
- Day 31 – CONGRATULATIONS! You've made it to the finish line! Did you finish? Was it a glorious race to the finish? Or was the month a complete and utter failure? Do you feel like you were sufficiently challenged? Or did you breeze through the entire month without feeling challenged at all?

## SECONDARY OBJECTIVES

Every week, I challenge participants to accomplish a Secondary Objective. These are weekly tasks that can be completed at ANY TIME during the week. Intended for Lord Commander and Emperor level Challengers, but I welcome participants of every level to attempt these!

- **Week 1 (Day 1 – 7)**  
Share with us the fluff behind your project. Why did you choose your project? Is it the start of a new, or an addition to an existing army? Is it a brand new game that you're getting into? What made you choose it? What do you hope to do with it after the

Challenge ends? Feel free to share with us art, finished miniatures, pictures from the internet of other artists who've finished their models, etc. Anything that may light the spark for others who want to learn more.

☐ **Week 2 (Day 8 – 14)**

Take us on a tour around your town/city/neighborhood! Show us popular tourist sites, or places that you like to hang out. Are there any exciting local festivals or events in your area? Share them with us!

☐ **Week 3 (Day 15 – 21)**

Care package shout-out. Sometimes, real life just rears its head and knocks us out of the hobby for days, weeks, months, or years. A lot of people at this point realize they can't accomplish the goals they set out for themselves. Oftentimes, they disappear forever, sadly. Sometimes, though, they can be brought back from the brink of despair by simply adjusting their goals to a more manageable achievement. Instead of painting a whole army, maybe they should just focus on a couple squads, or even just one unit. This Secondary Objective is a care package, pick someone who maybe has fallen by the wayside in their posts and make a dedicated video. Include the Challenger's name in the title, like "We Miss You, WarbossTae" or "WarbossTae, Where Are You?" and give them a little boost to encourage them to come back to the Challenge. It's amazing how overwhelming and positive of an effect a dedicated care package shout-out can make you feel. I know hahahaha!

☐ **Week 4 (Day 22 – 28)**

Talk to about ANYTHING other than your project! For at least five minutes, talk about something else in your life, another of your passions, or hobbies, maybe review a movie that just came out that you saw and have very strong opinions about, or a new game you're playing, or a book you're reading, etc. Basically a ramble video vlog.

☐ **Week 5 (Day 29 – 31)**

Which project did you REALLY enjoy watching this year? For many of us, we don't even have the time to edit and watch our own videos, let alone get through everybody else's. Even if it's a project you have to put off watching until your Challenge is complete, share with us which project you are most excited about, and why.

## THE WEEKLY OATH OF MOMENT

A great undertaking such as the WarbossTae Painting Challenge should be broken down into weekly chunks, to be more manageable. There are 4 weeks with a couple extra days in the Challenge, so we start each new week with a new Oath of Moment!

Every 7<sup>th</sup> Day, starting with Day 1, I urge you to publicly make your Oath of Moment for the Week ("to finish assembling all of my models", "to paint all of the basecoats", "to base at least three

squads”, “to completely finish my commander”, etc.) using the following format. Fill in the blanks, hold up your trusty paintbrush in front of the camera, and make your Oath of Moment!

- Day 1 – “It is on this day that I begin my journey. The road will be fraught with peril, but I will fear no laziness. New models and games will beset me, but I will fear no distraction. With this paintbrush as my sword, I will meet the goals I have set. With my online comrades at my side, I will not fail. At the end of the 31<sup>st</sup> Day, my project will be complete, and I will be victorious. Let all who hear me take note:  
On this paintbrush, I make my Oath of Moment. By the end of Day 8, I will \_\_\_\_\_”
- Day 8 – “On this paintbrush, I make my Oath of Moment. By the end of Day 15, I will \_\_\_\_\_”
- Day 15 – “On this paintbrush, I make my Oath of Moment. By the end of Day 22, I will \_\_\_\_\_”
- Day 22 – “On this paintbrush, I make my Oath of Moment. By the end of Day 29, I will \_\_\_\_\_”
- Day 29 – “On this paintbrush, I make my Oath of Moment. By the end of Day 31, I will complete my project. My achievements will live on and the great deeds I have accomplished here shall be a beacon to all future generations. Let all who hear me remember my name and my work. Glory to the painters! And glory forever to those who stand with me!”

## THE LOREMASTER CHALLENGE

Previously known as the dreaded Level 4, The Loremaster Level is a commitment that may interest you more creative types that are undertaking the Challenge!

To participate, simply think of a **NARRATIVE ADVENTURE** where the main character(s) have a **GOAL** (for example: steal the treasure, destroy the death star, summon the old ones through ancient ritual, defeat the dragon).

This story may relate to what you're painting, but if you choose, it doesn't have to have anything to do with what you're painting. You could be painting a squad of Termagants for the Challenge and have your Narrative Adventure revolve around a band of rogues pulling off a jewel heist at the biggest cathedral in the city.

Think of **FOUR CHECKPOINTS** that will happen throughout your story, then the final wrap up, at the end of the month. Moments where success or failure would result in new branching paths for your hero to embark upon! (using our example above, one of the checkpoints could be "Elowynn the thief tries to pickpocket the key.")

Now, I figure out what happens if she succeeds or if she fails. "SUCCESS – she is able to slip into the cardinal's chambers without raising the alarm FAILURE – the guards catch her in the act and the alarm bells are tolled."

Obviously, each week's consequences need to be dealt with, but you should have four overall checkpoints that shouldn't be affected too greatly by the success or failure of each prior week. That way, the only way to REALLY derail your narrative is if you consecutively KEEP FAILING to meet your weekly goals (Oaths of Moment).

DESCRIBE YOUR NARRATIVE ADVENTURE:

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WHAT IS THE GOAL OF YOUR HERO(ES)?

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WHAT IS AT STAKE FOR THE FIRST WEEK?

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WHAT IS AT STAKE FOR THE SECOND WEEK?

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WHAT IS AT STAKE FOR THE THIRD WEEK?

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WHAT IS AT STAKE FOR THE FOURTH WEEK?

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WHAT IS AT STAKE FOR THE FINAL ENCOUNTER?

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If you are a writer or creative type, this can be a great time to really flex your creative muscles! Even more so if you're an artist that can actually draw your characters! Alternative Artist was a CHAMP at this last year: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iaPy5QpJpNk&list=PLUGKxjObzY-U\\_kaMznPv3u07Nnl8VORq\\_](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iaPy5QpJpNk&list=PLUGKxjObzY-U_kaMznPv3u07Nnl8VORq_)

Finding creative examples from last year to highlight was difficult, as there were MANY who took the Level 4 challenge and made it their own. One of these Challengers was Mortis Causer, who used the Extreme Fluff Challenge and amazingly, many of our profile names, to write his epic of Helman Ghorst: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=llrkpSosNGI>

You may also decide to do your own thing with the checkpoint system, to which I say, "Yes! Do it!" Play It Painted!'s format was a prime example of taking my guidelines and running with it using his

own creativity.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5qD2nZ4R09A&index=21&list=PLHS3ce1mGWHceqyzwtXyN-pSZLU55rmj>

There are many other participants who wrote fluff for their projects last year. This year, I hope you'll consider going the extra mile, flexing those creative muscles, and giving this little bit a try!