## Worcestershire Regiment Soldier, Battle of Gheluvelt, 1914.

The village of Gheluvelt in Belgium, 31st of October 1914.

Private Tommy Worster, from the 2nd Battalion, has just taken part in the bitter yet decisive action known as the Battle of Gheluvelt, where the Battalion saved the British Army from almost certain defeat and thwarted a possible German victory. After the Germans broke the line, the Worceters were ordered to fill the gap and held firm, stopping the enemy advance dead in its tracks and protecting the way westward towards the channel ports.

Pvt. Worster is tired and dirty but relieved. He is wearing the Other Ranks 1902 pattern Service Dress uniform and peaked cap, with putees (strips of cloth worn around his chins and ankles protecting his trousers and boots) and brown leather Ammunition boots. He is holding his good old 1907 pattern SMLE Lee-Enfield Mark III service rifle fitted with its bayonet.



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Before you begin assembling Private Tommy Worster, you will need a good pair of scissors and a glue stick. Carefully cut out all of the 24 pieces and lay them on the table. If you need help with assembling the model, please refer to the photos.

#### First make the peaked cap:

Start by gluing the right end onto the grey glue are at the end of the left end. Now take the cap top and the sides on the semi-circle grey glue areas of the cap. It should have a floppy/saddle shaped appearance.

#### Head:

Glue the back of the head onto each side semi-circle grey glue areas. Then glue the front face flap on the each cheek side grey glue areas. Glue the small chin flap onto the grey glue chin flap. Lastly glue the neck onto the neck's grey glue area. You may need to use the point of the scissors to help press the paper together when gluing.

#### Arms:

Take the right lower arm piece and glue the cuff over the grey glue area. Now do the same for the right upper arm. Tip: Carefully insert the closed scissors into the arm "tubes" to make the flaps glue better so they do not get flattened. Put glue on the right upper arm's triangular grey glue area and glue the right lower arm into position, so that the arm bends at the elbow. Repeat these steps for the left arm.

#### Trousers:

Take the big trouser piece and roll it together (white side in middle), then glue the grey glue A area onto the B area. Glue the grey glue C area onto the D area. Now glue the lower right leg into a tube over the the long grey glue area. Do the same for the lower left leg and glue its triangular grey glue area into the knee opening of the big trouser piece, matching to the photos.

#### Shoes:

Take the left shoe and bend it gently together, longways, before gluing the left end onto the right end's grey glue square. Place glue on the two remaining brown glue tabs and insert the leg into the shoe opening and gently squeeze the leg together so the shoe is glued into position. If needed used the scissor tip to open up the leg if the opening as stuck together. Repeat this process for the right leg and shoe. Make sure that the shoe positions match the soldier photos otherwise it may not stand up.







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#### Tunic:

Glue the tunic button area onto the narrow frontal grey glue strip, closing the jacket. Now glue each tip of the collar into the smaller grey glue triangles above the buttons. Now it gets a little more challenging. Take the left arm and glue its top triangular flap on the tunic's two left shoulder grey glue areas. Try and tuck a little of the upper arm into the tunic and secure the arm in position by gluing the armpit flap onto the back of the arm. Repeat this process for the right arm. Take the tunic's skirt and glue the middle of it onto the central glue rectangle at the back of the tunic. Next glue the right side over the right grey glue rectangle and the left side onto the left grey glue rectangle. Lastly place the cap on the soldier's head and slide the neck into the tunic's collar. Place some glue on the rear of the trouser waist and insert it onto the tunic, making sure that the soldier stands up by itself.

#### Webbing:

Glue on any tunic medals before giving Pvt. Worster his webbing. Wrap the belt around the waist of the tunic and glue the ends together over the grey glue area. Next take the long straps and cross them over his back before gluing them onto the rear of the belt. Fold and glue the entrenching tool cover together and glue it onto the back of the belt. Fold and glue the bayonet frog and scabbard together and glue in onto the left side of the belt. Fold and glue the ammunition pouches together so they become slightly 3D and glue them onto the belt's front Do the same for the haversack, bent it a little and glue in onto the left side of the belt. Use the photos for guidance.

#### Rifle:

Take the rifle piece and glue the long grey glue area under the long bottom flap. Now glue the shorter grey glue area under the opposite rifle butt flap. Glue the open magazine area and rifle butt together at their edges so that the model is closed. Glue the sling together then onto the rifle, one end onto the small grey glue square, half way up the rifle, and the other end onto the small grey glue square positioned each side of the rifle butt. Lastly take the bayonet and glue the handle areas onto the rectangular grey glue areas on the rifle muzzle, matching to the photos.

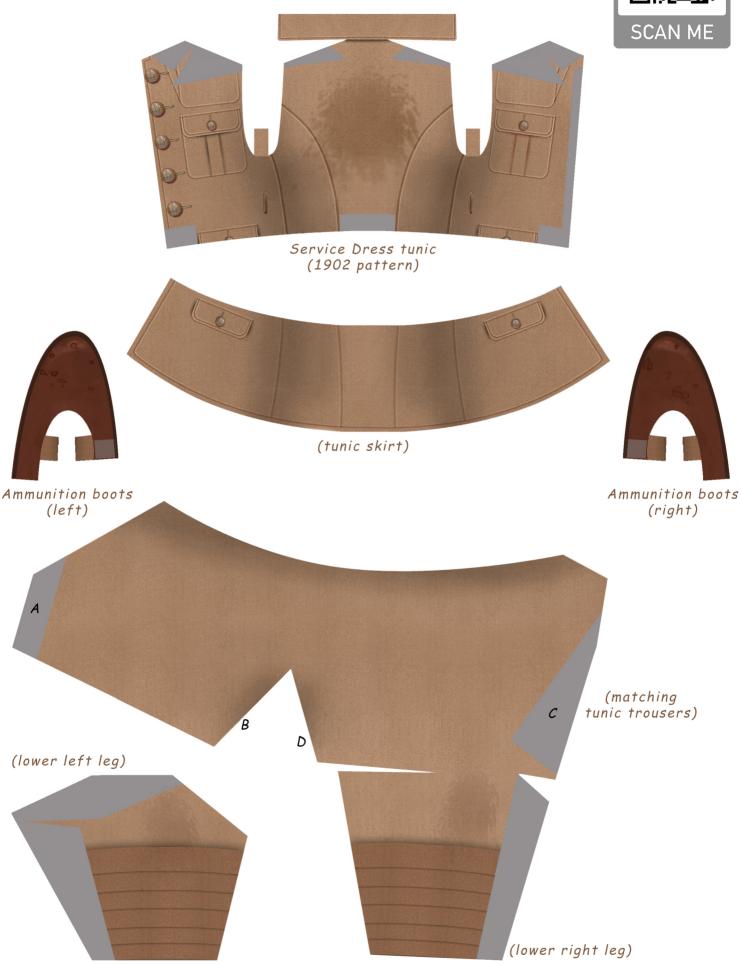
#### Hands:

Bend the left hand piece around the rifle's front hand guard and insert it into the left cuff (making sure it is the correct way around). Bend the right hand piece around the rifle's trigger guard area and insert it into the right cuff. If the hands slide out use a little glue.

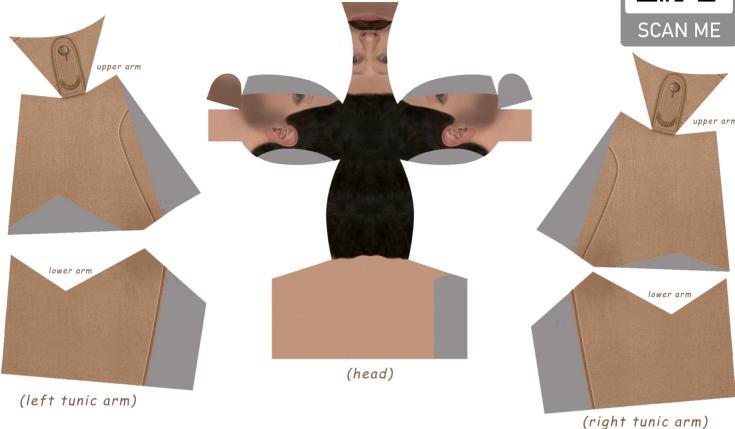


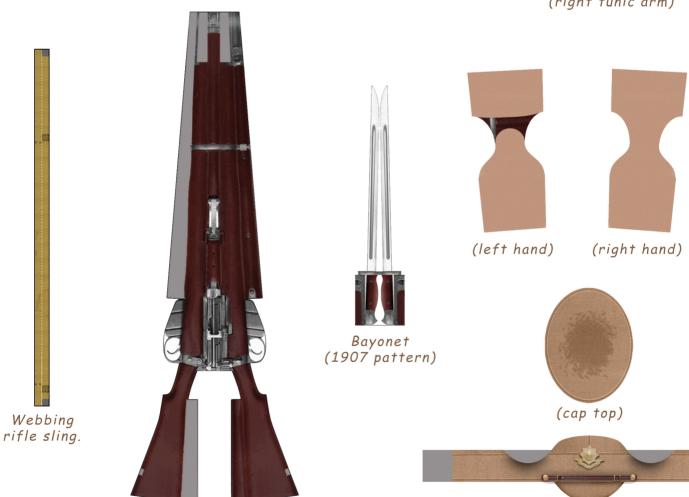
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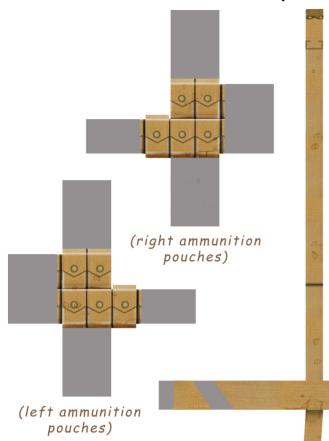


SMLE Lee-Enfield Mk.III rifle (1907 pattern)

Service Dress cap (1902 pattern)

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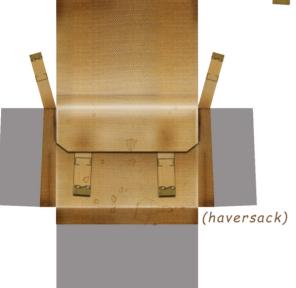






(bayonet frog and scabbard)

Webbing (1908 pattern)



## Make a section of 7 Worcestershire soldiers or promote Pvt. Tommy Worster!

#### Left chest medal ribbons

First World War medals:

Victoria Cross, Distinguished Conduct Medal, Military Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (Sgt), 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal with Mentioned in Despatches oakleaves.

Boar War and First World War medals.

First World War medals.

**Boar War medals:** The Queen's South Africa Medal. The King's South Africa Medal.

#### Upper arm rank badges



Sergeant

Corporal

Lance Corporal red for 1914

#### Left arm cuff badges



Wounded

Overseas stripe service chevrons

(1 year)



#### <u>Right arm cuff badges</u>





(2 years)

Good Conduct chevrons (12 years)

reference source: www.unit

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