

A Guide to Basing Your SuperFigs

For greater ease of play, we here at Four-Color Figures HQ like to glue our SuperFigs to a metal or plastic base and add some sand or flock for a nice finish. This process is called "basing the model," and it can make your SuperFigs more sturdy on the gaming table, as well as enhancing your models' overall look. Below are listed the simple steps involved in basing and flocking your SuperFigs, accompanied by some handy pictures to illustrate the directions. If you've got any further modeling questions, e-mail us at fourcolorfigs@yahoo.com.

Step 1: Choosing Your Base

The first thing you need when basing a figure is, well, a base! We like to use Fender washers because they are cheap (\$.05 - \$.15 a piece depending on which hardware store you shop at) and come in a range of sizes. Pictured below are the two most useful sizes of Fender washers for basing SuperFigs, 1" and 1.2" respectively. Fender washers can also be purchased in 1.75" and even larger sizes, especially useful for large figures like Lord Tridan, Megladon, and Ox. The third washer pictured is not a Fender, but is larger, and is useful for basing larger figures. If you're not interested in using washers to base your SuperFigs, styrene plastic (or Plasticard as it is sometimes called) is a nice alternative, but you will have to cut it to a suitable size and shape. Games Workshop and other miniature companies make nice lines of plastic bases in different sizes, and they all work well for SuperFigs.



Step 2: Gluing Your SuperFigs the Base

No matter what base type you choose, the next step in the basing process is gluing the miniature to the base. Before gluing, you should clean and file any mold lines off of your SuperFigs, as it will be easier to apply the necessary force and get at various cracks and grooves before the model is based. Once done, use reliable super-glue to affix the model to the base. We recommend Zap-A-Gap CA+ because of its strong, quick bond, control (it won't run all over), and overall value. Games Workshop also makes a nice super-glue, but it is a little more expensive than Zap-A-Gap. Apply four dabs of glue the size of Nerd candy to each quarter of the bottom of the model's base. Then place the model on the center of the base and wait a couple of minutes for the glue to dry. The end result should look something like the picture below.



Step 3: Apply a Smooth Surface to the Base

As seen in the picture above, there is a visible ridge between the surface of your new base, and the molded base of the SuperFig. To cover up this ridge and create a smooth, even surface on the base, we apply Elmer's Carpenter Wood Filler to the base, building up the sides around the SuperFig's molded base to create a seamless appearance. We use wood filler because it goes on smooth, hardens quickly, and can be easily applied with a hobby knife or other flat tool. Check out the pictures below to see just how we do it.





Step 4: Sand and Flock Your Base

Once you've given the wood filler a good chance to dry (20 - 30 minutes is enough for a thin layer), you can spray or brush prime your model. Once your model has been primed, you can paint the base with white glue, and dip the model in a container of sand or flock. Many modelers make this the last step in the painting process, but we're showing it to you here demonstrate what a finished base can look like.

