



### *In-Box Review*

**NeoGrade Sherman Accessory Set, 1/35th scale, \$24.99, available in the U.S. at Sprue Brothers ([www.spruebrothers.com](http://www.spruebrothers.com)).**

The U.S. Sherman medium tank in World War II was manned by a crew of five. Stowage inside the tank was limited, so crews piled their belongings on the rear deck and dangled them from turret. U.S. soldiers were notorious for "liberating" items as they swept across Europe, and everything from cases of wine to bronze busts of der Fuehrer adorned the hulls of Shermans in Europe, with some of them looking more like gypsy wagons than fighting vehicles.

### **The Kit**

NeoGrade, a South Korean company that seems to do a lot of those sci-fi combat robot kits, has expanded their line to armor conversion and accessory sets. The Sherman Accessory Set is molded in a cream-colored resin with no noticeable bubbles or warpage. The resin smell was rather strong when the bags were opened, but did not linger. The casting gates were clean and not very large, especially considering the size of some the pieces. A tiny instruction sheet shows how musette bags are to be placed on a 75mm tank turret. The tiny, grainy box art photo offers more clues for part placement, this time on a 76mm gun tank.

The kit includes 39 parts.





Two large rolled tarps are provided. One fits into the rear hull rack of an M4A3. The other can be used alone or in combination with two other parts: a group of four duffel bags (molded as one piece) and a tarp that covers both the large rolled tarp and the duffels. One of the duffels has a boot poking out of the open top. This is a nice grouping that should fit on the rear deck of nearly any mark of Sherman.

Also included is a much smaller rolled tarp that is curved to fit a turret side, as well as six musette bags, two of which are joined in a single casting. Another small, folded tarp has a tripod for a .30-caliber machine gun molded into it.

There are four wooden boxes, which look very similar to the boxes in the Tamiya M4A3 kits, but have all-around wood texture and, strangely, locks.

There are also a bunch of small arms ammo cans. There are six each of closed .50-caliber and .30-caliber ammo cans, as well as two open cans of each caliber with separate lids.

A really nice touch is a U.S. tanker jacket keyed to be draped on the back of a T23 turret. There is also a towel or rag that is formed to fit somewhere, but I have not figured out where.

The final two parts are a little weird to me: a toy pig with a necktie and a sitting female doll. Perhaps these mean something to the Koreans, but they do not look like World War II-era toys to me. I would rather have a bronze bust of der Fuehrer than these goofy looking toys.



### **Conclusion**

Disregarding the weird toys, this is a nice little set with enough stuff to spread around to more than one vehicle. Recommended.

P.S. Note the spelling "Sharman" on the kit box. This appears to be corrected on the later issues of the kits.