

Tyrant Cannon Conversion guide by customer LonghunterCO

I often run Conquer Cannons in Warhammer 40K but I was challenged because the original Forge World (FW) conquer turrets have long since been discontinued and now are as rare as hen's teeth. Many feel that the advantages of a Conquer equipped Leman Russ make it an auto-include in most Imperial Guard lists (8E). So when Philip at Beyond The Tabletop started making his Tyrant Cannon (similar in profile to the old Conquer) I had to get some.

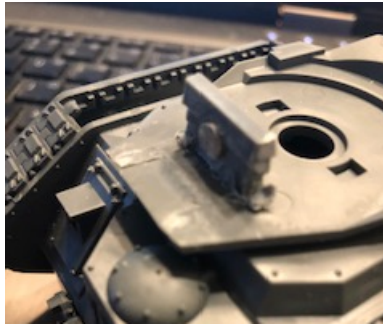
It is my understanding that Philip originally designed these to fit a resin FW turret, but lacking one, I purchased these with the hope to retrofit them into a standard plastic Games Workshop (GW) Leman Russ Demolisher/Punisher/Executioner Kit. Why this kit vs. the standard BATTLE Cannon Russ? This kit has the widest mantle area at .920" (vs .690" mantle on the Battle Cannon model). This extra room allows for the installation of Philips' cannon with the least amount of modifications (to either the cannon or the turret). After the fitting, I was pleasantly surprised to find that I could still use the original turret armaments. The turret comes in two parts: the main body (shown on left) and the bottom plate which indexes into the chassis (shown on right).



The majority of the conversion work is done to the main body with only minor changes needed to the bottom plate.



1. We need to do two things: widen the opening on the main body's mantel area and remove the kits pivot points. Philip's Tyrant Cannon measure (.645") at its widest point and the opening in the turrets' main body is (.470"). Remove the pivot points (see picture above on both the main body and the bottom plate). After removing the pivot points you are ready to open up the main body equally on both sides, test fit if you have the opening wide enough. Start small and then slowly open till the cannon pushes in with slight force.



2. Once completed, you can work on magnetizing the cannon. I used scrap sprue to stack up a wall on the bottom plate for securing a magnet to. The wall is at the back of where the original pivot brace was located. Then to the cannon I attached scrap sprue to locate a magnet far enough back to allow two magnets to touch. By removing only enough material from the main body section the remaining armaments from the plastic kit will still fit in and cover the now larger hole.



3. Gap at the top: at this point you will notice a gap just above the cannon. This gap/slot is used to index point for the original armament. Since this index is missing on Philip's Tyrant Cannon you will have to make the decision of placing a bit of styrene to cover, leaving it as is, or removing an index

piece off of one of the kits original guns. With respect to the two "adding something" options, I would recommend gluing these pieces to Philips' cannon so that you will be able to swap in the original armament without having to also modify them.

Summary: The Beyond the Tabletop cannon is a quality casting without any flaws. His design, although unique to him, pays homage to the original FW/GW lines and as such, it blends in perfectly with the GW kit. Incorporating his cannon into a kit is a relatively minor conversion and can be successfully completed by anyone with medium level of hobby skills. If you feel comfortable using a hobby knife then I can recommend trying it. I feel that this conversion is also possible with a standard Battle Cannon kit, but it would require a higher level of hobby skills as both the trimming down of Philips' Tyrant Cannon as well as opening up the turrets main body would needed to be completed. To convert back and forth to the original battle cannon it would additionally necessitate widening the cannon's shield ("U" shaped plate that fits over the cannon) to cover a now greater opening.

As a review and not a tutorial:

The Beyond the Tabletop Tyrant Cannon is a quality casting devoid of any flaws or flashing. His design, although unique to him, pays homage to the original FW/GW lines and as such, it visually blends in perfectly with the GW Punisher Leman Russ kit. Incorporating his cannon is a relatively minor conversion and can be successfully completed by anyone comfortable with the use of a hobby knife and who possess a medium level of hobby skill.

Paired with his Internal Side Sponson Conversion Kit, you can easily turn a run of the mill Leman Russ kit into a unique fighting vehicle that stands out on the table and that any Imperial Guard General would be proud to command.

-LonghunterCO