

T14 ASSAULT TANK

DEVELOPMENT

When America entered the war in late 1941 they and the British immediately got together to consider tank designs. The Americans learned from the British tank combat experience, while the British examined American tank designs to see how they fit their requirements.

In September 1941 the British had expressed interest in a heavier tank after their experiences in the desert and teething problems with their new Churchill tank. At the same time the US Ordnance Department had been advocating the adoption of heavier tanks for the US Army. The T14 assault tank was seen as the solution for both these needs.

The US Ordnance Department started design work on a tank that shared many features with the M6 heavy tank, but incorporated British requirements. With design work on the new M4 Sherman medium tank nearing completion, the design shared many features of this tank. The new tank had the transmission of the M4 Sherman and the standard Ford GAZ tank engine. However, due to its weight, the drive was geared down so its top speed was slower than the M4. The main armament was the same as the Sherman, while the tracks and suspension were those of the M6 heavy tank.

In March 1942 a new British Tank Mission signed an agreement for 8,500 T14 tanks, pending further design work. The first two prototype T14 assault tanks were completed in 1943.

COMBAT SERVICE

During the fighting in Sicily in July 1943 a British infantry tank battalion fielded the new T14 assault tank. Its thick armour proved vital in heavy fighting against German Tiger and Panzer IV tanks and StuG assault guns.

Impressed with the T14 assault tank's staying power in Sicily, American ground commanders had the next shipment intended to form another British tank battalion diverted to the US independent tank battalions fighting in Italy.

DESIGN FEATURES

Designed as a British-style infantry support tank, the T14 assault tank is well armoured, adequately armed, and slow. This makes it ideal for its planned role of advancing ahead of infantry attacks to knock out machine-guns and pin down the enemy.

The T14 assault tank is as well armoured as a Tiger tank and mounts the reliable and effective M3 75mm gun of the M4 Sherman tank.

Front 9, Semi-indirect Fire or Stabiliser

T14 ASSAULT TANKS IN FLAMES OF WAR

REPLACING STANDARD EQUIPMENT IN US SERVICE

The US Army uses M4 Sherman-equipped independent tank battalions for infantry support. These units were very happy to have a more heavily-armoured tank, even in small quantities.

Any US company may replace up to half of the M4 Sherman medium tanks in each Tank Platoon and any or all tanks in the Company HQ with T14 assault tanks armed with .50 cal AA MG for +25 points per tank.

JUMBOS LEAD THE WAY

These T14 'Jumbo' tanks (the name would later be used for the M4A3E2 assault tank as well) were used to lead advances, taking advantage of their greater survivability.

You may allocate hits to a T14 assault tank as if it had the lowest armour rating for the Hit Weakest Armour First rule (page 95 of the rulebook), assigning it a hit before the lesser armoured tanks.

This rule does not apply to hits from Machine-guns, Artillery Bombardments or Aircraft.

Treat T14 assault tanks and M4 Sherman tanks as having the same chassis, making them indistinguishable using the Gun Tanks rule (page 96 of the rulebook).



M4A3E2 Sherman Jumbo tank, October 1944.

REPLACING STANDARD EQUIPMENT IN BRITISH SERVICE

The new T14 assault tank gives British infantry tank battalions their first 75mm gun tank.

Any British company may replace all Infantry Tank Platoons equipped with Churchill tanks with Assault Tank Platoons. If it is an Infantry Tank Company it must also purchase all tanks in the Company HQ as T14 assault tanks for 135 points per tank.

ASSAULT TANK PLATOON

The assault tank platoons have won the confidence of the infantry they support.

Assault Tank Platoons are rated as:

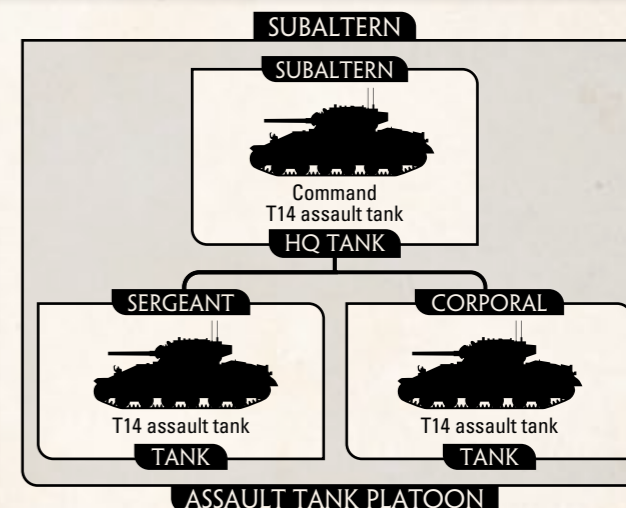
Confident Trained

PLATOON

3 T14 400 points

OPTION

Arm any or all T14 assault tanks with .50 cal AA MG for +5 points per tank.



Armour	Mobility	Front	Side	Top	Equipment and Notes
T14	Slow Tank	9	5	2	Co-ax MG, Hull MG, Unreliable, Wide tracks.
Weapon	Range	ROF	Anti-tank	Firepower	
M3 75mm gun	32*/80cm	2	10	3+	Smoke.

In British service the T14 assault tank uses the Semi-indirect Fire special rule.

In US service the T14 assault tank uses the Stabiliser special rule.

T14 SPECIFICATIONS



Designation: Tank, Assault, T14
 Crew: 5 (cdr, gnr, ldr, dvr, co-dvr)
 Weight: 84,000lb/38,1024kg
 Length: 20'4"/6.20m
 Height: 9'1"/2.77m Width: 10'3"/3.12m
 Armament: 1x M3 75mm tank gun,
 2x Browning .30 cal machine-guns
 Armour Thickness: 19mm to 103mm
 Engine: Ford GAZ V-8 petrol,
 1100cu in/18 litre, 520 hp
 Suspension: Horizontal volute double bogie
 Maximum Speed: 22 mph/35km/h
 Road Radius: 100 miles/160km
 Vertical Obstacle: 2'1"/0.67m
 Trench Crossing: 9'/2.7m



ASSAULT TANK PLATOON