

PART III

THE ARMIES

This section tells you all you need to know to start gaming with the four most important armies of the European Theater of World War II: The United States, Great Britain, the Soviet Union (Red Army), and Germany. It doesn't have everything about those armies, but it has enough to get you started.

Each nationality has a brief overview and then a listing of the late war organization for an infantry division and an armored division for that country. (In the Red Army, a division-sized armored unit was called a Tank Corps). These are all pretty self-explanatory. As much as possible, the vehicle that transports a particular stand is listed immediately below it. Note, that we show all supply vehicles in italics. You don't need to (and shouldn't) add these to the unit unless you are playing with the advanced Ammo Depletion rules.

THE UNITED STATES ARMY

Despite some bad press over the Kasserine Pass fighting, the U.S. Army was a solid and professional force, from top to bottom, throughout the war. With the right leadership, it could “blitz” with the best of the German panzer divisions, as U.S. 3rd Army demonstrated in France. The Normandy *bocage* fighting, as well as the Gustav Line, Siegfried Line and Vosges campaigns demonstrated the ability of the infantry divisions to attack, keep attacking, and eventually win, even in very difficult conditions and where the defender held most of the cards.

The U.S. Army is sometimes criticized for relying on firepower instead of being willing to take heavier infantry casualties – as if that’s a bad thing. In fact, the basis of U.S. Army tactical doctrine was maneuver rather than simple firepower. U.S. fire was used to suppress enemy fire, to enable the engaged U.S. unit to maneuver to a flanking position, and then deliver the assault from there – simple but highly effective tactics

Company Designations

All companies are lettered consecutively within their battalion or regiment, skipping the letter J. Specialized companies at regimental level, such as the cannon and antitank companies of an infantry regiment, were known simply by their regimental number, such as “147th Regimental Cannon Company.” By the same token, light tank and assault gun companies of a cavalry-reconnaissance squadron were not lettered.

Unit Terminology

In the cavalry branch, battalions were called squadrons, and companies were called troops. In the artillery branch, companies were called batteries.

Integral AT Weapons

Most personnel stands (as noted below) have integral bazookas in the European theater from about February of 1943 on. In the Pacific they are not commonly available until mid or late 1943.

Reconnaissance Companies

The crews of the six recon jeeps and armored cars of each of the reconnaissance companies (reconnaissance troops in cavalry units) may dismount as patrols and combine to form three recon infantry stands.

Vehicle Abbreviations

A number of abbreviations were commonly used to describe certain types of U.S. vehicles, the most important of which were:

- GMC Gun Motor Carriage
- HMC Howitzer Motor Carriage
- HTMC Half-Track Mortar Carrier
- MGMC Multiple Gun Motor Carriage

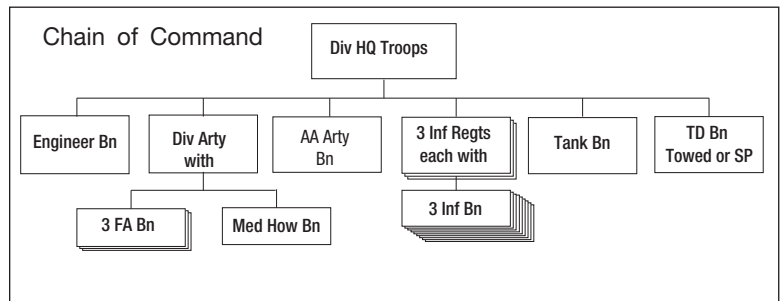
UNITED STATES INFANTRY DIVISION 1943-45

The backbone of the United States Army in World War II was the infantry division. Unlike the German Army, where infantry divisions came to play a decidedly secondary role to the Panzer and Panzergrenadier units, in the US Army, the infantry continued to shoulder a majority of the burden in both offensive and defensive operations.

U.S. infantry training was thorough, realistic, and effective. Most divisions, when first committed to combat in Europe, had been working and training together for over two years, and showed it. A few divisions faltered when first coming under fire, but the vast majority made the transition from “green” units to combat veterans without missing a step.

One problem which the US ground forces suffered from was that the rear services managed to lay claim to very high proportion of the best manpower, but that paid some unexpected dividends in France. When US infantry casualties exceeded the ability of the normal replacement system to make good the losses, service units already in the theater were “combed” for additional infantry replacement, and the quality of men received was so good that many infantry commander rated their unit as more efficient and capable in early 1945 than they had been in the fall of 1944.

Troop Quality: Experienced.
Morale: 8
 Selected divisions Veteran, particularly in 1945.
 A few divisions Regular in 1944.



DIVISION TROOPS	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car
Headquarters Company	1 staff radio truck 1 recon jeep with HMG 1 57L52 AT gun and crew 1 light truck
Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, Mechanized	1 command stand 1 jeep 3 recon jeeps with MG 3 recon M8 armored cars 1 weapons stand 1 half-track with HMG

DIVISION ARTILLERY	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 jeep
Headquarters Battery	1 staff radio medium truck 1 medium supply truck with HMG

3 Light Direct Support Field Artillery Battalions, each with	
Headquarters	1 command observation stand 1 jeep
Headquarters and Service Battery	1 staff radio light truck 1 medium supply truck with HMG
3 Firing Batteries, each	1 command infantry stand (integral bazooka) 1 105L23 howitzer and crew (ds) 1 medium truck with HMG

Engineer Battalion	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 jeep
Headquarters Company	2 engineer stands (integral bazooka) 1 medium truck with class III bridge trailer 1 light truck with assault boat trailer 1 bulldozer
3 Engineer Companies, each	1 command engineer stand (integral bazooka) 2 engineer stands (integral bazooka) 2 medium dump trucks

Medium Howitzer Battalion	
Headquarters	1 command observation stand 1 jeep
Headquarters and Service Battery	1 staff radio light truck 1 medium supply truck with HMG
3 Firing Batteries, each	1 command infantry stand (integral bazooka) 1 155L20 howitzer and crew (ds) 1 medium truck with HMG

UNITED STATES INFANTRY DIVISION 1943-45

Antiaircraft Artillery Auto Weapons Battalion, Mobile (attached)	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 jeep
4 Auto Weapons Batteries, each	1 command infantry stand (integral bazooka) 2 40L56 AA guns and crews 3 light trucks 2 M16 MGMC

3 INFANTRY REGIMENTS, each with	
Regimental Troops	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 jeep
Headquarters and Service Company	1 staff radio truck 2 recon jeeps with MG 1 medium supply truck
Cannon Company	1 command infantry stand (integral bazooka) 1 105L16 howitzer and crew (ds) 1 medium truck with HMG
Antitank Company	1 command infantry stand (integral bazooka) 2 57L52 AT guns and crews 3 light trucks
3 Infantry Battalions	each battalion as listed below

3 Regt. Infantry Battalions, each with	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 jeep
Weapons Company	1 57L52 AT gun and crew 1 light truck 1 81mm mortar stand (ds) 2 MMG stands 1 bazooka stand
3 Rifle Companies, each	1 command stand 3 infantry stands (integral bazooka) 1 weapons stand (integral bazooka)

Tank Battalion (attached)	
Headquarters	1 command M4 Sherman tank
Headquarters and Service Company	1 staff radio half-track with MG 1 M8 HMC (M4 Sherman 105 in 1944-45) 1 recon jeep with HMG 1 M4 HTMC 1 medium supply truck with HMG
3 Medium Tank Companies, each	1 command M4 Sherman tank 2 M4 Sherman tanks
Light Tank Company	1 command M3A1 Stuart light tank 2 M3A1 Stuart light tanks

Tank Destroyer Battalion <i>SP</i> (attached)	
Headquarters	1 command M20 armored car
HQ and Service Battery	1 medium supply truck with HMG
Reconnaissance Company	1 command M20 armored car 1 recon M8 armored car 3 recon jeeps with MG 1 recon jeep with HMG 1 bazooka stand 1 light truck
3 Tank Destroyer Batteries, each	1 command M20 armored car 1 recon M8 armored car 3 M10, M18, or M36 GMC

OR Tank Destroyer Battalion <i>Towed</i> (attached)	
Headquarters	1 command M20 armored car
HQ and Service Battery	1 medium supply truck with HMG
3 Tank Destroyer Batteries, each	1 command infantry stand (integral bazooka) 1 light truck 2 recon jeeps with MG 3 3-inch AT guns and crews (ds) 3 half-tracks with HMG

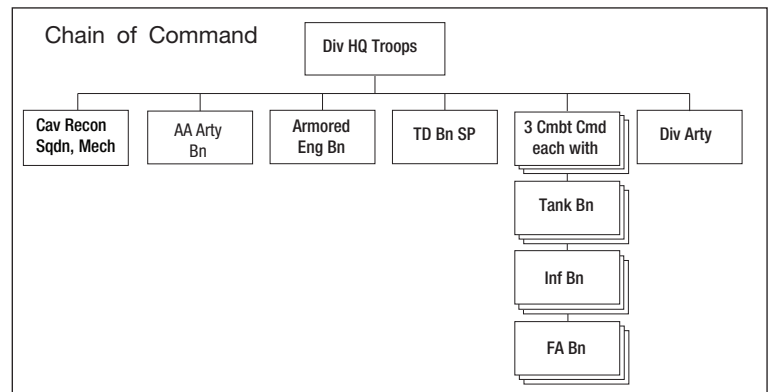
Notes

- M3A1 Tanks:** By 1944 there were replaced by M5 tanks.
- M4 76mm tanks:** Medium tanks were all M4(75) tanks until mid-June of 1944. At that time, 76mm-armed tanks began arriving, and by autumn of 1944 most separate tank battalions in Europe had one platoon per company. Most separate battalions shipped to Europe from the late autumn of 1944 on were entirely equipped with 76mm-armed tanks.
- Infantry Regimental Recon Jeeps:** The two recon jeeps in the infantry regiment represent the regimental I&R (Intelligence and Reconnaissance) platoon. If the crews are dismounted as patrol stands, the two stands may be combined to form a single recon infantry stand.
- Flamethrowers:** No fixed number of flamethrowers were authorized for an engineer company, but instead were issued as needed.

UNITED STATES ARMORED DIVISION 1943-45

The U.S. Armored division was a balanced, mobile force of all arms. It habitually fought in three combat commands, each with one battalion of tanks, half-track infantry, and self-propelled artillery, as well as a company of half-track engineers, armored recon, self-propelled AA, and tank destroyers. It was a very advanced conceptual organization, and is the recognizable precursor of modern "heavy" divisions world-wide.

Troop Quality: Regular until first combat, then Experienced
 (1st, 2nd, and 4th Armored Divisions Veteran)
Morale: 8
 (1st and 4th Armored Divisions 9)



DIVISION TROOPS	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car
Headquarters Company	1 staff radio half-track with HMG 1 recon jeep with MG 1 M3A1 Stuart light tank 1 infantry stand (division band) (integral bazooka) 1 57L52 AT gun and crew 2 half-tracks with HMG
Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, Mechanized	1 command stand 1 jeep 3 recon jeeps with MG 3 recon M8 armored cars 1 weapons stand 1 half-track with HMG

Antiaircraft Artillery Auto Weapons Battalion, SP	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 jeep
4 Auto Weapons Batteries, each	1 command infantry stand (integral bazooka) 1 half-track with HMG 2 M15 MGMC 2 M16 MGMC
<i>Three batteries assigned to Combat Commands</i>	

Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, Mechanized	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car
Recon Troop	1 command stand 1 jeep 3 recon M8 armored cars 2 recon jeeps with MG 1 recon jeep with HMG 1 weapons stand 1 half-track with HMG
Light Tank Company	1 command M3A1 Stuart light tank 3 M3A1 Stuart light tank
Assault Gun Troop	1 command infantry stand (integral bazooka) 1 half-track with HMG 2 M8 HMC
<i>Three troops assigned to combat commands</i>	

Armored Engineer Battalion	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 jeep
Headquarters and service Company	1 engineer stand (integral bazooka) 1 half-track with HMG 1 medium truck with class IV bridge trailer 1 light truck with assault boat trailer 1 recon jeep with MG
<i>Three companies assigned to Combat Commands</i>	

Tank Destroyer Battalion SP (attached)	
Headquarters	1 command M20 armored car
HQ and Service Battery	1 medium supply truck with HMG
Reconnaissance Company	1 command M20 armored car 1 recon M8 armored car 3 recon jeeps with MG 1 recon jeep with HMG 1 bazooka stand 1 light truck
<i>Three companies assigned to Combat Commands</i>	

UNITED STATES ARMORED DIVISION 1943-45

3 COMBAT COMMANDS, each with

Combat Command troops

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 jeep
Headquarters and Service Company	1 staff radio half-track with HMG 1 recon jeep with MG 1 M3A1 Stuart light tank 1 medium supply truck
Recon Troop (from divisional squadron)	1 command stand 1 jeep 3 recon M8 armored cars 2 recon jeeps with MG 1 recon jeep with HMG 1 weapons stand 1 half-track with HMG
Auto Weapons Battery Troop (from divisional battalion)	1 command infantry stand (integral bazooka) 1 half-track with HMG 2 M15 MGMC 2 M16 MGMC
Armored Engineer Company (from divisional battalion)	1 command engineer stand (integral bazooka) 1 half-track with HMG 2 engineer stands (integral bazooka) 1 medium dump truck
Tank Destroyer Battery (from divisional battalion)	1 command M20 armored car 1 recon M8 armored car 3 M10, M18, or M36 GMC
Tank Battalion	- top right
Armored Infantry Battalion	- middle right
Armored (DS) Field Artillery Battalion	- bottom right

Tank Battalion

Headquarters	1 command M4 Sherman tank
Headquarters and Service Company	1 staff radio half-track with MG 1 M8 HMC (M4 Sherman 105 in 1944-45) 1 recon jeep with HMG 1 M4 HTMC 1 medium supply truck with HMG
3 Medium Tank Companies, each	1 command M4 Sherman tank 2 M4 Sherman tanks
Light Tank Company	1 command M3A1 Stuart light tank 2 M3A1 Stuart light tanks

Armored Infantry Battalion

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 jeep
Headquarters and Service Company	1 recon jeep with HMG 1 M8 HMC 1 M4 HTMC 1 bazooka stand 1 57L52 AT gun and crew 1 half-track with HMG 1 half-track with MG
3 Rifle Companies, each	1 command stand 3 armored infantry/bazooka stands 1 weapons stand (integral bazooka) 2 half-tracks with HMG 2 half-tracks with MG

Armored (Direct Support) Field Artillery Battalion

Headquarters	1 command observation M4 Sherman tank
Headquarters and Service Battery	1 staff radio half-track with HMG Medium supply truck with HMG
3 Firing Batteries, each	1 command infantry stand (integral bazooka) 1 half-track with HMG 1 M7 HMC

UNITED STATES ARMORED DIVISION 1943-45

DIVISION ARTILLERY	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 jeep
Headquarters	1 staff radio medium truck
Battery	1 medium supply truck with HMG

All Firing Battalions Assigned to Combat Commands

Notes

- 1. Combat Commands:** Combat commands were flexibly organized, and the above is only a typical “balanced” force. Division assets could be shuffled any way the tactical situation required. The division was only provided with two combat command headquarters companies, but most divisions received a third headquarters in Europe by assigning redundant Tank Destroyer Group headquarters to them.
- 2. Armored Infantry Battalions:** The actual organization of the battalion calls for each company to have an antitank platoon with three 57L52 antitank guns, or a total of nine guns in the battalion. This could either be represented as two guns at the battalion level or one gun per company. However, it appears that most armored infantry dispensed with their antitank guns and organized the gunners as an additional rifle platoon in the company, for two reasons. First, the battalion was almost always deployed with tanks, which could provide better long-range firepower than the battalion’s own 57s. Second, in a close fight with tanks the lavish provision of bazookas in the battalion rendered the 57s superfluous.
- 3. Organization:** The organization shown above is a rough meld of several field expedient organizations that were adopted and probably comes very close to an actual average unit.
- 4. Bazookas:** Armored infantry battalions were lavishly supplied with bazookas (74 in the battalion, as opposed to 29 in an infantry battalion). As a result, all infantry stands of the armored infantry battalion may function in each fire phase either in their normal role or as a pure bazooka stand.
- 5. M4 76mm tanks:** Medium tanks were all M4(75) tanks until mid-June of 1944. At that time, 76mm-armed tanks began arriving, and by autumn of 1944 most low-numbered armored division in Europe had one platoon per company. Divisions numbered 8 and higher were supposedly all shipped to the ETO completely equipped with M4(76) Shermans, although there is considerable evidence that, in practice, these divisions had a mix of tank types as well.
- 6. Sherman Jumbos:** In July of 1944, a small quantity of M4A3E2 Jumbos arrived, and most of these were assigned to armored divisions, giving each enough for about one platoon per tank battalion. In several cases, one of the tank battalions in the division had a pure Jumbo company. All Jumbos were 75mm armed, as they arrived from the factory, but a number were refitted in-theater with 76mm guns. Ordnance units also modified a number of tanks to Jumbo standards in theater, probably more than the original production run of the vehicle. This involved cannibalizing the armor of a disabled Sherman (or, in some cases, a German Panther) and welding it to the turret and hull front of a regular Sherman. There were also a number of armor upgrade kits manufactured in the United States and sent to the ETO for fitting to standard tanks. These field modifications appear mostly to have become available in early 1945.
- 7. Division Artillery:** The artillery battalions assigned to the three combat commands are also subordinate to the Division Artillery.
- 8. Flamethrowers:** No fixed number of flamethrowers was authorized for an engineer company, but instead were issued as needed.

THE BRITISH ARMY

The British Army was, in some respects, not an army at all, but rather a collection of armies. Each regiment had its own traditions and, more importantly, its own approach to training and tactics. As a result, there was no army-wide doctrine. In fact, the British Army has viewed the entire concept of “doctrine” with a very jaundiced eye until fairly recently. The argument against doctrine is that it squashes the initiative of junior officers, by concentrating on memorization of a few “school” solutions which, given the infinite complexity of the real battlefield, are unlikely to be the correct approach to the actual situation encountered. A less charitable view of British resistance to doctrine is that doctrine was considered rules written by some fellow from a different regiment.

Whatever the basis of the independence of British regiments, there is little question that it produced cohesive battalion-level units, and equally little question that battalions spent very little time training with other battalions of their own arm, let alone other combat arms, and so the British spent much of the war “behind the curve” of combined arms warfare.

The one notable exception to this general rule was the Royal Artillery, which was a very professional and forward-thinking force throughout the war. Even when things were at their absolute worst, the gunners always kept the British in the fight.

Company Designations

All infantry, armor, and cavalry companies are lettered consecutively within their battalion or regiment, usually starting with the letter A. Companies in some machine gun battalions are lettered W, X, Y, and Z. Royal Horse Artillery batteries are independently lettered. Royal Artillery batteries and Royal Engineer companies and squadrons are independently numbered.

Unit Terminology

In the armor and cavalry branch, companies were called squadrons, and platoons were called troops. In the artillery branch, companies were called batteries, and platoons were called troops. In the engineers, companies in armored or cavalry divisions were called squadrons, but elsewhere are called companies.

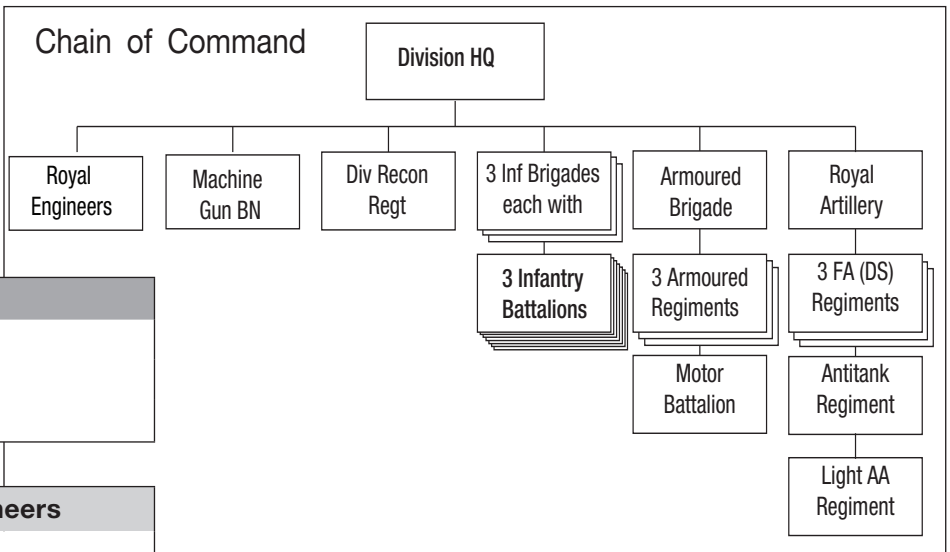
In general, the terms battalion and regiment are used interchangeably in the British Army to mean a battalion-sized unit. Actually, infantry regiments have multiple battalions, but the infantry regiment itself is a purely administrative organization, and the equivalent of the tactical regiment in the field is the brigade. Likewise, early in the war, the Royal Tank Regiment consisted of multiple battalions, and so reference to the 5th Royal Tank Regiment actually meant the 5th *Battalion* of the Royal Tank Regiment. Later in the war, however, each battalion of the RTR became a regiment in its own right, and so the common usage became correct.

Some British regimental names can be confusing. The 1st Rifle Brigade is not a brigade at all; it is the 1st Battalion, The Rifle Brigade (which is actually a light infantry regiment). Similarly, the 5th KRRC is the 5th Battalion, King's Royal Rifle Corps (another light infantry regiment). The Honorable Artillery Company is a regiment, not a company, Bull's Troop, RHA, is a battery, not a troop, and the Rocket Troop of the Royal Horse Artillery has not had rockets since the mid-nineteenth century.

BRITISH INFANTRY DIVISION, 1943-45

This was the shape of the British and Commonwealth divisions which fought in Tunisia, Sicily, Italy, and Northwest Europe. It is notable for the very large number of tanks normally available to the division commander – almost as many as in an armored division.

**Troop Quality: Regular,
Morale: 8**
selected divisions Experienced.
Field Artillery Veteran



DIVISION TROOPS	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car
Headquarters Company	1 staff radio truck

Commander, Division Royal Engineers	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 jeep
3 Engineer Field Companies, each with	1 command engineer stand (integral PIAT) 3 engineer stands (integral PIAT) 2 medium trucks

Machine Gun Battalion	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 command infantry stand (integral PIAT)
3 Machine Gun Companies, each with	3 MMG stands 4 Universal carriers 1 4.2" mortar and crew (ds) 1 mortar carrier

Divisional Reconnaissance Regiment	
Headquarters	1 command Humber scout car
Headquarters Squadron	1 3" mortar stand (ds) 1 mortar carrier 2 2-pounder AT gun and crew (6-pounder in 1944-45) 2 Lloyd carriers (Windsor carriers in 1945)
3 Squadrons, each with	1 command Humber scout car 3 recon scout/recce carriers 1 infantry stand (integral PIAT) 1 light truck 1 recon Humber scout car (Humber Mk IV armored car in 1944-45) 1 Humber Mk III armored car (Mk IV in 1944-45)

3 INFANTRY BRIGADES, each with	
Brigade Troops	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car or jeep
Headquarters Company	1 staff radio truck 1 medium supply truck

3 Infantry Battalions, each with	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car or jeep
Headquarters Company	1 recon LMG stand (integral PIAT) 1 Universal carrier 1 3" mortar stand (ds) 1 mortar carrier 1 engineer stand (integral PIAT) 1 light truck 2 2-pounder AT gun and crews (6-pounder guns from 1944 on) 2 Lloyd carrier (Windsor carriers in 1945) 1 Wasp flamethrower carrier
4 Rifle Companies, each with	1 command infantry stand (integral PIAT) 2 infantry stands (integral PIAT)

BRITISH INFANTRY DIVISION, 1943-45

SEPARATE ARMoured BRIGADE (ATTACHED FROM CORPS)

Headquarters	1 command Sherman IV/V
Headquarters Squadron	1 staff radio truck 1 Sherman IV/V 2 recon Humber scout cars 1 medium supply truck

3 Armoured Regiments, each with

Headquarters	1 command Sherman IV/V
Headquarters Squadron	1 M4 Sherman 105 close support tank (in Italy only) 1 recon M3/M5 Stuart 1 recon M3/M5 recce Stuart 2 recon Humber scout cars 1 medium supply truck
3 Squadrons, each with	1 command Sherman IV/V 2 Sherman IV/V (1 in late 1944-45) 1 Sherman V Firefly (2 in late 1944-45)

Motor Battalion

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car or jeep
3 Motor Companies, each with	1 command infantry stand (integral PIAT) 2 infantry stands (integral PIAT) 3 half-tracks with MG 1 recon LMG stand (integral PIAT) 1 universal carrier
Antitank Company	1 command infantry stand (integral PIAT) 1 Universal carrier 4 6-pounder AT guns and crews 4 Lloyd carriers (Windsor carriers in 1945)

COMMANDER, DIVISION ROYAL ARTILLERY

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car
Headquarters Battery	1 staff radio medium truck 1 medium supply truck

3 Field Artillery (Direct Support) Regiments, each with

Headquarters	1 command observation stand 1 car or jeep
Headquarters Battery	1 staff radio light truck 1 medium supply truck
3 Firing Batteries, each with	1 command infantry stand (integral PIAT) 1 light truck or Universal carrier 2 25-pounder field guns and crew (ds) 2 Quad prime movers

Antitank Regiment

Headquarters	1 command observation stand 1 car or jeep
Headquarters Battery	1 medium supply truck
1 Heavy Towed Battery (2 Heavy Towed Batteries from 1944 on)	1 command infantry stand (integral PIAT) 3 17-pounder AT guns and crews (ds) 4 half-tracks with MG
2 Light Towed Batteries, each (replaced by SP batteries in 1944)	1 command infantry stand (integral PIAT) 1 Universal carrier 4 6-pounder AT guns and crews 4 Lloyd carriers (Windsor carriers in 1945)
2 Self-Propelled Batteries, each (1944 on)	1 command Archer or Achilles 2 Archer or Achilles

Light Antiaircraft Regiment

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car or jeep
Headquarters Battery	1 medium supply truck
3 Batteries, each with	1 command infantry stand (integral PIAT) 3 40L56 AA guns and crews 4 light trucks

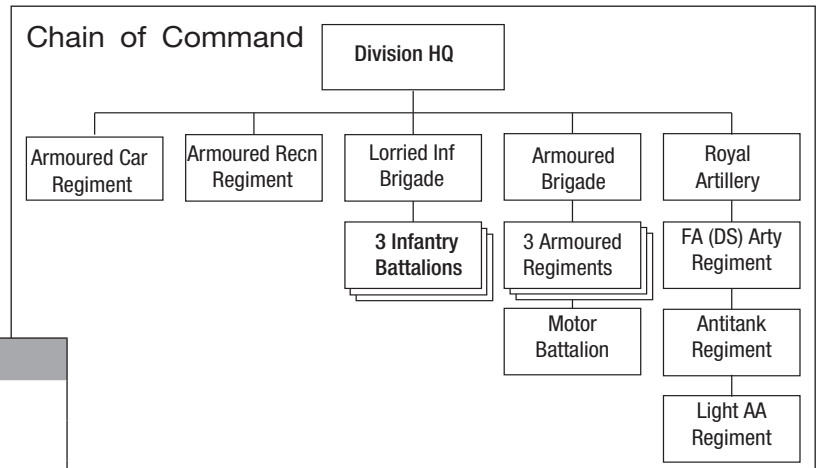
Notes:

- Integral Antitank Weapons:** In early 1943, all integral anti-tank weapons were Boys AT rifles. By mid-1943, these were mostly replaced by PIATS, as shown above.
- Battalion Mortar Carrier:** The mortar carrier was a modified Universal Carrier, fitted to carry the 3-inch mortar, its ammunition, and crew. Despite its normal load capacity of 1, it may carry the double-sized 3-inch mortar stand.
- Some divisions had US M10 tank destroyers instead of Archers, although all divisions in Northwest Europe had reequipped with Archers or Achilles by the fall of 1944.
- 6-pounders began replacing 2-pounders in Italy in 1943 in the infantry battalions, but the 2-pounder was still in use throughout much of 1943.
- Each battalion could be made completely motorized by the attachment of four model heavy trucks, each of which would carry a rifle company.
- One company of the divisional machine gun battalion was routinely attached to each infantry brigade. In independent infantry brigades this was present and designated the Brigade Support Company.
- For all practical purposes, there was always a separate armoured brigade attached to the division, although the specific brigade attached might change over time.

BRITISH ARMoured DIVISION, 1943-45

This was the final version of the armored division, and it was used in this form throughout the last two years of the war. An armored car regiment was often attached from corps to enable the division to use its own armored reconnaissance regiment as a fourth tank battalion. The division would then reorganize as four tank-infantry teams, each one similar to a U.S. combat command, with two teams serving under each brigade headquarter. This field expedient organization was widely used from the time of the Normandy breakout on, and represented a genuine step forward in combined arms practice.

**Troop Quality: Experienced,
Morale: 9**
Field Artillery (including self-propelled) Veteran
(7th Armoured Division Morale: 7)



DIVISION TROOPS	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car
Headquarters Company	1 staff radio truck

Commander, Division Royal Engineers	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 jeep
2 Engineer	1 command engineer stand (integral PIAT)
Field Squadrons, each	3 engineer stands (integral PIAT) 2 medium trucks

Armoured Car Regiment (attached from Corps)	
Headquarters	1 command armored car
Headquarters Company	2 recon Humber scout cars
3 Squadrons, each	1 command armored car 2 recon armored cars 1 recon Humber scout car

Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment	
Headquarters	1 command Cromwell 75 1 recon M3A3 Stuart 1 recon recce Stuart 2 recon Humber scout cars 1 medium supply truck
3 Squadrons, each	1 command Cromwell CS 2 Cromwell 75 1 Challenger

LORRIED INFANTRY BRIGADE	
Brigade Troops	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car or jeep
Headquarters Company	1 staff radio truck 1 medium supply truck
Brigade Machine Gun Company	1 command infantry stand (PIAT) 3 MMG stands 4 Universal carriers 1 4.2" mortar and crew (ds) 1 mortar carrier

3 Infantry Battalions, each	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car or jeep
Headquarters Company	1 recon LMG stand (integral PIAT) 1 universal carrier 1 3" mortar stand (ds) 1 mortar carrier 1 engineer stand (integral PIAT) 1 light truck 2 6-pounder AT gun and crews 2 Lloyd carrier (Windsor carriers in 1945) 1 Wasp flamethrower carrier
4 Rifle Companies, each	1 command infantry stand (integral PIAT) 2 infantry stands (integral PIAT) 1 heavy truck

BRITISH ARMoured DIVISION, 1943-45

ARMoured BRIGADE	
Headquarters	1 command tank
Headquarters Squadron	1 staff radio truck
	1 tank
	1 recon Humber scout car
	1 medium supply truck

3 Armoured Regiments, each	
Headquarters	1 command tank
	1 recon M3A3 Stuart
	1 recon recon Stuart
	1 medium supply truck
3 squadrons, each	1 command tank
	2 tanks
	1 Sherman Firefly

Motor Battalion	
Headquarters	1 command stand
	1 car or jeep
3 Motor Companies, each	1 command infantry stand (integral PIAT)
	2 infantry stands (integral PIAT)
	3 half-tracks with MG
	1 recon LMG stand (integral PIAT)
	1 universal carrier
Support Company	1 command infantry stand (integral PIAT)
	2 MMG stands
	3 Universal carriers
	2 6-pounder AT guns and crews
	2 Lloyd carriers (Windsor carriers in 1945)

- Notes
1. Usage: This organization was used in Italy and Northwest Europe.
2. Integral Antitank Weapons: All infantry, recon, and command stands have PIATs.
3. Tanks: 7th Armoured Division was equipped with Cromwells while Guards and 11th Armoured Divisions, 4th Canadian Armoured Division, and the Polish Armoured Division (all of which were organized as above) had Shermans. In Cromwell-equipped armored regiments, 75mm-armed tanks are Cromwell IV or VII, and close support tanks (in armored recon regiments) are Cromwell VI CS or Cromwell VIII CS. In Sherman-equipped regiments all 75mm-armed tanks are Sherman III or IV. All 17-pounder tanks in armored regiments are Sherman V Fireflies in Northwest Europe. In Italy, these are replaced with M4 Sherman (76) tanks until early 1945, when Sherman V Fireflies became available. Challengers were used only in the armored recon regiments.

COMMANDER, DIVISION ROYAL ARTILLERY	
Headquarters	1 command stand
	1 car
Headquarters Battery	1 staff radio medium truck
	1 medium supply truck

Field Artillery (Direct Support) Regiment	
Headquarters	1 command observation Sherman IV tank
Headquarters Battery	1 staff radio light truck
	1 medium supply truck
3 Firing Batteries, each	1 command infantry stand (integral PIAT)
	2 25-pounder field guns and crew (ds)
	2 Quad prime movers

Self-Propelled Field Artillery (Direct Support) Regiment	
Headquarters	1 command observation Sherman IV tank
Headquarters Battery	1 staff radio half-track with HMG
	1 medium supply truck
3 Firing Batteries, each	1 command infantry stand (integral PIAT)
	1 half-track with HMG
	2 Sextons

Antitank Regiment	
Headquarters	1 command observation stand
	1 car or jeep
Headquarters Battery	1 medium supply truck
2 Towed Batteries, each	1 command infantry stand (integral PIAT)
	3 17-pounder AT guns and crews (ds)
	4 half-tracks with MG
2 Self-Propelled Batteries, each	1 command Achilles
	2 Achilles

Light Antiaircraft Regiment	
Headquarters	1 command stand
	1 car or jeep
Headquarters Battery	1 medium supply truck
3 Batteries, each	1 command infantry stand (integral PIAT)
	3 40L56 AA guns and crews
	4 light trucks

THE RED ARMY

1943 was the genuine point of balance on the Eastern Front, not only in terms of the actual balance of forces between the combatants, but also with respect to the maturing of the Red Army. Gone were the days when divisions were nothing more than hastily assembled reservists or conscripts, poorly armed and scarcely trained, thrown into the path of the German panzers. There was a growing sense of professionalism and confidence in Red Army units, but they had yet to stop a major prepared German offensive in its tracks, and had yet to launch a successful offensive of their own without the spearhead elements being badly mauled by a German counterattack.

All of that would come in 1943.

After 1943, the Red Army experienced an uninterrupted string of victories. In part this was due to their own growing combat expertise, particularly at the higher command levels. It was also due in part to the widening gap between German and Soviet front line strength, although this was itself due largely to the opening of additional fronts in Italy in 1943 and France in 1944, and the resulting diversion of German combat resources west. The truth was, Soviet wartime strength actually peaked in 1943, and all the talk of “inexhaustible Soviet manpower” notwithstanding, Soviet armed forces strength steadily declined throughout 1944 and 1945.

Weapons

Submachine Guns

The Soviets used submachine guns as a cheap way to increase the close-range combat power of their infantry. When submachine guns first became available in quantity, in late 1941 and early 1942, the quickest and easiest way to integrate them into the force structure was to form companies of submachine gunners and attach them directly to rifle regiments. The regimental commander would then attach them to an assaulting rifle battalion, as needed. These are represented in the game by the pure SMG stands in the Soviet force mix.

Starting in 1943, large numbers of submachine guns found their way into conventional rifle units, and a third of all infantry was to equipped with them, with the exact distribution left up to the local commanders. These were straight substitutions for rifles, with the heavier weapons – particularly light machine guns, remaining with the unit. Unlike the pure submachine gun stands, these unit suffered little or no reduction in their long-range fire-power. To show this in the game, from 1943 on, Soviet conventional rifle stands receive an extra ROF die in close assaults.

Antitank Rifles

Soviet antitank rifle stands have both a small arms fire value and an armor piercing value, and can fire both each turn. Although actual Soviet antitank rifle platoons had nothing more than the antitank rifle teams in them, it was Soviet practice to add conventional infantry to them to make a more balance unit, and most photographic evidence of antitank riflemen, particularly in the mid and late war period, shows them with submachine gunners and even light machine guns as part of the combat team. So the game antitank rifle stands represent a platoon-sized unit of infantry with eight or nine antitank rifles as additional weapons.

Company Designation

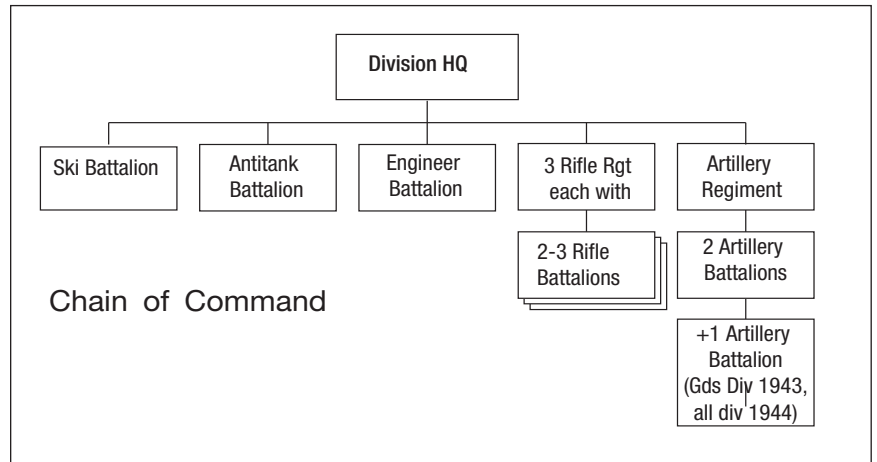
Most companies are numbered consecutively within their battalion or regiment. The companies of each battalion of a brigade are numbered separately.

In rifle regiments, all companies are numbered consecutively by type. Thus, the first battalion has the 1, 2, and 3 rifle companies and 1 machinegun company. The second battalion has the 4, 5, and 6 rifle companies and 2 machinegun company, etc. Regimental companies not part of a battalion, such as the regimental gun company, carry the regimental number, such as “regimental gun company of the 1517th Rifle Regiment,” or, more concisely, “1517th Regimental Gun Company.”

SOVIET RIFLE DIVISION, 1943-45

This organization was used by all Soviet rifle divisions from about February of 1943 on. Guards divisions were generally stronger, as noted below. Some non-Guards divisions might be reinforced to this strength as well, under special circumstances. From 1943 on, the manpower in Soviet rifle divisions steadily declined, and only divisions intended to lead major offensives were as strong as shown above. The majority of Soviet rifle divisions were so chronically under-strength that specially modified TO&Es were issued for them. The modified TO&E of a 5,300-man division, which was probably the typical field strength for Soviet divisions throughout the rest of the war, was similar to that shown below, except that each rifle regiment had only two battalions instead of three, and there was no regimental antitank rifle company.

**Troop Quality: Regular or Experienced,
Morale: 7 or 8, Guards 9
Guards Experienced or Veteran.
All rifle regiments one level lower**



DIVISION TROOPS	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car
Division Zampolit	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck
Headquarters Company	1 staff radio truck 1 4M Quad AAMG truck
Reconnaissance Company	1 command infantry stand 1 recon infantry stand 2 light trucks

Antitank Battalion	
Headquarters	1 mounted command stand
Antitank Rifle Company	1 command PTRS AT rifle stand 2 PTRS AT rifle stands
3 AT Gun Batteries, each with	1 command infantry stand 1 45L46 AT gun and crew 1 limber

Ski Battalion (see notes)	
Headquarters	1 ski command stand
Headquarters and Weapons Company	1 ski command infantry stand 1 ski MMG stand 1 recon ski SMG stand
2 Ski Rifle Companies, each with	2 ski infantry stands

Engineer Battalion	
Composite Company	1 command engineer stand 2 engineer stands 1 engineer flamethrower stand

SOVIET RIFLE DIVISION, 1943-45

3 RIFLE REGIMENTS, each with

Regimental Troops

Headquarters	1 command stand
Regimental Zampolit	1 command infantry stand
Headquarters Company	1 recon infantry stand 1 engineer flamethrower stand 1 supply wagon
Antitank Company	1 command infantry stand 1 45L46 AT gun and crew 1 limber
Regimental Gun Company	1 command infantry stand 1 76L16 infantry gun and crew (ds) 1 limber
Heavy Mortar Company	1 command infantry stand 1 120mm mortar and crew (ds) 1 limber
Submachine Gun Company	1 command SMG stand 1 SMG stand
Antitank Rifle Company	2 PTRS AT rifle stands

ARTILLERY REGIMENT

Regimental Troops

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car
Headquarters Battery	1 supply wagon

2 Artillery Battalions, each with

Headquarters	1 mounted command observation stand
Headquarters Battery	1 supply wagon
2 Gun Batteries, each	1 mounted command infantry stand 1 76L39 field gun and crew (ds) 1 limber
Howitzer Battery	1 mounted command infantry stand 1 122L22 howitzer and crew (ds) 1 limber

2-3 Rifle Battalions, each with

Headquarters	1 command stand
Battalion Zampolit	1 command infantry stand
Headquarter and Weapons Company	2 MMG stands 1 PTRS AT rifle stand 1 82mm mortar stand (ds) 1 45L46 AT gun (battalion gun) and crew (in Guards Divisions) 1 limber (in Guards Divisions)
1 Rifle Company (Guards Division only)	1 command infantry stand 1 infantry stand
3 Rifle Companies (2 in Guards divisions, each)	2 infantry stands

+1 Artillery Battalion (in Guards Divisions in 1943, and all divisions from 1944 on)

Headquarters	1 mounted command observation stand
Headquarters Battery	1 supply wagon
Gun Battery	1 mounted command infantry stand 1 76L39 field gun and crew (ds) 1 limber
Howitzer Battery	1 mounted command infantry stand 1 122L22 howitzer and crew (ds) 1 limber

Notes

- Ski Battalion:** In most divisions, the ski battalion was organized only in winter, and took the place of one of the rifle regiment battalions. In the far north, facing Finland, these battalions were active year-round.
- Rifle Regiment Troop Quality:** Specialist units received first call on replacement manpower, while rifle units suffered a disproportionate share of the combat casualties. The result was that the average experience level in the rifle regiments lagged behind the rest of the division (and the army, for that matter).
- Artillery:** The artillery regiment consists of two 3-battery battalions in

standard divisions, and an additional 2-battery battalion in Guards divisions. In 1944, all divisions received the additional 2-battery battalion.

SOVIET TANK AND MECHANIZED CORPS

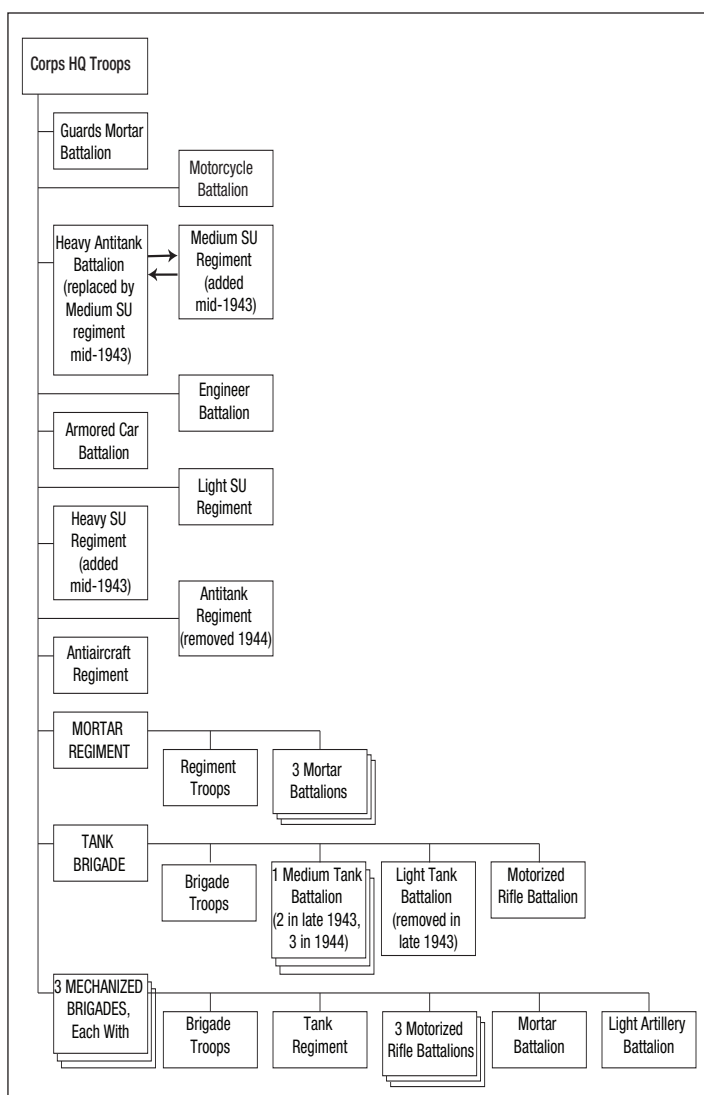
The first tank corps were formed in March of 1942, and throughout that year learned a great deal. They were beaten up at Kharkov in the spring, but led the Stalingrad offensive the following winter. By 1943, they had matured, and had settled down organizationally into about the shape they would follow for the rest of the war.

The first of the new war-pattern mechanized corps were formed in September of 1942. There were always a limited number of mechanized corps, in large part due to the considerable amount of motor transport necessary for them. They were highly prized as exploitation forces in breakthroughs, however, since the large infantry component of the corps meant that they could not only seize ground, but once there, could hold it.

The organization below is for a mechanized corps. The tank corps organization was essentially the same, except that the tank corps had three tanks brigades (instead of one), and had a single motorized brigade (instead of three mechanized brigades). A motorized brigade was identical to a mechanized brigade except that it did not include the tank regiment. The notes at the end apply to both types of corps.

Separate tank brigades and tank regiments were organized the same as those found in the tank and mechanized corps.

Troop Quality: Regular or Experienced
Morale: 8, Guards 9
Guards Experienced



CORPS TROOPS	
Headquarters	1 command T-34/42 tank
Corps Zampolit	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck
Headquarters Company	1 staff radio truck

Guards Mortar Battalion	
Headquarters	1 command observation stand 1 car
Headquarters Battery	1 medium supply truck
2 Firing Batteries, each	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck 1 BM-13 multiple rocket launcher

Motorcycle Battalion	
Headquarters	1 command BA-64 armored car
Battalion Zampolit	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck
Headquarters Company	1 82mm mortar stand (ds) 1 medium truck 1 engineer flamethrower stand 1 light truck
2 Motorcycle Companies, each	1 command motorcycle SMG stand 1 motorcycle LMG stand
Motorized Rifle Reconnaissance Company	1 command SMG stand 1 recon SMG stand 2 light trucks or armored carriers
Tank Company (added 1944)	1 command T-34/41 tank (joint command) 1 T-34/41 tank
Artillery Battery (added 1944)	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck 1 76L39 field gun and crew (ds) 1 medium truck or tractor

SOVIET TANK AND MECHANIZED CORPS

Heavy Antitank Battalion (replaced by Medium SU regiment mid-1943)

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car
Headquarters Battery	1 medium supply truck
3 AT Gun Batteries, each	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck 1 85L53 gun and crew (ds) 1 heavy tractor

Engineer Battalion

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car
2 Line Companies (3 in 1944-45), each	1 command engineer stand engineer stand 1 medium truck

Armored Car Battalion

Headquarters Company	1 command BA-64 armored car
2 Armored Car Companies, each (1943)	2 recon BA-10 armored cars
2 Armored Car Companies, each (1944-45)	1 recon BA-64 armored car 1 recon motorcycle SMG stand 1 recon SMG stand 1 armored carrier

Light SU Regiment

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car or armored carrier
Regiment Zampolit	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck or armored carrier
Headquarters Battery	1 engineer stand 1 light truck or armored carrier 1 recon BA-64 armored car 1 medium supply truck
2 Medium Batteries, each (removed in 1944)	1 SU-122
4 Light Batteries, each (5 batteries in 1944-45)	1 SU-76
Antitank Rifle Company (added in 1944)	2 PTRS antitank rifle stands 1 medium truck
SMG Company (added in 1944)	1 command SMG stand 1 SMG stand 1 medium truck

Medium SU Regiment (added mid-1943)

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car or armored carrier
Regiment Zampolit	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck or armored carrier
Headquarters Battery	1 engineer stand 1 light truck or armored carrier 1 recon BA-64 armored car 1 medium supply truck
4 Firing Batteries, each	1 SU-85 (SU-100 in 1945)
Antitank Rifle Company (added in 1944)	2 PTRS antitank rifle stands 1 medium truck
SMG Company (added in 1944)	1 command SMG stand 1 SMG stand 1 medium truck

Heavy SU Regiment (added mid-1943)

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car or armored carrier
Regiment Zampolit	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck or armored carrier
Headquarters Battery	1 engineer stand 1 light truck or armored carrier 1 recon BA-64 armored car 1 medium supply truck
4 Firing Batteries, each	1 SU-152 or ISU-152 (1SU-122 in late 1944)
Antitank Rifle Company (added in 1944)	2 PTRS antitank rifle stands 1 medium truck
SMG Company (added in 1944)	1 command SMG stand 1 SMG stand 1 medium truck

Antitank Regiment (removed 1944)

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car
Headquarters Battery	1 medium supply truck
5 Firing Batteries, each	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck 1 45L46 AT gun and crew 1 Komsomolets tractor
Antiaircraft Machine Gun Company	1 command infantry stand 3 AA HMG stands 4 light trucks

SOVIET TANK AND MECHANIZED CORPS

Antiaircraft Regiment

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car
Headquarters Battery	1 medium supply truck
4 Antiaircraft Gun Batteries, each	1 command infantry stand 1 37L70 AA gun and crew 2 light trucks
Antiaircraft Machine Gun Company	1 command infantry stand 3 AA HMG stands 4 light trucks

MORTAR REGIMENT

Regiment Troops

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car
Headquarters Battery	1 medium supply truck

3 Mortar Battalions, each

Headquarters	1 command observation stand 1 car
Headquarters Battery	1 medium supply truck
3 Firing Batteries, each	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck 1 120mm mortar and crew (ds) 1 medium truck

TANK BRIGADE

Brigade Troops

Headquarters	1 command BA-10 armored car
Brigade Zampolit	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck or armored carrier
Headquarters Company	1 recon BA-64 armored car 1 engineer stand 1 light truck or armored carrier 1 medium supply truck
Antitank Battery	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck 1 76L39 field gun and crew (ds) 1 medium truck or tractor
Antitank Rifle Company	2 PTRS AT rifle stand 1 medium truck
Antiaircraft Battery	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck 1 AAHMG stand (replace with M16 MGMC in 1944) 1 light truck (delete when equipped with M16 MGMC)

Light Tank Battalion (removed in late 1943)

Headquarters	1 command light tank
Composite Light Company	1 command light tank (joint command) 2 light tanks
Medium Company	1 command medium tank (joint command) 1 medium tank

1 Medium Tank Battalion (2 in late 1943, 3 in 1944)

Headquarters	1 command medium tank
Composite Medium Company	1 command medium tank (joint command) 2 medium tanks

Motorized Rifle Battalion

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car
Battalion Zampolit	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck
Headquarters and Weapons Company	1 recon BA-10 armored car 1 PTRS AT rifle stand 1 light truck 1 82mm mortar stand 1 medium truck
2 Rifle Companies, each	2 infantry stands 1 medium truck
Tank Desant Company	1 command SMG stand 1 SMG stand

SOVIET TANK AND MECHANIZED CORPS

3 MECHANIZED BRIGADES, Each With

Brigade Troops

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car
Regimental Zampolit	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck
Headquarters Company	1 staff radio truck 1 medium supply truck
Reconnaissance Company	1 command infantry stand 1 infantry stand 2 light trucks or armored carriers 1 recon motorcycle infantry stand 1 recon BA-64 armored car
Antiaircraft Battery	1 command infantry stand 2 AA HMG stands 3 light truck
Submachine Gun Company	1 command SMG stand 1 SMG stand 1 medium truck
Antitank Rifle Company	2 PTRS AT rifle stands 1 medium truck
Engineer Company	1 command engineer stand 1 engineer stand 1 medium truck

Tank Regiment

Headquarters	1 command medium tank
Headquarters Company	1 recon BA-64 armored car 1 medium supply truck
3 Medium Tank Companies (4 in 1944), each	1 command medium tank (joint command) 1 medium tank
Light Tank Company (removed in 1944)	1 command light tank (joint command) 1 light tank
Antitank Rifle Company (removed in 1944)	2 PTRS AT rifle stand 1 medium truck
Tank Desant Company (added in 1944)	2 SMG stands

3 Motorized Rifle Battalions, each

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 jeep
Battalion Zampolit	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck
Weapons Company	2 MMG stands 1 82mm mortar stand (ds) 2 medium trucks
Submachine Gun Company	2 SMG stands 1 medium truck
Rifle Company	1 command infantry stand 1 infantry stand 1 medium truck
2 Rifle Companies, each	2 infantry stands 1 medium truck
Antitank Company	1 command infantry stand 2 PTRS AT rifle stands 3 light trucks 1 45L46 AT gun and crew 1 Komsomolets tractor

Mortar Battalion

Headquarters	1 command observation stand 1 jeep
Headquarters Battery Heavy Battery	1 medium supply truck 1 command infantry stand 1 light truck 1 120mm mortar and crew (ds) 1 medium truck
2 Medium Batteries, each	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck 1 82mm mortar stand (ds) 1 medium truck

Light Artillery Battalion

Headquarters	1 command observation stand 1 jeep
Headquarters Battery	1 medium supply truck
3 Batteries, each	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck 1 76L39 field gun and crew (ds) 1 medium truck or tractor

SOVIET TANK AND MECHANIZED CORPS

Notes

1. **Units added in mid-1943 were, for the most part, not available in time to fight at Kursk, but were available for the offensives that autumn. Some SU-85 regiments were available for Kursk.**
2. **Light Tanks:** Light tanks were all T-60 or T-70, unless the unit was equipped with lend-lease tanks, in which case M3 Stuarts, Valentines, or Matildas might be found as light tanks. It is odd to think of Valentines and Matildas as "light" tanks, but the Soviets classified tanks as light or medium based on their gun size, not speed.
3. **Medium Tanks:** Medium tanks were T-34s, unless the unit was equipped with lend-lease tanks, in which case in might have M3 Lees (in 1943) or M4 Sherman 75s (in 1943/44) or M4 Sherman 76s (in 1944/45). T-34s would be any 76mm version at first, with T-34/85s becoming available in 1944.
4. **Heavy Tank Regiment:** A Heavy SU regiment was often replaced by a heavy tank regiment, organized the same as the SU regiment, but having heavy tanks instead. These would be KV-1 tanks until 1944, and then IS-2 tanks. Lend-lease Churchills were also sometimes used in heavy tank regiments..
5. **Tank Desant Company:** These troops rode on the tanks of the brigade.
6. **Motorcycle Battalion:** Every historical motorcycle battalion that we have been able to find the actual organization for (about a half-dozen) has been unique, and it appears that considerable latitude was given in the organization of these units. All of them, however, included usually one (occasionally two) motorcycle company, and either 2 or 3 other companies, all different. The following historical organizations from this period serve to illustrate the diversity possible.
 - 2nd Guards Motorcycle Battalion (5th Guards Mechanized Corps), mod-late 1944: 1 armored car copany, 1 motorcycle company, 1 half-track company*
 - 76th Motorcycle Battalion (4th Guards Tank Corps), August 1944: 1 motorcycle company, 1 armored car company, 1 half-track company, 1 tank company, 1 antitank battery, 1 field gun battery.*
 - 94th Motorcycle Battalion (7th Mechanized Corps), October 1944: 1 half-track company, 1 motorcycle company*
7. **Antitank Regiment:** By mid-1943 these were trading in their 45mm AT guns for either 57L53 AT guns or 76L39 field guns.
8. **Tank Brigade Antiaircraft Battery:** Replace the 37mm AA gun with a AAHMG stand in 1943, and with an M-16 MGMC in 1944.
9. **Armored Carriers:** Armored carriers could be lend lease Universal carriers, White scout cars, or half-tracks.

THE GERMAN ARMY

The first part of World War II in Europe consisted of spectacularly successful German offensives which changed – for a while – the map of Europe. The second part consisted of allied offensives which undid those changes. As a result, the German Army set the standard against which all other armies were measured during the war. That doesn't mean that it was necessarily the best army, particularly later in the war. But it was always the army to beat.

German doctrine was based heavily on the successful World War I “Storm Trooper” tactics, which called for pushing as much responsibility for tactics down to the lowest possible command level. This also meant pushing control of the fire assets necessary to accomplish the mission down to the local level as well. The Germans were pioneers in dedicating artillery batteries to specific maneuver battalions, and the German practice of well-equipped regimental infantry gun and antitank companies were widely copied.

The organization, and actual employment, of the regimental infantry gun company illustrates this aspect of German tactical use of supporting weapons. The company consisted of a 2-gun heavy section and three 2-gun light sections. One light section was routinely attached to each infantry battalion, while the heavy section stayed at regiment. (In the rifle regiments of panzer divisions, the light infantry gun section was permanently part of the battalion's “heavy” company.) By the same token, the three machine gun platoons and the three two-mortar sections of the mortar platoon of the infantry battalion's machine gun company were always pushed down to the infantry companies in the form of a heavy weapons platoon (four heavy machine guns and two mortars).

This desire to fight the battle at the lowest level possible paid considerable dividends early in the war, but became a problem later on. Artillery control was decentralized, and so it was difficult to mass fires. Faced with British and American artillery which could both provide excellent close support of maneuver units and mass fire on a moment's notice, the Germans began paying more attention to this problem from 1944 on, but never really caught up. Declining troop quality also made it harder to be “good everywhere,” and so more and more reliance was placed on the mobile units – panzers and panzergrenadiers – to rush from one danger spot to another. As the mobile divisions became key element in the defense, it became harder and harder to concentrate them for offensive action.

Unit Designations

All German companies are numbered consecutively within their regiment or separate battalion.

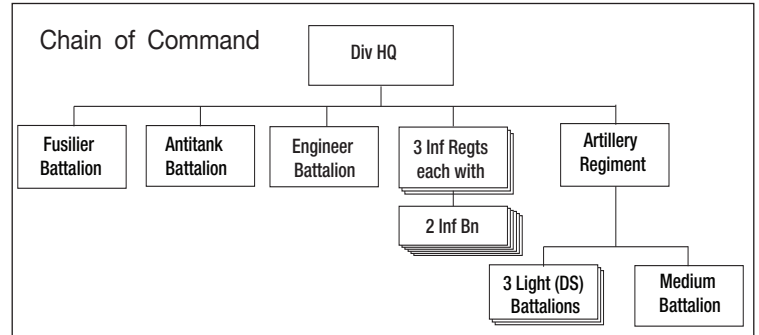
In infantry regiments, the first battalion consists of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd (infantry) companies and the 4th (machine gun) company, for a total of twelve numbered companies in the three battalions. The machine gun company does not appear in the game, as it is broken up to support the three infantry companies. The regimental antitank company is numbered 13 and the infantry gun company 14.

In rifle and panzergrenadier regiments, the “heavy” companies are not numbered, but are simply called the schwere (heavy) company. The AA company was the 9th, infantry gun company 10th, and engineer company 11th.

GERMAN INFANTRY DIVISION, 1944-45

This was the final organizational version of the infantry division during the war. It was increasingly superseded, particularly in the West, in late 1944 by the *Volksgrenadier* Division. The normal pattern was to refit division on the 1944 pattern in the field, but divisions so badly shattered that they had to be withdrawn to be reformed were usually reformed as *Volksgrenadier* Divisions (and then usually committed in the west).

Troop Quality: Trained, Regular or Experienced
Fusiliers one higher
Morale: 7 or 8
Fusiliers 9



DIVISION TROOPS	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car
Headquarters Company	1 staff radio truck 1 infantry stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 light truck

Fusilier Battalion	
Headquarters	1 motorcycle command stand
Weapons Company	1 12cm mortar and crew (ds) 1 limber
Bicycle Fusilier	1 bicycle command infantry stand (integral Panzerfaust)
Company	2 bicycle infantry stands (integral Panzerfaust) 1 bicycle weapons stand
2 Fusilier	1 command infantry stand (integral Panzerfaust)
Companies, each	2 infantry stands (integral Panzerfaust) 1 weapons stand

Antitank Battalion	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 kubelwagen
Headquarters Company	1 supply maultier
Towed AT Battery	1 command infantry stand (integral Panzerfaust) 3 75L46 AT guns and crews 4 maultiers
Self-Propelled AT Battery	1 command StuG III
Self-Propelled AA Battery	2 StuG III
AA Battery	1 command infantry stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 light truck 3 SdLz 10/4

Engineer Battalion	
Headquarters	1 bicycle command stand
Bicycle Engineer	1 bicycle command engineer stand (integral Panzerfaust)
Company	1 bicycle engineer stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 bicycle engineer flamethrower stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 bicycle weapons stand
2 Engineer	1 command engineer stand (integral Panzerfaust)
Companies, each	1 engineer stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 engineer flamethrower stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 weapons stand

GERMAN INFANTRY DIVISION, 1944-45

3 INFANTRY REGIMENTS, EACH

Regimental Troops

Headquarters 1 command stand
1 car

Headquarters Company 1 staff radio wagon
1 recon cavalry (or bicycle) stand (integral Panzerfaust)
1 engineer stand (integral Panzerfaust)
1 supply wagon

Infantry Gun Battery 1 mounted command infantry stand (integral Panzerfaust)
1 150L11 infantry gun (battalion gun) and crew
1 medium truck

Antitank Gun Battery 1 command infantry stand (integral Panzerfaust)
1 light truck
1 75L46 AT gun and crew (ds)
1 medium truck
4 RkPzB stands

2 Infantry Battalions, each

Headquarters 1 command stand

Weapons Company 1 75L12 infantry gun (battalion gun) and crew
1 limber
1 8cm mortar (ds) or 12cm mortar and crew (ds)
1 medium truck (if 12cm mortar present)

3 Infantry Companies, each 1 command infantry stand (integral Panzerfaust)
2 infantry stands (integral Panzerfaust)
1 weapons stand

ARTILLERY REGIMENT

Regimental Troops

Headquarters 1 command stand
1 car

Headquarters Battery 1 supply wagon

3 Light (Direct Support) Battalions, each

Headquarters 1 mounted command observation stand

Headquarters Battery 1 staff telephone wagon
1 supply wagon

3 Firing Batteries, each 1 command infantry stand (integral Panzerfaust)
1 105L28 howitzer and crew (ds)
1 limber

Medium Battalion

Headquarters 1 mounted command observation stand

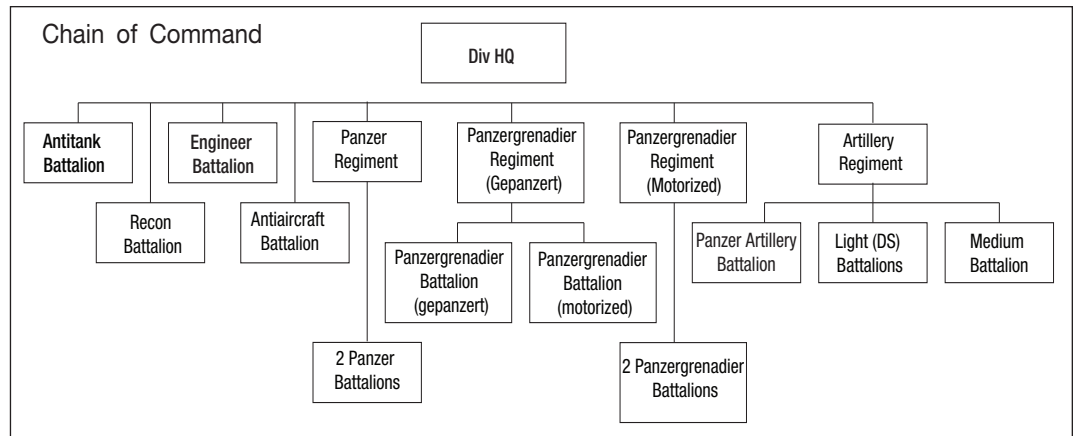
Headquarters Battery 1 staff telephone wagon
1 supply wagon

3 Firing Batteries, each 1 command infantry stand (integral Panzerfaust)
1 150L30 howitzer and crew (ds)
1 limber

GERMAN PANZER DIVISION, 1944-45

This was almost the final form of the panzer divisions, and was the version encountered by the Western Allies in France and Northwest Europe from D-Day to the end of the war. It was an exceptionally well-equipped division, at least on paper. In the field there were often major equipment shortages, especially in the panzer regiment, and so it was not unusual to find additional armor added, in the form of army-level assault gun or tank destroyer battalions. The growing number of anti-aircraft guns reflected the new reality of allied air superiority over the front.

Troop Quality: Experienced or Veteran
Morale: 8
 (reconnaissance 10)



DIVISION TROOPS	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car
Headquarters Company	1 staff radio truck 1 recon motorcycle SMG stand (integral Panzerfaust)
Escort Company	1 command panzergrenadier stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 weapons stand 1 medium truck 1 75L46 AT gun and crew (ds) 1 maultier 1 20L113 AA gun and crew 1 light truck

Antitank Battalion	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 kubelwagen
Headquarters Battery	1 SdKfz 10/4 Quad 1 medium supply truck
2 Self-Propelled	1 command StuG III G or Marder
AT Batteries, each	2 StuG III G or Marders
Towed AT Battery	1 command infantry stand (integral Panzerfaust) 3 75L46 AT guns and crews (ds) 4 maultiers

Reconnaissance Battalion	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 SdKfz 250/1
Armored Car Company (wheel)	1 command SdKfz 234/1 1 recon SdKfz 234/3 1 recon SdKfz 234/1 2 recon SdKfz 234/2
Armored Car Company (half-track)	1 command stand 1 patrol stand 2 SdKfz 250/1 2 recon SdKfz 250/9
Light Armored Infantry Company	1 command stand 3 recon panzergrenadier stands (integral Panzerfaust) OR 6 patrol stands 1 SdKfz 250/7 1 SdKfz 250/10 6 SdKfz 250/1
Armored Infantry Company	1 command panzergrenadier stand (integral Panzerfaust) 2 panzergrenadier stands (integral Panzerfaust) 1 weapons stand 1 SdKfz 251/10 3 SdKfz 251/1 1 SdKfz 251/9
Heavy Company	1 command panzer engineer flame-thrower stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 75L46 AT gun and crew (ds) 2 SdKfz 251/1 1 SdKfz 251/2 1 FAC radio truck

GERMAN PANZER DIVISION, 1944-45

Engineer Battalion	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 kubelwagen
Armored Engineer Company	1 command panzer engineer stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 panzer engineer stands (integral Panzerfaust) 1 panzer engineer flamethrower stand 1 weapons stand 4 SdKfz 250/1
2 Motorized Engineer Companies, each	1 command engineer stand (integral Panzerfaust) 2 engineer stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 weapons stand 2 medium trucks
Bridging Company	1 command engineer stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 engineer stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 medium truck with assault boat trailer 2 heavy trucks with pontoon trailers (1 class V bridge) 2 SdKfz 7 with pontoon trailers (1 class V bridge)

Antiaircraft Battalion	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 kubelwagen
Headquarters Battery	1 medium supply truck
2 Heavy AA Batteries, each	1 command infantry stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 20L113 AA gun and crew 2 light trucks 1 88L56 AA gun and crew (ds) 1 SdKfz 7
Light AA Battery	1 command infantry stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 light truck 2 37L98 or 20L113 AA guns and crews 2 SdKfz 10 1 SdKfz 10/4 Quad 1 SdKfz 251 with searchlight

PANZER REGIMENT	
Regimental Troops	
Headquarters	1 command PzKw VG
Headquarters Battery	1 staff radio SdKfz 251/1 1 recon PzKw IVH 1 Mobilwagen or Ostwind 1 medium supply truck

2 Panzer Battalions, each	
Headquarters	1 command tank
Headquarters Company	1 recon tank 1 recon motorcycle SMG stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 panzer engineer stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 SdKfz 251/1 1 SdKfz 10/4 Quad, Mobilwagen, or Wirbelwind 1 medium supply truck
4 Tank Companies, each	1 command tank 2 tanks

PANZERGRENADIER REGIMENT (GEPANZERT)	
Regimental Troops	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 SdKfz 251/1
Headquarters Company	1 staff radio SdKfz 251/1 1 recon motorcycle SMG stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 medium supply truck
Engineer Company	1 command panzer engineer stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 weapons stand 1 medium truck 1 panzer engineer flamethrower stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 SdKfz 251/1 1 SdKfz 251/16
Infantry Gun Company	1 command infantry stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 SdKfz 251/1 1 GW 38(t) Grille
Antiaircraft Company	1 command infantry stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 light truck 2 SdKfz 10/4

GERMAN PANZER DIVISION, 1944-45

Panzergrenadier Battalion (gepanzert)

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 SdKfz 250/1
3 Panzergrenadier companies, each	1 command panzergrenadier stand (integral Panzerfaust) 2 panzergrenadier stands (integral Panzerfaust) 1 weapons stand 1 SdKfz 251/10 3 SdKfz 251/1 1 SdKfz 251/9
Heavy Company	1 command panzer engineer stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 SdKfz 251/2 OR 1 12cm mortar and crew (ds) 1 75L46 AT gun and crew (ds) 2 SdKfz 251/1 (3 if 12cm mortar present) 1 recon motorcycle SMG stand (integral Panzerfaust)

Panzergrenadier Battalion (motorized)

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 kubelwagen
3 Panzergrenadier Companies, each	1 command panzergrenadier stand (integral Panzerfaust) 2 panzergrenadier stands (integral Panzerfaust) 1 weapons stand 2 medium trucks
Heavy Company	1 command panzergrenadier stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 light truck 1 8cm mortar (ds) OR 12cm mortar and crew (ds) 1 medium truck 1 75L46 AT gun and crew (ds) 1 maultier 1 recon motorcycle SMG stand (integral Panzerfaust)

PANZERGRENADIER REGIMENT (MOTORIZED)

Regimental Troops

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car
Headquarters Company	1 staff radio wagon 2 recon motorcycle SMG stands (integral Panzerfaust) 1 75L46 AT gun and crew (ds) 1 SdKfz 10 1 medium supply truck
Engineer Company	1 command engineer flamethrower stand (integral Panzerfaust) 2 engineer flamethrower stands (integral Panzerfaust) 1 weapons stand 2 medium trucks
Infantry Gun Battery	1 command infantry stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 light truck 1 150L11 infantry gun (battalion gun) and crew 1 SdKfz 10
Antiaircraft Battery	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck 2 SdKfz 10/4

2 Panzer-grenadier Battalions, each

Headquarters	1 command stand 1 kubelwagen
3 Panzergrenadier Companies, each	1 command panzergrenadier stand (integral Panzerfaust) 2 panzergrenadier stands (integral Panzerfaust) 1 weapons stand 2 medium trucks
Heavy Company	1 command panzergrenadier stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 light truck 1 75L12 infantry gun (battalion gun) and crew 1 SdKfz 10 1 8cm or 12cm mortar and crew (ds) 1 medium truck 1 75L46 AT gun and crew (ds) 1 maultier 1 recon motorcycle SMG stand (integral Panzerfaust)

GERMAN PANZER DIVISION, 1944-45

ARTILLERY REGIMENT	
Regimental Troops	
Headquarters	1 command stand 1 car
Headquarters Battery	1 medium supply truck

Panzer Artillery Battalion	
Headquarters	1 command observation PzBeoWg III
Headquarters Battery	1 staff radio SdKfz 251/1 1 medium supply truck
2 Light (Direct Support) Batteries	1 command infantry stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 light truck 1 Wespe
Medium (General Support) Battery	1 command infantry stand (integral Panzerfaust) 1 light truck 1 Hummel

Light (Direct Support) Battalion	
Headquarters	1 command observation stand kubelwagen
Headquarters Battery	1 staff radio truck 1 supply wagon
3 Firing Batteries, each	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck 1 105L28 howitzer and crew (ds) 1 medium truck or SdKfz 10

Medium Battalion	
Headquarters	1 command observation stand 1 kubelwagen
Headquarters Battery	1 staff radio truck (added in 1944) 1 supply wagon
3 Firing Batteries, each	1 command infantry stand 1 light truck 1 150L30 howitzer and crew (ds) 1 medium truck or SdKfz 6

Notes

- Panzer Regiment:** One tank battalion was equipped with PzKw VG, the other with PzKw IVH.
- SdKfz 251/9s:** Although the half-track battalion was authorized twelve of these, many battalions did not receive this many. As an alternative, remove the SdLfz 251/9s from the companies and replace them with a single vehicle in the heavy company.
- Kettenkrads:** In the east, Kettenkrads can be substituted for motorcycles.