

# M3 Infantry Half Track 1940-73: A Comprehensive Guide to the Iconic Armored Personnel Carrier



## M3 Infantry Half-Track 1940–73: 1940-73 (New Vanguard Book 11) by Peter E. Davies

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

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Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 104 pages

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The M3 Infantry Half Track was an American armored personnel carrier developed and used during World War II. It was based on the chassis of the M2 half-track car and was designed to transport infantry into combat. The M3 was a versatile vehicle that could be used in a variety of roles, including troop transport, fire support, and reconnaissance. It was widely used by the United States and its allies during the war, and it continued to be used by many countries after the war.

## Development and Design

The M3 Infantry Half Track was developed in response to the need for a more mobile and protected way to transport infantry into combat. The existing M2 half-track car was not well-suited for this role, as it was lightly

armored and could not carry a large number of troops. The M3 was designed to address these shortcomings, and it featured a number of improvements over the M2.

The M3 was based on a lengthened and widened M2 chassis. The armor was increased, and the vehicle was equipped with a new, more powerful engine. The troop compartment was also enlarged, and it could now accommodate up to 12 soldiers. The M3 was armed with a variety of weapons, including a .50 caliber machine gun and a 37mm gun.

## **Variants**

The M3 Infantry Half Track was produced in a number of variants. The most common variant was the M3A1, which was armed with a .50 caliber machine gun and a 37mm gun. Other variants included the M3A2, which was armed with a 75mm howitzer, and the M3A3, which was a command vehicle.

## **Combat History**

The M3 Infantry Half Track was used extensively by the United States and its allies during World War II. It saw action in every major theater of the war, and it played a significant role in the Allied victory. The M3 was particularly well-suited for use in the Pacific Theater, where the terrain was often difficult and infantry needed to be transported quickly and safely.

The M3 Infantry Half Track continued to be used by many countries after World War II. It was used in a variety of conflicts, including the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and the Gulf War. The M3 proved to be a durable and versatile vehicle, and it remained in service for many years.

## Legacy

The M3 Infantry Half Track was a significant armored personnel carrier that played a major role in World War II and other conflicts. It was a versatile and well-armed vehicle that could be used in a variety of roles. The M3 was also a durable and reliable vehicle, and it remained in service for many years.

The M3 Infantry Half Track is still considered to be one of the most iconic armored personnel carriers of all time. It is a testament to the skill and ingenuity of the engineers who designed it, and it is a reminder of the sacrifices made by the soldiers who fought in it.

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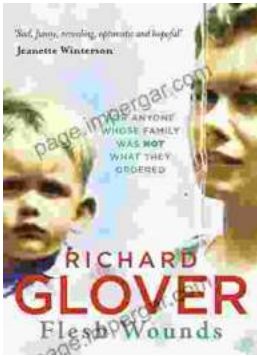
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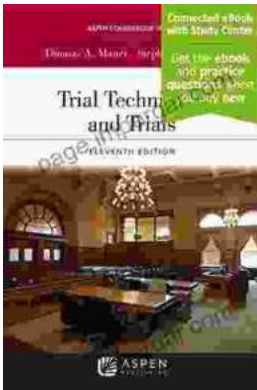
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