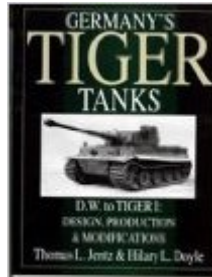


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# Germany's Tiger Tanks D.W. To Tiger I: Design, Production & Modifications



## Synopsis

This first volume, of a three-volume set, covers the history, development and production history of the Tiger tank variants from the ideas conception to the end of Tiger I production. This includes details on the development series known as the D.W., VK 30.01(H), VK 30.01(P), VK 36.01(H), VK 45.01(P) as well as the Tiger I. All of this illustrated with scale drawings by Hilary L. Doyle, combined with drawings, sketches, and photographs depicting external modifications as well as internal views. Over thirty years of intensive research went into finding the original documents needed to create this history of the development, characteristics, and tactical capabilities of the Tiger. An exhaustive search was made for surviving records of the design/assembly firms (including Krupp, Henschel, Porsche, and Wegmann), the Heereswaffenamt, the Generalinspekteur der Panzertruppen, the D656 series of manuals on the Tiger, and the war diaries with their supporting reports from German army units. This is supplemented by the authors collecting hundreds of photos and climbing over, under, around, and through nearly every surviving Tiger I.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Thomas Jentz has studied and written about German armored vehicles for over 20 years. What makes his books unique is that he only uses source material, meaning original German documents and photos. He does not rely on others works, hence, he is able to clear up some of the misconceptions and myths that have evolved over the years. This book, like his others, is packed with excellent photos taken from surviving Tiger tanks and archives. There are many line drawings, both original German blueprint and scale drawings showing various components of the vehicle from

all angles. This book is an excellent buy for the money. Jentz leaves no stone unturned in documenting how the Tiger evolved, its testing, and production. Prototypes and the various series models are shown. Hull, chassis, suspension, powerplant, turret, armament, sights are all covered in excellent detail. The only disappointment is that it is relatively short. Perhaps I am spoiled by R.P. Hunnicutt type massive tomes. This last is a very small observation. The excellent drawings, photos, use of source material makes it THE Tiger book to own. I highly recommend D.W. to Tiger 1.

Typical of Mr. Jentz's work, the book is derived only from original sources, so he avoids repeating old errors that have percolated from book to book over the last 55 years. Hilary Louis Doyle does his usual superb job on the 1/35th scale drawings which cover all major production variants of the standard gun tank, as well as the prototypes (for a history of the failed Porsche prototype, see the same authors' book now available from Panzer Tracts). This is the first set of published drawings that accurately depicts the asymmetrical shape of the Tiger I turret (it bulges out slightly on the left, so the gun is mounted off-center in the mantlet to bring it back to the centerline of the turret). This is one volume of a three-volume series, the other titles covering the development of the Tiger II and the operations of the Tiger battalions. Jentz's book concentrates on the vehicle's general interior and exterior layout, but doesn't go into the technical depth of Walter Spielberger's books (most readers don't plan to actually rebuild a Tiger transmission anytime soon).

This book is very much about the technical aspects of the tank. It includes a comprehensive list of the physical changes made to the vehicle during its production run, with every change dated and explained in detail. This list was painstakingly compiled from original German sources only. The 7 sets of multi-view drawings of complete vehicles (including the underneath views) were prepared by Hilary Doyle from thorough surveys of surviving Tigers, and they correct the numerous small errors in all previous work. They are complemented by many original German technical drawings of parts of the tank, often unpublished before. This book has a narrow focus, but in its field it is definitely the leader.

This is about previous Tiger I tanks from official information. The book needs more wide information about the aspects than it study but includes a lot of tables, information and detailed pics about the Tiger I. It's not about operations or battles; only about production and design works. So, it's very good for people than keen on the Tiger and need more information than the "traditional", so don't expect for fighting.

Any book by Thomas L. Jentz or another author with Mr Jentz as technical adviser (Encyclopedia of German Armored Vehicles of WWII is a good example) is highly recommended. I especially recommend his Panzertruppen I and II books. This book is an excellent source for the Tiger tank development. It is a companion volume to Tiger Tanks in Combat.WWII and Armor buffs. Purchase any book by Jentz.

This is the most comprehensive research book on the Tiger 1 tank available. The photos are clear and precise. Most of the black and white photos I have never seen published anywhere before. The illustrations are many and informative. The book is designed as a reference study of the physical characteristics of the various model designs of the Tiger 1. It is invaluable as an aide to modelers. Highly recommended!

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