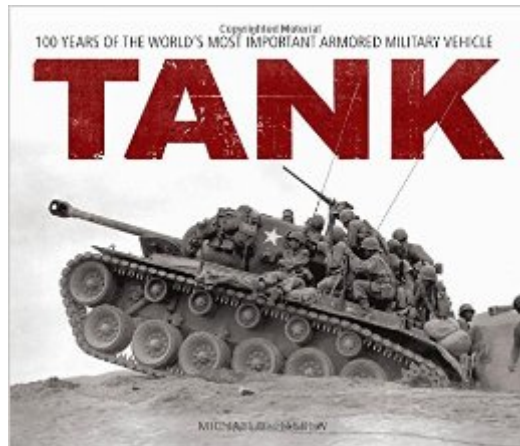


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# Tank: 100 Years Of The World's Most Important Armored Military Vehicle



## Synopsis

Explore the 100-year evolution of the tank and its role on the battlefield, from World War I to today's armored fighting vehicles. From the Greek phalanx to Roman siege engines, plans by Leonardo da Vinci, and the wondrous imagination of H. G. Wells, the idea of the armored fighting vehicle--the tank--has crossed centuries and given rise to the technologically advanced land warfare systems that populate the armies of countries large and small today. First appearing during World War I as unwieldy boxes mounted on tractor chassis and prone to mechanical failure, tank designs evolved into sleek weapons with the now-classic characteristics of speed, mobility, and firepower. During the 1920s, American Maj. Gen. Adna Chaffee Jr., correctly predicted that mechanized armies would win the land battles of the future. Young US Army officers such as Dwight D. Eisenhower and George Patton risked their careers to champion the development of armored divisions. Modern tanks perform in both offensive and defensive roles, capable of exploiting breaches in enemy defenses and rapidly slashing into rear areas, disrupting communications, supply, and command and control. In *Tank: 100 Years of the World's Most Important Armored Military Vehicle*, noted military historian Michael E. Haskew is your guide to the complete 100-year history of these unparalleled machines. He starts with the development of early tanks, moves on to the uses of tanks in World War I, World War II, and the Cold War, and covers the modern armored fighting vehicles in use during the Gulf Wars and in conflicts right up to today.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Stealth technology allows the Challenger 2 to close with the enemy undetected, then select and

destroy a target without drawing return fire." â ” Page 218, "Tanks: 100 Years of the World's Most Important Armored Military Vehicle."The hard part about history isn't putting names to dates so much as understanding the why and how. Especially in just 240 pages. Michael Haskew makes the technical accomplishment of putting all the famous / iconic tanks and even some of the less famous ones (French MBTs, for example) on the map with a list of their accomplishments, but what "Tank" is lacking is the actual understanding of how these tanks interacted with one another to evolve. After an interesting WW1 chapter chock-full of anecdotes about the design process, the quality of "Tank" rapidly deteriorates. In general, it lacks the anecdotes and personal stories that make the works of Michael Green or Steven Zaloga so interesting to read, while lacking the clinical accuracy of Hunnicutt. Even for \$25 (my local indie bookstore carried it for almost twice that) I would probably pass it over for actual reading. The pictures are quite good, however. Chapters are poorly organized and have no subheaders. The WW2-related "Epic Tank Battles" might discuss German or British development from 1939 to 1945, then jump to Russian development in 1939 to 1945, then American in 1939 to 1945. This means that the exact timeline of events and relation between different armies and their tank development are confusing. The Korean war isn't included in the "Cold War" chapter, but later in the "Territorial Wars" section. Information about the T-72's performance is peppered all around 20 pages the later chapters instead of consolidated.

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