

# Armies of **BELGIUM**

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## ARMIES OF BELGIUM

This list is based upon the Belgian forces that faced the invasion of their homeland by the German army in 1940. Belgian tactical doctrine was defensive, with emphasis placed on fortifications, bunkers and trench lines. As the German threat rose, modernization of the Belgian Army began. New weapons were developed and new tanks were ordered including the ACG-1. The Battle of Belgium would last 18 days and leave 23,350 brave Belgian serviceman dead or wounded, and over 200,000 taken prisoner. Many Belgians made their way to Britain and formed the Free Belgian Forces to continue their war against Germany.

Just like the four army lists included in the Bolt Action rulebook, this list is intended for use with the Force Selection rules and the generic Reinforced Platoon presented on page 124 of the Bolt Action rulebook.

## ARMY SPECIAL RULES

### STRONG-WILLED DEFENCE

The Belgian army placed great emphasis on defense. Training focused on holding positions and forcing the opposition to attack across open ground. To reflect this, all Belgian infantry and artillery units can react to an assault even if they have already taken an action that turn. Note that if the enemy starts the assault within 6", or outside the arc of fire of a fixed weapon, the unit cannot react, as normal.

### FIRST CLASS ANTI-TANK GUNS

The Belgian army believed the answer to the tank was well placed anti-tank guns. The modern FRC 47mm anti-tank gun was manned by professional, efficient, and well trained gun crews. Any Belgian 47mm anti-tank gun, and Vickers Carden-Loyd Mk.VI 47mm FRC Tank Destroyer can re-roll misses when firing at enemy vehicles.

# INFANTRY

## HEADQUARTERS UNITS

### OFFICER

Like most European armies, Belgian Army Officers were recruited from the upper-middle class of society. Officers were well educated and affluent. They were confident and trained on par with their French and British counterparts. An officer unit consists of an officer and may include up to two other men to form a command team. Officers and their attendants can be rated as Inexperienced, Regular or Veteran.

**Cost:** Second Lieutenant 35 pts (Inexperienced),

50 pts (Regular), 65 pts (Veteran)

First Lieutenant 60 pts (Inexperienced), 75 pts (Regular),

90 pts (Veteran)

Captain 95 pts (Inexperienced), 110 pts (Regular),

125 pts (Veteran)

Major 135 pts (Inexperienced), 150 pts (Regular),

165 pts (Veteran)

**Team:** 1 officer and up to 2 further men.

**Weapons:** Pistol, submachine gun or rifle as depicted on the models.

**Options:** The officer may be accompanied by up to 2 men at a cost of +7 pts per man (Inexperienced), +10 pts per man (regular) or +13 pts per man (veteran).

### MEDIC

The field medic presents the wounded soldier with his best chance of surviving serious injury and can ensure that lightly

wounded soldiers are returned to fighting fitness as rapidly as possible. Junior medical staff can accompany medics in the field. As non-combatants, medics were not issued with weapons, but they sometimes carried pistols for personal protection. Medics are rated as Regular or Veteran.

**Cost:** Medic 23 pts (regular), 30 pts (veteran)

**Team:** 1 medic and up to 2 further men.

**Weapons:** Pistol or none as depicted on the model.

**Options:** The medic may be accompanied by up to 2 men at a cost of +10 pts per man (regular) or +13 pts per man (veteran).

### FORWARD OBSERVER

Forward Observers are liaison officers responsible for coordinating the attack of heavy artillery batteries from behind the lines. They are likely to be accompanied by a radio operator and other immediate attendants. Bolt Action rates the officers as Regular or Veteran. The Belgian Army does not field Forward Air Force Observers.

**Cost:** Artillery Forward Observer 100pts (Regular), 115pts (Veteran)

**Team:** 1 Artillery Forward Observer and up to 2 further men

**Weapons:** Pistol, submachine gun, or rifle as depicted on the models

**Options:** The Forward Observer may be accompanied by up to 2 men at a cost of +10pts per man (Regular) or +13pts per man (Veteran).

# INFANTRY SQUADS & TEAMS

## INFANTRY SECTION

A Belgian infantry section consists of ten men. A section is led by a Sergeant carrying either a MP-28 submachine gun or a Fusil 1889 rifle. The Sergeant is supported by a corporal carrying a rifle. The Fusil-mitrailleur 1930 (FM 30) Browning Light Machine Gun or "Belgian BAR" served as the section LMG which was carried and operated by one man. The remaining seven riflemen carried the Fusil 1889 rifle, one of which is a dedicated rifle grenadier carrying a rifle adapted to shoot grenades. As grenades are considered close quarters weapons in Bolt Action, all rifle-armed infantry are treated as the same. Belgian platoons each had a Grenadier Section. This section consisted of ten men lead by a Sergeant. Three men were gunners, each armed with a 50mm light mortar, three men were loaders and the remaining three men were armed with rifles. You may field a maximum of one Grenadier Section in your platoon and it counts as a core infantry squad as per the Force Selection Rules on page 124 of the Bolt Action Rule Book.

**Cost:** Regular Infantry 50 pts.

**Composition:** 1 NCO and 4 men.

**Weapons:** Rifles

**Options:**

- Add up to 5 additional men with rifles at +10 pts each.
- The NCO can have a submachine gun instead of a rifle for +3 pts.
- Up to 1 man can have a BAR for +5 pts.
- The entire squad can be given anti-tank grenades for +2 pts per man.
- You may designate one section only per Reinforced Platoon to be a Grenadier Section. The Grenadier Section cannot have a BAR, but up to 3 men may have a light mortar for +25 pts each – for each light mortar included, another man becomes the loader.

**Special Rules:**

- Tank hunters (if anti-tank grenades taken).

*Belgian Infantry Section*



## CHASSEURS ARDENNAIS

The Chasseurs Ardennais are Belgium's elite force. Members are trained to live and fight in harsh conditions. Their primary function is to defend the Ardennes forest. The Chasseurs Ardennais section consists of 12 men. A section is led by a Sergeant carrying either a MP-28 submachine gun or a Fusil 1889 rifle. The Sergeant is supported by a corporal carrying a rifle. The FM1930 BAR was the standard section LMG, which was carried and operated by one man. The remaining nine riflemen carried the Fusil 1889 rifle, one of which is a dedicated rifle grenadier carrying a rifle adapted to shoot grenades.

**Cost:** Veteran Infantry 78 pts.

**Composition:** 1 NCO and 5 men.

**Weapons:** Rifles

**Options:**

- Add up to 6 additional soldiers at +13pts each
- The NCO can have a submachine gun for +3pts
- Up to 1 man may have a BAR for +5pts
- The entire squad can be given anti-tank grenades for +2 pts per man
- The entire squad can be upgraded to Tough Fighters for +1 pt per man.

**Special Rules:**

- Tank Hunters (if anti-tank grenades option is taken)
- Tough Fighters (if option is taken).



## ARMIES OF BELGIUM

### BOYS ANTI-TANK RIFLE TEAM

The British-made Boys anti-tank rifle was supplied to the French and Belgian armies as the Le Fusil Antichar Boys Mark 1. The Boys was an effective anti-tank rifle against early German tanks. Due to the Boys' heavy weight and fearsome recoil, only the strongest soldier in your platoon will operate it.

**Cost:** 21 pts (Inexperienced), 30 pts (Regular), 39 pts (Veteran).

**Team:** 2 men – Gunner and loader

**Weapon:** 1 Anti-Tank Rifle

**Special Rules:**

- Team weapon



*Belgian Army  
Boys Anti-tank  
rifle team*

### MEDIUM MORTAR TEAM

The Belgian Army used the 81mm Brandt mle 27/31 as its medium mortar support weapon. It was an effective weapon and used by many nations.

**Cost:** 35 pts (Inexperienced), 50 pts (Regular), 65 pts (Veteran).

**Team:** 3 men

**Weapon:** 1 medium mortar.

**Options:**

- May add a spotter for +10 pts

**Special Rules:**

- Team weapon
- Fixed
- Indirect fire
- HE (D6)

*Chasseurs Ardennais  
Boys Anti-tank rifle team*



### MEDIUM MACHINE GUN TEAM

The most common machine gun operated by the Belgian Army was the MG08/15 Maxim machine gun. This German-made weapon had a proven track record in the First World War. The Belgians modified the Maxim to fire 7.65mm rounds.

**Cost:** 35 pts (Inexperienced), 50 pts (Regular), 65 pts (Veteran).

**Team:** 3 men – Gunner and two loaders

**Weapon:** 1 MMG

**Special Rules:**

- Team weapon
- Fixed

# ARTILLERY

### FIELD ARTILLERY

#### FRC 76MM INFANTRY GUN

The Canon de 76 FRC was produced by the Fonderie Royales des Cannon (FRC). The gun was designed to operate in direct support of infantry and be capable of being manhandled by their crews.

**Cost:** 36 pts (Inexperienced), 45 pts (Regular), 54 pts (Veteran).

**Team:** 3 men

**Weapons:** 1 light howitzer.

**Special Rules:**

- Team weapon
- Fixed
- Howitzer.
- HE (D6).



*Chasseurs Ardennais  
76mm Infantry Gun*



*Belgian Army  
76mm Infantry Gun*



*Chasseurs Ardennais  
FRC 47mm anti-tank gun*

*Belgian Army  
FRC 47mm  
anti-tank gun*



## ANTI-TANK GUNS

### FRC 47MM ANTI-TANK GUN

Over 750 FRC 47mm anti-tank guns were in service when the German Army invaded Belgium in 1940. The gun was used by the infantry and cavalry, and was fitted to fixed positions, bunkers, and fortifications. The FRC 47mm anti-tank gun was one of Europe's most formidable anti-tank guns of the time.

**Cost:** 60 pts (Inexperienced), 75 pts (Regular), 90 pts (Veteran).

**Team:** 3 men

**Weapon:** 1 medium anti-tank gun.

**Special Rules:**

- Team weapon
- Fixed
- Gun shield

# VEHICLES

## TANKS

### T15

T15 is the Belgian designation for the British built Vickers Carden-Lloyd MkVIc light tank. The T15 was crewed by 2 men and armed with a medium machine gun. Belgium received forty-two T15s from Britain, the majority seeing action against the Germans.

**Cost:** 40 pts (Inexperienced), 50 pts (Regular), 60 pts (Veteran)

**Weapons:** 1 turret mounted MMG.

**Damage Value:** 7+ (tankette)

**Special Rules:**

- One-man turret. It is always necessary to take an order test when issuing an Advance order, even if the tank is not pinned.



*T15 tank*

## TANK DESTROYERS

### VICKERS CARDEN-LOYD MK.VI

### 47MM FRC TANK DESTROYER

The Vickers Carden-Loyd Mk.VI 47mm FRC Tank Destroyer was a product of stage 1 of the development of the T13 tank hunters. This early experiment was unsuccessful as the tractor hull was too light for the recoil of the gun. Only six were converted and despite their limitations they saw action against the Germans on the Meuse River in 1940.

**Cost:** 76 pts (Inexperienced), 95 pts (Regular), 114 pts (Veteran).

**Weapons:** 1 forward facing light anti-tank gun.

**Damage Value:** 7+ (tankette)

**Special Rules:**

- Open Topped

## TRANSPORTS AND TOWS

### UTILITY B TRACTOR

Based on the British Vickers utility tractor, the Belgians' Utility B Tractor was built in two versions, cavalry and infantry. The main purpose of this light tractor was to tow the FRC 47mm anti-tank gun. The infantry version came with wider tracks and lower gearing which allowed the driver to match the marching pace of the infantrymen. The tractor's side armour panels could be folded down to reveal bench seats to transport the towed gun's crew.

**Cost:** 46 pts (Inexperienced), 57 pts (Regular), 68 pts (Veteran).

**Weapons:** none.

**Damage Value:** 7+ (armoured tractor)

**Transport:** Up to six men

**Tow:** light, medium or heavy anti-tank gun, light or medium howitzer, light or heavy anti-aircraft gun.

**Options:**

- May be downgraded to the Infantry version for -5pts, gaining the Slow rule.

**Special Rules:**

- Open Topped
- Slow, if option is taken.

### TRUCKS

The Belgians primarily used the Citroen light truck on the battlefield.

**Cost:** 31 pts (Inexperienced), 39 pts (Regular), 47 pts (Veteran).

**Weapons:** none.

**Damage Value:** 6+ (soft-skin)

**Transport:** Up to 12 men

**Tow:** Light howitzer, light or medium anti-tank gun, light anti-aircraft gun.

Vickers  
Utility  
Tractor

