

WWII German Helmets Identification and classification M35, M40 and M42

Description

"In 1935, a new design was introduced for German helmets. It was lighter, smaller and better suited to a mobile army. This basic model 1935 (designated M35) was modified in 1940 (M40) and again in late 1942 (M42).

These three designs can be distinguished from each other by their vents and rims. The M35 helmet has a grommet vent, which is a separate piece added to the shell. The bottom rim of the helmet is turned or "rolled" under, to provide a smooth edge. In 1940, the shell was modified and the grommet vent was replaced with a vent stamped, or pressed, into the metal itself. In 1942, a further modification flared the bottom edge outward, leaving an unrolled edge. The vent was not changed." from "German Helmets 1933 - 1945" by T.V. Goodapple and R.J. Weinand.



M 35 - a



M 35 - b



M 40 - a



M 40 - b



M 42 - a



M 42 - b

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Remarks on major differences of the shell

M35 rolled edge and grommetted air vents

M40 embossed air vents

M42 non rolled edge

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