

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN ARMY OF WORLD WAR 1

This is a Bolt Action army list for the Austro-Hungarian forces in the early period (1914-15) of World War One.

The Austro-Hungarian armed forces of this period are complex and diverse, reflecting the multi-national nature of the Empire. The common institution was the Imperial and Royal Common Army (K.U.K Heer), supported by the Landwehr in the German speaking areas and the Honved in the Hungarian regions. Older men served in the territorial Landsturm that provided reinforcements.

On mobilisation 18 army corps formed into 6 armies. Each corps had two or three divisions with two infantry brigades, supported by cavalry, artillery and a jager battalion. Each infantry regiment had four battalions each of four rifle companies, that had four platoons and four MG sections.

Two armies were committed to the Serbian offensive while three more faced the Russians.

For Bolt Action the organisational focus is on the reinforced platoon. A platoon at full establishment had around 60 men and 2 MGs.

The Austro-Hungarian armed forces at the outset of war had very little combat experience so most troops would be classed as regulars or inexperienced.

HEADQUARTERS UNITS

OFFICER

Leutnant 50pts (Regular), Oberleutnant 75pts (Regular) with up to two riflemen at 10pts each (Regular) or 8pts (inexperienced).

MEDIC

Medic 30pts (Veteran) with up to two men at 8pts each.

ARTILLERY OBSERVER

In 1914 the A-H army had no doctrine for indirect fire.

INFANTRY

Each platoon had four sections, typically armed with the robust 8mm M95 Mannlicher rifle.

NCO and 7 men with rifles (regular 80pts, (Inexperienced 64pts)

Up to 7 additional men with rifles (Regular 10pts), (Inexperienced 8pts)



MACHINE GUN TEAM

Each company had a machine gun section of two guns, usually armed with the 8mm Schwarzlose M07/12.

1 MMG, fixed, team weapon with 3 men (Regular 50pts) (Inexperienced 35pts)



CAVALRY

In 1914 cavalry paid lip service to dismounted fighting and still trained for the massed charge.

NCO and 5 men with cavalry carbines (Regular 72pts). Up to 6 additional men at 12pts.



ARTILLERY

The A-H armed forces in 1914 were underequipped with field artillery in terms of quantity and quality. Mountain and fortress guns were of better quality.

Light 80mm field gun, fixed, team, HE (D6) with team of 3. (Regular 50pts) (Inexperienced 40pts).

FURTHER READING

Osprey MAA392: A-H Forces in WW1 (Jung)
Fighting Troops of A-H Army 1868-1914 (Lucas)
Army of Francis Joseph (Rothenberg)
A-H Infantry 1914-18 (Lucas)