

**Organization of British Tank Brigades
Structure and Brigade Elemental Assignments by Regiment
1939-1945**

Part 1 - Internal Organization

Army Tank Brigade - No. I October 1939

HQ Army Tank Brigade, with
 Approximately 4 Tanks
3 Tank Battalions, each with
 1 HQ Army Tank Battalion, with
 2 Infantry Tanks
 4 Light Tanks
 3 Tank Companies, each with
 1 Company HQ, with
 1 Infantry Tank
 1 Light Tank
 5 Tank Sections, each with
 3 Infantry Tanks

Total tanks in battalion, 50 infantry tanks and 7 light tanks, 29 officers and 484 enlisted.

Army Tank Brigade - No. II April 1941

HQ Army Tank Brigade, with
 4 Cruiser Tanks
3 Tank Battalions, each with
 1 HQ Army Tank Battalion, with
 4 Infantry Tanks
 1 HQ Squadron
 3 Squadrons, each with
 1 Squadron HQ, with
 1 Infantry Tank
 2 Close Support Infantry Tanks
 5 Tank Troops, each with
 3 Infantry Tanks

Total in battalion, 58 infantry tanks, 35 officers and 547 enlisted.

Tank Brigade - No. III August 1942

HQ Tank Brigade, with
 4 Cruiser Tanks
3 Tank Battalions, each with
 1 HQ Army Tank Battalion, with
 4 Infantry Tanks
 8 AA Tanks
 1 HQ Squadron
 3 Squadrons, each with
 1 Squadron HQ, with

- 1 Infantry Tank
- 2 Close Support Infantry Tanks
- 5 Tank Troops, each with
- 3 Infantry Tanks

Total in battalion, 52 infantry tanks, 6 Close Support Infantry Tanks, 8 AA Tanks, 37 officers and 588 enlisted.

Tank Brigade - No. IV November 1943

- HQ Tank Brigade, with
 - 4 Cruiser Tanks
 - 2 AA Tanks
 - 3 Bridge Laying Tanks
- 3 Tank Battalions, each with, each with
 - 1 HQ Army Tank Battalion, with
 - 4 Infantry Tanks
 - 2 OP Tanks
 - 1 HQ Squadron, with
 - 11 Light Tanks
 - 6 AA Tanks
 - 3 Squadrons, each with
 - 1 Squadron HQ, with
 - 1 Infantry Tank
 - 2 Close Support Infantry Tanks
 - 5 Tank Troops, each with
 - 3 Infantry Tanks

Total in battalion, 52 infantry tanks, 11 Light Tanks, 6 Close Support Infantry Tanks, 6 AA Tanks, 2 OP Tanks, 38 officers and 670 enlisted.

Part II - Elemental Assignments in Specific Brigades

1st Army Tank Brigade

- 9/39 - A regular Army Tank Brigade in the UK.
- 4/23/44 - Redesignated 1st Tank Brigade.
- 10/44 - During October the brigade was dismembered to provide reinforcements for other formations. On 18 November the brigade HQ was placed in suspended animation.

Assigned Units

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 4th Royal Tanks | 9/3/39-9/18/39 |
| | 4/30/40-12/10/40 |
| 7th Royal Tanks | 9/3/39-12/10/40 |
| 8th Royal Tanks | 9/3/39-4/28/40 |
| | 6/24/40-7/23/41 |
| | 9/1/41-6/3/42 |
| 44th Royal Tanks | 7/10/42-9/30/42 |
| | 12/10/40-6/26/41 |
| | 7/27/41-6/3/42 |
| | 6/2/42-5/10/43 |
| 49th Royal Tanks | 12/10/40-4/20/41 |
| | 4/30/44-10/25/44 |
| 42nd Royal Tanks | 4/21/41-7/23/41 |
| | 11/11/41-12/11/41 |

11th Royal Tanks 12/28/41-6/8/42
6/27/42-11/17/44
10/18/42-10/2/44

2nd to 5th Tank Brigades

Not formed.

6th Guards Tank Brigade

1/15/43 - Formed in UK by redesignation and reorganization of 6th Guards Armored Brigade.

2/2/45 - Redesignated as 6th Guards Armored Brigade

Assigned Units

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| 4th Tank Battalion, Grenadier Guards | 1/15/43-2/1/25 |
| 4th Tank Battalion, Coldstream Guards | 1/15/43-2/1/25 |
| 3rd Tank Battalion, Scots Guards | 1/15/43-2/1/25 |

7th to 9th Tank Brigades

Not formed.

10th Tank Brigade

7/25/42 - formed in UK by the redesignation and reorganization of the 10th Armored Brigade.

11/25/43- Brigade HQ disbanded in UK.

Assigned Units

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| 108th Royal Armored Car Regiment | 7/25/42-11/24/43 |
| 109th Royal Armored Car Regiment | 7/25/42-11/24/43 |
| 143rd Royal Armored Car Regiment | 7/25/42-11/24/43 |

11th Tank Brigade

7/25/42 - Formed in UK by the redesignation and reorganization of the 11th Armored Brigade.

11/23/43- Brigade HQ disbanded in UK.

Assigned Units

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| 107th Royal Armored Car Regiment | 7/25/42-11/23/43 |
| 110th Royal Armored Car Regiment | 7/25/42-11/23/43 |
| 111th Royal Armored Car Regiment | 7/25/42-11/23/43 |

12th to 20th Tank Brigades

Never formed

21st Tank Brigade

9/3/39 - First line Territorial Army tank brigaded embodied in the UK.

6/6/42 - Redesignated as 21st Tank Brigade.

6/11/45 - Redesignated as 21st Armored Brigade.

Assigned Units

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 42nd Royal Tanks | 9/3/39-4/12/41 |
| 44th Royal Tanks | 9/3/39-9/11/40 |
| 48th Royal Tanks | 9/3/39-6/10/45 |

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| 43rd Royal Tanks | 11/9/40-4/26/41 |
| 12th Royal Tanks | 4/26/41-6/10/45 |
| 145th Royal Armored Car Regiment | 11/15/41-12/4/44 |
| North Irish Horse | 12/4/44- 6/10/45 |

22nd Tank Brigade

Not formed.

23rd Army Tank Brigade

9/3/39 - Second line Territorial army tank brigade embodied in the UK.
 11/1/40 - Redesignated as 23rd Armored Brigade and reorganized.

Assigned Units

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 40th Royal Tanks | 9/3/39-10/31/40 |
| 46th Royal Tanks | 9/3/39-10/31/40 |
| 50th Royal Tanks | 9/3/39-10/31/40 |

24th Army Tank Brigade

9/3/39 - Second line Territorial army tank brigade embodied in the UK.
 11/1/40 - Redesignated as 24th Armored Brigade and reorganized.

Assigned Units

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 41st Royal Tanks | 9/3/39-10/31/40 |
| 45th Royal Tanks | 9/3/39-10/31/40 |
| 47th Royal Tanks | 9/3/39-10/31/40 |

25th Army Tank Brigade

9/3/39 - Second line Territorial army tank brigade embodied in the UK.
 5/28/40 - Redesignated and reorganized as 2nd Motor Machine Gun Brigade.
 12/10/40- Reverted to 25th Army Tank Brigade and reorganized.
 6/1/42 - Redesignated as 25th Tank Brigade.
 1/5/45 - Brigade HQ redesignated as HQ 25th Armored Assault Brigade, Royal Engineers.

Assigned Units

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| 43rd Royal Tanks | 9/3/39-5/28/40 |
| | 4/27/41-10/17/41 |
| 49th Royal Tanks | 9/3/39-5/28/40 |
| | 4/27/41-2/28/42 |
| 51st Royal Tanks | 9/3/39-5/28/40 |
| | 12/10/40-1/4/45 |
| 11th Royal Tanks | 12/10/40-4/26/41 |
| | 2/29/42-8/5/42 |
| 12th Royal Tanks | 12/10/40-4/26/41 |
| 142nd Royal Armored Cars | 11/9/41-12/18/44 |
| 151st Royal Armored Cars | 8/5/42-9/2/42 |
| North Ireland Horse | 9/3/42-12/3/44 |

26th to 30th Tank Brigades

Not formed.

31st Army Tank Brigade

1/15/41 - Formed in the UK.
 5/42 - Redesignated 31st Tank Brigade.
 2/2/45 - Redesignated as 31st Armored Brigade (Type "B").

Units Assigned

| | |
|---|------------------|
| 9th Royal Tanks | 1/15/41-8/31/44 |
| 10th Royal Tanks | 1/15/41-2/21/43 |
| 141st Royal Armored Car Regiment | 11/8/41-6/21/44 |
| | 9/4/44-2/1/45 |
| 7th Royal Tanks | 2/22/43-8/17/44 |
| 144th Royal Armored Car Regiment | 8/23/44-8/31/44 |
| 1st Fife and Fofar Yeomanry | 11/2/44-2/1/45 |
| 11th Royal Tanks | 11/2/44-12/22/44 |
| 49th Armored Personnel Carrier Regiment | 12/22/44-2/1/45 |
| 1st Canadian Armored Personnel Carrier Regiment | 12/22/44-2/1/45 |

32nd Army Tank Brigade

9/15/41 - Brigade HQ formed in Egypt.
 6/22/42 - Brigade captured in Tobruk by the Germans and never reformed.

Assigned Units

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1st Royal Tanks | 9/18/41-2/21/42 |
| 4th Royal Tanks | 9/18/41-6/21/42 |
| 7th Royal Tanks | 9/18/41-2/21/42 |
| | 4/10/42-6/21/42 |

33rd Army Tank Brigade

9/30/41 - HQ formed in UK.
 6/42 - Redesignated as 33rd Tank Brigade.
 3/17/44 - Redesignated as 33rd Armored Brigade.

Assigned Units

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| 43rd Royal Tanks | 10/18/41-8/5/43 |
| 144th Royal Armored Car Regiment | 11/22/41-3/16/44 |
| 148th Royal Armored Car Regiment | 11/22/41-10/8/43 |
| | 2/17/44-3/16/44 |
| 1st Northamptonshire Yeomanry | 9/21/43-3/16/44 |
| 1st East Riding Yeomanry | 10/8/43-2/17/44 |

34th Army Tank Brigade

12/1/41 - HQ formed by conversion and redesignation of HQ 226th Independent Infantry Brigade (Home).
6/42 - Redesignated as 34th Tank Brigade.
2/2/45 - Redesignated as 34th Armored Brigade.

Assigned Units

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| North Ireland Horse | 12/1/41-9/3/42 |
| 147th Royal Armored Car Regiment | 12/1/41-2/1/45 |
| 153rd Royal Armored Car Regiment | 12/1/41-8/24/44 |
| 151st Royal Armored Car Regiment | 9/3/41-12/30/43 |
| 107th Royal Armored Car Regiment | 12/30/43-2/1/45 |
| 9th Royal Tanks | 9/4/44-2/1/45 |

35th Army Tank Brigade

12/1/41 - HQ formed by conversion and redesignation of HQ 225th Independent Infantry Brigade (Home).
8/12/42 - Redesignated as 35th Tank Brigade.

Assigned Units

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 151st Royal Armored Car Regiment | 1/1/42-8/4/42 |
| 152nd Royal Armored Car Regiment | 1/1/42-7/13/45 |
| 155th Royal Armored Car Regiment | 1/1/42-7/13/45 |
| 49th Royal Tanks | 8/16/42-4/30/44 |
| 43rd Royal Tanks | 7/13/44-5/30/45 |
| 8th Kings Royal Rifle Corps | 9/17/44-7/13/45 |

Other Assigned Units

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry | 3/27/45 |
| Warwick Yeomanry | 3/27/45 |
| 1st Royal Gloucestershire Hussars | 6/16/45- |
| Yorkshire Hussars | 6/16/45- |

36th Army Tank Brigade

12/1/41 - HQ formed by conversion and redesignation of HQ 205th Independent Infantry Brigade (Home).
8/12/42 - Redesignated 36th Tank Brigade.
7/13/43 - Brigade HQ disbanded in UK.

Assigned Units

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 154th Royal Armored Car Regiment | 1/1/42-7/3/43 |
| 156th Royal Armored Car Regiment | 1/10/42-7/3/43 |
| 157th Royal Armored Car Regiment | 1/17/42-7/3/43 |

Joslen, Lt. Col. H.F., Orders of Battle, Second World War, 1939-1945, Her Majesty's Stationary Office, 1960.

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