Warhammer 40000 Legiones Astartes Age of Darkness Army Selector/ List Printer

Ian Nevills James Laubach Nicholas Reid

Abstract

To condense the army selection book (hitherto: Legiones Astartes Book) and the rules neccessary for the play of that faction specifically from the Core Rules Book into an easily navigable format to allow for the quick construction of army lists/builds for veteran and novice players of Warhammer 40000 alike.

1. Introduction

Warhammer 40k is an expansive and very complex tabletop game and its rules can be daunting even for veterans of the game. For novices, navigating thick tomes of factions upon subfactions of units upon variants to forge their chosen army list can be nearly impossible. Our goal is to condense the faction book of one faction (Legiones Astartes, "Space Marines") within the setting of the "Horus Heresy" expansion to base 7th edition Warhammer 40k to streamline army creation and hopefully streamline gameplay by providing an army-list document that provides reference to particular rules. With that in mind, however, we are not seeking to make it so that any person could use our program in lieu of buying the particular books in question. Our plan is for our program to:

1.1. Plan Goal 1.

Allow the user to search/page through a catalouge of units pertinent to the faction in question, and select units (and eventually upgrades) within the bounds of standard army templates in the Legiones Astartes Book and point limits imposed on normal gameplay.

1.1.1. Plan Goal 2.. Output a formatted and easily navigated document that provides information (basic stat lines, a list of upgrades, list of rules (but no detailed text), and an index indicating where further information can be found to clarify each) to streamline gameplay.

1.2. Background

Warhammer 40000 Legiones Astartes Age of Darkness Army List Warhammer 40000 Core Rules Book 7th Edition

1.3. Challenges

Our challenges are that the more information we wish to add up to our full goal, the potential complexity and required time to complete the program grows exponentially.

2. Scope

Our bare bones level of functionality that we would call "complete" is the ability to choose an army organization, choose units, and to force users to select army composition within the confines of the afformentioned army organization and point system imposed by gameplay. A stretch goal would be to allow the selection of upgrades, show how they alter the point count, and provide an index to the appropriate page for each upgrade to allow the user to find more detailed information needed for gameplay. A further goal down that road would be to list apropriate rules to each upgrade (and the base units) and allow another index to provide a similar ability to quickly find needed information for those as well. The second main stretch goal would be to make the program be able to read back in its output list (or a code that would generate an identical list) to allow a user to edit a list after the fact rather than rebuilding it from scratch.

2.1. Requirements

As part of fleshing out the scope of your requirements, you'll also need to keep in mind both your functional and non-functional requirements. These should be listed, and explained in detail as necessary. Use this area to explain how you gathered these requirements.

Use Case ID	Use Case Name	Primary Actor	Complexity	Priority
1	Add item to cart	Shopper	Med	1
2	Checkout	Shopper	Med	1

TABLE 1. SAMPLE USE CASE TABLE

2.1.1. Functional.

- User needs to have a private shopping cart this cannot be shared between users, and needs to maintain state across subsequent visits to the site
- Users need to have website accounts this will help track recent purchases, keep shopping cart records, etc.
- You'll need more than 2 of these...

2.1.2. Non-Functional.

- Security user credentials must be encrypted on disk, users should be able to reset their passwords if forgotten
- you'll typically have fewer non-functional than functional requirements

2.2. Use Cases

This subsection is arguably part of how you define your project scope (why it is in the Scope section...). In a traditional Waterfall approach, as part of your requirements gathering phase (what does the product actually *need* to do?), you will typically sit down with a user to develop use cases.

You should have a table listing all use cases discussed in the document, the ID is just the order it is listed in, the name should be indicative of what should happen, the primary actor is typically most important in an application where you may have different levels of users (think admin vs normal user), complexity is a best-guess on your part as to how hard it should be. A lower number in priority indicates that it needs to happen sooner rather than later. A sample table, or Use Case Index can be seen in Table 1.

Use Case Number: 1

Use Case Name: Add item to cart

Description: A shopper on our site has identified an item they wish to buy. They will click on a "Add to Cart" button. This will kick off a process to add one instance of the item to their cart.

You will then go on to (minimally) discuss a basic flow for the process:

- 1) User navigates to page listing desired item
- 2) User left-clicks on "Add to Cart" button.
- 3) User cart is updated to reflect the new item, this also updates the current total.

Termination Outcome: The user now has a single instance of the item in their cart.

You may need to also add in any alternative flows:

Alternative: Item already exists in the cart

- 1) User navigates to page listing desired item
- 2) User left-clicks on "Add to Cart" button.
- 3) User cart is updated to reflect the new item, showing that one more instance of the existing item has been added. This also updates the current total.

Termination Outcome: The user now has multiple instances of the item in their cart.

You will often also need to include pictures or diagrams. It is quite common to see use-case diagrams in such write-ups. To properly reference an image, you will need to use the figure environment and will need to reference it in your text (via the ref command) (see Figure 1). NOTE: this is not a use case diagram, but a kitten.

After fully describing a use case, it is time to move on to the next use case:

Use Case Number: 2

Use Case Name: Checkout

Description: A shopper on our site has finished shopping. They will click on a "Checkout" button. This will kick off a process to calculate cart total, any taxes, shipping rates, and collect payment from the shopper.

You will then need to continue to flesh out all use cases you have identified for your project.



Figure 1. First picture, this is a kitten, not a use case diagram

2.3. Interface Mockups

At first, this will largely be completely made up, as you get further along in your project, and closer to a final product, this will typically become simple screenshots of your running application.

In this subsection, you will be showing what the screen should look like as the user moves through various use cases (make sure to tie the interface mockups back to the specific use cases they illustrate).

3. Project Timeline

Go back to your notes and look up a typical project development life cycle for the Waterfall approach. How will you follow this life cycle over the remainder of this semester? This will usually involve a chart showing your proposed timeline, with specific milestones plotted out. Make sure you have deliverable dates from the course schedule listed, with a plan to meet them (NOTE: these are generally optimistic deadlines).

4. Project Structure

At first, this will be a little empty (it will need to be filled in by the time you turn in your final report). This is your chance to discuss all of your design decisions (consider this the README's big brother).

4.1. UML Outline

Show the full structure of your program. Make sure to keep on updating this section as your project evolves (you often start out with one plan, but end up modifying things as you move along). As a note, while Dia fails miserably at generating pdfs (probably my fault), I have had much success with png files. Make sure to wrap your images in a figure environment, and to reference with the ref command. For example, see Figure 2.

4.2. Design Patterns Used

Make sure to actually use at least 2 design patterns from this class. This is not normally part of such documentation, but largely just specific to this class – I want to see you use the patterns!



Figure 2. Your figures should be in the figure environment, and have captions. Should also be of diagrams pertaining to your project, not random internet kittens

5. Results

This section will start out a little vague, but it should grow as your project evolves. With each deliverable you hand in, give me a final summary of where your project stands. By the end, this should be a reflective section discussing how many of your original goals you managed to attain/how many desired use cases you implemented/how many extra features you added.

5.1. Future Work

Where are you going next with your project? For early deliverables, what are your next steps? (HINT: you will typically want to look back at your timeline and evaluate: did you meet your expected goals? Are you ahead of schedule? Did you decide to shift gears and implement a new feature?) By the end, what do you plan on doing with this project? Will you try to sell it? Set it on fire? Link to it on your resume and forget it exists?

References

[1] H. Kopka and P. W. Daly, A Guide to ETeX, 3rd ed. Harlow, England: Addison-Wesley, 1999.