

# Modern anti-tank threats and solutions

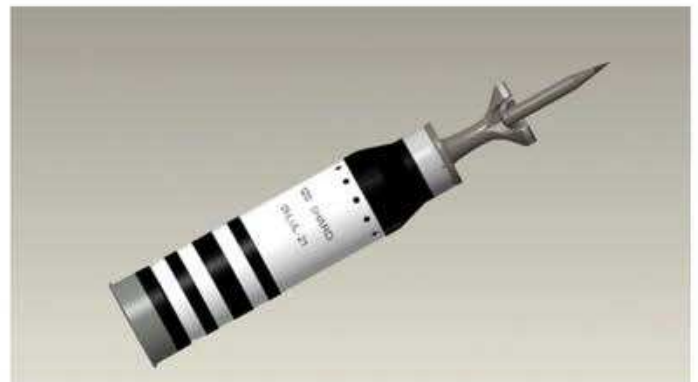


One can argue that the era of tanks is over! The Nagorno-Karabakh, Russia-Ukraine, and Israel-Gaza wars have flooded social media with photos of destroyed tanks. While one can argue tanks have become more vulnerable than ever, it also should be understood that the tanks are going nowhere immediately. However, rather than discussing the credibility of a tank in a modern context, we will first try to find out the major threats a tank might face on the battlefield and possible solutions to combat them.

## Threat 1: KE rounds

One of the biggest and most effective anti-tank threats is the armour-piercing fin-stabilized discarding sabot (APFSDS), or kinetic energy rounds. It's a metal dart that is fired through the main gun of a tank and uses only kinetic energy to penetrate the target. In simple words, it's a bullet for the tanks! Modern KE rounds use high-density materials like tungsten carbide (ex: 3BM42 Mango, 3BM60 Svinet-2, DM73) or depleted uranium (ex: M829A4) to achieve maximum penetration. Modern tank guns fire at a high supersonic or near hypersonic speed!

Hence, these rounds could defeat the enemy armor as a hot knife goes through butter! While it's a highly lethal



*In latest news, Nexter qualifies the new SHARD 120mm APFSDS tank ammunition. SHARD is "the solution" for all NATO 120mm tanks to defeat modern MBTs (by 15%) and has been designed by KNDS to bring 120mm APFSDS tungsten alloy ammunition "to the next level of performance against all modern MBTs".*