

MR 8T Van Detailing - references Midland Railway Wagons Vol.1.

Using a "completed" wagon from Slater's/Coopercraft, this could also be done to kits before assembly.



The illustrations shows repainted kits which will need painting and lettering to complete.

Preparing for details

1. Remove unwanted parts. Remember not all wagons received all the fittings added by about 1930. In particular the diagonal straps across the doors were not always applied.
2. The kit misses the three bottom door runner support straps so these should always be added.
3. The ends need the "T" brackets removed and the straps on the staunchons.
4. At the corner bottom/left side of door remove the strap which extends around the ends.
5. The sliding door top moulding needs trimming back to the door edge (left hand side) and the bolts along the slide removing.
6. Add the wedges either side of the door between the diagonal braces and the door frame. These appear not to extend beyond the second plank on the body sides.
7. A wagon label moulding adjacent to the crown plate on the left side of the wagon door needs to be removed - to enable the supporting strap to be fitted.

In the photo the white areas are where the plastic moulding has been modified.

Adding details



1. Add the "triangular" plates to the ends.
2. Make up the angle irons - most pointed end to the top - with the angle irons facing outwards and the "bolts" in the centre of the timbers.
3. Add the plates - top left side of door.
4. Add a plastic strip above the sliding door.
5. Fold the end strap immediately left of the vertical arm and add to the corner of the wagon. The diagonal strap should lie in the centre of the diagonal brace and pass over the buffer casting.
6. Add the diagonal door braces, these need a "Z" fold to sit on the door parts, the single "bolt" in line with the existing plastic moulding bolts.
7. Add the sliding door supports (three each side). The ends need bending where the part etch section starts to produce an "S" shape. One lies beneath the left side door vertical, the other beneath the right side door vertical and the third just behind the headstocks at the end of the door runner.

All the details were attached with a liberal application of plastic solvent (Butatone), you may feel more comfortable with other glues. There may be other alterations you may wish to make, what is described as fittings are found in AMBIS parts WDT2.

AJA - 13th December 2015