

Donor Wagons

- WN37A Worthington** use LMS or NE covered vans or SR fridge vans.
- WN37B SR 7 Plank open** use tinplate 7 plank open wagons, (not plastic bodied versions).
- WN37C SR Covered van** use tinplate brake van and cattle wagons only, (not SR brake, die cast brake or plastic moulded brake vans).
- WN37D GW Brake van** use tinplate guards van and cattle wagons only, (not SR brake, die cast brake or plastic moulded brake vans).
- WN37E Fry's** use tinplate 5 plank open wagons.

Preparation *Good preparation makes for a good surface finish*

1. If the donor wagon has a roof, slide it off. If the open wagon has a coal or ballast insert remove it.
2. Remove rusted areas by rubbing down with fine wet and dry paper. Similarly, where scratches are seen rub down around the scratch to blend it in and minimise it.
3. Remove dents by using the back of a teaspoon or similar tool to press them out, alternatively apply a fine surface filler such as Milliput and when dry rub down to obtain a flat surface finish.
4. Any discrepancies seen at the preparation stage will most likely still be seen after the overlay has been applied. Check all corners are true and square as far as possible.
5. Clean up the surfaces to remove grease, dust and dirt. For open wagons clean also the inside walls of the wagon. Use WD40 to loosen grease and dirt without affecting the lithographed paintwork. Another option is 'Mr Sheen' furniture polish. Dry thoroughly.
6. The use of methylated spirits (also known as denatured alcohol), white spirits or electrical contact cleaner will quickly remove the lithographed paintwork down to the plated metal underneath. If using any of these, use only for a second or two and quickly wipe off. Allow to re-harden if softening has occurred.
7. The overlay will adhere well to the cleaned original surface.

Application

1. The material is described as Permanent Self Adhesive Paper with 25 micron OPP over-laminate. It will stretch and tear if pressed too hard around corners or into windows and recesses.
2. Make sure that your hands are **clean and free from grease**. Have a soft clean cloth available for smoothing out the overlay. Place the donor wagon onto a clean flat surface protected by a piece of kitchen towel or linen.
3. Curl back the paper backing sheet at one end of the overlay and gently lift it off using your thumb and forefinger, then hold the other end of the overlay with the thumb and finger of the other hand. Do not stretch it.
4. Holding the overlay about half an inch (12mm) above the long side of the wagon, position the base line of the overlay above the base line of the wagon, then move it left or right to align the corner posts depicted in the overlay with the corners of the donor wagon.
5. Slowly....slowly.... lower the overlay down onto the wagon, watching closely to keep the correct baseline alignment and corner positions until it touches the wagon. Gently release the overlay and using a soft cloth smooth out from the base upwards and sideways to minimise creases or air bubbles. If the wagon has windows or recesses (guards van, cattle wagon etc) do not press the overlay into the windows as you risk stretching the material.
6. Check baseline and corner positions, if not correct **very gently** lift off and re-apply.
7. When correctly located, turn one of the corners and press down the end, check it sits squarely on the body above the buffers and is not slanted. Repeat for the other end.
8. For open wagons, carefully fold the protruding long (black) side over the top edge of the wagon and firm down smoothly onto the inside wall. Do the same for each end.
9. Repeat for the second half of the overlay.
10. The joins above the coupling hooks (where TTRCA and Made in England are printed) should line up with each other. There may be a small overlap in some circumstances due to the manufacturing tolerances in both the length and width of the donor wagons. Any overlap can be trimmed with a pair of sharp scissors if required.
11. Gently press down all edges of the overlay using a soft cloth.
12. For covered vans, press the overlay under the gutter of the wagon using your fingernail or the back of a well rounded old kitchen knife. Do this gently so as not to drag the vinyl finish off the paper backing underneath it. Refit the roof, or coal/ballast load if applicable.