# VICTORIAN RAILWAYS 'M' WAGON

## Prototype Notes

The first wagon of the pattern represented by our kit was M 491, released for traffic 20th December, 1897. Of steel and wood construction and consequently more durable than all wooden wagons previously used, construction was carried on intermittently until 1922. Some 620 wagons of this type were either constructed new or 'rebuilt' from the earlier wooden varieties of M wagon. A further 150 wagons to a modernised design incorporating a separate handbrake similar to contemporary GY wagons were constructed in the early 1950's.

Number ranges appropriate to the type of M wagon represented by our kit are listed below:

1-318
419-719



*Model illustrated has been fitted with handbrake, shunter's steps and couplers (not included).*

## Assembly

It is recommended that this kit be assembled with a liquid solvent (MEK or Testor's etc).

Carefully remove parts from sprues. Use a sharp knife, do not snap parts off, and remove lugs from back of solebars and brakeshoes. The moulding gates should be removed from the back of the sides by careful filing.

Remove the draw or slight taper from the top of the sidesills by careful sanding. Glue a piece of 180 grit opencote aluminium oxide sandpaper to a flat piece of wood and rub the top edge of each sidesill over it, using a second block of wood with one edge planed 90º as a guide. This step will ensure that the sidesills are installed at 90º to the floor. Fit the Delrin bearings into the holes in the axle boxes.

Check sides against floor moulding and make sure that side framing fits into notches in edge of floor. If necessary very carefully enlarge openings with a needle file or sharp knife.

Cement the sidesills to the floor with the wheelsets sandwiched between. Make sure that the back of each sidesill is hard up against the floor structure, that the wheelsets turn freely and that the axles are at 90º to the sidesills. Cement the brake cylinder to the underframe in the location shown in figure 1.
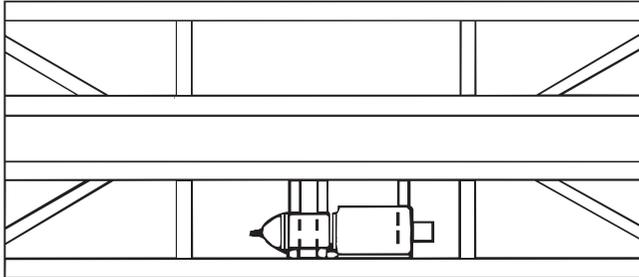


Fig. 1

Cut two lengths of plastic rod 47mm long and cement behind the side as shown in figure 2. Also cement the two locking bars across the door opening on each side.
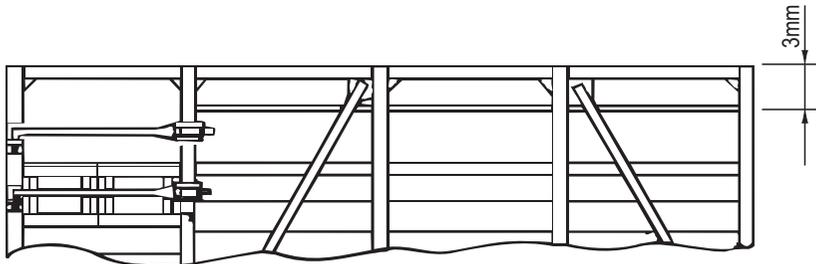


3mm

Fig. 2

Cement the sides and ends together to form an open box with the top of the sides flush with the top of the ends. Position this sub assembly onto the underframe. The bottom of the loading ramp should be hard down on top of the floor. Secure with a brush of solvent cement.
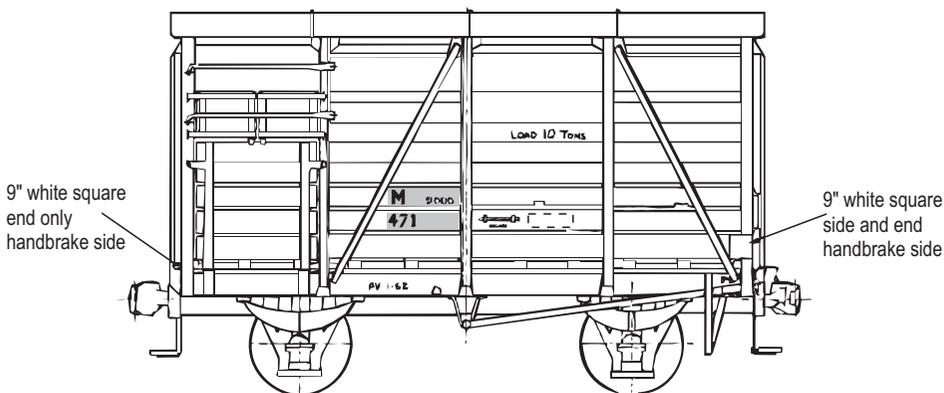
Paint the interior and/or install scale cattle before cementing the roof in place.

Cement the brake shoes to the floor using the lugs moulded in place as a guide. Ensure that the brake shoes do not drag on the wheels. Etched brass shunter's steps and handbrake detail is available separately in Steam Era Models kit E4, which contains sufficient parts for five wagons.

The underframe is designed to accept Kadee No 5 or No 58 couplers which may be cemented directly to the floor moulding after first removing the side lugs from the draft gear box.

## Painting and Decals

The model should be painted overall V.R. wagon red with white lettering. We recommend Steam Era Models V.R. wagon red spraying enamel. Decals are provided for both 5" and 7" lettering.

9" white square end only handbrake side

9" white square side and end handbrake side

LOAD 10 TONS

M  9000
471

AV 1·62

Pre 1950    5" lettering, capacity stencil.
1950-1972  5" lettering, black ground, no capacity stencil.
1972 . . .   7" lettering, black ground, no capacity stencil.
Black ground shown shaded on diagram.

## To Apply Decals

Trim decals close to lettering to remove excess film.

Immerse in water for ten to fifteen seconds, then set aside on a tissue until decal straightens out.

Slide decal into position. If it is necessary to adjust the final position, use a small brush that has been dipped in water.

Use a tissue to soak up excess water.

The use of a decal setting agent such as Solvaset is recommended to assist decals in snuggling down over rivets etc.

A flat finish such as DDV or estapol matt applied to the entire model will give a uniform dull finish.

NOTE: DECALS ADHERE BEST TO A GLOSS SURFACE.