

Simulated Tram Track TT4



Simulated or Inset, Tram Track

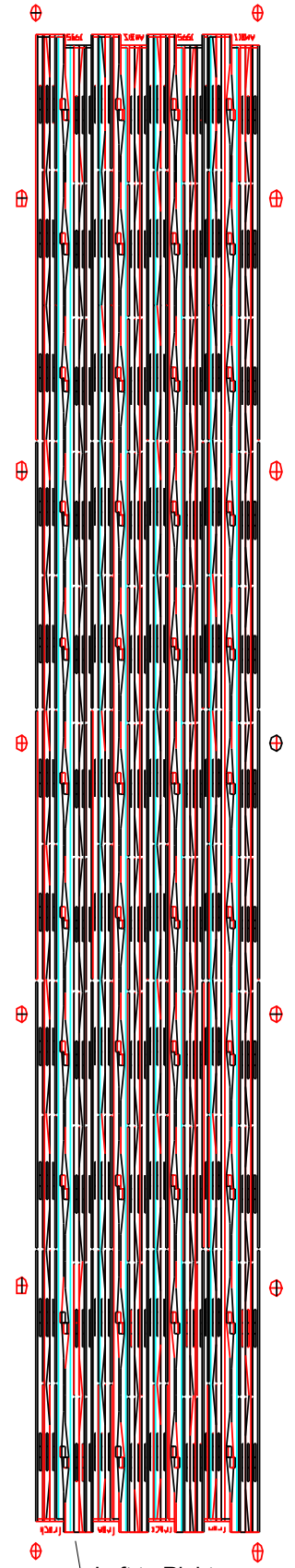
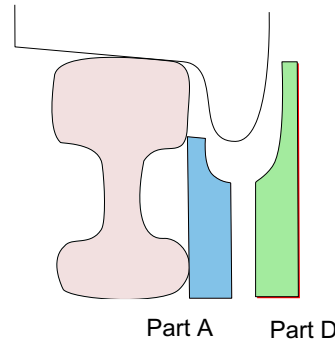
Uses Code 75 bullhead rail

This was a prototype etching that seems good enough to make available generally. It requires the use of code 75 bullhead rail (i.e. a .075" high rail section). It had been designed for P4/EM/OO use but S7 profile wheels will fit in the flangeway. Two packing pieces B and C are supplied to assist with different wheel profiles. The primary etching are parts A and D which provide the simulated tram rail section.

There is no specific requirement for a particular track gauge, but originally EM and P4 modellers were targeted. You need to ascertain how much packing will be required for your stock at you track radaii, there should be no particular problem with straight or straightish track.

Not all tramways used the track track profile rail and some railways used this rail section where their track is inset in roads, such as in dockyard areas. The older parts of Calais's railways seem to use this kind of rail inset in concrete, but the most typical kind of inset rail is likely to be cobble or brickwork.

The etching is .018" thick, which when half etched away should be about .009" (not all half etching turns out to be even etching from both sides, the etcher just chemically mills the metal away). The tabs and slots were drawn to allow the multi-section packing to be "tied" together before assembly. The slots do not always etch away properly and we found that assembly piece by piece from the rail was just as effective - providing solder fillets do not foul the flangeway or increase the width of the finished section unevenly.



The table below explains what packing pieces (B or C) should do to the flangeway that is created by the simulation of tram track.

Parts	Flangeway Inches (Real)	Flangeway Millimetres (Approximate) (Real)	Suggested track gauge/wheel standards
A+D	0.018"	0.45mm	
A+B+D	0.027"	0.7mm	P4
A+C+D	0.036"	0.9mm	EM
A+B+C+D	0.045"	1.1mm	OO

The scalloped section to part D gives requires a sleeper spacing of 1" or 25mm to solder the section next to the rail. This could give rise to difficulties around curves unless thought through in advance.

Each etched part is about 11" long providing either 0.5m (TT/2 pack) or 1m (TT/4 pack) of simulated inset tram track.

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