

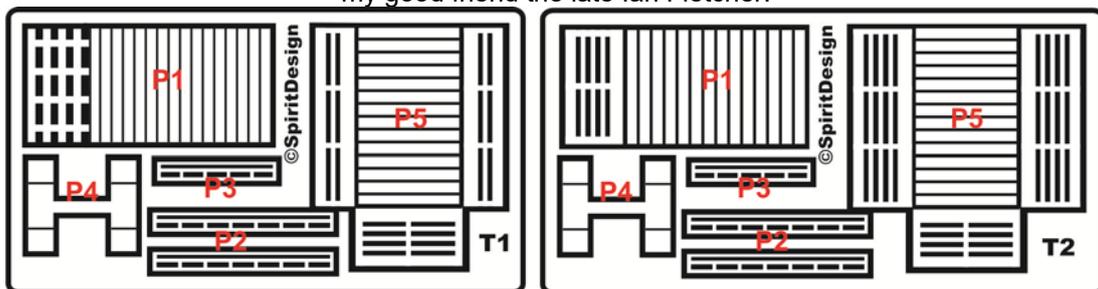


SD031 – Mini Metals truck dress-up kit

Thank you for purchasing this kit and I hope you get many hours of enjoyment from it. Chris Pearce (Spirit Design)



Mini Metals dress-up kit to look more Australian. This scene on Wallan using the kit components was constructed by my good friend the late Ian Fletcher.



The Kit:

The kit can be put together in an hour or so and is designed to make the Mini Metals trucks look more Australian. It is suggested that you **read** the instructions first to become familiar with the components and the essence of construction. There are a few steps that require close attention and they are highlighted in ***bold and italics!*** Parts referred to in the text are marked **(P1)**, **(P2)** etc. Please use photos to aid construction. There are 2 kits known as T1 and T2. Both kits have a tray and an enclosed body tray which are different from each other giving 4 variations within the 2 kits available. Instructions are the same for both kits.

Equipment & Materials:

Modelling tools, 800-grit aluminium oxide sandpaper, small flat needle file, superglue if gluing but a soldering iron is the best way to complete the kit.

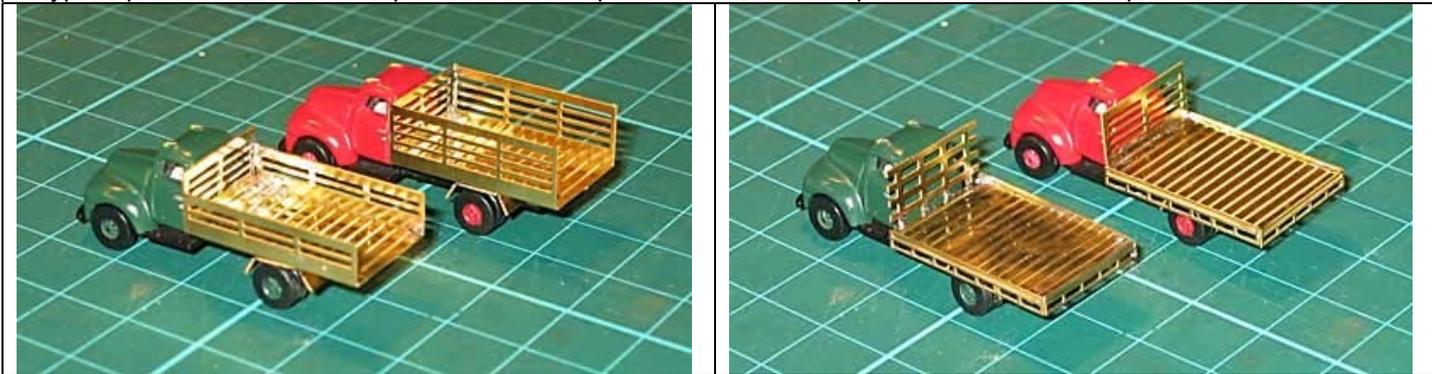
Tray/Deck assembly:

1. Position **(P1)** tray deck upside down on a piece of card or wood so that the combing rail/lashing rail sides **(P2)** are as per the photo below and solder them in place. The combing rail protrudes about 0.7mm- 1.00mm above the etched timber floor when viewed right way up
2. Solder **(P3)** across the back of the tray deck to complete the combing rails

3. Fold up the end wall of the tray to 90 degrees and solder for extra strength
4. Fold (P5) sides and end wall up to 90 degrees and solder the fold lines for strength



A typical packet of trucks when purchased. Compare these to the completed unit in the main photo.



Completed Versions of both kits before painting

Mudguards:

5. (P4) Fold the small flaps to 45 degrees making sure the fold lines are on the inside of the bent unit. Solder the fold lines

The Mini Metals Truck available from hobby shops:

6. Carefully remove the existing tray/body from the bought unit
7. If you have bought a dual rear wheel truck you will need to remove one tire from each side so that the combing/lashing rails clear the rear wheel and trim the axle to length accordingly
8. Test fit the mudguards in place with the tray bed and pack with styrene, timber or cardboard to achieve the desired look and ride height of the tray and mudguards when sitting on the truck
9. When happy glue the packing ride height bits into place and ***then glue the mudguards and tray after completing the painting section first***

Painting general:

10. The brass etches should be lightly coated (2 passing light coats not 1 heavy one) with a pale grey primer, Tamiya Surface Primer is ideal for this step
11. Paint the floor a wooden colour or wash with black stains to create a faded timber look
12. The main wall and sides should be painted similar to the truck body or your chosen colour. See the photo of the completed unit above as a guide
13. Paint the mudguards the same colour as the truck body on top and the underside should be painted a weathered muddy look

Weathering:

14. Use pastels or paint to weather the trucks as per photos or to your liking.

Ideal Reference photos:

https://www.flickr.com/photos/secret_squirrel6/sets/72157623157448076/

Any alterations, suggestions or queries please contact me.

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