

AMERICAN FLYER WHEEL CARRIER FLAT CAR

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Whenever I see something that looks good and is easy to make, I am all for that. This project is one of those projects that looks hard but is really very simple to build. This project took about an hour and half to complete. An inexpensive American Flyer flat car and two pieces of straight track is all that is needed to complete this project. For my project, I use American Models 10-inch sectional track for the following reasons:

- The track has a very low profile.
- The track looks good with the ties.

The following are the steps to take to complete the project:

1. Cut both track sections to length to fit on the flat car. One of the sections will be pulled apart.
2. Place the intact section of track on the flat car with an off set it one side.
3. Pull the other rails from the track ties. You should have two pieces of straight track.
4. Now lay the loose rails on the off set track section. Lay the rails so that the width of the wheel sets will have enough clearance. Please refer to the Figure 1.
5. Once you have the rails properly spaced, you can crazy glue the rails to the top of the intact track section ties.
6. Next take a small piece of unused rail to form a wheel stop on the top of the rails. This can be done by cutting a small piece of rail at a 45-degree angle. (See Figure 2.)
7. Trim the rail stops to fit on top of the rail head. Not every end of the rail section needs a rail stop. You only need one pair of rail stops on the end rail with the first and last wheel set. The wheel stops can be crazy glued in place.
8. The last step is to secure the double rail section to the flat car. I used two small bolts to hold my section in place. You can use crazy glue instead of the small bolts.
9. Place your wheel sets in an alternating offset manner. I was able to place eighteen AF wheel sets and two American Model Hi-Rail wheel sets on my flat car (Figure 3).
10. As a detail touch, you can paint the wheel hubs in silver paint.

This will complete the project. You now have a unique looking car. It can be placed in the engine house area or as a piece of rolling stock.



Figure 1

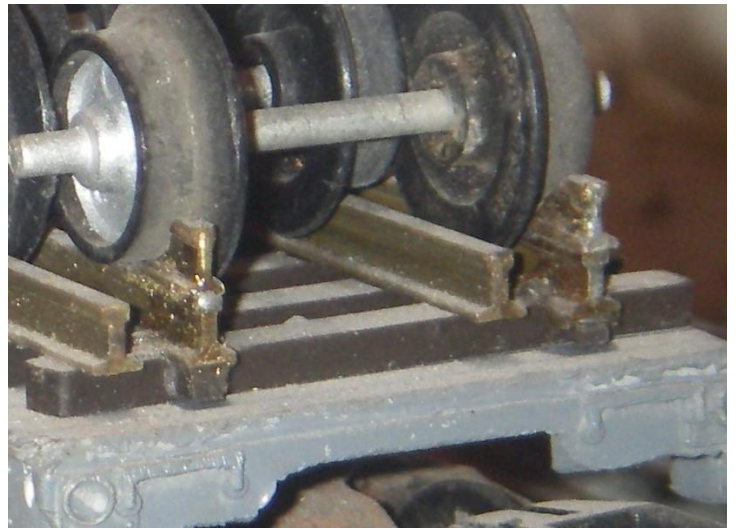


Figure 2



Figure 3