

Weigh your Wagon

Using Deluxe Materials Liquid Gravity

Demonstrated by *George Dent*, model-maker in residence at Model Rail magazine.

Anyone who has ever built a plastic wagon or carriage kit will know that the issue of weight is of vital importance in terms of reliable running.

Adding weight to your wagons

Step 1 All you need to get your rolling stock running reliably is correctly fitted wheels and adequate weight. Deluxe's Liquid Gravity is a non-toxic alternative to lead-based weighting products and is easy to use.

Step 2 If applying Liquid Gravity to the underside of a wagon, a means of retaining the fine pellets is needed. Strips of plastic fixed laterally and butting against the solebars, with enough space for the wheels and bogies to rotate freely, will do the trick.

Step 3 Pour the Liquid Gravity through the nozzle of the squeeze plastic bottle into the recess. Work within a cardboard box or something similar to contain any spillage for re-use.

Step 4 Use a scrap of wood or plastic as a tamping tool to level the Liquid Gravity and ensure it reaches into the corners. Aim to get the surface of the metal particles just below the lower face of the solebars.

Step 5 Use a penetrating adhesive such as Rokat Card Glue or Rokat Hot cyanoacrylate. The use of Micro Tip applicators will help to direct the glue.

Step 6 Apply glue over the surface of the Liquid Gravity, ensuring that it seeps into all the crevices. If using cyano glue, work in a well ventilated area and avoid applying too much at one time, allowing the fumes to evaporate without risk of damage to soft plastics or painted surfaces.

Step 7 For smaller vehicles, cramming weight into all available recesses may be necessary, but be careful not to impede the movement of wheels, couplings or bogies.

Step 8 If you intend adding fixed loads into your freight stock, the weight can simply be spread across the floor and fixed with Rokat Card Glue allowing a few hours for it to cure fully.

