

Truck and Wheel Painting

By Jeff MacDonald

A BMRC Mini-Clinic

1. Duplicolor brand auto primer. Best rattle can primer around. Dark or light grey. A little more expensive than the rustOleum but good enough for your best models. RustOleum dark grey primer is good enough for freight car trucks.
2. RustOleum camouflage brown lightly sprayed over the dark grey gives a nice dirt weathered look for trucks or rolling stock underbody.
3. Wheel painting is done with brushed on oily black for solid bearing trucks or weathered black and dusted with rust powder for modern roller bearing trucks. I have`nt tried it yet but I think you could mix a little silver with weathered black to make the oily black now since Pollyscale/Testors is unavailable.
4. Pactra[also extinct!!] racing formula paint can be used on the shiny sides of steam locomotive tires. Somewhat pliable and has great adhesion.

Clean the tires well first. Not sure what the small car people are using now but there is probably a substitute around. If the trucks cannot be easily disassembled I coat the wheel surface where it makes rail contact with a light coat of oil with a cotton swab. Paint and weather the trucks and then remove the paint with the appropriate solvent with a clean swab.



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