

Houstoun Gate Locomotive Works Ffestiniog Slab Wagon Assembly Instructions

It is suggested that you read these instructions through before commencing construction.

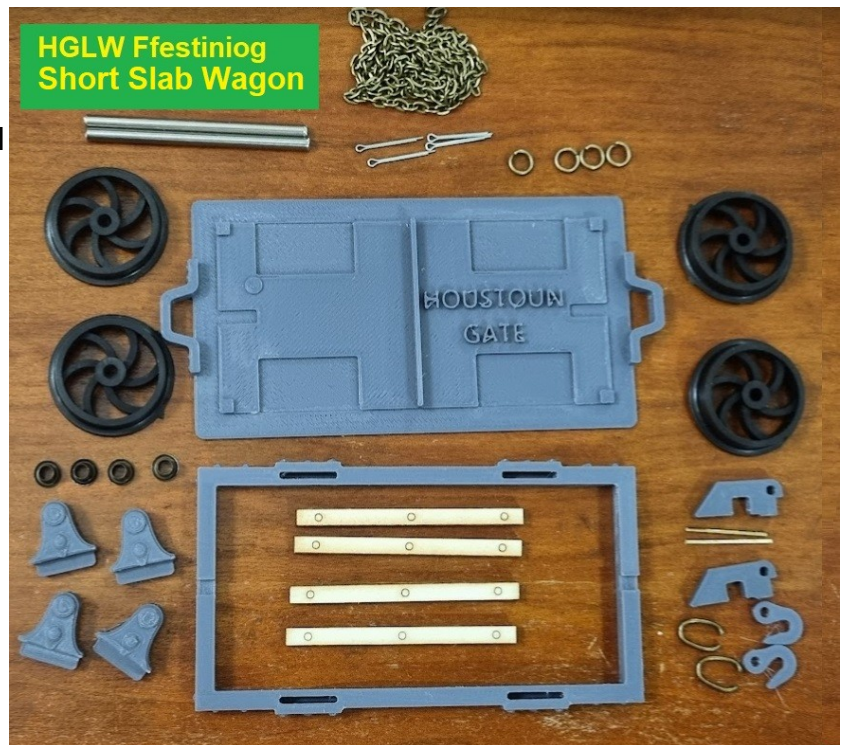
Kit Contents

A minimum of tools are needed to assemble the kit. Small pliers are useful as is fine sandpaper and weights to hold parts in place while the glue dries

This kit requires glue and paint to complete. We recommend Revell 39604 Contacta glue, or failing that, a quality super glue.

As a suggestion the 3D printed parts of the kit may need brushing over with a stiff brush to remove any remaining filament remnants

To finish the model cans of automotive spray paint or acrylic paint work well and give a good finish.



Below is an inspirational picture of a long slab wagon in use from Mr HGLW's own collection taken while researching these wagons.



It is suggested that painting the model may be easier for some parts before assembly.

Start the build by assembling the chassis frame and wagon deck



Ensure the slots for the axleboxes remain accessible

Place the assembled wagon deck on a flat surface and place a weight on top and set aside to dry



While waiting for the deck to dry assemble the tie down rings.

Take one ring and one split pin. It may be useful to carefully use a blunt knife to prise the split pin open, to slide the ring down the into the loop at the head of the split pin. Then re-close the split pin. Small pliers may be useful to assist closing



Once the glue has dried on the wagon attach the two drag beams in place at each end of the chassis



Insert the split pins of the tie down rings into the holes in the chassis frame.

Fold both legs of the split pins flat against the inner face of the chassis frame



Carefully slide the wheels onto the axles. Twisting the wheels as you go makes this easier.
Set the gauge as appropriate to your wagon



Press the brass bearings into the axlebox with the axlebox placed on a soft surface to avoid damaging the axlebox face detail.



Once the bearing is inserted in the axlebox, test insert an axle rod held upright in the hand and gently flick the axlebox to make sure it spins freely.

If not, fettle a little more to ensure it rotates freely, as any binding will be detrimental to the free running of the wagons. If there is any resistance you can either spin the axle end on some fine emery cloth and/or wiggle a 3mm drill in the bearing hole until it runs free



Before gluing the axleboxes in place in the chassis make sure the inside back face of the locating tab of the axlebox is free from printing artifact debris (on the same side as the bearing). This is to ensure the axlebox sits square in the locating hole. Trial fit the axleboxes in the chassis and ensure that they are perfectly upright, this is vital to free running of the wheels when the model is completed. Glue one axlebox in place, insert the wheelset in the axlebox, then glue the second axlebox in place

Make sure they remain free spinning as the glue dries.

Attach the coupling hooks onto the single chain link and attach this to the coupling drag beam on the end of the wagon. Orientate it so the hooks face in towards the wagon.



In use link a single hook into the link of the next wagon. Do not attempt to use both wagons hooks to couple adjacent wagons! That would be both non-prototypical and tend to cause derailments in use



If you desire to couple either the wagons to each other or to locomotives with standard three link (Roundhouse type) couplings fashion the supplied short lengths of brass rod into a hook using small pliers and insert them into the top of the drag beam with a spot of superglue or similar to fix in place.



. . . And finally attach the wooden runners to the top deck and adorn the wagon with the tie down chains to secure whatever load you may use



Well done, your wagon is now complete