

BB1R REPLACEMENT FRAMES FOR RTR BOGIES – BR B1 (one pair)

Owners of large, intensively used layouts find that plastic RTR bogies often wear out, leading to poor running. These etched frames, used in conjunction with the original sideframes and close couplings provide an effective replacement without significantly adding to train weight. They are suitable for OO, EM and P4.

Our BPP001 bearings are recommended, together with our Wizard plain disc wheels.

Assembly instructions

All folds should be made with the half-etched lines on the inside. When folding, bend slightly too far, then use a square to push back the fold to 90°.

Open out the bearing holes (2.0mm diameter) in the frames (A) and solder in the bearings from the side with the half-etched lines. If not using the original close couplings, drill out the pivot holes in (B) before adding them to the centre of the frames.

Fold up the tabs on the ends. Bend up the sides, followed by the ends. Spring in the wheelsets and tack solder the corners. If the wheels are loose, unsolder the joints and bearings and add spacing washers (C – full thickness and/or D – half thickness) behind the bearing flanges and try again. When satisfied, solder up the corners.

If desired, solder in the strips (E) to close the open ends of the bogies. The coupling pocket is provided for bogie mounted couplings used on layouts with tight curves.

Mount the carriage body on the new frames. If the ride height is satisfactory, then cut off the original bogie sideframes and fix them to the new frames.

If not, then the spacing washers F and G can be used. Both are 0.018" thick and four levels are possible. Start with F, folding down the tabs to locate in the slots on A. If still too low, add G, but keep its four legs flat. For the next level, remove F and use G with the legs folded down. Maximum thickness is achieved with F on top of G with the legs folded down.

