

# **SPIRIT** DESIGN

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## **GY002 Tarpaulin (various colours) kit & Replacement Wagon Numbers for Aust-N-Rail RTR GY *Red GY's***

*Thank you for purchasing one of my many kits and I hope you get many hours of enjoyment from it. Chris Pearce (Spirit Design)*



Photo 1

Typical  
red GY.

Note the  
two  
different  
wheel  
types.

Photo  
Chris  
Pearce  
Collection

### **The Kit.**

The laser printed and etched/cut kit consists of several parts. These will be identified during construction (P1 etc) to aid in assembling the kit. Only minimal tools and beginner/basic skills are required to complete this kit. There are three main parts to the kit, decals with alternative wagon numbers, the tarp former for inside the wagon, and the printed VR tarps of various colours. There are enough tarps and decals to complete 25 wagons. The tarp unit can be made as a permanent fixture, or removable as required.

It is suggested that you read the instructions first to become familiar with the components and the essence of construction. There are a few steps that require close attention and they are highlighted in ***bold and italics!***

### **Removal of the original decals.**

To remove the original decal from the wagon soak the tip of a cotton wool bud in Methylated Spirits and gently rub away the number whilst constantly checking to make sure you are not wiping away any of the paintwork. It is suggested that you rub around a bit, look at the decal area, and if necessary re-wet the cotton wool bud and apply again. Once dry use a bit of spit on the end of your finger and polish the area just cleaned to remove any metho stains. ***Do not try to complete the removal in one continuous action, check after a couple of swirls.***

### **Applying the replacement decals.**

You will have a selection of replacement black decals to use on your wagons. Do not worry if you lose a number set for a particular wagon. Just use another, as people do not generally see both sides of the wagon at once. It gives the illusion that you have twice as many wagons if different numbers are used for each side. For best results, decals should always be applied to a glossy surface to stop the silvering effect that shows through on matt painted surfaces. The silvering that you see under some decals means that only part of the decal is adhering to the surface and could break away at any time. Apply gloss clear coating to the area that will receive the decals.

Carefully cut out around as close as possible to the decal from the sheet, and using tweezers or a brush, dip the decal into lukewarm water. After a few seconds, underwater drag the decal, still attached to the backing paper, to the side of the saucer and clear of the waterline. Paint the model in the general area of the decal with a decal setting solution. As the water in the backing paper bleeds through to the decal glue above it, it softens. Use your

wet brush test to see if the decal will move slightly on the backing sheet, if so, it is now ready to lay down on the model. If it does not move, give it a bit more time or drag some fresh water up over the decal and retest every 10 seconds as per the previous directions.

Using tweezers, a brush or cotton wool bud position the decal in the area where you want it to go and then gently assist it off the backing paper with a brush dipped in water. Once positioned in its final place draw excess water/setting solution away with a moistened cotton wool bud. Do not move the decal once you put the decal setting solution down. The wrinkling you see will disappear once the solution and water evaporates.

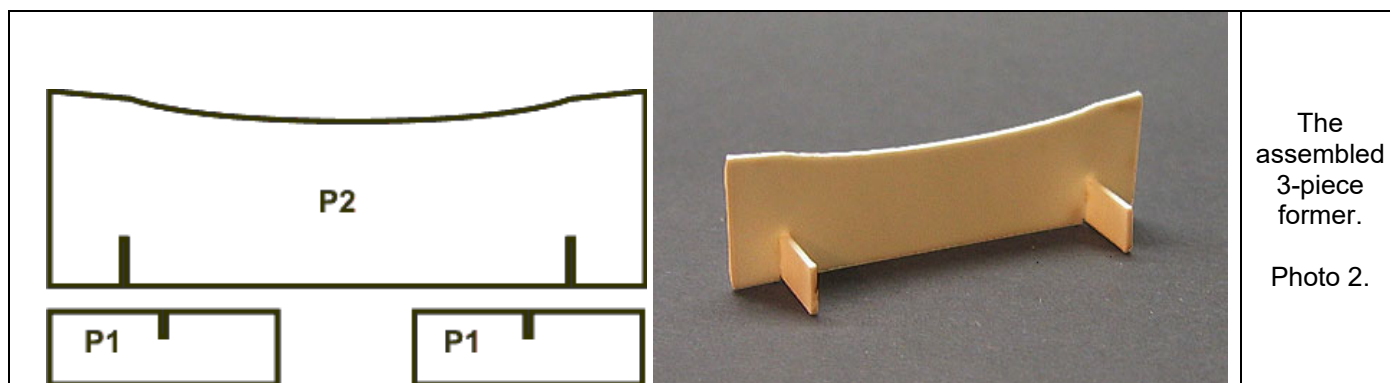
Once dry (usually overnight) wipe any water or setting solution watermarks away with fresh water. When this is dry, paint the model in a clear coating of your choice and weather it to your liking.

### The Ridgepoles.

The ridgepoles are best left in the laid-down position to aid the easy withdrawal and placement of the tarp former. It is easier to remove them altogether if the tarp is to be a permanent fixture as only a tiny part is seen with the tarp in place.

### The Tarp Former.

The tarp former consists of three parts. Glue a leg (P1) onto the tarp former (P2) using super glue or similar plastic glue. Super glues give you the ability to assemble these fixtures quickly. Others require overnight drying to achieve maximum bonding strength. Repeat the same procedure for the other leg (P1). See Photo 2.



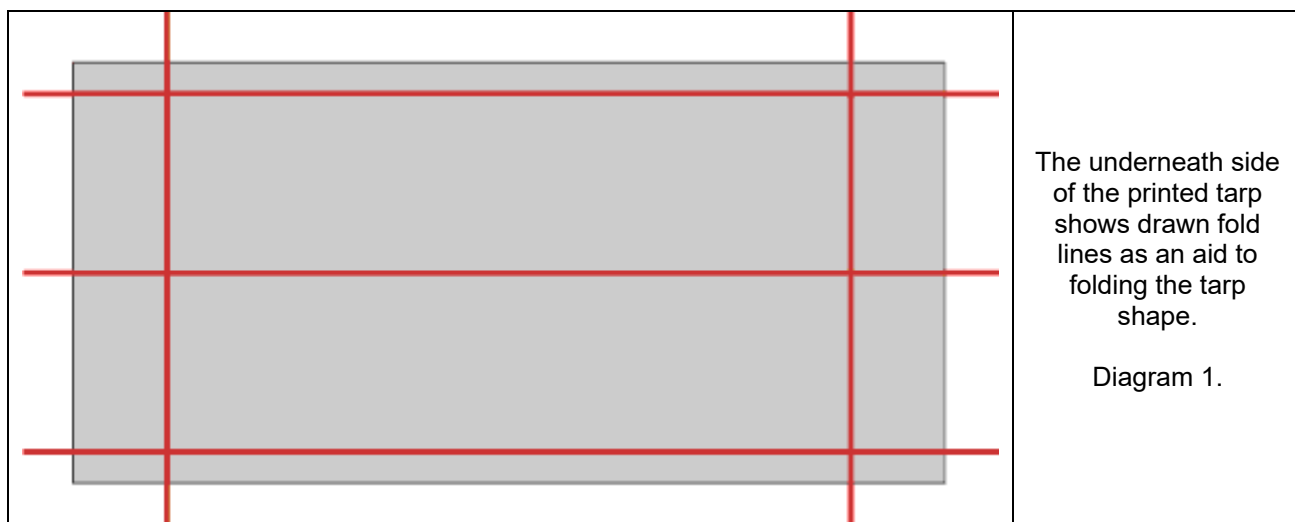
### Making the tarp.

***It will take longer in words to describe how to fold the tarp than if you saw a demonstration.***

Cut around a tarp making sure that you do not cut away any of the printed colours. Just trim up to the outside of the black line.

**Marking out the tarp backs with a ballpoint pen will make fold lines easier to bend.**

1. Rule a centre line the length of the tarp
2. Rule a line 6mm away from the edge of the tarp on each of the short sides
3. Rule a line 2mm line away from the edge of the tarp on each of the long sides.



### Folding the tarp.

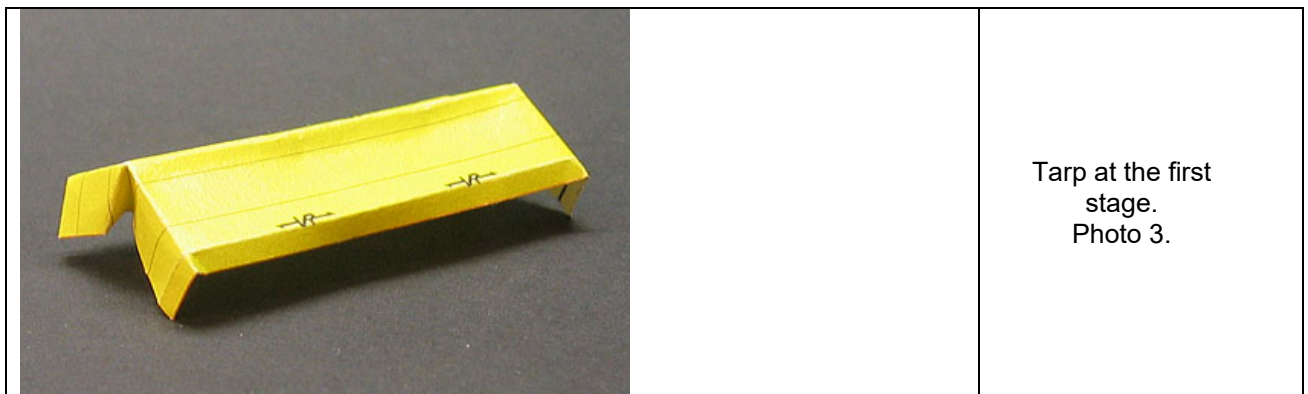
1. Fold the tarp in half along the centre line

2. Fold the 5mm sections of the tarp over
3. Fold the 2mm lines over using the edge of a rule and a suitable implement to help in the creasing.

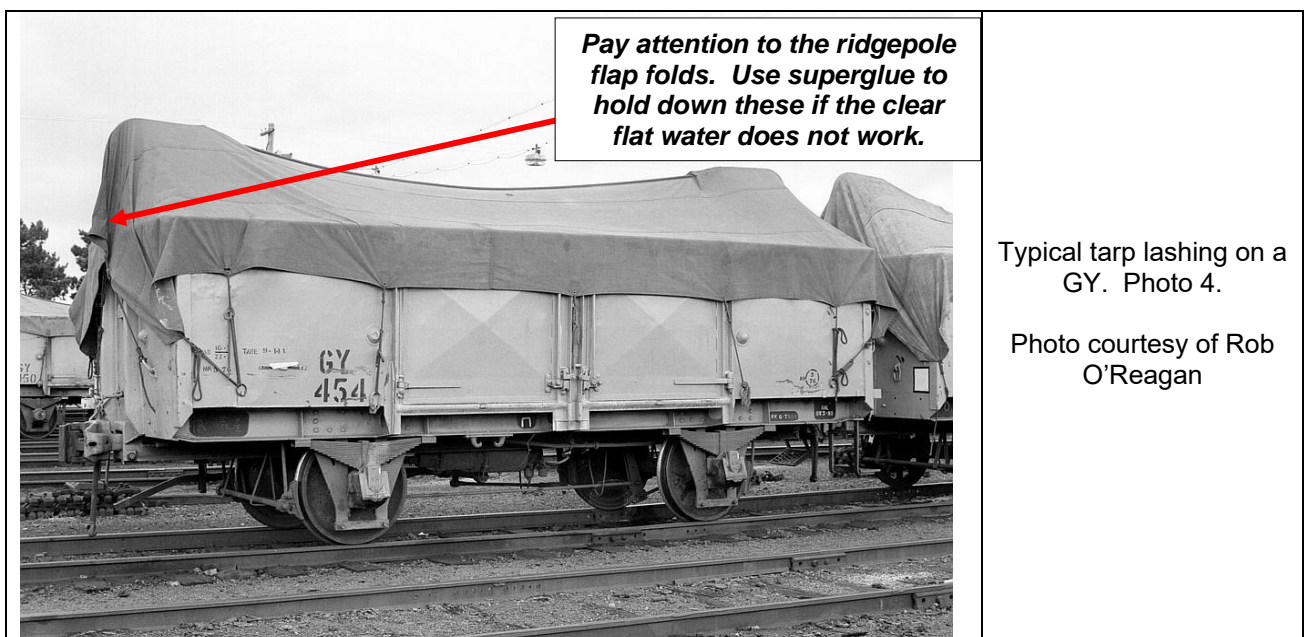
Turn the tarp over and cut along the small angled line leading from the short edge to the 5mm fold line. See diagram 2. This will help in folding the tarp over at a later stage.



The tarp should roughly look like the unit shown in photo 3. Do not worry if the folds are past the 90-degree mark, as they will straighten out in the following sections.



Trial fit the tarp by inserting the tarp former into the wagon and place the tarp over this. Using your thumb and finger 'Pinch' the centre seam to conform to the ridgeline of the tarp former. Do not worry if the tarp springs back to its normal shape this is only a trial to make sure that it fits. Also, make sure the side 2mm folds are even all around the wagon.



Remove the whole unit from the wagon, and the tarp from the tarp former. Apply Selly's Kwik Grip water-based glue (sparingly) along the top of the tarp former the entire length. Place the tarp over the tarp former




and 'Pinch' unit as before but make sure that the tarp now conforms to the shape. Once dry, fold the tarp along the other fold lines past the 90-degree mark.

Re-insert the tarp former with the tarp attached and gently prize the folds out a fraction so that the tarp slips over the wagon sides. **Note: Do not glue the former to the wagon unless you never want to remove it again!** Refold the ridgepole end folds over so that they snuggle closer to the wagon contours.

Touch up any creases that may have lost too much colour with water pencils, weathering powders or paint before the next step.

Using a clear flat water-based paint; cover the entire tarp paying attention to the ridgepole folds. This will serve two purposes. Firstly, to seal the printed tarp and any paint or weathering you have applied, and secondly to act as a glue to hold folds down and stiffen the paper. You may need to apply two coats whilst occasionally poking the ridgepole folds down during the drying process.

Once the unit is dry, you should be able to freely remove the completed unit if not fixed permanently. Occasionally bend the outer folds under a bit to make them conform to the wagon shape if regularly removed.

	<p>The finished model with an extra weathered tarp. The edges have been trimmed with scissors to create the curves in the tie-down spots.</p>
	<p>Red-bodied GY 6104 is being unloaded at Melbourne yards.</p> <p>Photo courtesy of Rob O'Reagan</p>
 <p>©Rob O'Reagan GY 4868 Canal Yard, 17/10/1976. (18/20)</p>	<p>GY 4868 Melbourne Canal Yards 17/10/1976</p> <p>Photo courtesy of Rob O'Reagan and Peter Vincent Website</p>

More photos visit  
Mark Bau's excellent site <http://www.victorianrailways.net/>