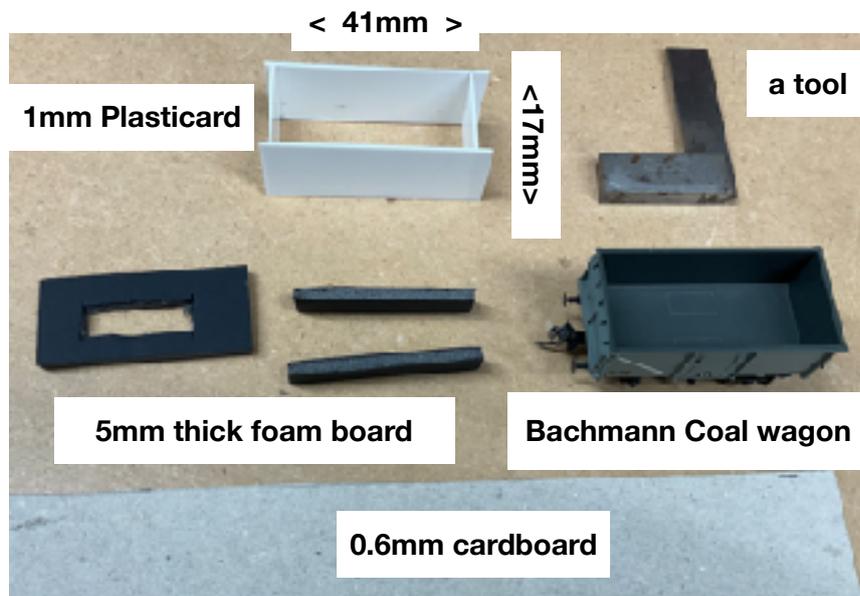


## Making Coal Wagon Loads for TT:120 Scale Wagons

The inside of the Coal Wagon measures 17.3mm x 43.2mm, and 10.9mm deep. Cut a piece of foam board to just fit, or slightly smaller (16x42). Cut a hole in the middle of this piece to make it easier to get in and out.

Cut pieces of cardboard to form a base for the coal. I cut pieces for each load 41x17mm, 38x15mm, 32x12mm, 26x9mm, 20x6mm.

Using PVA glue these in a pile each centred on the one below and then glue the whole pile on top of the foam board. Leave to set.



I created a frame out of Plasticard in which to assemble the load. The inside of this needs to be exact at 17mm x 41mm and about 12mm deep. The two end pieces were exact, the two side pieces a few mm longer. I marked a line on this 10.5mm from the bottom. The coal would need to be at or below that line that line.

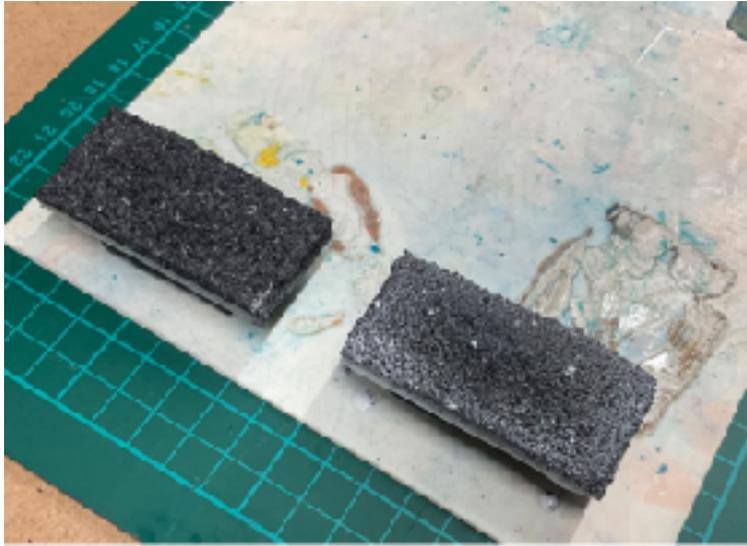
I glued the Plasticard with Revell Liquid glue for plastics. The Plasticard and cardboard bases (when dried) gave a guide for this. The glue has a few seconds when the plasticard can be slid about but then sets fairly quickly, remove from the board former before they all get stuck.

For the coal I used Specialist Aggregates Limited 5527 Mainline Coal (OO/HO), but this is overscale.

When everything was dry the coal base was inserted in the placard former and the coal poured on carefully in the middle and gently pushed to the corners and edges. It needs to be done so that all the black and grey board does not show, the pile looks natural, and at the edges is not above the line marked.

I then used some diluted PVA with a very little bit of (Fairy) washing up liquid well mixed in. This was carefully poured from the middle and then towards the corners.

I left it for a minute or so and then used a tool (something metal is good, but a piece of wood cut to shape about 50x25 and deeper than the former might have been easier) to gently push the gooey load free of the former.  
The edges of the load were carefully tidied up and it was left to thoroughly dry.



I did all the messy bits on an old, dirty pice of Plasticard. It was then easy to wipe off the goo with some kitchen roll.

A completed load and a wagon with a load in place, though a OO wagon is shown. at present.

