

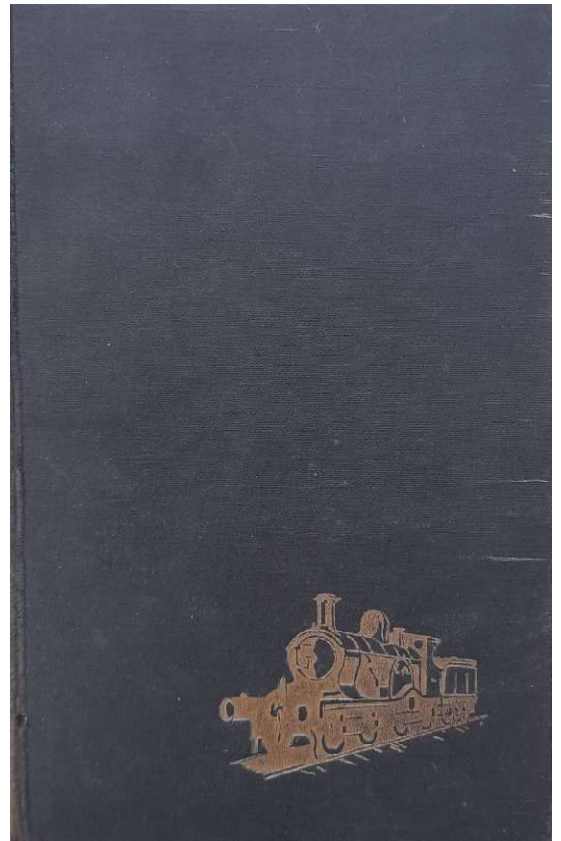
The Model Railway Encyclopaedia.

By Earnest Carter

Published 1950. A Hard backed reference book of some 470 pages

As the name suggests this is a concise book full of practical information that anyone wishing to design/modify/build a 'Model Railway' layout will find of great help.

A Chart at the back of the book gives shape, size and proportional information for a wide range of locomotives. An appendix gives the information needed to proceed with your project, load gauge and platform clearance measurements, single and double tunnel clearances, girder bridge clearances. Sleeper sizes, third rail, track details, wheels and flange details, gauges with 'scale reductions', tables of gradients, symbols used in railway mapping and track curvature. The information just keeps coming, British and Metric drill sizes, wire and piping gauges, tinplate, B.A. and bolts, threads, wood screws. Signal Solenoids, Points Solenoids, D.C. mechanism power requirements, Electric Cable, resistance wire, fuse wire, bare copper wire. British Standard Block Signal Code, poster sizes, brick sizes.



Details of GWR and LNER range special goods wagons and where some of them originated from prior to the amalgamation of the Companies.

Details of the physical measurements from the commercially made locomotives of the day.

The final part of the book contains a 'Glossary' covering a wide range of words and their meaning in the 'Railway Context'

Getting on to the main book, 23 chapters covering all aspects of design and construction, starting with 'Gauge and Scale', Station layout, Track Making and Laying, Points and Crossings, Civil Engineering, Tunnel and Bridge building, Station building, Trackside constructions, Scenic effects and Scenery, Electric Power Supply (bearing in mind this was written in the 1950's so will need to be 'brought up to date' with 'current regulations'), Model Railway Electrification, (again this is 'pre-digital' so might not be relevant, though some very old models may still need this 'old technology' to run), Signals and Signalling, Locomotive Body, Passenger Carriage, Van and Wagon building, Making Special Vehicles, Painting and Lining, Servicing both Electric and Clockwork models.

Whilst 'old' and contains information that was 'Leading Edge' at the time, it still has lots of information very relevant today and is well worth a good browse for anyone with or thinking about a 'layout' The author confirms he obtained a lot of the 'technical' information direct from the manufacturers/importers at the time, so you will struggle to find this elsewhere now.

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Tony Ashgrove, April 2025