

1/12 SCALE TIRE HORN

For mounting rubber donuts on 1/12 scale rims

MATERIALS you will need: tire horn, wood rasp or rough sandpaper, contact cement, synthetic reducer (lacquer thinner, gasoline, etc.) and a 4-inch metal can.

STEP 1 To make the cement stick to the wheel, sand the wheel first so it is rough, removing all glaze and shine.

STEP 2 Now coat the outside diameter of the wheel and the inside of your tire and donut ring surfaces with contact cement. Let it dry 20 minutes. Re-apply the cement and let it dry 1 hour.

STEP 3 Fill the container about 2 inches deep with thinner. Dip your wheel in the thinner so it's completely immersed for 5 seconds. Remove and place on workbench.

STEP 4 Dip the tire horn in the thinner and place its wider diameter atop the wheel.

STEP 5 Now fully immerse your tire in the thinner for 5 seconds, then slip it over the tire horn and firmly down onto the wheel to the bench surface.

STEP 6 Quickly picking up the assembly, be sure the outside surface of tire is true with the wheel rim. Immediately slide the tire to correct this, if necessary. (Synthetic thinner is recommended because it doesn't evaporate rapidly, allowing time to correct the tire.) Allow the wheel assembly to dry at least 12 hours before truing (see following), and 24 hours before using.

TIRE TRUING Tires can be trued by mounting a stub axle in a drill press, drill motor, mill or lathe. Just mount the wheel securely on an axle and turn on the machine. Grind the outside diameter and tire sides to the proper size and shape with the rasp. Hold the rasp firmly so it does not bounce.

TIRE REMOVAL Soak your used and under-sized wheel/tire assembly in synthetic reducer or gasoline overnight. Then pull your tire from the wheel rim and clean as needed.

WARNING Use gasoline and thinners in a well-ventilated area. Do not use near open flame.