

Taming Tiny Track links using Wonder Tape

by Eric Christianson

Once in a while you come across individual-link track that defies imagination. I came across such track in the 1/35th scale Hobby Boss Sd.Kfz. 254 Scout Car.

Since there is no apparent sag in the track from the pictures I've seen of the real vehicle, Hobby Boss could have provided us with a nice set of rubber-band tracks and I wouldn't have complained. But that didn't happen.

Once cleaned up, the links fit together pretty well but are just too small to stay in one place when aligning them into a run prior to gluing. After spending five minutes trying to line up only eight links, I stopped. Time for Plan B.

A quick trip to the local craft shop resulted in yet another scrap-booking solution to a modeling problem. They sell a gummy strip called 'Wonder Tape' that has just enough spongy-ness and tack to hold the roughly shaped links until glue has had time to set up.



I stuck the 1/8th inch-wide strip of tape on a glue-proof surface, about 1/4 inch above and along a 15-inch ruler (see image). After laying about half of the links for one side out I applied Tamiya Extra Thin Liquid Cement to the run and let that sit for about 10 minutes. I then took a razor blade and slid it under the run to help it off the tape and

draped it on the model. Three more sessions of that and I was done. Nice.

I have used Wonder Tape several times since then and it has always come through for me when nothing else would. I found mine at Ben Franklin's but I imagine it is sold anywhere you can find scrap booking materials.

