

Welcome to Gn15

Big Trains, Small Space

These trains are Gn15. This means they are G scale (roughly 1:24 to 1:22.5) and that they run on scale 15 inch gauge track. Gn15 models are the same scale as LGB models. The secret to Gn15 is that, while the models are G scale, The track they run on is HO/OO, which represents the scale 15 inches. While many modellers in this scale enjoy scratchbuilding or kitbashing their own models, there are a growing number of commercial kits available of both locomotives and wagons.

Gn15 models minimum gauge railways, considered to be lines with gauges between 15 and 23 inches. The term minimum is used instead of miniature because of the nature of the work performed by these rail lines. Minimum gauge trains perform work in mines, farms, factories and other industrial or estate facilities, while miniature railroads are big models, built for passengers to ride in a fashion almost like an



amusement park ride. Strangely some miniature railroads are actually built to a larger gauge than some minimum gauge lines.

Fifteen inch gauge railroading was invented by Sir Arthur Heywood when he built a private Estate railroad of his own design at Duffield Bank in England. That gauge was later used at several other lines, both minimum and miniature, including the Eaton Hall Ry; Romney, Hythe, & Dymchurch Ry; Ravenglass & Eskdale Ry; Kirklees Light Ry; Driving Creek Ry and more!



Sir Arthur poses with his first 15 inch loco, Effie



Steve Bennett's Isca Fruit Micro Layout

While there are large layouts, an important part of Gn15 culture is an interest in Micro Layouts. Micro layouts are complete, working railways in less than 4 square feet. Indeed, the very first Gn15 home layout was built in just a square foot! With Gn15 and micro layouts, you DO have the space for a home layout. More information about micro layouts is available at www.carendt.us

If you are interested in more information on this wonderful scale, visit the home of Gn15 (and minimum gauge modeling in general) on the internet, www.gn15.info. We hope to see you posting in our forum there soon!

Developed by Peter Lenz and the Gnatbox Publication Committee

www.Gn15.info