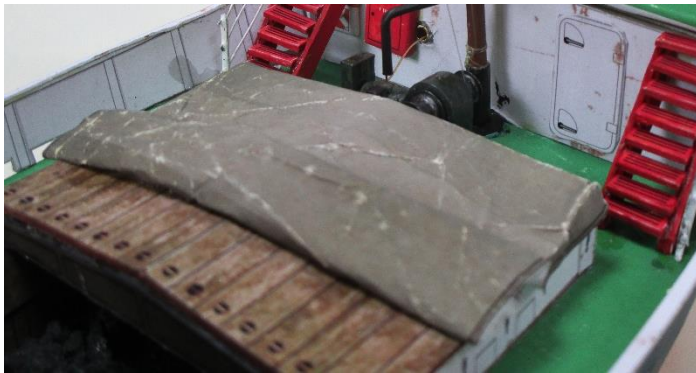




Based on a tip from Andrew Hicks

Tarpaulins

Tarpaulins were ubiquitous. Almost any scene would have one or more tarps on show: covering equipment in the corner of a yard, protecting a leaking outbuilding roof, or covering the hatch on a ship or barge.



Tarpaulins can be simply made as follows especially if using the Scalescenes printed designs*. The tarpaulin texture is already the right size and colour as if it were laying flat with corners folded down. After that, scrumple it up as small and tight as possible, undo and redo about two-three times. Then it looks like old canvas.



* Scalescenes have generously provided a free downloadable pdf of some tarps for you to try.

You can also roll back part of the corner – rolling it forwards (so the printed colour is on the outside) and then folding the roll back on itself to make it look as if rolled back.



Many loads were carried in open, sheeted wagons and rail companies had vast quantities of sheets for covering loads. Although there was variation between different companies in terms of size and design, a typical size would be 21' x 14'4"

Railway sheets were apparently coloured black using soot and linseed oil but this would fade to grey in use. Lettering was stencilled on with white paint which would also turn grey over time.

If doing it on an empty wagon then a sag in the middle with a spot of modelling cement settled in it looks like a pool of rainwater in the sag.

More information on tarpaulins can be found here:

<http://www.igg.org.uk/rail/9-loads/9-tarps.htm>

Chris Hopper provided this alternative example of a tarpaulin in 16mm made from tissues soaked in dilute PVA moulded over a cling-filmed load.

