

Loading Gauges

This is the maximum width and height of rolling stock. This has varied from country to country -and even within it. The Gauge '3' standards state that the Maximum Height above rail level should be 20.5 cm and the Maximum Width should be 14.0 cm.

If we examine some of the Loading Gauges (L/G) used on national railways this will show how this works in practice.

Loading Gauge	Width	Height
UK std	9 feet 12.15cm	13 feet 6 inches 18.22cm
Cape	10 feet 1/2 inch 13.50cm	13 feet high 17.55cm
Berne	10 feet 1/2 inch 13.50cm	14 feet 1/2 inch 18.95cm
Central European	10 feet 1/2 inch 13.50cm	15 feet 3 inches 20.58cm
The Gauge '3' Society	10 feet 4 1/2 inch 14.00cm	15 feet 2 inches 20.50cm
USA	10 feet 6 inches 14.17cm	15 feet 20.25cm
Russia + China	11 feet 2 inches 15.07cm	17 feet 5 inches 23.51cm

Thus any model built to within the Gauge '3' stds will easily encompass the four smaller Loading Gauges. The USA L/G will probably work on any G3 layout, but anybody building Russian and Chinese models should be advised of the expected problems....

