

Project: A copper bath

After a genuine attempt at making a real copper bath in 12th scale and not succeeding in making it as neat as one would like, good old Cardboard came to the fore again. And met an old mate, Copper Spray.

To make this bath you will need:

Two thicknesses of card.

A piece of 3 ply, or 1cm base wood for the base. *This has to be hefty to enable the sides to follow the correct curves.*

Tacky glue.

A trim to round off the rim. Round leather is recommended.

An aerosol can of copper spray.

Stick-on circles to simulate brass studs.

Using the templates provided, cut out your base in 1cm thick material like MDF (or laminate card together to make 1cm).

Cut the side out of 1.5 mm card and decide where you want the join to be. (One join only.) It is a personal choice of where you want the seam in the sides to happen. Right at the back or front spoils the curve. It is better just around the front point as shown in the sample as it is also too obvious right in the middle part of the sides. By embellishing it with stick-on 'studs' it became more of a feature.

Cut a strip 1cm wide out of 1.5 mm card to trim the bottom. Cut a piece of trim of your choice to finish off the top rim. Rolled leather thong is good.

When you have the position right in your head, glue the side right around the edge of the base taking it down to the bottom edge of the base. Hold it as vertically as you can while doing this. If you don't you will get a slanting join and may not have enough length. There should be a small overlap you can make look like a seam.

Glue on the finishing strip around the bottom of the bath.

Glue on the trim around the rim.

When it is all dry, take it outside on a calm day, and spray with copper spray, inside and out. Pay special attention to the top of the strip around the base. If you have used black card that is fine, white shows up too much and needs painting.

Note: Because it is critical to get a good join on the side, cut the side a little longer on the lower front end. Mark the centre lightly in pencil as a guide when gluing up. This gives you a bit of wriggle room. Enjoy!

