

# KATO POWER CHASSIS

Kato has released a much needed and long awaited power chassis. Kato stock number 11-107 is a small two-truck, four-axle unit that offers some promise for powering up those small electrics you've dreamed of operating on your layout.



I was informed about this unit by Kirk Reddie (N Scale Railroading,) who mentioned purchasing some of these gems from N Scale Supply in Colorado.

Check out Tom Savage's NCAT website for a look at how Tom used this chassis to convert the Kato Pocket Line steeplecab to a more correct looking unit .  
([www.mindspring.com/~team\\_savage/ncat.html](http://www.mindspring.com/~team_savage/ncat.html))



After a few minutes with my scale ruler I came up with the following information, which is shown in scale feet.

- Axles: 4 (two in each truck)
- Length over couplers: 39 ft
- Length over chassis(frame): 30 ft
- Truck axle spacing: 5ft- 6 inches
- Width overall: 8 ft
- Height above rails: 8 ft.
- Power: small motor enclosed with a plastic cover

Only one truck (2 axles) is geared.  
Electrical pickup: all 4 axles.

Traction tire: one wheel has a traction tire. (For the life of me, I can't determine why this is necessary.)



Weight: very lightweight unit....if you build a model to be powered with this unit, add as much weight as you can.

Colors: sideframes dark gray, frame black, motor cover beige.

Sideframes: do not seem to be American prototype at all. probably Japanese. Paint them engine black to hide their look.

This is a fairly "universal" chassis /power unit, and may fit the bill for some of your postponed projects, but be aware of my father's definition of universal. He always said it means "Doesn't fit anything"!

## ADVERTISING SIGNS



Here's another look at one of my larger trolleys that's lettered Wobegon Electric. This is another of the Father Nature Trees shells powered with an Atlas RS-1 diesel chassis- mechanism.

After looking at photos of many prototype cars, it becomes evident that trolley lines were always trying to make an extra buck advertising products using signs on the sides of the cars.

With a trip through the Walthers N catalog you'll find sheets of multi-color advertising signs available from a number of manufacturers.

I use a hobby knife with a sharp #11 blade and a straight-edge to cut out the signs. A thin application of white glue will hold them in place on the car sides.

