

1938 GMC Custom Car Carrier

I've always been a fan of Art Deco. I consider it among the cleanest and most stylish modes of art and décor ever conceived. And it lent itself well to mechanical things—from radios to locomotives. So, even though I'd already gotten DM's four-car carrier, when they sent me the brochure on the custom version of the 1938 GMC car carrier, an exercise in Art Deco design, I was hooked.



DM took the ultra-solid, no-nonsense '38 GMC car carrier, dressed it up with skirts and aprons, and came up with a truck as good-looking as the cars it carries on its back. Painted in black over deep burgundy, with orange pinstriping, it has three chrome strips down at wheel level that make the vehicle look as if it's skimming the ground—not an easy feat with a vehicle almost as tall as a single-story house. A rear hatch under the license plate (which says "SO LOW") drops to uncover storage for both loading ramps. Two hatches on each side, with movable locking handles, provide storage for the wheel chocks and vehicle tie-downs. A working winch can actually haul a 1:24 scale model car aboard. A tow hitch, mounted in the C-curve of the rear apron, can actually accommodate a 1:24 scale trailer. Up in the cab, there are tilt-out windshields and removable seats and floorboards to give access to the engine. Two more engine access panels in front, on either side of the radiator, also open. Add dual chrome exhausts, shiny diamond plate on the bed and loading ramps, a searchlight, rear bed-mounted work lights and lots of chrome accents—and you have a very sharp package indeed.

Set this beauty up with a custom car in the bed (my 1932 "Black Prince" Mercedes works nicely) and another on a trailer attached to the tow hitch and you have one heck of a diorama display! If you can imagine what it would be like driving a rig like this to a car show, you'll also understand the appeal of this "little car" collecting thing.

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