ORIGINALS

METROPOLITAN LINE LUGGAGE RACKS OWN AN ORIGINAL PIECE OF LONDON HISTORY





A limited number of original 1960s luggage racks reclaimed from old Metropolitan line trains are available to buy at London Transport Museum's shop in Covent Garden and online at ltmuseumshop.co.uk



Those who grew up travelling on the London Underground cannot fail to remember the iconic Metropolitan line trains with their high back seats and commodious luggage racks.

The 'A' stock trains were introduced in the early 1960s to work on the Metropolitan line and their interior design had more in common with main line suburban trains than Tube trains. These trains are now being replaced with more modern stock and in the process the long-serving luggage racks in the old carriages have been carefully removed. A limited number of racks will be made available to the public, and they come in three sizes. They are made from aluminium, which means they are super strong but very light, and have been professionally cleaned and adapted for use in the home or workplace.

The racks have worked hard for over 50 years carrying briefcases, shopping bags, suitcases and coats on the Metropolitan line between the City and the outer London suburbs of Uxbridge and Watford and on to the towns of Amersham and Chesham in the more distant Chiltern Hills.

The racks make perfect hallway storage, but also work well in the kitchen, bedroom, bathroom, or the office.



Small

Length 440mm x Depth 325mm x Maximum height 210mm

Medium

Length 670mm x Depth 325mm x Maximum height 160mm (No Umbrella Hook)

Large

Length 1000mm x Depth 325mm x Maximum height 210mm





The sale of the luggage racks means that design aficionados and transport enthusiasts can own an original piece of London history. All profits from the sale of luggage racks will go to London Transport Museum, to support its important work as a heritage preservation and educational charity.

Alongside the sale of the luggage racks, London Transport Museum is also launching a new range of cushions, cube seats and made to order furniture crafted from specially woven moquette fabric in the distinctive blue and purple moquette used to upholster the Metropolitan trains.

FIXING GUIDANCE

Where possible, we have provided the original fixing screws and curved aluminium backing plates (used to attach the racks to the carriage interior bodywork). However, these fixings are provided as an authentic part of the complete unit, and are NOT suitable or recommended for fixing to masonry walls or surfaces.

IMPORTANT - Please note the following: Small racks have one coat/umbrella hook, the medium size rack has no hook, and the large rack has two hooks.

Most racks will have a slight curvature on their support plates. This is normal, and allowance must be made for correct fixing to compensate for this.

- It is strongly recommended that professional guidance to fix the racks is sought from a reputable hardware store or qualified person, and please bear in mind that cavity walls (common inside modern houses) will need considerably more cavity wall fixing support than loadbearing and masonry walls. The racks were designed as an integral part of the train carriage construction and domestic use will need substantial fixing support
- Fixing should be carried out by a competent person
- Check that the heads on the fixings are the correct size
- Check that the drill bit used for fitting is the correct size
- Double check all measurements before drilling holes

- Avoid fixing to surfaces near strong heat sources (for example open fires or cookers). Even though the racks are aluminium, what is stored on them may not be fireproof
- Please regularly check screws and fixings to ensure that the rack remains securely fixed
- As a guide, and if PROPERLY fixed, the recommended safe working load for racks is: 5kg for small racks, 10kg for medium racks and 15kg for large racks

MAINTENANCE

The racks are made from aluminium and are inherently fireproof and rust free. Professional cleaning ensures that the rack reaches you in a clean condition.

As purchased from London Transport Museum, the rack is an original item, approximately 50 years old and will bear the patina of service to millions of Londoners. Scratches, abrasions, slight buckles and dents are all part of the authenticity of a decommissioned original.

Cleaning with a damp cloth will be sufficient to maintain the appearance of the rack.

London Transport Museum hopes that your purchase gives you years of service and pleasure!

END OF THE LINE

London Transport's Metropolitan Line once ran to Aylesbury and beyond into the Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire countryside.

The Underground electrified the Metropolitan Line from Rickmansworth to Amersham and Chesham between 1960 and 1962 and introduced the new 'A' stock train. British Railways took over the operation of the Amersham to Aylesbury service.

The 1960 Underground map shows Amersham at the end of the line.



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