



dovetail  
GAMES

# Class 121 'Bubble Car'



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## 1 Background

### 1.1 Loco

The Class 121s were nicknamed “Bubble Cars” by enthusiasts for being a single unit which can make solo trips quickly and easily. Sixteen single-car driving motor vehicles were built from 1960. They had a top speed of 70MPH featured slam doors and vacuum braking systems.

The class 121s were based on the class 117s but with an extra cab. 10 matching trailer cars were also built. The single units proved to be the most useful of the first generation DMUs as they could be substituted for power cars in a set, added to a set for replacement of a unit, for extra seating, or for operating solo with or without a trailer.

The units can be seen most recently in Network Rail or Arriva liveries, upgraded with modern safety systems and given major overhauls. Thus the class 121s had many different variants through the years most of them having their own unique differences throughout the fleet.

### 1.2 Design & Specification

<b>Builder</b>	Pressed Steel Company
<b>Locomotive Weight</b>	37 tonnes
<b>Vehicle Length</b>	64 ft 6 in (19,660 mm)
<b>Vehicle Width</b>	9 ft 3 in (2,820 mm)
<b>Vehicle Power</b>	150 hp (110 kW)
<b>Top Speed</b>	70 MPH (112km/h)
<b>Brake Types</b>	Vacuum
<b>Transmission</b>	Mechanical



## 2 Rolling Stock

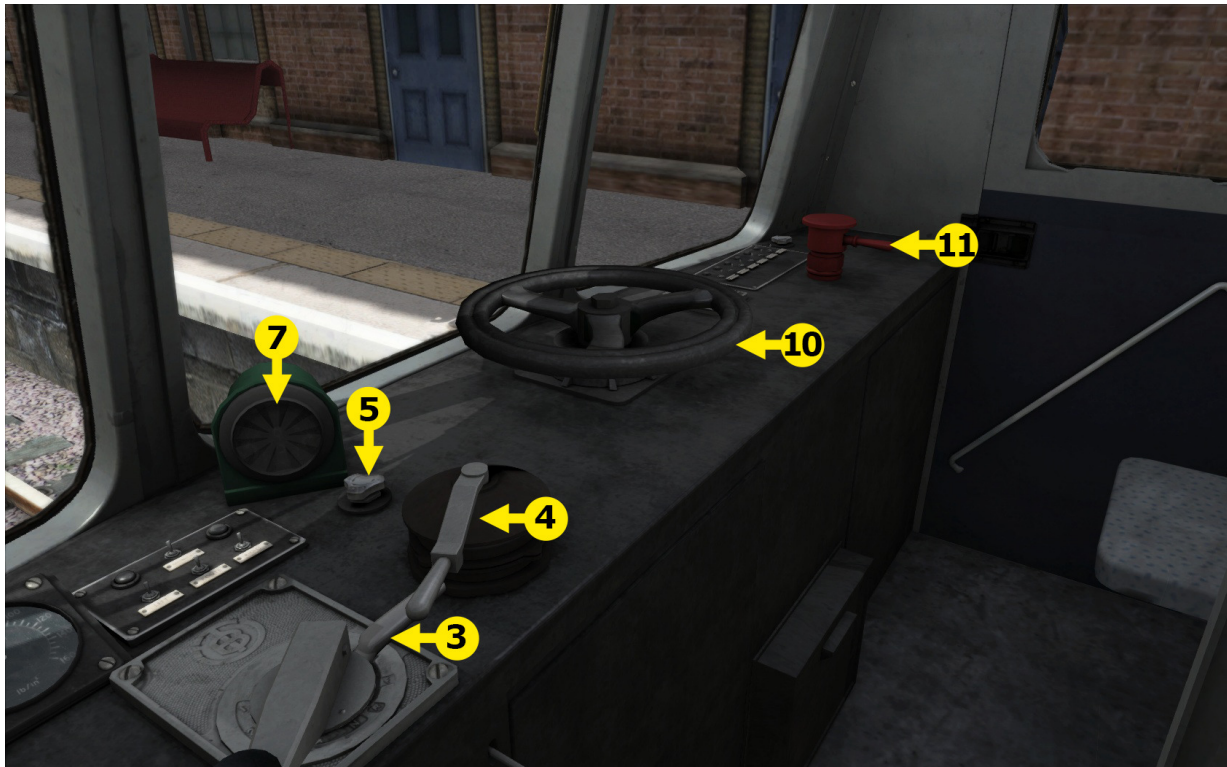
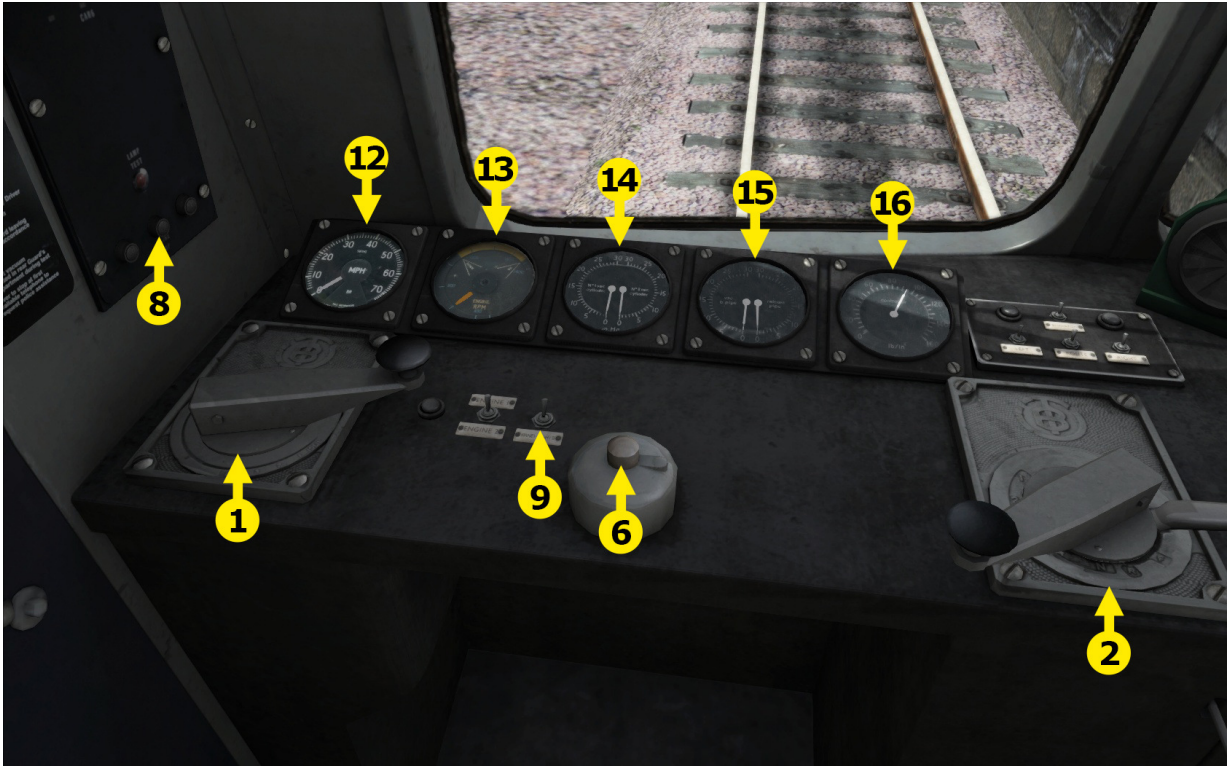
### 2.1 Class 121 NSE





### 3 Driving the Class 121

#### 3.1 Cab Controls



1	Throttle	( A + D )	9	Instrument Lights	( I )
2	Gear Lever	( E + SHIFT E )	10	Handbrake	( / )
3	Reverser	( W + S )	11	Emergency Brake	( BACKSPACE )
4	Train Brake	( ; + ' )	12	Speedometer	
5	Wiper Switch	( V )	13	Engine Speed RPM	
6	AWS Reset	( Q )	14	Vacuum Cylinder Gauges	
7	AWS Sunflower		15	Vacuum Pipe/Reservoir Pipe	
8	Engine On/Off	( Z )	16	Control Air	

## 4 Scenarios

### 4.1 Training: Class 121 Simple & Expert Controls

You will be shown how to drive a Class 121 DMU.

This will include: How to operate geared rolling stock; picking up passengers; safety systems; and stopping at signals.

### 4.2 [121] Tourist Shuttle

Run one of the hourly shuttles from Oxford station, down to the festivities at Didcot, before returning north again to complete your duty.

Hi Driver, today we are running one of the special shuttle services that Oxford Tourist Board have requested to help with Didcot Railway Centres' open day. Due to the summer season, the only train available is one of the last remaining Class 121 'Bubble Cars'. Run this service down to Didcot and then back to Oxford on a return trip.

### 4.3 [121] No Go for Greenford

Head to Paddington in one of the last remaining Class 121s. Difficulties occur when you return to West Ealing, as you are not certified to carry on down the Greenford branch line. Another driver will take over from this point.

Branch lines operated by the Class 121 shuttles are dwindling fast. Take one of the last remaining 'Bubble Cars' down to Paddington then back down to West Ealing. This service is Greenford bound, but you are not certified to use this branch line. Another driver will take over at West Ealing.



## 5 Acknowledgements

RailSimulator.com would like to thank the following people for their contribution to the development of the Class 121.

Beta Testing Team.

