

Before Starting

PREPARING BRASS The easiest way to remove the brass parts from the sheet they are produced on, is to use rail nippers. The brass is soft and won't affect their future cutting ability. This will reduce or eliminate the amount of filing to smooth the edge. The next best way is with small sharp diagonal cutters that will fit into the small areas between the part and the sheet holding them. *You should always use a file to remove the balance of the tie. This will ensure a perfect fit.*

GLUING BRASS Instant super glues, Cyanoacrylate, CA for short, are very prominent in model building today. They will work perfectly with brass, and they are instant. We recommend a thick CA glue such as **"Zap-A-Gap"** from Pacer Technology. As I have also been building R/C airplanes for over 33 years, I have many airplanes built entirely with CA glue and I can tell you that the wood will break before the glue joint. So it is great stuff! Besides being almost instant, thick CA glues will help create a small fillet and fill small gaps when applied to the inside of joints. Using a toothpick to apply the CA glue works really well for getting the glue into the interior areas and controlling the amount of glue used.

PAINTING BRASS Wash your completed assembly in warm soapy water. If it is really messed up with flux etc. you can clean it with a lacquer thinner first. *Do NOT bake the model if you used CA glue for construction.* Baking will set the paint to the brass as well as allowing you to paint over parts of it without the first coat dissolving as you spread on the second coat. One nice thing about painting on brass, if you don't like the paint job you can use paint remover to get rid of it and start again without hurting the brass.

Step #1 – Build The Bridge Frame

The builder should remove the two Sides, the Top Frame and Bottom Frame. Clean-up all remnants of the attachment ties.

Identify the Top Frame, it has the extended top cap strips that wrap around the radius ends. Put it aside. Place the Bottom Frame down on the building surface with the half-etched slots facing up.

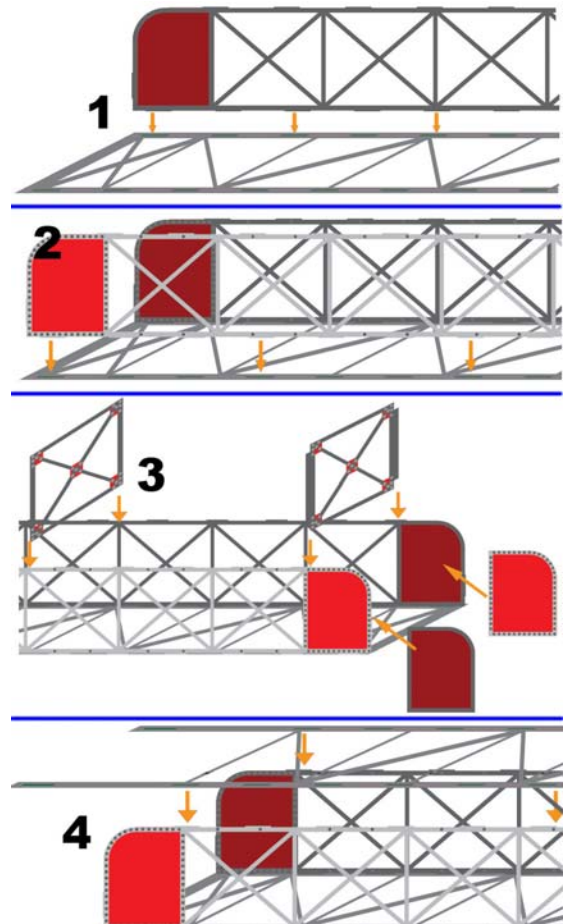
Secure a Side to the Bottom Frame placing the tabs of the Side into the slots of the Bottom Frame. The detail on the radius ends faces outward. Ensure the Side is perpendicular to the Bottom Frame. Be careful to ensure that the small full-etched slots on the Bottom Frame remain open and free of glue or solder. The builder should reference these slots in the image of step #4. When finished, secure the other Side to the Bottom Frame.

Add the Inner Detail Overlay of the radius end to the frame Be sure to align all edges. Add all four overlays and secure.

There are two each of two types of Bridge Frame Spacers. One pair of Spacers has wide side flanges and the other pair have no side flanges. Secure the Spacers with NO flanges to the third upright inward from the radius end with the detail facing towards the ends. See diagram. Secure the second flangeless Spacer at the third upright from the other radius end.

The flanged Spacer is installed directly behind the radius ends with the flanges protruding out the Sides between the cross-bracing. Remember to place the detail facing outward. Ensure the Spacer is completely seated and does NOT extend above the top of the Sides. When satisfied with the fit, secure the flanged Spacer to both Side Frames and the Bottom Frame. Secure the second flanged Spacer to the frame.

Secure the Top Frame to the Sides ensuring the Side tabs are in the half-etched slots on the Top Frame. Once fully secured, carefully wrap the extended cap strips around the radius ends securing them along the entire length.

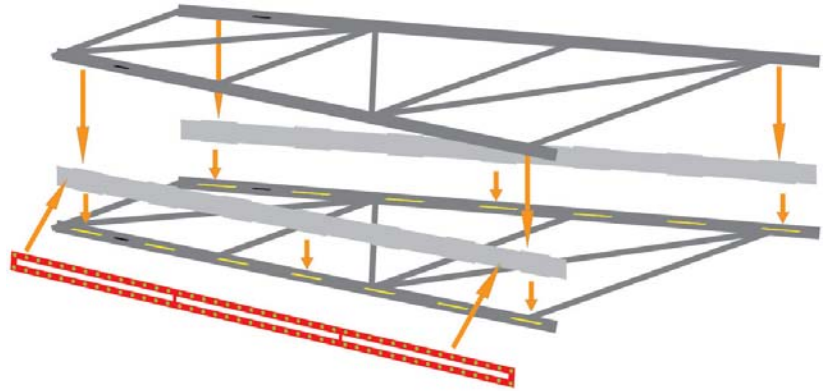


Step #2 – Build The End Bent

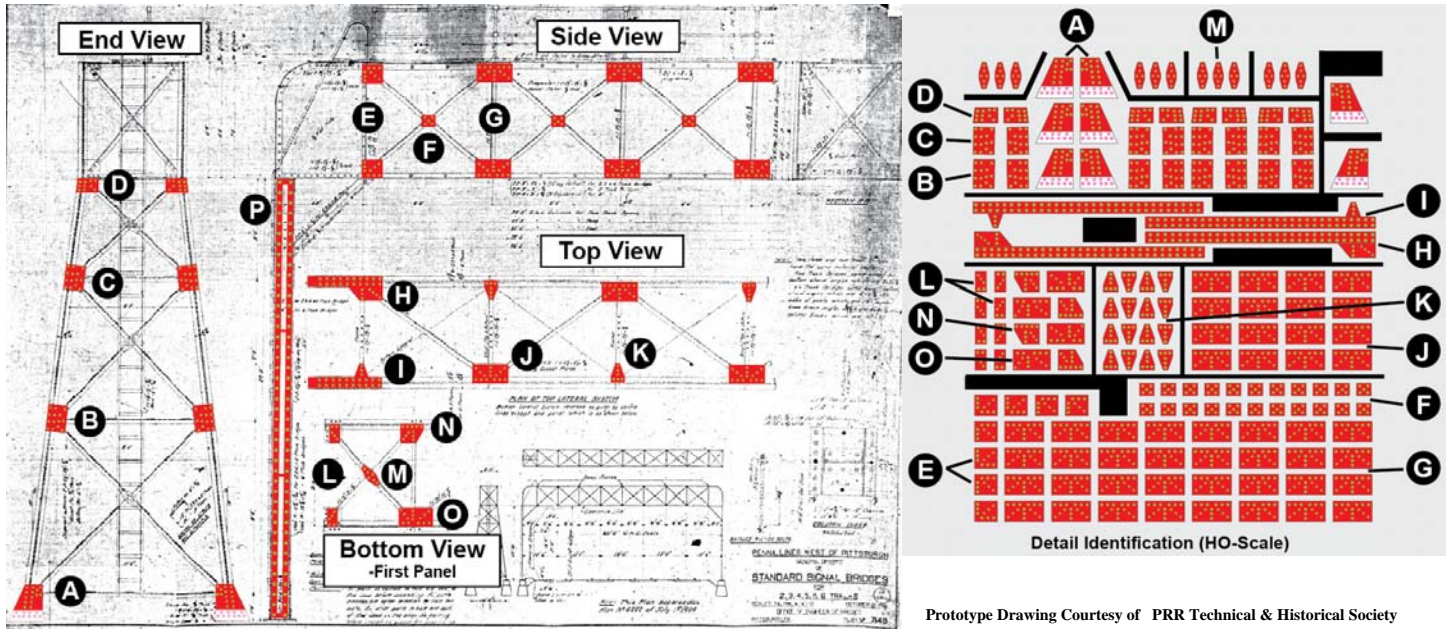
The builder should remove the two End Stands, the two Side Braces and the two Side Detail Overlays. Clean-up all remnants of the attachment ties. Begin by placing an End Stand on the building surface with the half-etched slots facing upward. Secure a Side Brace to the End Stand starting at the bottom. Glue or solder from the INSIDE of the Brace. The tabs of the Side Brace go into the half-etched slots of the Stand. Ensure the Side Brace is perpendicular to the Stand. Secure the Side Brace to the Stand.

Place the second End Stand on the building surface with the half-etched slots facing upward. Flip the assembly over and secure the Side Braces to the other End Stand from the INSIDE.

Once completed, secure the Side Detail Overlays to the OUTSIDE of the Side Brace.



Step #3 – Adding Detail Overlays



The builder should reference the image above to see where each of the Detail Overlays are to be placed onto the model. A locator is also shown to help the builder find the overlays on the kit sprue. It is advisable for the user to add the details by the alphabet. Details D and L should be installed AFTER the End Bents are attached to the Bridge Frame.

Step #4 – Attaching the Bent to the Bridge Frame

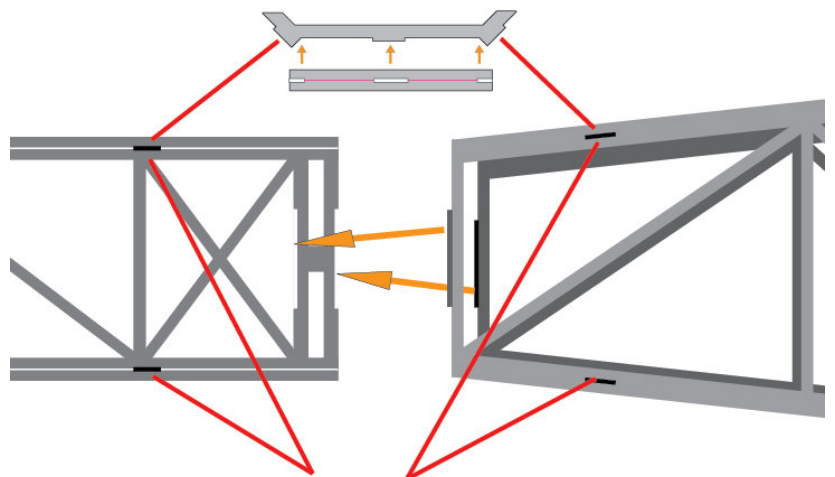
Start this process by building the four Diagonal Supports which are comprised of two pieces. The Support Cap has three slots for the tabs on the Support Strut.

Once the Diagonal Supports are complete, place the Bridge Frame assembly on the building surface with the Bottom Frame facing upward. The builder should take note of the tabs and slots that will be connected. Each End Bent has two tabs on the top of the Bent frame. These will engage the slots on the outmost cross member of the Bottom Frame. Solder is recommended for this connection, but not required.

Attach the Side Bent to the Bridge Frame ensuring the Bent is perpendicular to the Bridge Frame. Secure two Diagonal Supports to the Bent and Bridge Frame.

Repeat for the other End Bent.

Details D and L can now be installed.



Slots For Diagonal Supports

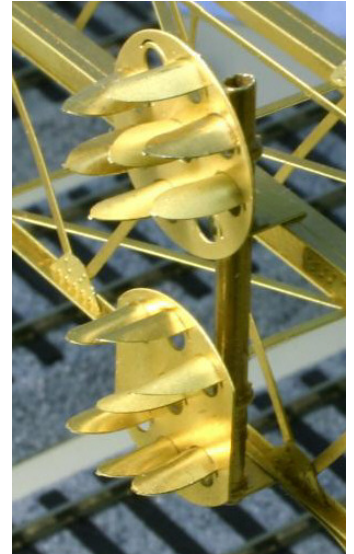
Step #6 – Building the Signal Heads

The Signal Heads are provided as a convenience to the modeler. The structure for working signals are included, but the electronics are not provided and are left to the modeler to accomplish. Begin by deciding which Heads are to be installed on the bridge. Remove these and the appropriate number of Sun Shields from the kit sprue and remove all remnants of the ties.

Using the provided 3/32" tubing, form the Sun Shield into a curve. Place the curved Shield in the curved slot on the Signal Head. Ensure that the shield is perpendicular to the signal head and secure using either glue or solder. Repeat for all shields required.

Remove all tie remnants from the Head Attachment Brackets that were removed from the centers of the Body's vertical columns in the first step. The flat end of the Attachment Bracket will go into the half-etched slot on the rear of the Signal Head. Secure two Attachment Brackets to each Signal Head ensuring that the two post holes are aligned and vertical to the Head.

Cut a length of the provided 3/32" tubing as required to mount the Signal Heads. Signal Heads that are to be mounted between the Upper and Lower Platform are not to be attached to the Mast until final assembly. Mount all other Signal Heads (if any) to the Mast.



Step #7 – Final Assembly

Remove the Railing and the Ladder from the kit sprue and ensure that all tie remnants have been removed. Attach the end of the Ladder without rungs to the first cross member of the Top Frame of the Bridge. See photo. Using a piece of tubing, bent the Ladder to create radius in the Ladder. Secure the other end of the Ladder to the bottom cross member of the End Bent. Secure the Ladder to the remaining cross members.

Attach the Railing to each cross member of the Top Frame of the Bridge by placing the end of the Railing upright into the provided hole and securing.

Place the Mast through the Mast Strut. Place any Signal Heads that go between the Upper and Lower Platforms on the Mast now. Secure the Mast to both the Mast Strut and the Lower Platform. Secure all Signal Heads to the Mast.



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