

# TrainCat Model Sales

## Tankcar Loading Platform N-Scale & HO-Scale

### 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 – Building The Platform Structure

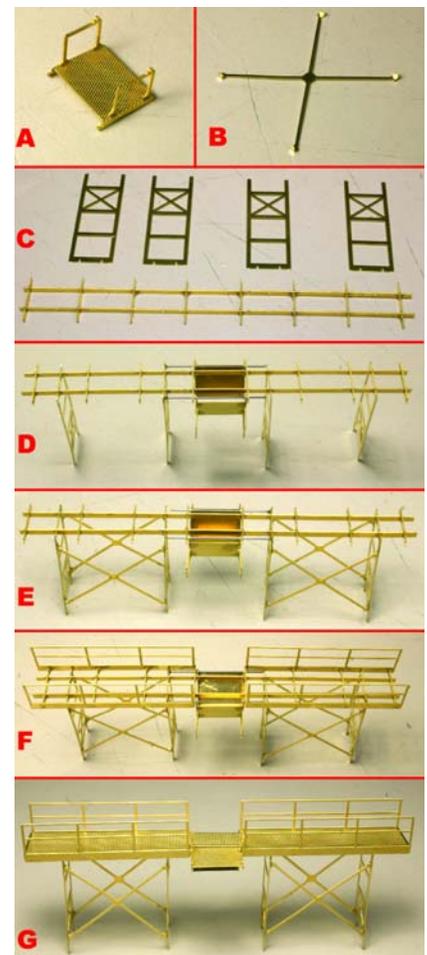
A) Build the Walkways using the grated Walkway and two railings. Note the eyelet on the Railing, this will be towards the outside of the Walkway. Place the Railing into the etched slots of the Walkway and place a small drop of glue on the Railing from underneath the Walkway. Bend the side perpendicular. Do not worry that the railing is not vertical. It will be adjusted after the glue sets. Wait a couple of minutes and attach the other Railing. Once the glue is dry, straighten the Railings.

B) Carefully remove the X-Bracing from the kit sprue cleaning off all tie remnants. On the non detail side, you will find a half-etched bend line at the end of each leg. Bend the flap so it is perpendicular to the leg. The bend line goes to the inside of the bend. Repeat for all four X-Braces.

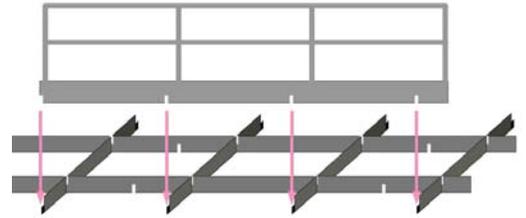
C) Begin the Frame Assembly by removing the long Main Beams and the eight Joists from the kit sprue and ensure all tie remnants have been eliminated. The slots in the Joists will go into the slots in the Main Beams. Two Joists have holes in them to mount the Walkways. These Joists will go in the center. Secure the Joists to the Main Beams creating the Underframe. Attach Walkways to the Underframe using the supplied .015 wire allowing the Walkway to be rotated on the wire pivot.

D) Secure the Legs to the Underframe ensuring they are perpendicular to the Frame.

E) Secure the X-Bracing to the Legs. Start at the bottom securing a pad to the Leg at the first horizontal member of the Leg. Secure the other bottom pad to other Leg at the first horizontal member of the Leg. This will cause the Legs to square-up. Secure the top pads to the Legs. Repeat for all X-Braces.



F) Remove the four Side Rails from the kit sprue. File off all tie remnants. *Note: The sides are handed.* Secure the Side Rails to the Frame Assembly. The half tabs on the Joists go into the half slots on the Side Rails. Repeat for all Side Rails.



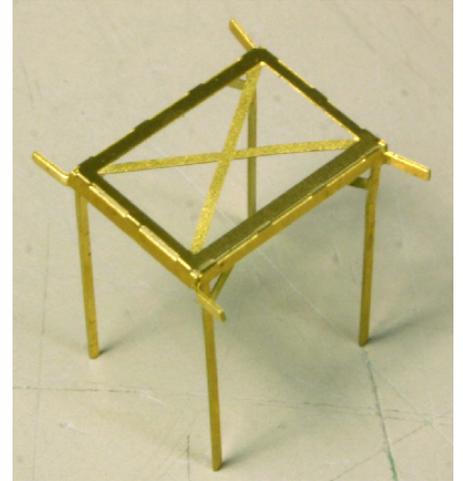
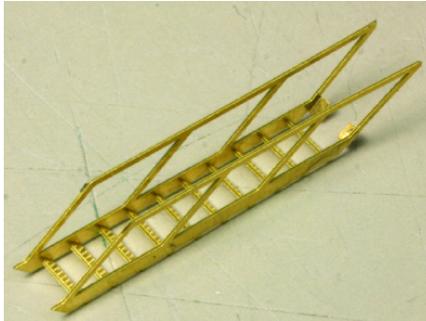
G) The Grated Floor has two half-etched bend line on the underside. Bend the Floor ends 90 degrees with the bend lines to the inside of the bend. Test fit the Grated Floor to the Frame Assembly noting that the Floor is handed. Secure the Grated Floor to the Frame Assembly.

H) The Superstructure is next and requires bending in a specific order.

- 1) Bend the tabs on the legs 90 degrees outward.
- 2) Bend the legs 90 degrees down relative to the top.
- 3) Bend the sides down.

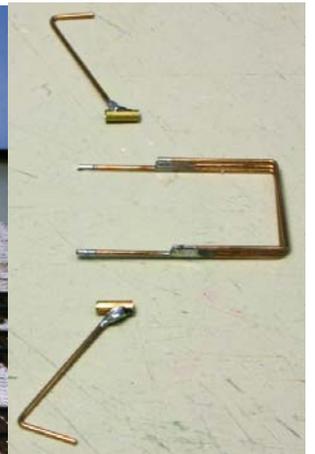
The Superstructure Legs are designed to be secured to the inside Side Rail Posts adjacent to the movable Walkway.

I) Bend the Ladder Sides perpendicular to the Steps. One at a time, bend the Steps to align with the bottom of the Ladder. Secure the Ladder to the Grated Floor end that has two slots.



## Step #2 – Adding Details

The Supply Pipes that go under the Platform are not included in the kit. K&S 3/32 Aluminum Tubing was used. K&S Tubing Benders were also used to bend the Supply Pipes 90 degrees as shown. The Tankcar Loading Platform kit does not provide the material needed to build the Taps and Fill Pipe. Use .032 wire for the Fill Pipe and solder two .020 wires adjacent to each other. With the solder joint below the Railing, bend the three wires so the rest on top of the Supply Pipes and are bent again to come up the other side, Trim and solder the wires. The .032 wire should extend beyond the top of the Superstructure. Cut off a 1/8in piece of 3/64 tubing (.006 wall K&S 96022) and solder .032 wire to the tubing at an angle. Bend the to form the Spout. Place the tubing on the extended .032 wire and solder the wire to the bent tabs of the Superstructure. Study the following images.



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