

History:

This kit is based on a structure in Huntingdon Valley, Pennsylvania on the Reading Railroad. Similar designs were also built for the Pennsylvania Railroad. The structure sat track side on a simple gravel or cinders platform. Alongside was a coal box to supply the ubiquitous potbelly stove inside. The typical paint scheme for this structure would have been depot buff with brown trim.

Kit basics:

Our kit consists of laser-cut wood components. Many of the parts are backed with a peel and stick coating to ease assembly. Assembly is not difficult, but being such an ornate house be prepared to spend a little time on the house.

You will need a few basic tools and supplies to build the kit. A sharp hobby knife and white glue are all that is required for most of the assembly. Some modelers might find a single-edged razor blade helpful.

Components are held on the larger sheets with small tabs. Use a sharp knife or razor to remove the parts by cutting through the tabs. We recommend that you remove the parts as you use them so that it's easier to keep track of them.

We use white glue (Elmer's or similar) for the wood-to-wood joints. Yellow carpenter's wood glue or ACC ("super glue") can also be used. It can be helpful to use bits of masking tape to hold corners together while the glue dries.

The peel and stick adhesive allows the part locations to

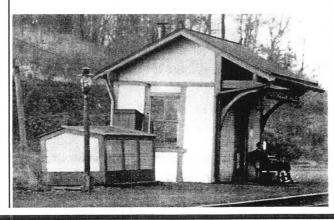
be adjusted slightly when first applied, but will set up to a permanent bond in a few hours.

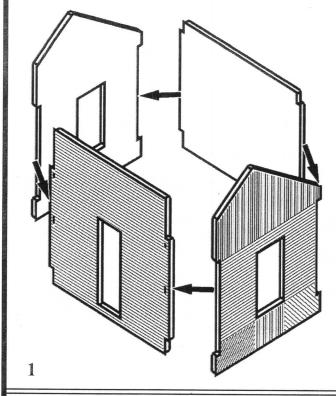
Painting and weathering tips:

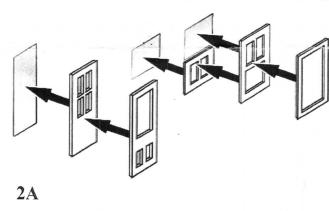
We find it easier to paint many of the parts before or during assembly. If you choose to use water-based paints please be sure to paint both sides of the wood siding to minimize warping. Don't panic if the wood warps while the paint is still wet, in most cases it will straighten out after the paint dries.

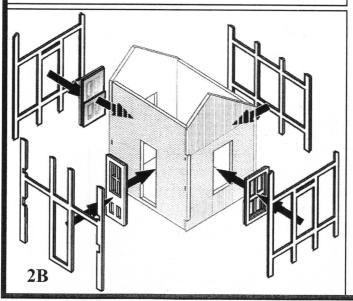
Before you begin:

We recommend that you read through the instructions and look at the diagrams before you begin each step. This will help prevent any assembly mistakes. Dry fitting pieces before you glue will help as well.









Constructing the shell:

1) Start by gluing the front wall to the two side walls, then glue the rear wall into place. Check that all of the corners are square and set aside to dry. Once the glue has dried, paint the wall assembly before you apply the rest of the parts.

Corner Braces

Windows:

2A) We strongly recommend pre-painting all of the window components before assembly.

To assemble the windows, first remove the peel-and-stick from the lower sash and apply a section of clear window glazing to it. Now do the same with the upper sash and frame making sure to keep the edge of the glazing flush with the top edge of the frame. Now stick the lower sash into place on the frame. Note that it is possible to position the lower sash in an open position if desired. Now take the window frame and remove the peel-and-stick from it. Center the window sash assembly into the frame and press into place. Refer to the diagram to determine how each window is assembled.

The windows and frames will be held in place with the outer wall trim, so once your windows are assembled set them aside until the next step.

The door is built up from layers. The prototype's door had lighter colored inner panels with darker colored trim. If you want to match this, paint the two door panels first before assembling the door.

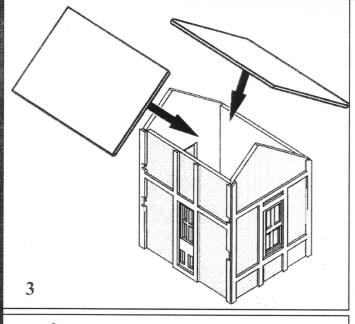
To assemble the door, first remove the backing from the outer door trim panel and apply it to the backing panel as shown. Mount the outer frame section to the door, then insert the completed door into the wall opening.

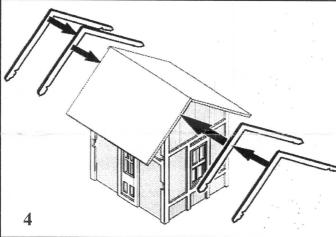
Like the windows, the door is held in place by the trim. Set the completed door aside until the next step.

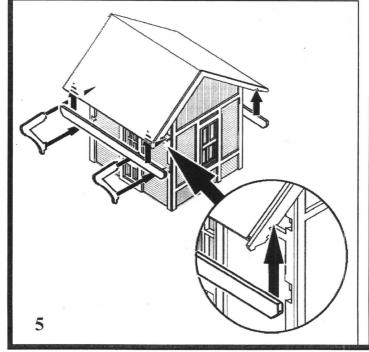
Trim:

2B) Apply the one piece peel-and-stick trim to the sides of the structure first. Place the trim on the siding flush with the edges of the walls and the upper roof. Now insert the window assemblies from the inside of the structure and press them into their openings.

Now apply the front trim piece. This trim piece overlaps the two side trim pieces to form a tight corner. Once the front trim piece is applied, press the door into place from the inside. Finally, install the rear trim piece, overlapping the side trim pieces to form a tight corner.







Subroof:

3) The 1/32 plywood subroofing can now be installed by removing the peel-and-stick backing and carefully applying the panels so that they meet at the center of the roof. There will be a slight seam, this will be filled in with a trim piece in step 7.

Roof trim:

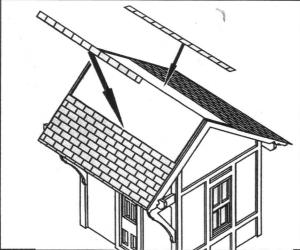
4) The two sections of peel-and-stick decorative trim pieces are applied to the outer edges of the sub roof panels as shown. They should be applied flush with the top edge of the roof.

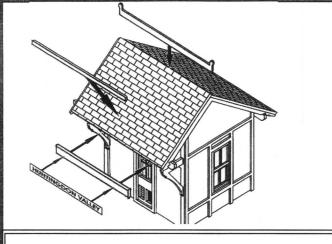
Support beams: Rear shaps; gluc front

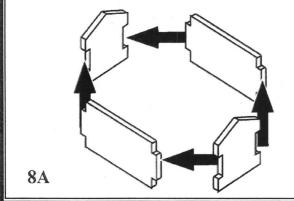
5) The two support beams fit into the small notches on your subroof trim pieces. These beams run across the front and rear of the structure - see the diagram for placement. Once the beams are in place, apply the two decorative support brackets into place - these glue into the holes in the front of the structure.

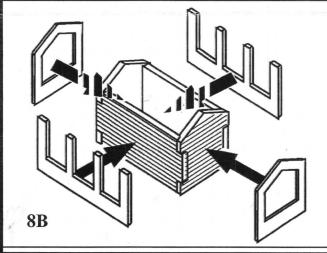
Roof shingles: The Hard and Sins Best to Store 6) Starting at the bottom edge, apply the paper shingle strips one at a time using white glue, overlapping each and staggering each strip as you move upward (see diagram). Do the same on the cupola roof as well. Some of the extra paper can also be used to create a roof cap for each roof peak.

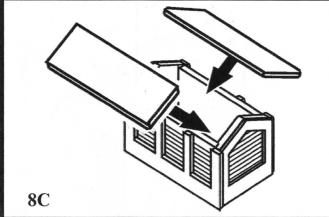
Once the glue is dry paint the shingles to represent a slate roof. We like to use weathered black but any dark bluish gray will work. A few extra minutes spent on the roof really pays off since it is so visible when the structure is in place on the layout. For some added detail you can pick out individual slates with slightly lighter or darker shades of gray. Another effective technique is to use a knife blade to lift up the front edge on a few of the shingles for some added relief. Just don't overdo it here unless you want the look of a dilapidated roof. Finally, add a thin wash of black and once this is dry brush the shingles with some vertical streaks of a lighter color to pick out the highlights.











Roof trim and run off board:

7) Glue the decorative roof trim between your roof panels as shown. Now glue the snow fence to the top of the shingle roof on the front of the structure.

We have included an optional rectangluar sign for the front of the station. This can either be glued directly to the support beam or can be hung from a couple short lengths of wire (not included). We have also included a paer sign that can be cut and apply to the sign.

Coal box:

- **8A)** The coal box will assemble much like the main structure did. Start by assembling the four walls as shown.
- **8B)** Now apply the side trim pieces followed by the front and rear sections. The front and rear pieces will overlap the sides to form a tight corner.
- **8C)** Next apply the sub roof panels. The front can be glued into an open position if desired.
- **8D)** Finally, glue the tar paper roofing to the top of your sub roofing.

Bench:

9) There is a small bench seat included with this kit. Apply the peel and stick planks to the side supports as shown. There are two planks on the top and three on the seating area.

Your kit is now completed and ready for your layout. We hope you've enjoyed this kit. If you have any problems or comments, please contact us at:

Person to Branchline Trains

333 Park Ave. East Hartford, CT. 06108

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