

## ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

### RTS 2T5 MODERN TV NEST

#### CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations in choosing a unique product to enhance your slot car track diorama. This can truly be described as a product born from a love for slot cars. Buying this product have made you a member of a very special family, yes you are not dealing with a faceless business, but rather a family of slot car fanatics.

We have put hours of skill and more importantly love into this product and it is wonderful to share our love for slot cars with you. May you enjoy the build and have years of joy having it as part of your trackside diorama.

This product is not a replica of a specific trackside TV nest, but there are many look alike nests to be seen at most raceways. You don't have to use this structure as a TV nest, but can also use it as a flagman's post, a spotter tower or a Marshall platform.

#### WARRANTY

This product is covered by a comprehensive money-back warranty to ensure your absolute satisfaction with your purchase.

#### WHO ARE WE?

This product is brought to you by [racetrackscenics.com](http://racetrackscenics.com). If you have not done so already, please visit our website today. You are also most welcome to visit the Facebook pages "**Race Track Scenics Slot Car Scenery**" and "**Johan Malan**" to keep up to date with the latest developments and the launching of exciting new products that may be in the pipeline.

You can contact Kevin Sharpe on  
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for any assistance that you might require. Your feedback and a photo or two of your trackside addition will really be appreciated. We love to share in your joy!

## **WHAT IS IN THE KIT?**

In this kit you will find all the laser cut pieces needed to assemble this product. The pieces are still intact in the sheets as they were cut to ensure that all the parts are there. Some of the loose bits inside pieces may have been removed, but they are not part of the finished product. In the section “FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF” below, you will find diagram(s) that identify and explain each piece (component) that you are about to assemble. In the section “PREPARING THE CUT PIECES” below, you will learn how to proceed to prepare the pieces for assembly.

In the kit you will also find some optional pre-cut artwork printed on matt photo paper. This can be used to brand your finished product.

## **WHAT YOU WILL NEED**

We have specifically designed this product so that it is easy to assemble with only a few basic tools. You will need the following:

- a screwdriver
- a sharp hobby knife
- some glue
- a few toothpicks
- a few earbuds can be handy
- a paintbrush or sponge roller and paint or a rattle can or two with spray paint.

There are really two schools of thought as to the right glue to use. Some people prefer a rapid setting glue like most gel super glues, while others prefer a slower setting glue like ordinary cold wood glue. Sometimes more than one part must be assembled almost simultaneously and then a forgiving glue makes life a bit easier. Other times you may want a quick fit and then the rapid setting glue is the obvious choice. Our advice is to see what works best for you, there are no right or wrong, both types will produce a sturdy structure.

You will only need a small amount of glue and remember to look for the surfaces that will be in contact in the end and do not only apply glue to the lugs and sleeves. The latter restrict movement in one plane, but the glue fix it in the perpendicular plane. Using a toothpick is a handy way to apply glue and an earbud can be used to dab away any excess of glue (especially if you use wood glue).

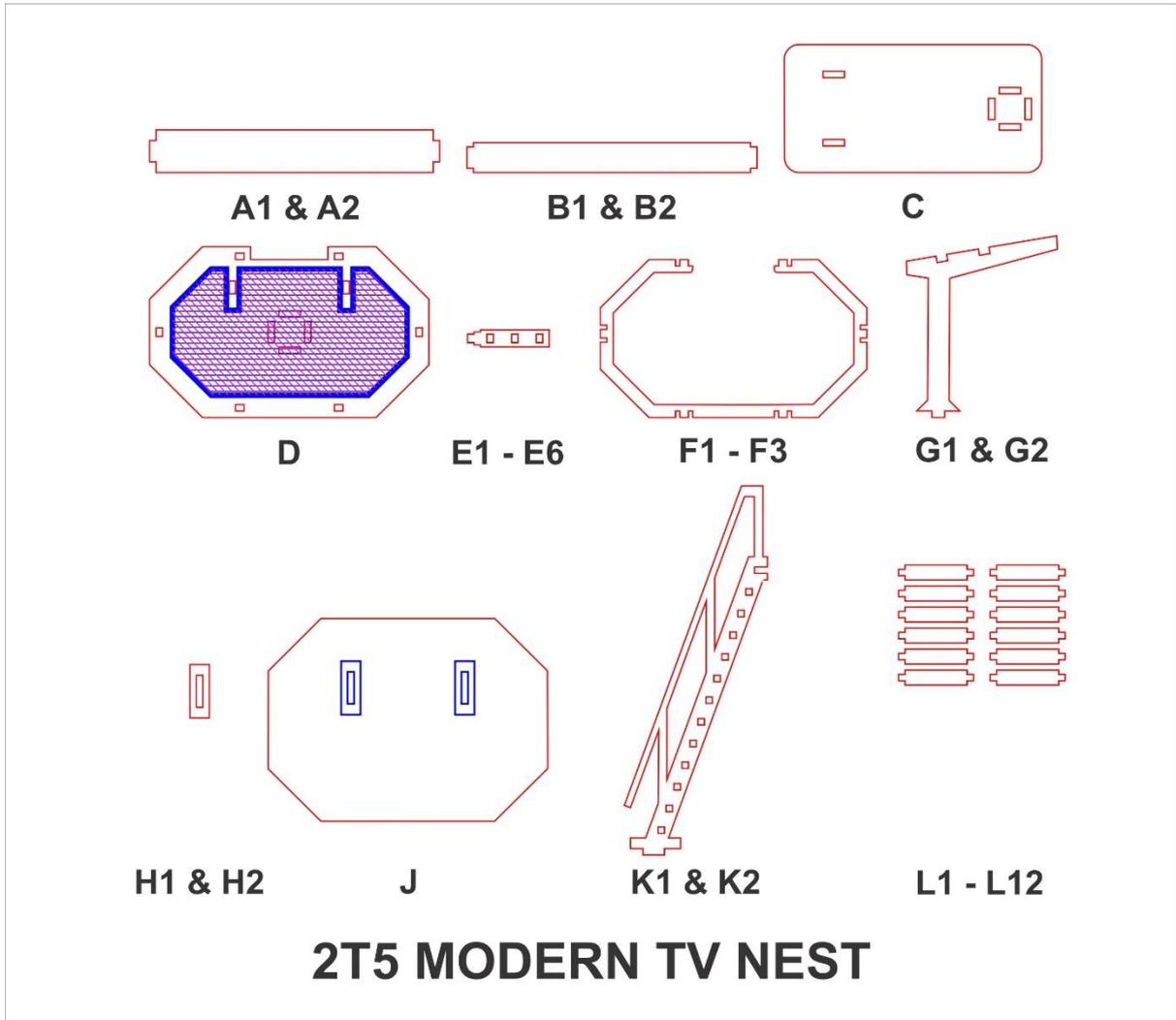
If parts must be at a right angle, you can use any object to assist you in obtaining a square finished product in the end.

## **FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF**

Have a look at the photo of the finished product.



Now have a look at the next diagram where all the laser cut parts are showed and numbered from **A** to **L** and try to identify which is which and where they fit in.



The structure has a base plate (**C**) and the four sides of the column (**A1 & A2**) and (**B1 & B2**) fits into this base plate, as well as the two legs of the ladder (**K1 & K2**). The floor (**D**) fits onto the four sides of the column. Ensure that the engraving of the floor faces upwards. There are six posts (**E1 – E6**) that fits into the slots in the floor. These posts support the three hoops (**F1 -F3**).

There are two columns (**G1 & G2**) that carries the roof (**J**) that also fits into the slots in the floor. There are two “shoes” (**H1 & H2**) that fits on top of the columns. Lastly you will notice the threads (**L1 – L12**) of the ladder.

### PREPARING THE CUT PIECES

Firstly, remove all the laser cut parts from the sheets. The sheets can be discarded. Clean the edges of the parts if there are any tiny bits where the parts were fixed to the sheets. This can be done with your knife or even your thumb nail.

We recommend that you start by sanding your finished product with a very light sandpaper to ensure a smooth finish for the end product.

## **WORD OF ADVICE**

We would strongly advise you to do a quick dry assembly before you start gluing the laser cut parts together. Lay out all the parts on your work surface and make sure that the parts are not upside down or mirrored. In most instances it will make no difference, but in others it may be crucial to ensure a perfect product in the end.

Our laser cut parts are specifically cut to very fine tolerances to ensure a snug fit and therefore it is wise to check all fits before gluing parts together. You may need to trim a lug here and there to make assembly easier.

## **PAINTING YOUR PRODUCT**

We would strongly advise you to finish the product with paint or wood stain to make them as appealing as possible. The parts should be primed (2 coats) and painted before final assembly. Spray paint can also be used to get a very smooth finish. Oil or water-based paint can be used and specialised paints like chalk paint can be used to give unique finishes.

Generally, it is highly advisable to paint/spray before gluing. You may not be able to get to the inside of the structure after it is glued together. Covering all the parts that must not be painted or sprayed with the same colour can be a tedious process. Pre-painting will avoid this process.

Please ensure that no paint clog a sleeve where a lug must fit in later. The tolerances are often so tight that too thick a layer of paint may cause problems. It is our experiences that a small foam roller instead of a brush, will produce a better finish and far less clogging of sleeves.

Applying a base or undercoat normally makes life easier afterwards. Two coats of primer are advisable because the MDF absorbs a lot of paint. Using a single colour for the undercoat of all parts works quite well from personal experience. You can choose the paint of your preference, whether it is oil or water based. Cleaning brushes and rollers are just so much easier if you use a water base paint. A chalk paste can give a unique finish to walls and give a weathered look if so desired. If you prefer to protect the paint work of your structure you can always apply a clear spray coat.

## **LET'S GET STARTED WITH THE ASSEMBLY**

The assembly of this structure is really easy and should not take too long.

Start by putting the base plate (**C**) on your working surface. Glue the nubs of the four sides of the column (**A1 & A2**) and (**B1 & B2**) into the four slots in the middle of the base plate. Before this glue sets fully you must proceed to glue the floor (**D**) of the nest onto the nubs at the other end of the four sides. Ensure that the engraving of the floor faces upwards and that the opening for the ladder faces towards the end of the baseplate where there are slots for the legs of the ladder.

Make sure that everything is square to ensure an upright structure. Apply moderate pressure to ensure that these parts fits snugly. You can weigh down the structure and should allow the glue to set before you proceed.

Next, we would like to recommend that you first assemble the cage consisting of the six posts (**E1 – E6**) and the three hoops (**F1 -F3**). You will see two positions on the long side and one position on each short side of the hoops where the posts must be glued it. Before the glue fully sets the nubs at the bottom of the posts of the cage must be glued into the slots on the circumference of the floor (**D**). If you are in doubt, you can study the photo above of the finished product and will clearly see the cage.

Next you must glue the two “shoes” (**H1 & H2**) to the nubs on top of the two columns (**G1 & G2**). Now you can proceed to glue the nubs at the bottom of the columns into the two remaining slots in the floor (**D**). You will notice two engravings on the roof (**J**). This side of the roof must face down, as these engravings are there to assist you with the position of the shoes when you glue the roof to the shoes. It will be easiest if you lay the roof on your work surface (engraving upwards) and then do an upside-down assembly.

You can now proceed with the trickiest part of the assembly, assembling the ladder. Put one side of the ladder (**K1**) on your work surface and glue nubs on one side of the threads (**L1 – L12**) into the slots. Next, you can consider to fit all the lugs on the other end of the treads loosely into the corresponding slots of the second side (**K2**) without applying any glue. It should now be easy to remove one after the other nub, glue it and replace it and then move on to the next one. It is advised to start from one end and work your way to the other end by matching lugs and slots one by one, almost like closing a zipper tooth by tooth. Once all the lugs are snugly into their matching slots, it is time to apply some gentle pressure on the top side to ensure a snug fit. At this stage, before the glue sets, it is important to assure that the whole step ladder is aligned and as square as possible. All that still needs to be done is to glue the bottom of the ladder to the base plate (**C**) and the top to the floor (**D**) of the nest.

Congratulations, you have successfully assembled the Modern TV Nest.

## **FINISHING & BRANDING**

We leave the finishing to your imagination and your taste. Do whatever you think will transform this into a structure that will compliment your race track diorama. We have included some branding that can be used to finish your structure. We recommend that you protect the branding with a clear spray.

## **CONCLUSION**

We sincerely hoped you have enjoyed this assembly and finishing. Please remember to give us some feedback and either send or post some pictures of this product on your track.