

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

RTS 2T6 RIVERSIDE OBSERVATION TOWER GOODYEAR

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations in choosing our flagship 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 as close to an exact scaled replica of an iconic trackside landmark of years gone by, as we could possibly achieve. The Goodyear Observation Tower was for many years the most recognisable structure at Riverside International Raceway in Lost Angeles in the USA. This structure will not only enhance any slot car track, but it will indeed be the focal point of attention.

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. 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 (pva glue). Sometimes more than one part must be assembled almost simultaneously and then a forgiving glue makes life a bit easier. Gluing the 26 steps into place may take a bit of time when you do it for the first time and a slower setting glue may just make life so much easier. Other times you may want a quick fix 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 two photos of the finished product.

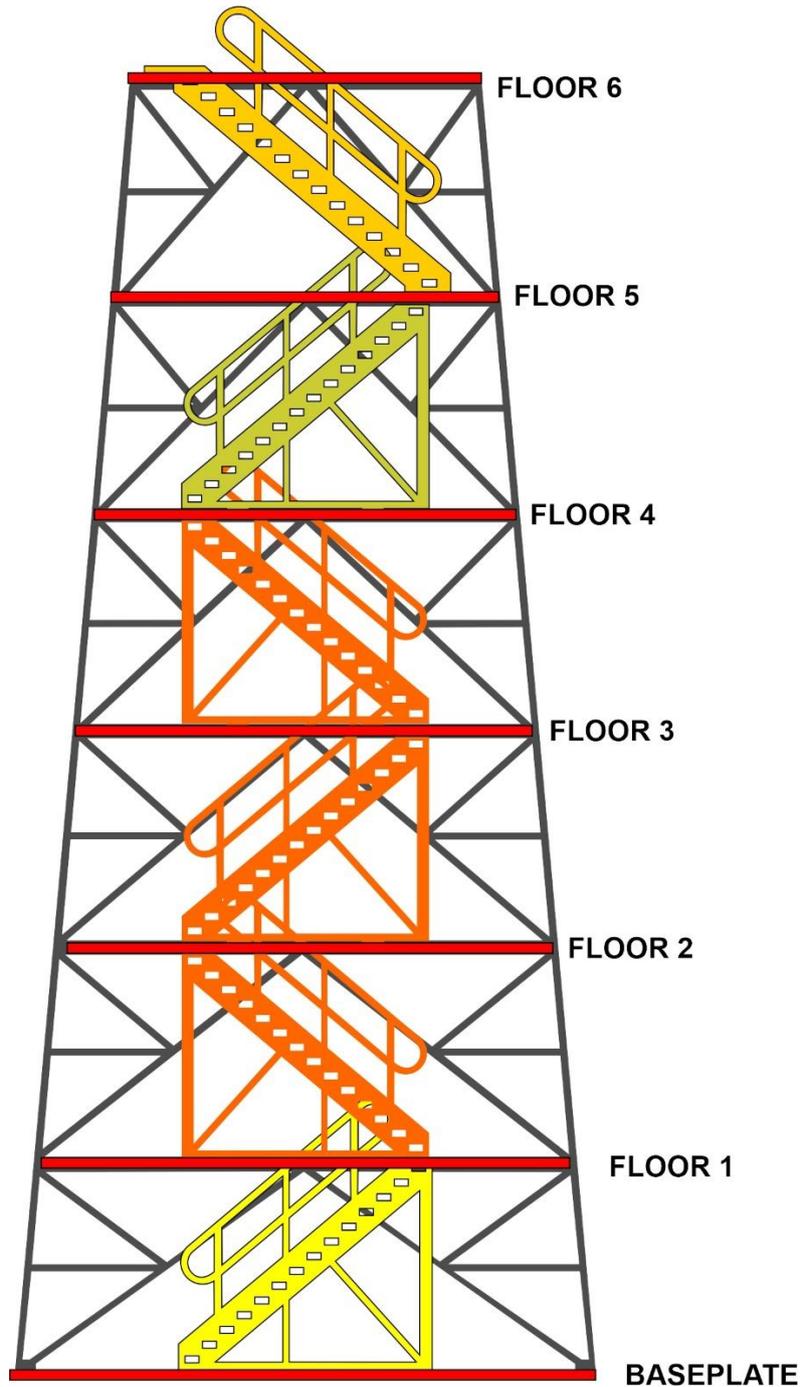




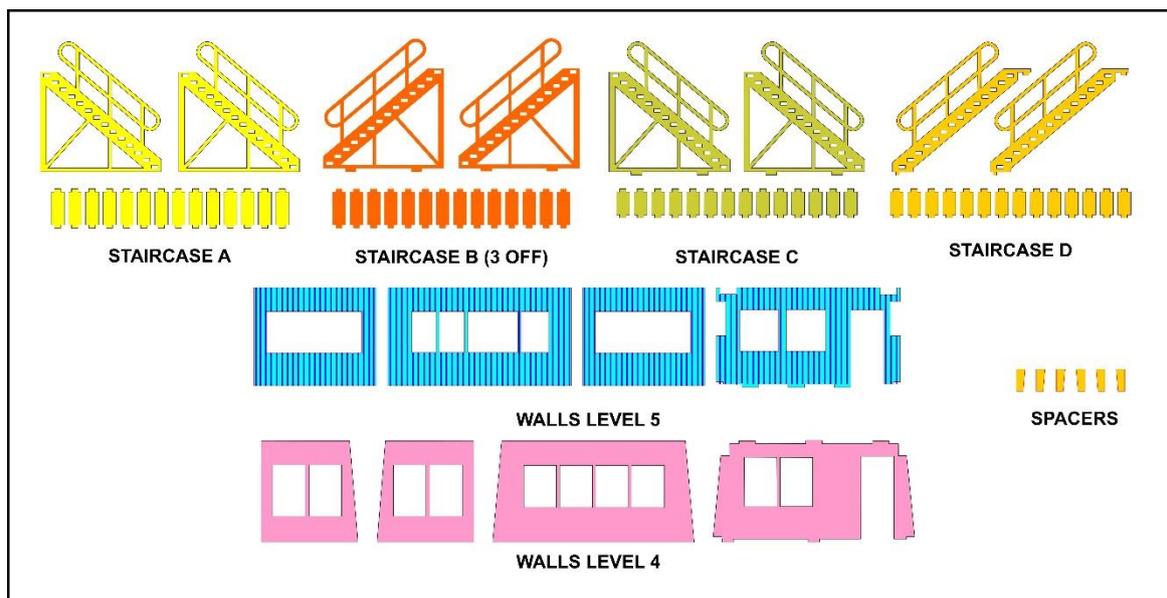
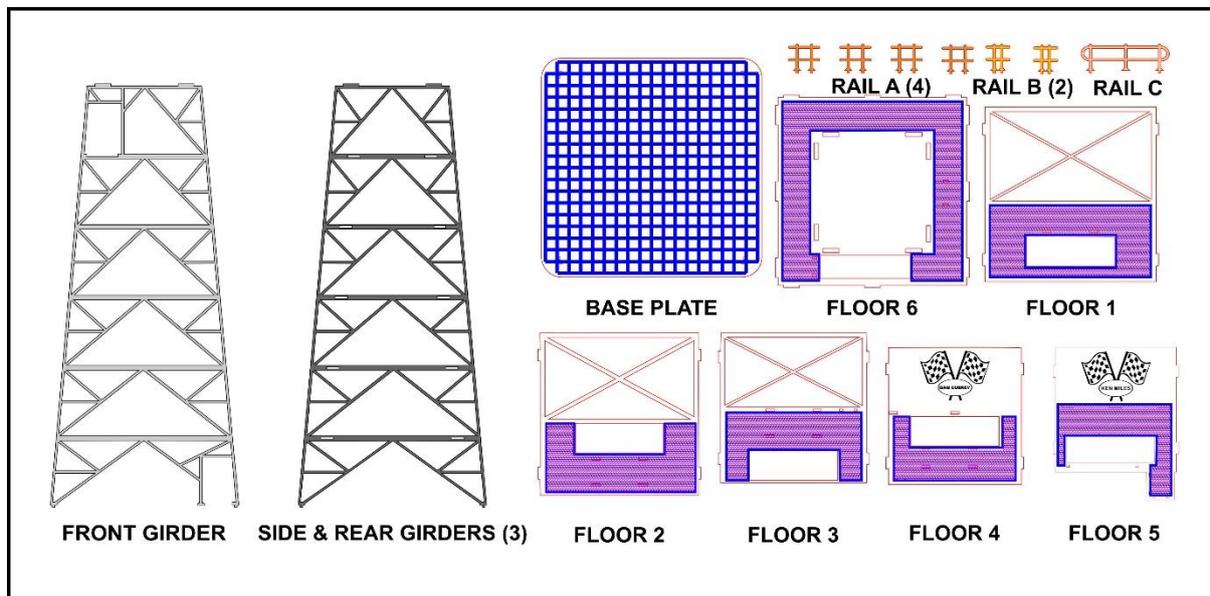
This structure is quite complex and therefore the assembly instructions come in two parts. Firstly, we will tackle the main tower structure and secondly, we will assemble the superstructure, or crown as we prefer to refer to it.

PHASE 1: THE MAIN TOWER STRUCTURE

Now have a look at a diagram of the first part of the project. This shows the various staircases as well as labelling all floors.



Now is a good time to study all the components that will be assembled in this first phase. Have a look at the two diagrams where all the laser cut parts are showed and labelled and try to identify which is which and where they fit in.



You will notice that the tower structure consists of four main girders which sits on a base plate (**BASE PLATE**) and which carries six floors (**FLOORS 1-6**). The floors (**FLOORS 1-6**) all have a staircase opening that must be on the side of the front girder (**FRONT GIRDER**). All of the floors have engraving that must face upwards. The one girder (**FRONT GIRDER**) is different to the other three (**SIDE AND REAR GIRDERS**) because it allows access to the stairs. The sixth floor (**FLOOR 6**) actually sits on top of the girders. Between each floor there are a staircase. The first one (**STAIRCASE A**) differs from the rest in that it has no lugs at the bottom. The next three staircases (**STAIRCASE B**) are identical and as the bottom staircase uses the wider treads. The next staircase (**STAIRCASE C**) is similar to the lower ones, but

uses the narrower treads. The last staircase (**STAIRCASE D**) is different in look to the others and also uses the narrower treads. The top two floors are enclosed with walls (**WALLS LEVEL 4 &5**). There are some spacers (**SPACERS**) to get the wall nice and plumb. Lastly you will notice some safety railings (**RAIL A, B &C**) that will be fitted on the different floors.

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: PHASE 1

We are going to start with the trickiest part of the assembly and get it behind our backs. This entails assembling the staircases. The assembly of all is identical. To start put the two sides of the first staircase (**STAIRCASE A**) on your workbench, as well as 14 of the wider threads.

Start by gluing the lugs of the 14 threads into the different holes of the one side.

Now you can consider to fit all the lugs of the threads that are not glued in loosely into the corresponding slots of the second side without applying any glue. It should now be easy to remove one after the other, 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, is it important to assure that the whole structure is aligned and as square as possible. The structure can be supported and weighed down by any suitable object that will assist in keeping every part in position and square where applicable. You can use a brick, thick book, tin of food, or what-ever is available and suitable. The structure is fairly sturdy but do not apply to much pressure as parts may break.

Once you have mastered the assembly of one staircase you will find it much easier to assemble the other 5 in exactly the same way. At this stage take note that the staircases will have to be positioned before the girders are fully assembled.

Now we must tackle the main tower. We are going to start by assembling the girders (**SIDE AND REAR GIRDERS**), base plate (**BASE PLATE**), floors (**FLOORS 1-6**) and pre-assembled staircases (**STAIRCASE A, B, C & D**), with the exception of the front girder (**FRONT GIRDER**).

Start by laying the one side girder (**SIDE GIRDERS**) on your workbench. Now proceed to glue in the first 5 floors (**FLOORS 1-5**) by gluing their lugs into the slots of the girder. Make absolutely sure that the floors are in the right sequence as detailed in the diagram above. Proceed to glue the second side girder (**SIDE GIRDER**) to the lugs of the opposite side of the floors. Once all the lugs are snugly into their matching slots, it is time to apply some gentle pressure on the top girder to ensure a snug fit. At this stage, before the glue sets, is it important to assure that the whole structure is aligned and as square as possible. You can fit the top and bottom lugs of the girders into the slots of the base plate and sixth floor without gluing them. This will assist in ensuring a square structure. Allow the glue to set fully before you proceed.

Leave the top floor and glue the assembled structure to the base plate (**BASE PLATE**). Remove the top floor and glue the lugs of the rear girder (**REAR GIRDER**) into the base plate. Apply glue where the side and rear girders touch (5 positions should be adequate). The top floor can be replaced, again without gluing it.

Now it is time to position and glue in the first 5 staircase (**STAIRCASE A, B, & C**). Staircases B and C have got lugs that fits into slots in the different floors.

The front walls (**WALLS LEVEL 4 &5**) (the ones with the door openings) can now be glued into the slots of the corresponding floors.

The safety railings (**RAIL A, B & C**) can now be glued in position on the various floors. They are in three different lengths to correspond to the distance between the slots where they must be glued in. There is one railing in each of floors 1 – 4 and three railings in floor 5.

Now you can remove the top floor and glue in the front girder (**FRONT GIRDER**) exactly as you did the rear one. Now the top floor (**FLOORS 6**) can be glued on the lugs of all four girders. The last of the staircases (**STAIRCASE D**) can now be glued into position.

Lastly the outside walls (**WALLS LEVEL 4 &5**) of the top two floors can be glued in position by gluing them to the outsides of the girders. The girders are sloping and therefore the walls will also slope, but if you prefer to have your walls plumb you can use the spacers (**SPACERS**) and glue them between the walls and the girders. The walls can clearly be seen on the photos above.

PHASE 2: THE SUPER STRUCTURE (CROWN)

PREPARING THE CUT PIECES

Please read the instructions (above) which are the same for the two phases.

WORD OF ADVICE

Please read the instructions (above) which are the same for the two phases.

PAINTING YOUR PRODUCT

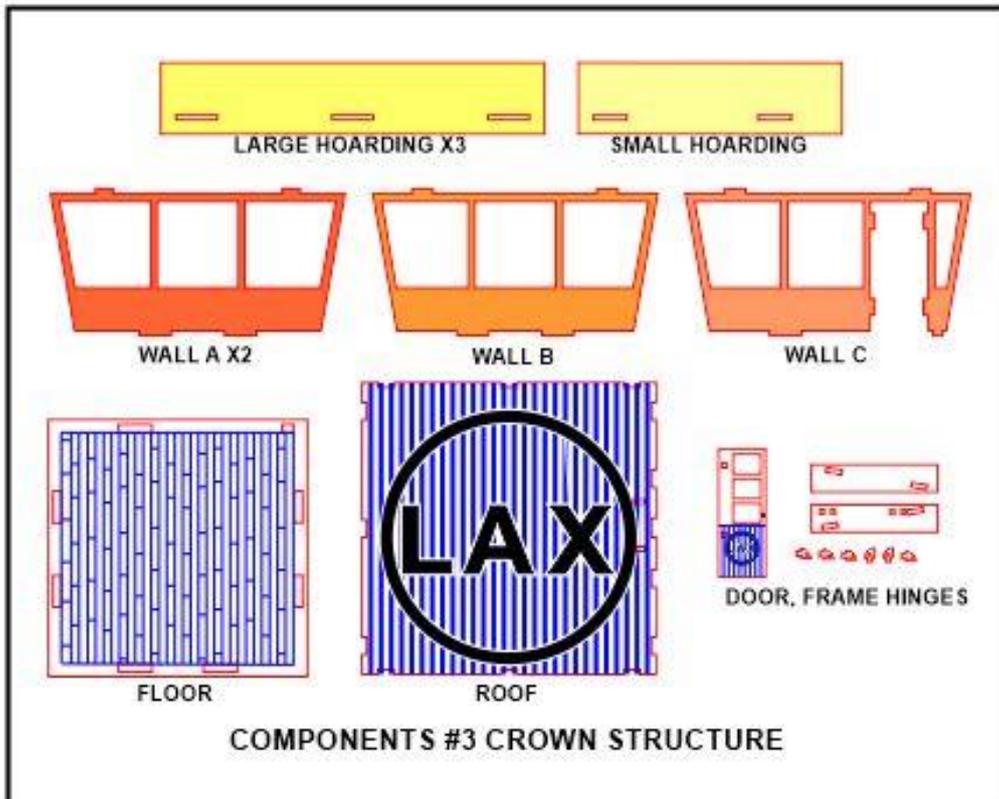
Please read the instructions (above) which are the same for the two phases.

FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF

Again, have a look at the photos above and also at the close-up of the super structure below.



PHASE 2A



Now is a good time to study all the components that will be assembled first. Have a look at the diagrams above where all the laser cut parts are showed and labelled and try to identify which is which and where they fit in.

You will notice that there are four hoardings (**LARGE HOARDINGS X3**) and (**SMALL HOARDING**), which will be branded with the Goodyear logo, that fits on the sides of the top floor of the main structure. The (**SMALL HOARDING**) is on the side of the (**FRONT GIRDER**) and to the left as viewed from the front. The crown structure that sits on the top floor is a loose structure with its own floor (**FLOOR**). You will notice the wooden floor engraving that must face upwards. The four walls fit into the floor and the roof (**ROOF**) fits on top of the walls. The position of the four walls is as follows: (**WALL C**) is on the side of the "X" on the roof with the door opening on the left if viewed from the outside. (**WALL B**) is directly opposite (**WALL C**). The (**WALL A X2**) are identical and fits on the other two opposite sides. The (**DOOR, FRAME & HINGES**) fits into the opening in (**WALL C**).

LET'S GET STARTED WITH THE ASSEMBLY

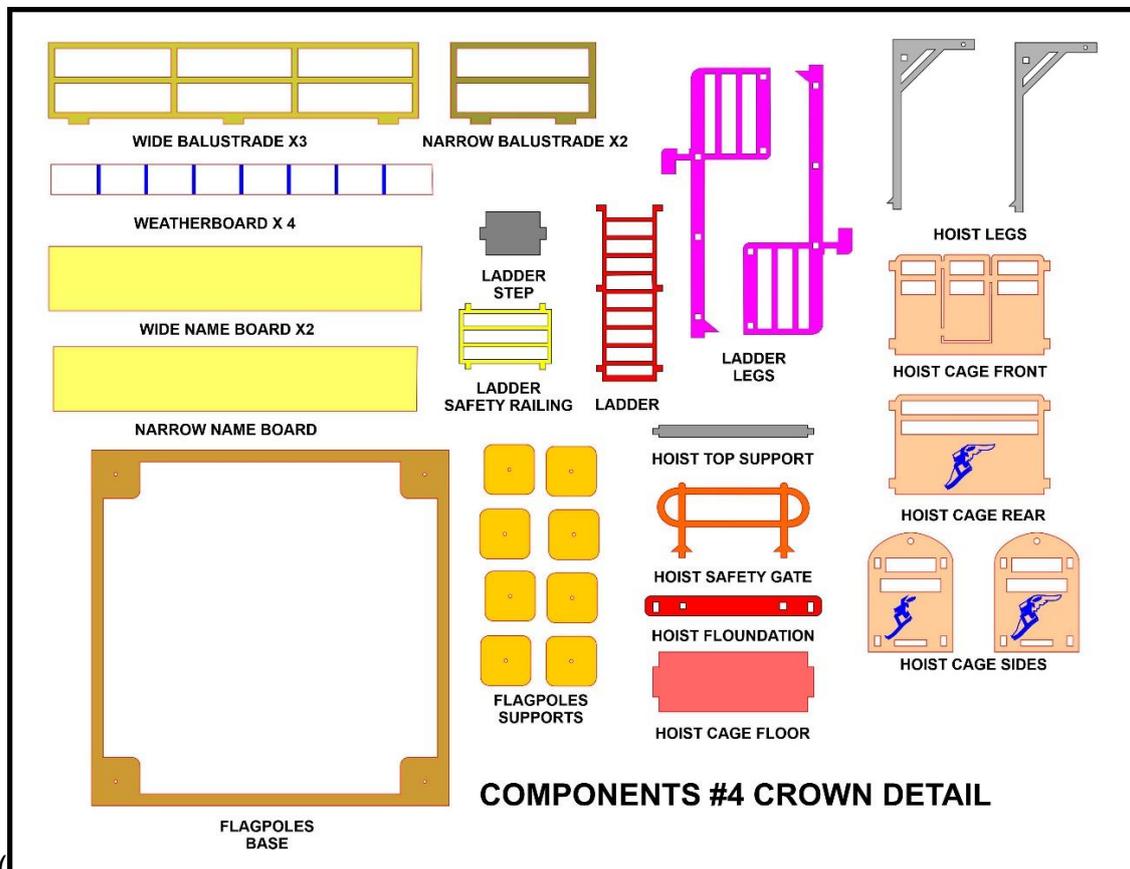
Firstly, we are going to glue the four hoardings (**LARGE HOARDINGS X3**) and (**SMALL HOARDING**) to the nubs on the sides of the top floor of the main structure. The (**SMALL HOARDING**) is on the side of the (**FRONT GIRDER**) and to the left as viewed from the front. Apply some pressure and ensure the boardings are plumb and square. You can set aside the main structure now to allow the glue to set properly.

Put the floor (**FLOOR**). of the Crown with the engraving facing upwards on your work surface. Now proceed to glue the four walls (**WALL A, B & C**) into the slots of the floor in the positions as explained above. Now the roof (**ROOF**), again with the engraved side facing up, can be glued onto the top lugs of the walls.

Lastly, we are installing the door into the opening in the one wall. Firstly, the two frames must be glued to the sides of the opening in the wall. The frame with the slots for the hinges must be to the left of the opening when viewing from the outside. The slots for the hinges must be on the inside of the door. Whereas the walls are at an angle the door frames and the door will be plum. The two slots at an angle in the frames will fit onto the lugs in the wall on either side.

Next, we will proceed to install four hinges into the frame and two hinges into the back of the door itself. The engraved side of the door will face outside and the hinges will be on the left side. A dry assembling without any glue is crucial to get the hinges the right way round. The hinges must be behind the door and the holes of all six hinges must line up vertically. Furthermore, the curved part of the hinge must be facing the “V” that is formed when the door opens or before it closes. Once you are sure that all the hinges are the right way round, you can proceed to glue them in. To complete the installation and hang the door, you will have to find two short or one long pin to feed through the holes in the hinges. You have successfully installed a door that can open and close. Well done!

PHASE 2B



Now is a good time to first study all the components that will be assembled in this phase. Have a look at the diagrams above where all the laser cut parts are showed and labelled and try to identify which is which and where they fit in.

LET'S GET STARTED WITH THE ASSEMBLY

There are 3 (**WIDE BALUSTRADES**) and 2 (**NARROW BALUSTRADES**) that fits into the slots of the roof of the Crown (engraved with LAX). These "slots" are open to the outside.

There are three (**NAME BOARDS**) that fits onto the three long balustrades. Here you have a few options to finish your tower to suit your preferences. In some photos of the actual tower, we see these balustrades without the (**NAME BOARDS**). In other photos we see the boards and the name "Riverside" in two different fonts. We have copied the one font as accurate as we could possibly do. Again, you have two options, you can use the pre-cut artwork and glue the name to the board or you can use the (**RIVERSIDE NAME BOARD**) that will be assembled in **PHASE 3C**. If you choose the latter, you can discard the (**NAME BOARDS**). Regardless of your choice we would like to suggest that you complete the nameboard before you simply glue it to the (**BALUSTRADES**).

The (**WEATHERBOARDS**) are glued on below the (**NAME BOARDS**), see photo above.

There is a (**FLAGPOLE BASE**) that sits on top of the roof of the Crown. This can be glued on or could just rest in position. There are 8 (**FLAGPLOE SUPPORTS**) which can be glued two in each corner to make a deeper hole for the flagpoles to fit into. The flagpoles are not supplied with the kit.

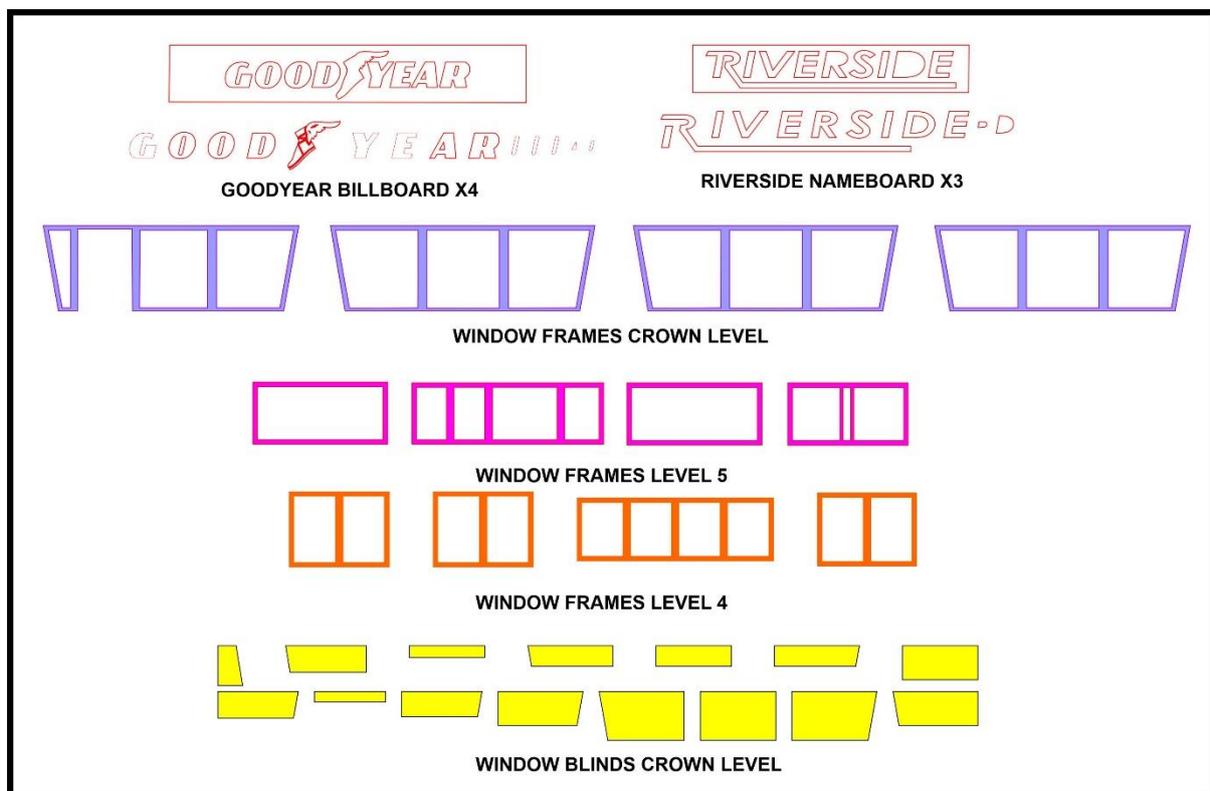
On the photos you will notice a ladder that gives access to the viewing deck right at the top. The ladder consists of two (**LADDER LEGS**), the (**LADDER**), a (**LADDER STEP**) and a (**LADDER SAFETY RAILING**). Put the one leg on your work surface and glue in the lugs of the ladder, ladder step and safety railing in the corresponding slots in the leg. Proceed to glue the lugs on the other side into the second leg. Apply some gentle pressure and make sure that everything is square. Allow the glue to set fully before you proceed. You will notice two slots in the roof near the engraved "X", as well as two slots in the sixth floor near the door. The feet of the ladder fits into these slots. The ladder will then allow access to the deck and crosses between the two short balustrades. If you glue them in on both levels, you won't be able to remove the crown anymore. We suggest that you only glue the legs to the roof.

On the photos you will notice a (**HOIST AND CAGE**) that gives access from ground level to the sixth floor. The hoist consists of a (**HOIST FOUNDATION**), a (**HOIST SAFETY GATE**), two (**HOIST LEGS**) and a (**HOIST TOP SUPPORT**). Start by gluing the two (**HOIST LEGS**) into the outside slots of the (**HOIST FOUNDATION**). Before the glue fully sets you must glue in the (**HOIST TOP SUPPORT**) between the two legs. You should be able to remove the (**HOIST SAFETY GATE**) when the cage is at the top level and therefore it should not be glued into the slots in the (**HOIST FOUNDATION**), but merely fitted there. Have a look again at the very top photo in

this document to confirm the position of the hoist. Remember that the cage will hang from the hoist before you glue down the foundation to the sixth floor.

The (**HOIST CAGE**) consists of a (**FLOOR**), 2 (**SIDES**), (**FRONT**) and (**REAR**) panels. Start by gluing the nubs of the (**FLOOR**), (**FRONT**) and (**REAR**) panels into the corresponding slots of the one (**SIDE**) and then proceed to glue the nubs on the other ends in to the slots of the second (**SIDE**). Apply some gentle pressure, make sure the cage is square and allow the glue to set. The cables to hang the cage from the hoist is not provided, but some rope, guitar/piano wire or other suitable material can be used.

PHASE 2C



Now is a good time to first study all the components that will be assembled in this phase. Have a look at the diagrams above where all the laser cut parts are shown and labelled and try to identify which is which and where they fit in.

LET'S GET STARTED WITH THE ASSEMBLY

The last items that must be constructed are those that are not functional but rather those that finishes off a great structure and provide the WOW factor.

As mentioned earlier there are some all-wood Goodyear and Riverside Boards that can be assembled and glued into place. Here we would strongly advise you to paint the lettering and the board before you proceed to glue in the lettering. A good tip is to apply a suitable glue tape to the back of the board. As you push the lettering into the slots they grip onto the tape and stay put. This is far easier than gluing them in.

Next you will notice three sets of window frames for the top three floors. Pre-painting them in a contrasting colour normally resulted in a pleasing look. The frames line up with the openings and as long as you match these it is really easy to finish. Gluing a clear plastic sheet, the shape of the opening between the wall and the frame can enhance your tower even more.

If you have a look at some of the photos of the real tower you will notice that the windows on the Crown level have blinds that are often half closed against the sun. We provide a number of cut pieces that can be painted and glued in place to act as window blinds.

Believe it or not, but we have reached the end of the road. You have successfully assembled our flagship product. Well done!!

FINISHING & BRANDING

We leave the finishing and painting to your imagination and personal taste. Do whatever you think will transform this into a structure that will compliment your race track diorama. You have the option to use the pre-cut artwork and if you do 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.