ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

RTS 4B3 THROUGH GIRDER TWO LANE FOOTBRIDGE

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 an imaginary footbridge that span two slot car lanes. It is a girder design and the main structure and staircases will be assembled separately. This structure will enhance any slot car track. The bridge offers lots of possibilities to brand it according to your preferences.

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 pieced 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.

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.

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.

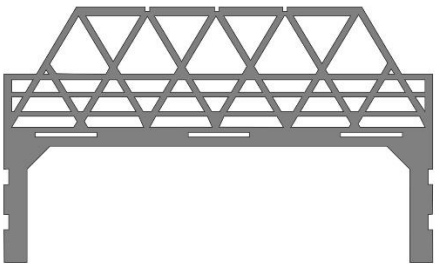
Applying a base or undercoat normally makes life easier afterwards. Two coats of primer are advisable because the MDF absorbs a lot of paint. Using a single colour for the undercoat of all parts works quite well from personal experience. You can choose the paint of your preference, whether it is oil 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.

ASSEMBLY OF THE MAIN STRUCTURE

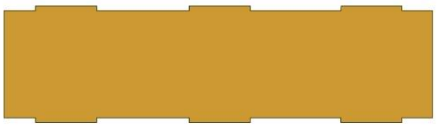
FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF

Have a look at a photo of a finished product with staircases.

Now have a look at the next diagram where all the laser cut parts of the main structure are shown and numbered from **A** to **D.**



A 1-2



B

C

D 1-2

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The main bridge structure consists of two sides (**A1-2**), a floor pieces (**B**), a top brace (**C**) and two leg braces (**D 1-2**).

LET'S GET STARTED WITH THE ASSEMBLY OF THE MAIN STRUCTURE

Place the one side (**A)** on your worksurface. Now you can glue the three nubs of the floor (**B**), as well as the three nubs of the top brace (**C**) into the slots in the side on your workbench. All that is needed for a proper sturdy assembly is some glue where any two parts touch each other. The lugs that fit into the slots stop any movement, but the glue holds all the parts together. The parts must therefore have glue where they touch another piece (only a little bit of glue is required). Gently press down on the parts to ensure a snug fit with the side (**A**). Ensure that all the parts are plumb and square before the glue fully sets.

Now you can glue the nubs on the other side of the floor (**B**) and the top brace (**C**) into the slots of the second side (**A**). Again, apply some gentle pressure. Turn the assembled structure to stand on its legs before the glue fully sets and make sure that all the feet touch the ground. Ensure that the structure is plumb and allow the glue to fully set.

Lastly, the two leg braces (**D 1-2**) can be glued into the open slots in the legs of the bridge.

That concludes the first part of our assembly.

ASSEMBLY OF THE STANDARDISED RTS STAIRCASE

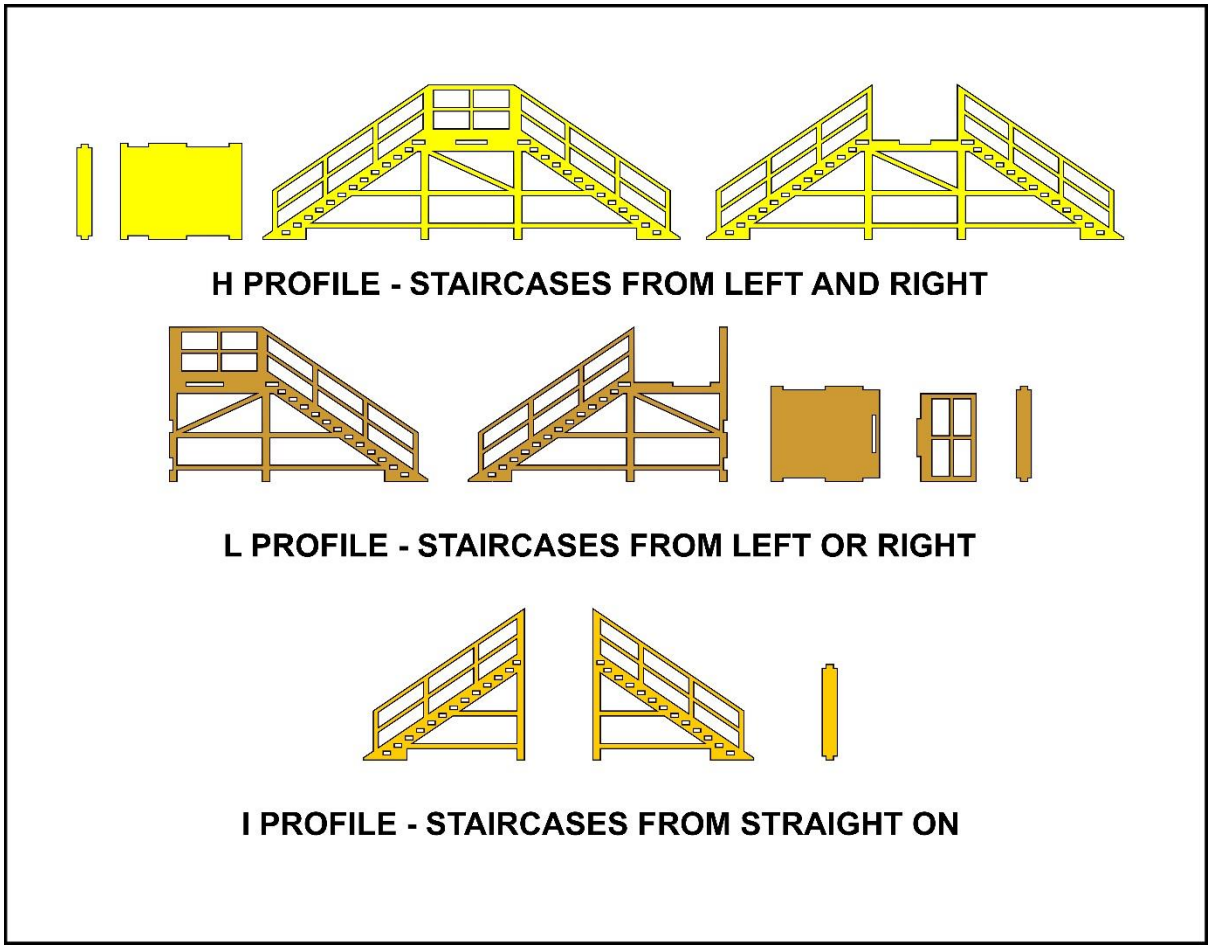
FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF

Have a look at the sketch below and decide which configuration will suit your layout best. Available space on both sides of the track will probably dictate your decision, but you may also choose purely on appearance.

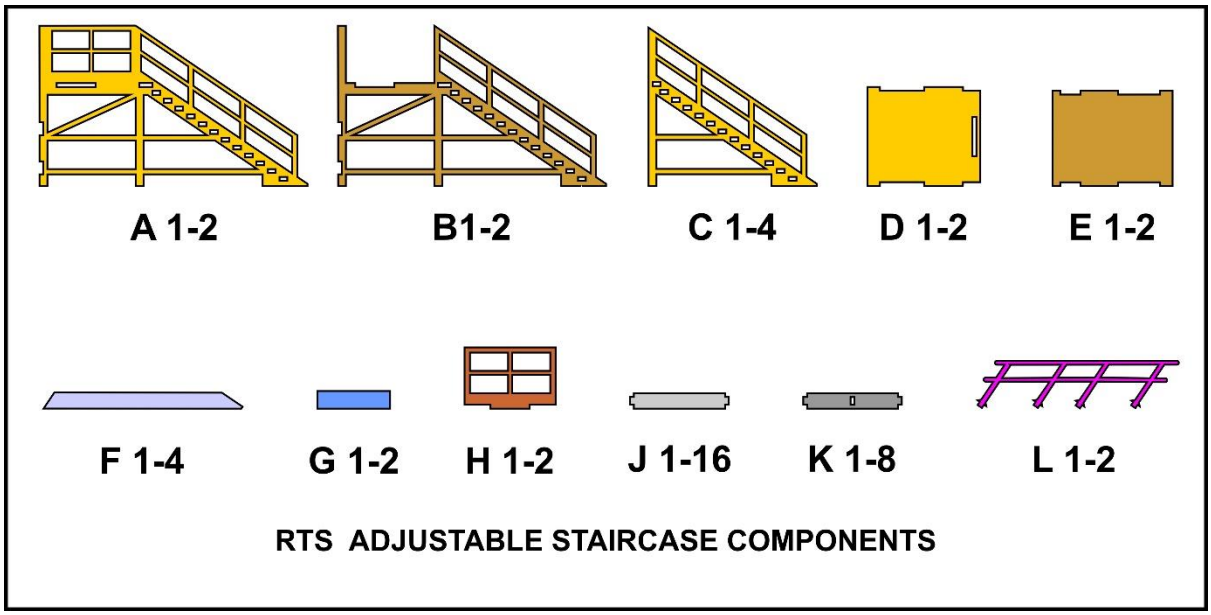
You will notice that you have basically three options, but the second option also allows you to choose on both ends whether you want to approach from the left or right, or one from one side and the other from the other side.

You may even have one profile on one side and a different profile on the other side of the bridge.

Plenty of options! You choose.



Now have a look at the next diagram where all the laser cut parts are showed and numbered from **A** to **J.** We will identify each part and where they fit in, depending on the configuration. We will also indicate where you must choose between options and discard some parts.



The first option: **H PROFILE - STAIRCASES FROM LEFT AND RIGHT**. You can discard one of the following parts (**D 1-2**) and (**H 1-2**) for each staircase you will be assembling.

The second option: **L PROFILE - STAIRCASES FROM LEFT OR RIGHT**. You can discard two of the following parts (**C 1-4**) and one of the following parts (**E 1-2**) for each staircase you will be assembling.

The third option: **I PROFILE - STAIRCASES FROM STRAIGHT ON**. You can discard one of the following parts (**A 1-2**), (**B 1-2**) (**D 1-2**) (**E 1-2**) and (**H 1-2**) for each staircase you will be assembling.

LET'S GET STARTED WITH THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STAIRCASES

Next, we are going to assemble the two staircases. Put the one side of the staircase (**A**), (**B**) or (**C**), depending on your choice above, on your workbench. **NOTE:** Make sure to choose correctly between (**A**) and (**B**), because your choice will result in the opening at the level of the landing to be to the right or left. Keep eight of the steps (**J 1-16**), four of the steps (**K 1-8**) and one of the floors (**D**) or (**E**) handy. Proceed to glue the nubs of the one side of the floor (**D**) or (**E**) and the 8 steps (**J**) and four steps (**K**) into the corresponding slots of the side. Note that the threads must be in the following order: (**K**), (**J**), (**J**), (**J**) (**K**), (**J**), (**J**), (**K**), (**J**), (**J**), (**J**), (**K**) to have the threads

with the slots to match the legs of the handrail (**L**) with nubs. Ensure that the floor and steps are square to the side and allow the glue to partly set before you proceed.

Now for the trickiest part of the assembly, you must now glue this completed part of your staircase to the other side (**A**), (**B**) or (**C**), depending on your choice above. You can consider to fit all the lugs 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.

At this stage, before the glue fully sets, is it important to assure that the whole structure is aligned and as square as possible. Apply some gentle pressure on the top side to ensure a snug fit. 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 to allow the glue to set fully. 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.

The second staircase is assembled in exactly the same way, again depending on your choice.

If you have chosen the first option, the H profile, then you will have to glue two staircases together to form the one side of the H. It will be a Leg (**C**) and either a Leg (**A**) or (**B**) in combination.

Depending on your configuration of the direction of the two staircases, you must now glue in one or more of the gates (**H**) into the slot in the landing. This only applies to the L-Profile.

Lastly, you can glue the engraved cover strips (**F 1-2**) and (**G 1-2**) to the sides of the staircases.

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.

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.