

Four Wheel Coal Jimmy

Introduction

This laser cut wood kit is an HO scale model of a 4 wheel coal jimmy. Coal Jimmies date to the start of railroading and continued in service until the end of the 19th century. This kit is based on a CNJ design, but many railroads used similar cars. This photo shows a coal jimmy next to a modern hopper taken during a railroad historical exhibition.



Kit Contents:

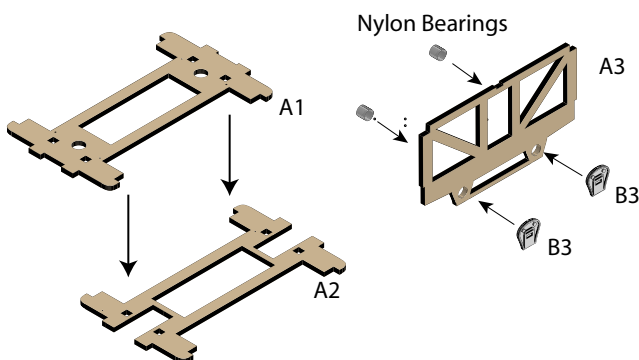
- 1 each 1/16 inch laser cut plywood sheet
- 1 each 1/64th inch laser cut plywood sheet
- 1 each 1/16th inch laser cut Bristol Board
- 1 each Nylon bearings sprue
- 1 each Nut-bolt-washer sprues.
- 1 piece 0.010 inch phosphor bronze wire for brake stand
- 2 each 0.94 inch Reboxx Wheelsets

Recommended Tools and Supplies

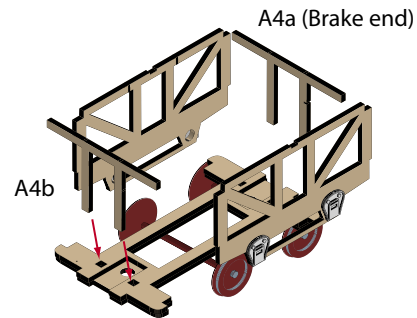
- Hobby Knife
- White Glue or Yellow Wood Glue
- CAA Glue
- 400 grit sandpaper
- #80 drill bit and drill

Assembly Sequence

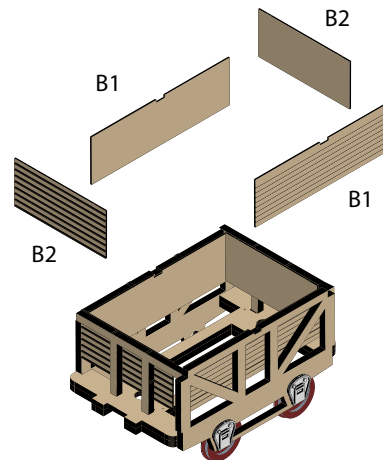
Step 1: Assemble the main frame halves, A1 and A2. Glue Journal Covers B3 to side frames A3 using white glue or CAA. When glue is dry, insert nylon bearings into holes on side frames. The nylon bearings will protrude slightly on the inside of the sideframes. Make sure the engraved notches on A3 face the inside of the car, with the journals on the out side.



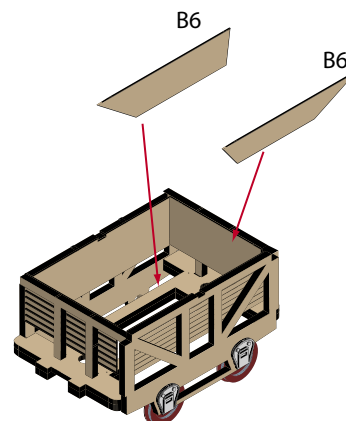
Step 2: Attach side frame assemblies to the main frame assembly. Add the end frames, A4a and A4b. Note that A4b has a small notch cut in the upright. That should be aligned with the brake end. The brake wheel platform will fit in this notch. Add the wheelsets as you assemble the kit. It is very difficult to add the wheelsets once the glue is dry. This car



is designed to accept 0.94 inch axle length wheelsets, such as those from Reboxx, and they are included in the kit. Wider wheelsets will not work in this small car.

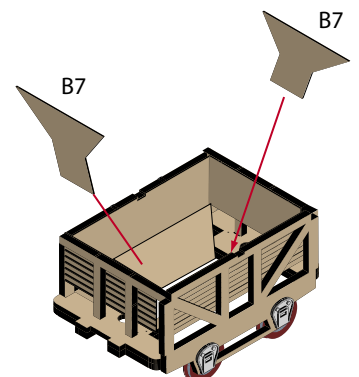


Step 3. Add the hopper siding, B1 and B2. The engraved walls face out. The top edge of the siding should be flush with the frame rail tops. Once the glue is dry, lightly sand the top surface to make smooth.

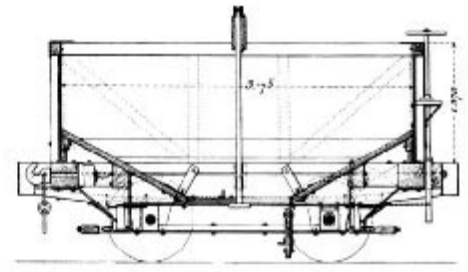
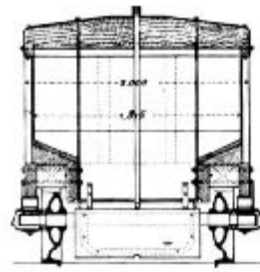


Step 4. Insert the hopper side sheets, B6. The bottom of the side sheets should be flush with the bottom edge of the main frame.

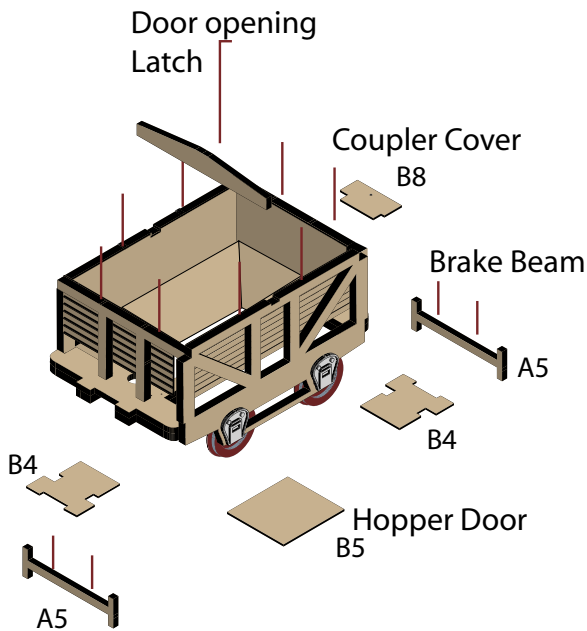
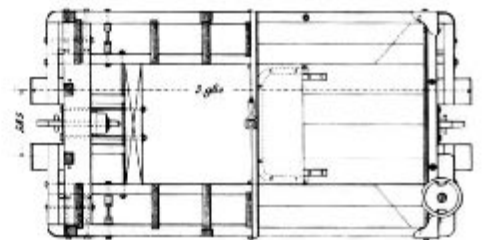
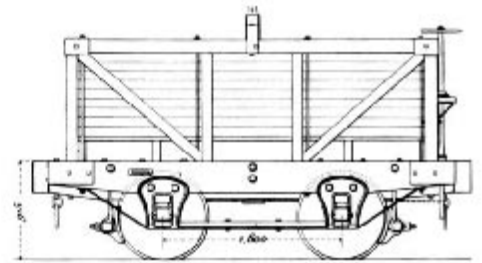
Step 5. Insert the hopper end sheets, B7. Again the bottom of the end sheets should be flush with the top edge of the main frame.



Step 6. Add detail parts. Cut pieces of 0.010 inch wire and insert as vertical reinforcing rods. Cut a piece of 0.010 inch wire, bend the top end as shown. Drill a hole through the upper cross member and insert. This will simulate the door opening latch. Add the bristol board detail parts. Use the photos as a guide. Insert a piece of 0.010 inch wire into the brake stand and then add the brake wheel. Use the photos as a guide. The upper corner brackets have engraved lines to help you fold them to the proper shape. Add them to the model. Drill a #80 hole into the wood rail and insert a nut-bolt detail. Add nut-bolts to the holes in the side frames. The lower corner brackets curve around the ends of the main frame. Optional: The brake beams A5 can be attached with short lengths of 0.010 wire.



Drawing of this car from White's, "American Freight Car"



The jimmy is designed to accept a McHenry short, scale-sized knuckle coupler. Use a small piece of 1/16th inch dowel to hold the coupler in place. Then add the coupler cover. Alternatively, a Microtrains 1015 N Scale coupler can also be used. They N scale couplers will operate with HO Kadee and McHenry couplers. The N Scale coupler, being smaller, has a better appearance. The prototype cars used hooks and chains, a difficult proposition for an operating HO Scale car.

