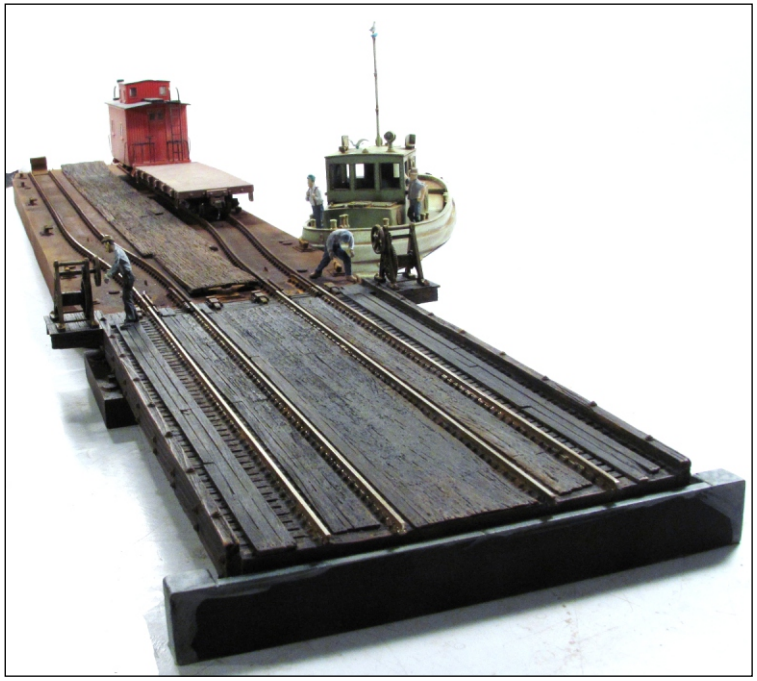
Installation Instructions

- When installing your float bridge keep in mind that your land track height should match the rail on the bridge. Due to the fluctuations in casting thicknesses you may need to shim up one side or the other of your carfloat to get it to match the rail height on the bridge (water end). Check these heights before gluing anything down.

Final Details

- Attach one end of your choice of rope or chain (not included) to the winch drum, wind it a few times and "tie off" to the bridge hook of the carfloat. Cut another piece of rope and repeat for the other side.
- Please note: This Float Bridge is designed to match up with the Frenchman River Model Works On30 2 Track Carfloat Kit. We do not guarantee compatibility with any other kit manufacturer's carfloats.



**shown with On30 2 Track Carfloat, On30 45' Harbor Tugboat, Figures not included*

Thank you for purchasing this kit. We hope you enjoy building and displaying this Float Bridge as much as we have enjoyed producing it. If you have any questions or comments, please email us at: frenchmanriver@gmail.com or send a letter to the address below.

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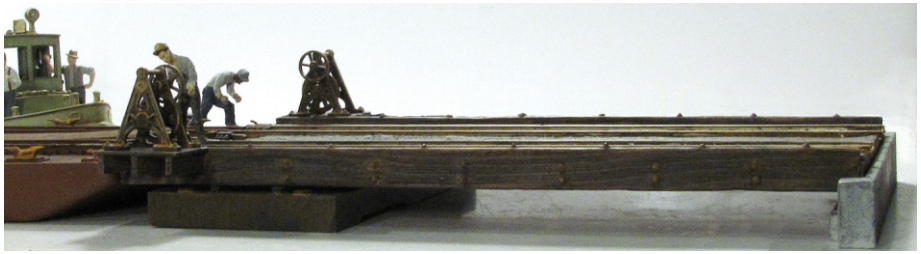
Frenchman River Model Works

Kit #159
On30 1:48 Scale
Pontoon Float Bridge



**figures not included*

Although this Pontoon Float Bridge has no specific prototype, it can be used in many locations and on many types of waterways from ocean harbors to large rivers to large lakes. It would look at home on any era On30 train layout where your On30 railcars need to be transported across a waterway.

This bridge is designed to be used with the Frenchman River Model Works On30 2 Track Carfloat kit. This wooden float bridge kit comes equipped with 2 highly detailed hand winch kits for cinching the carfloat securely up to the bridge. This kit will add great detailing and action possibilities to any layout.

Additional hand winch kits are available from Frenchman River Model Works.

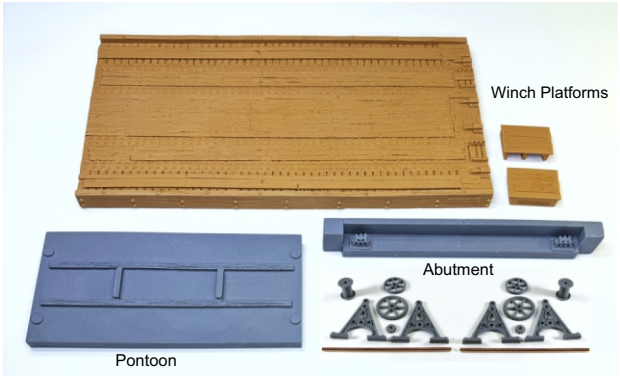
Cautions

• Kit contains small and/or sharp parts
NOT SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 14!

• Always wear your safety glasses when you are working with CA glues and when cutting, shaping, or snipping parts and when painting.

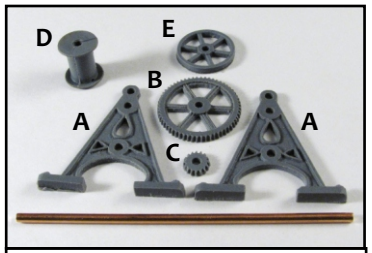
• Also use adequate ventilation when working with glue or paint.

Kit Contents



Resin Parts

1 Float Bridge
1 Pontoon
1 Abutment
2 Winch Platforms
2 Hand Winch Sets



Hand Winch Kit Parts:
A 2 Winch Frames
B 1 Large Gear
C 1 Small Gear
D 1 Drum
E 1 Hand Wheel,
1 Thick Wire
1 Thin Wire (not pictured)

Recommendations

Before assembly or painting, read and understand assembly sequence. Some items in the kit may be difficult to paint once the kit is totally assembled, so you may want to pre-paint some parts/assemblies as you go. You may paint your model with any hobby paints, acrylics, oil/enamels or lacquers. We recommend using powdered pastel chalks in yellows, reds, browns, and black, brushed on with a fairly stiff short bristled paintbrush for that old weathered and dirty look. After painting, assembly, and detailing, we recommend misting on a few coats of gloss or matte acrylic clear spray (depending on the look you are after). Caution: Mist lightly and allow to dry a few minutes between coats to prevent solvents in spray from softening and possibly causing the paint to run! Use your imagination and above all, have fun!

We recommend that you use cyanoacrylate instant glue (C.A. Glue) to assemble your kit as regular plastic cement will not work on resin kits. We also recommend that you purchase or make a one-drop glue applicator. You can use a thin piece of wire or a large needle and bend a slight hook at one end, dip this hook into a drop of CA glue and it will apply a drop of glue exactly where you want it. A dental pick with a hooked end or even a small crochet hook works great. You may also use this glue and your glue applicator to fill small air bubbles and gaps in the resin parts. Our kits have very little "flash" and require very little cleaning, however, it is hard to totally eliminate some small air bubbles and gaps on certain cast resin parts, but they are easy to fill. You can fill these with hobby putty/filler or spackling paste. When it's set up, sand smooth and you're finished.

Assembly

Clean

- Even though our parts require very little cleaning, there will be some areas such as parting lines that may require some work. Using a fine, flat needle file, sharp hobby knife, and/or sand paper, clean areas as needed. Be careful you don't sand off any details.

*TIP: Lightly sanding with fine sand paper helps to quickly release flash on the back of the gears and hand wheel. Fill any air bubbles using the techniques described in "Recommendations".

Scrub

- We recommend scrubbing all resin parts with dish soap and/or an abrasive cleanser such as Comet and hot (tap) water. The parts may have mold release on them from the casting process preventing the paint from adhering. Use an old toothbrush to get into all the details on the parts, rinse and let dry.

Frenchman River Model Works Pontoon Float Bridge

Assemble the Land End of the Bridge

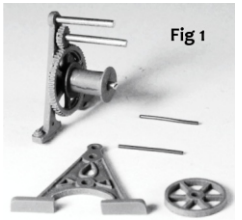
- Glue the abutment to the land end of the bridge.

Assemble the Harbor End of the Bridge

- Glue pontoon to the underside of the bridge.Refer to picture on the cover for approximate location.

Install Your Rail

- Determine how long you want the rail pieces to extend on the land side. It is helpful to leave a little rail overhanging the end of the bridge to accommodate rail joiners.
- You may use code 100 or code 83 without modifying the bridge. If you prefer smaller rail you may need to make some modifications on the bridge to maintain the track gauge. A small nail file makes a good tool to remove any material along the sides of the rail bed.
- Cut 4 lengths of rail.
- Test fit each length of rail holding it in place and using a track gauge, check along the length of the bridge to make sure it is within standards. Glue the rails in place using your preferred glue. We used thin CA glue applied along the edges of the rail where it meets the resin track bed. NOTE: If you have problems securing the rail, you may want to consider drilling holes in the resin and using some rail spikes for a mechanical bond.
- If using smaller than code 100 rail, you may want to file down the tops of the re-railers between the rails at the end of the bridge.



Winch Assembly Instructions

- ***NOTE**: We recommend using a flush cutting rail nippers for cutting the large wire.
- Using the rail nippers, cut 3 pieces of large wire as follows: 1 piece measuring .650" long, and 2 pieces measuring .550" long.
- Cut the small wire into 2 pieces measuring .550" long each.
- Begin by assembling one winch frame (A), the large gear (B), and the drum (D) onto one of the large wires previously cut to .550". The wire will be flush with the outside of the winch frame.
- Insert the .650" long large wire through the small gear (C) and into the winch frame (A) allowing the teeth to mesh with the large gear. The wire should be flush with the outside of the frame.
- Insert the second .550" long large wire into the top hole of the winch frame (A). (Fig 1)
- Assemble the other winch frame (A) aligning each shaft with its corresponding hole. Once assembled, a small drop of CA (cyanoacrylate) glue where each shaft goes through the frames will hold everything securely in place.
- Next, carefully twist the small wires through their corresponding holes at the bottom of each winch frame (A). When you're satisfied with the spacing of the frames, glue them in place.
- Finally, place the hand wheel (E) on the end of the small gear shaft that is protruding from the frame and glue in place.

Winch Platforms

- Glue a winch platform in place on each side of the bridge at the water end. There is an indexing rectangular ring and corresponding rectangular pad to help with the placement. Fig 2

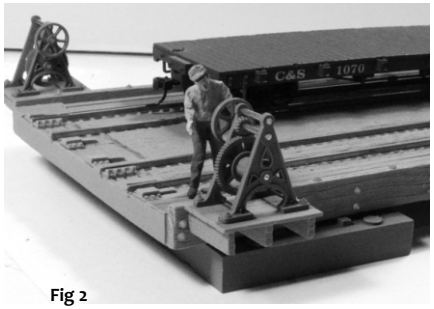


Fig 2