Thanks for purchasing this Cornerstone Series® kit. All parts are molded in styrene, so use compatible paints and glues. Please take a few minutes to read the directions and study the drawings.

With this universal design and realistic "wood" details, your finished model can be used in virtually any era. With some kit bashing and/or scratch building, it may be possible to build a curved model using parts in this kit.

Trestles can also add challenge to train operations and scheduling. As a train crosses a prototype trestle, the sudden change in weight (called the moving live load) transmits vibrations through the entire structure. At lower speeds, the effect is gradual, so railroads post speed restrictions on the approaches and over the trestle itself.

The first trestles were raw lumber, which would age into various shades of grays. As preserving methods developed, trestles were coated with creosote producing the same black-brown shade as wooden ties. They received annual inspections and maintenance, so weathering should be kept to a minimum.

The optional steel deck can be used to cross another railroad, creek or two-lane highway. Depending on your era and location, a highway bridge might be lavishly painted and lettered to advertise premiere passenger trains. In modern scenes, a simple herald can be added, along with graffiti, if desired.

For additional figures, vehicle and accessories to set the scene see your dealer, check out the latest Walthers HO Scale Model Railroad Reference book or visit our Web site at waltherscornerstone.com for more ideas.

There are several different ways to build this trestle. There are enough parts to complete two 108-ft trestles, one 225-ft trestle or any combination up to 216-ft. With some cutting, the timber trestle can be built as a curved trestle. All the bents are the same length and can be trimmed to fit any terrain or can be left as is and mounted to the base with the scenery being built up to the correct height.

Remove the appropriate Bents (2, 3) and cross bracing (5, 6, 7) from sprues. To assemble Bent A and Bent B, glue the cross bracing (5, 6) to Bent (2). Gluing cross bracing (7) to Bent (3) assembles Bent C.

Assemble the stringers by gluing the halves (1) together, noting how the pins are located.

If the optional steel girder is to be used, assemble the deck by gluing the cross member (14) to the girder (13).
STRAIGHT TIMBER TRESTLE

To assemble the trestle, arrange bents A and B as needed for the location. Glue the first stringer to the bents with the bents in the notches of the stringer and the stringer against the locating shoulder on the bents. Glue the second stringer to the bents on the opposite side of the locating shoulder of the first. Glue the timber abutment (4) to the outside bent with the top of the abutments even with the top of the stringers. Glue the bridge ties (15) to the top of the stringers. The bridge ties have self-gauging rail locators so any code of rail can be used with this trestle kit.

STRAIGHT TIMBER TRESTLE WITH STEEL GIRDER DECK

For support of the steel girder deck portion of the trestle, a double bent is needed. For a double bent, glue the base of Bent C to the Base of Bent A. To assemble the trestle, arrange A, B, and AC as needed for the location. Determine where the steel deck is to be located and remove that portion from the stringer. Glue the first stringer to the bents with the bents in the notches of the stringer and the stringer against the locating shoulder on the bents. Glue the second stringer to the bents on the opposite side the locating shoulder of the first. Repeat for the second half of the trestle. Attach the steel deck to the bent C with the mounting pads of the deck resting on the top of the bent and the locating shoulder of the bent to the inside of the steel deck. Glue the timber abutments (4) to the outside bents with the top of the abutments even with the top of the stringers. Glue the bridge ties (15) to the top of the stringers. The bridge ties have self-gauging rail locators so any code of rail can be used with this kit.