



HO Structure Kit

FOUR MODERN LOADING RACKS

933-4037

Thanks for purchasing this Cornerstone kit. Please take a moment to read these instructions and study the drawings before starting. This kit includes parts for four complete racks with raised gangways: each can be built as an access rack, tank unloading rack, or tank loading rack. All parts are styrene plastic, so use compatible glue and paint to finish your model: the prototypes are installed on a concrete base with galvanized steelwork. Some users paint the gangway railings yellow or orange.

From the first days of railroading, loading and offloading cargo has posed some risk for workers. Modern tank cars and covered hoppers have added dangers, as employees must climb on top to reach hatches and valves. Although these cars have standard safety appliances, those small, exposed surfaces aren't always an ideal hand- or foothold, particularly during wet or icy weather. Similar problems exist for workers on many of today's semi-trailers too. To improve safety and speed their work, special access racks are used that provide a stable work platform, an easy access stairway, and a safety cage for added protection against falls. While a small facility may have a single rack handling multiple jobs, larger operations typically have two or more dedicated racks. Workers at the first open hatches or vents on inbound cars or trailers before they're spotted for unloading. Firms handling chemicals, grains, petroleum products and other materials that have to be inspected for possible contaminants before unloading often equip these racks with remote-controlled sample arms. After the car or trailer is emptied, it's then moved to a second rack where the hatches and vents are closed before it leaves the property. Firms shipping products use identical racks fitted with loading arms or hose connections. Some are also equipped with platform roofs or canopies to provide shade and protection from the weather, floodlights for nighttime operations, and stairways are sometimes enclosed with chain link fences and gates to restrict access to authorized personnel. Racks of this type can be found at virtually any modern industry handling liquids or bulk materials by road or rail. For additional ideas to detail your model, see your local hobby shop, the current Walther's HO Model Railroad Reference Book, or visit us online at walthers.com.

All Versions - Basic Access Rack

1) Glue Support Beam (2) to Base (1). Glue Long Handrail (4), Short Handrail (5) and Front Handrail (6) to Platform Deck (3).

2) Glue Gangway Deck (10) to Front Handrail. Glue Gangway Arms (11, 12) to Gangway Deck. Note that Cage Rails (2x 13) mount horizontally; glue Rails together and to mounting points on Gangway Arms. When dry, glue completed access platform to Support Beam.

3) Glue Railings (8, 9) to Stairway (7). Glue completed stairway to Base and Platform Deck as shown.

This completes a typical access rack; for facilities receiving or shipping liquids, please follow these specific steps:

Tank Car Unloading Platform

1) Glue Valve (22) to Base (1) as shown. Glue Flange (21) to Valve. Glue Valve Wheel (23) to Valve. Glue Upper Receiving Pipe (18) to Valve, parallel with Base. Glue Elbow (19) to mounting pin on Upper Receiving Pipe and to mounting hole on Lower Receiving Pipe (20) as shown.

Tank Car Loading Platform:

1) Glue Valve (22) to Base (1) as shown. Glue Flange (21) to Valve. Glue Valve Wheel (23) to Valve. Insert Main Loading Pipe (15) through Pipe Bracket (14); glue Bracket to opening on end of Platform, and Pipe to top of Valve. With the Top Pipe (16) at an upward angle, glue to Main Pipe. On the prototype, the Discharge Pipe (17) rotates, so make sure it's hanging straight down then glue to end of Top Pipe.

Layout Installation:

When assembled, your new model should clear most modern tank cars, but check for sufficient overhead and side clearance before securing your rack on your layout. For sufficient side clearance, we recommend installing the rack 3/4" (1.9 cm) from the edge of the ties.

2) Center the Catch Basins (24, 2x 25) below the Safety Cage, and glue to track (not included).

