



Art-Deco Theater Kit Instruction Guide

LS-ADC – Art-Deco Theater

This kit is a replica of the Tyler Theater located in Tyler, Texas. The kit is a “front only” design with a roof and optionally sides added by the modeler. **While not difficult to assemble, patience is required as there are several steps that will depend upon the glue or solvent applied in prior steps being completely cured.** Speaking of glue, we recommend using two types when assembling the kit.

- **Cement** - Ordinary plastic cement such as **Model Master Liquid Cement for Plastic Models**. This has a consistency similar to oil and takes a few minutes for an initial cure. This will be referenced when parts need to be aligned after the cement is applied.
- **Solvent** - A thin, solvent-based material such as **Plastruct Plastic Weld**. This has a consistency of water, is applied with a small brush when the parts are pre-aligned, and cures within seconds. We use a 50:50 mix of MEK and Acetone that is both very effective and inexpensive. Unlike Styrene, the PLA material used in this kit will not craze with excess glue, and often more is better than less to create a strong joint. **Glue / Solvent should be used sparingly around any parts with transparent material.**

We will refer to the correct adhesive to use. We do not recommend using CA (“super-glue”) as an adhesive, but it can be used quite effectively to “clamp” parts in place while the cement or solvent glues do their work.

You will need a sharp knife, 220 or 400-grit sandpaper, a flat file (½”) and some jeweler’s files, tweezers, and an assortment of clamps and weight blocks will be helpful.

Preparation

Take a moment to familiarize yourself with the parts. Assembly is fairly straightforward despite the kit having over 120 parts. Ensure that any flash is removed before assembly using a sharp knife and/or jeweler's file.

- Main Front Parts:

- Lobby Wall
- Main (upper) Wall
- Decorative Disks
- Marquee with Lighting Channel
- Marquee Roof

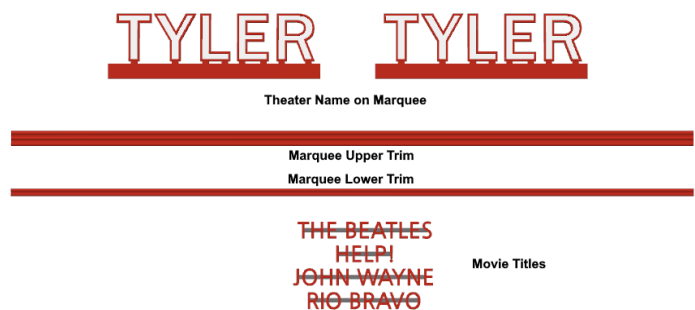
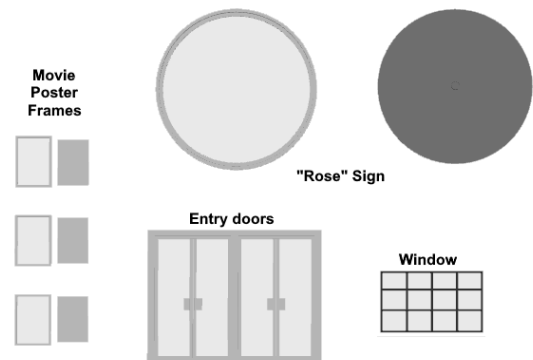
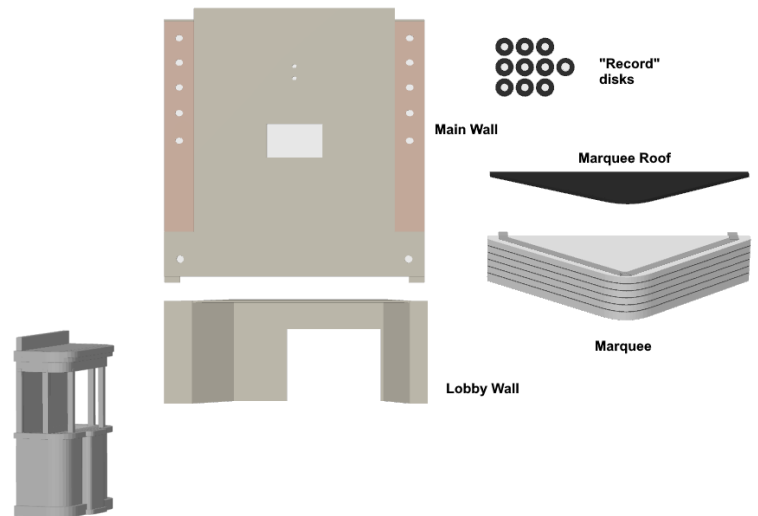
These parts are pre-colored and usually only require weathering.

- Ticket Booth - this part can be placed on either the angled wall or the flat wall to the left of the main doors. Clear acetate can be installed to simulate glass. A dot of silver paint in the center of the main window will represent the speaker vent.

- These parts are a silver-gray color and represent the aluminum parts that these items were usually constructed from. The sign frame is designed to sandwich the printed rose sign and attach to the hole in the upper wall. The frame is provided with and without "glass". The window and movie poster frames are produced with a clear "glass" layer. The doors are provided with and without "glass". If an interior photo is used to represent the lobby, the doors without glass should be used along with a piece of clear acetate to clearly show the interior.

- There are several parts printed in red or red & white. There are two theater names - one for each side of the marquee. There are two trim bands that will be affixed to the top and bottom of the marquee, and two different movies with matching movie posters. The movie titles have white bands connecting the letters. This band is behind the letters allowing the title to be affixed to the marquee as a single piece while blending into the background.

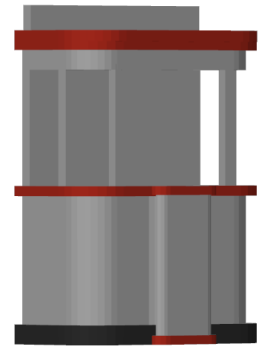
- Three square brace pieces are included. These are intended to be glued to the sides and top to support the modeler-supplied walls and roof. These parts can be styrene sheet, foam-core board, or Strathmore.



Painting

Minimal painting is required as most parts are produced in an appropriate color. The ticket booth can have the base trim painted black and the middle and upper trim painted red.

Clear acetate can be formed and inserted from the bottom to create the windows in the ticket booth. If windows are installed, a small hole or silver dot for the communication opening should be placed a few mm above the center of the main window. The shelf has a depression where money and tickets can be exchanged below the window.



Weathering and a flat finish should complete the painting prep. Refer to the picture for colors, stains, and other details.

Assembly

- Paint the parts as suggested. Any plastic-compatible paint can be used. Behr “chalk” paints in spray cans produce an excellent dull finish for the platform!
- Glue parts using the recommended adhesive - Cement or Solvent.
- Some of the parts may have a bit of “brim” material, which protects the part during printing and during shipping & handling. Remove this as you would any “flash” on injection molded kits, using a sharp knife or jeweler’s file.
- Test-fit before assembly and sand/file where necessary. Most parts are produced at or slightly over-sized to allow a snug fit.
- The sequence described will allow you to continue working while the adhesive cures before moving on to additional tasks.

TIP: Use a drop or two of CA to hold parts together, then apply the liquid solvent cement. The CA doesn’t provide a good structural bond, but does cure rapidly and acts like a “chemical clamp” to keep the parts aligned while the solvent does its work.

Upper Wall

Test fit the round “record” decorations in the 5 holes in each side of the upper wall. Enlarge the hole slightly if necessary with a round needle file. Insert the decorations in each hole and secure with solvent adhesive from behind.

Rose Sign

Carefully cut the rose sign from the last page of this guide. The base fits into either the upper or lower hole in the center of the wall. Apply a thin coating of Tacky Glue and place the rose sign onto the base. Choose between the supplied frames - either the open frame or the frame with glass. Insert the base into the hole and align the rose so the stem is at the bottom, then apply a drop of solvent adhesive from the back. The open frame can be used as-is or with a piece of clear acetate. Either frame will snap over the base. It can be secured with two or three drops of plastic cement on the outer edge of the base before snapping the frame into place.

Window

Snap the window into the upper wall opening from the rear. Ensure that the frame fits completely and the “glass” touches the wall on all 4 sides of the window. Using a fine brush, put a drop of solvent adhesive in all 4 corners while pressing the window into the opening - hold for several seconds until secure.

Lower Wall

The lower wall section holds 3 movie poster frames, the doors, and the ticket booth. Movie posters are placed in locations 1, 2, and either 3A or 3B. The ticket booth is usually placed in location 3B, but it can be interchanged with the poster and placed in location 3A.



Glue the backs of the poster frames into the desired locations with a drop of plastic cement and allow to cure.

Cut the movie posters from the last page of this guide and insert them into the frame covers - they should just fit inside without any excess.

When the poster backs are fully cured, snap the frame covers with the posters onto the backs. Don't glue them - they should be able to be changed on occasion.

Lobby Doors

There are two types of lobby doors - with and without glass. The "with glass" version is installed from the rear and secured with a few drops of solvent at the top and two sides. This glass appears slightly frosted and is best when no interior detail will be used. The "without glass" is intended to have a piece of clear acetate slightly wider and higher than the doors glued to the back, resulting in a perfectly clear glass effect. Add a photo of a movie snack bar behind the doors - use a bit of wood or styrene to set the photo back about $\frac{3}{8}$ " from the door. The photo supports should be dark maroon or gray so they "disappear" and focus attention on the image.

Front Wall Assembly

Once the two wall pieces have been completed, apply a drop of plastic cement on the face of the two small tabs on the bottom of the upper wall and fit them into the recesses on the upper-rear edge of the lower wall and clamp both joints. Allow this to cure for several minutes, then apply a solvent adhesive to the joint between the bottom of the upper wall and the front edge of the lobby ceiling. Set the entire assembly aside to fully cure.

Marquee

Locate the narrow trim band and gently roll the center over the edge of your workbench to create a curve. With the marquee on a non-stick surface and the gray side down, apply plastic cement to enough of the straight section so it covers the straight side of the marquee. Attach the trim to the base of the marquee, allowing the trim to extend slightly beyond the rear. Clamp in place for several minutes. Once this cures, apply a bead of plastic cement to the curved section and wrap it around the curved front of the marquee. Clamp and allow to cure. Once the front cures, apply plastic cement to most of the remaining trim strip, press it into place at the base and clamp. There should be two small pieces of trim that will be bent over the last part of the edge, but the trim should be securely in place around the front before addressing these two small sections.

With a razor knife, slightly score the front of the trim piece right at the point where it makes the final bend, then roll the side / rear edge of the marquee over your workbench to force the strip into a tight bend. Repeat for the opposite side. Apply plastic cement on both ends, press to secure the strip to the marquee and clamp. Allow to cure. Once cured, any excess trim strip can be cut close to the edge of the marquee. Do not leave any excess or it may not sit properly on the wall.

If you will be lighting the marquee, solder 12” of wire to the LED strip. The strip contains 9 LEDs - start at the center LED and gently bend the strip backward about 45-degrees on each side of the center LED. When inserted into the lighting channel, this LED will face the front apex of the marquee and 4 LEDs will face outward on each side. Peel off the backing to expose the adhesive and slip it into the lighting channel about half-way down. Use a toothpick or the back of a paint brush to press the strip onto the back wall of the lighting channel. It does not matter which way you install the strip - there is a corresponding wire access hole on both sides of the wall.

Apply plastic cement to the underside (flat) of the marquee roof. Stand the marquee so it is pointing up and place the roof panel onto the side of the marquee with the lighting channel. Make sure that the roof is aligned with the back (bottom) edge and centered between the sides. The roof is slightly recessed - just enough to hold the wide trim strip. Wait for the roof to fully bond to the marquee.

To install the wider top trim, follow the same instructions as for the lower trim, except that it is glued to the raised part of the marquee roof. Also, since the trim fits against the raised part, you can clip it in place with alligator clips and use solvent adhesive instead of plastic cement, which will cure much faster.

Rear Bracing

There are three pieces of square plastic that can be glued to the back of the walls. The long ones are glued vertically and provide an attachment point for side walls, while the short one is installed horizontally just below the lowest point of the side panels of the upper wall. This supports the roof. Position depends on the material you choose for the walls and roof. For styrene walls, place them about 1mm from the side edge. Increase the distance from the sides if you are using Strathmore or foam core board. For Strathmore or foam core, secure these with Tacky Glue or similar adhesive (gap filling CA, epoxy, but NOT Gorilla Glue).

Final Assembly

Prop the front wall so that it can lay horizontally. Apply a bead of plastic cement around the wall where the marquee will be installed, avoiding the hole where the wire (if used) will pass through. Thread the wire through the hole and lay the back of the marquee onto the cement, aligning the top and sides. Set aside and allow to cure.

Marquee Details

Install the theater name signs centered on both sides. The sign mounts to the marquee roof behind the support for the upper trim. Each sign should be centered front to back along the side. Use solvent adhesive to cure quickly.

Decide on which movie should be displayed. You can place the same movie on both sides, one on each side, or both movies on each side - one in the upper-left and the other in the lower-right. We recommend using Tacky Glue or Canopy Adhesive to adhere these parts. This will allow you to order replacements (or new movies) in the future and remove the letters without damage to the marquee. Each movie name has a white strip on the back that should be used for gluing - it raises the letters just over the gray “letter hanger bars” on the marquee.

Support

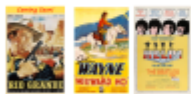
If you need support for anything related to this kit, please send an email to support@rrcraftsman.com. Be sure to identify which product you need support for, the specific issue, and attach any photos that could help to identify the problem.

We're open to feedback as well, if you have ideas to improve or enhance a current product or would like to see a new product, just let us know.

We're always happy to see the results, too! Feel free to send us photos of your installation and we may feature them on our home page.

IMAGES

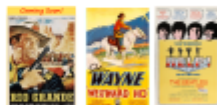
These are the images to be used in the kit - print this out and cut to shape. The frames slightly overlap the edges, so trim these to eliminate any white border.



TICKETS

TICKETS

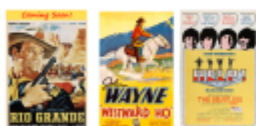
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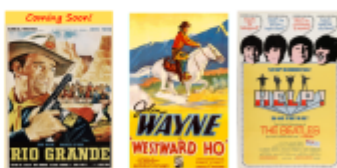
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