



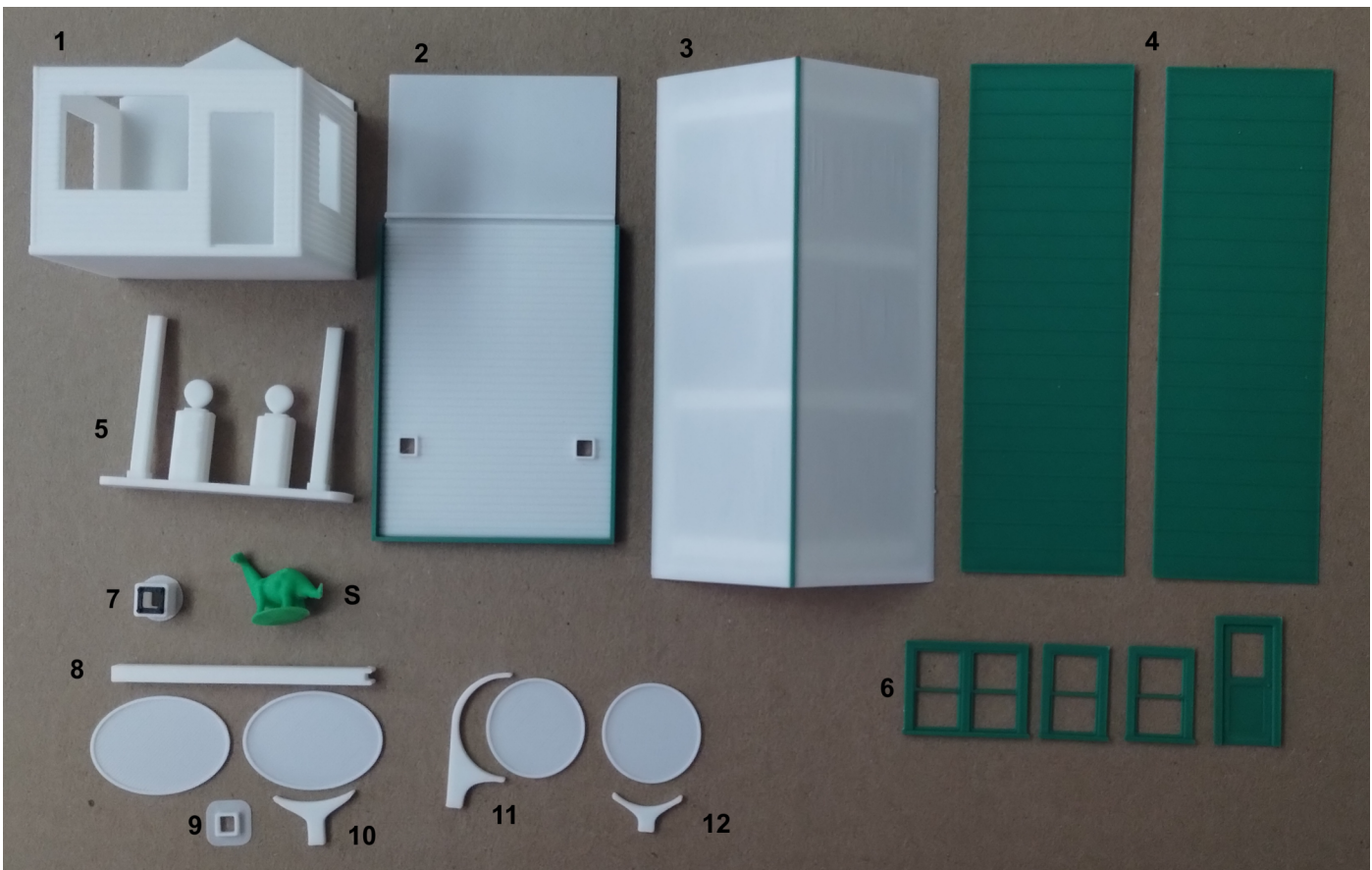
LS-RGS

Rural Gas Station Structure Kit

This kit produces a small but highly detailed kit of a prototype gas station found all across the country from the 1930's and beyond. Several parts are produced in realistic colors appropriate for a number of gas station brands. Roof and trim are available in green (Sinclair), blue (Gulf & American/Standard Oil), and red (Esso and Texaco). Images for each brand are included in this document for use in the sign post. Three styles of sign posts are included to fit the design and common use by different brands. An oval bottom-mount sign and a round sign with both bottom and side mount brackets deliver flexibility.

Preparation

Take a moment to familiarize yourself with the parts. Assembly is fairly simple and straightforward. Many of the major parts are pre-colored allowing assembly and weathering. Some parts do require paint and application of paper details.



- 1 - Building Shell - usually white - paint to remove the plastic sheen with an off-white color. The window and door openings may require *minimal* filing to fit the windows and doors. Use a small, flat file and measure often to provide a good fit.
- 2 - Roof Underside & Trim - If painting, only paint the scribed underside of the roof.
- 3 - Roof Frame - used to support the metal roof panels. Paint only under the eave edges.
- 4 - Steel Roof Panels - these are pre-colored and need no paint other than some weathering.

- 5 - Pump Island – The base can be painted a concrete color. The pumps are usually painted along the sides and the side of the globes in company colors. Paper representation of the company logos and the pump dials can be attached with glue after painting.
- 6 - Windows & Doors – These parts are pre-colored and should only receive a light weathering.
- 7 - Sign Base - use a pointed, flat file to square the upper opening, removing any flash from the black plate layer. The lower part can be painted a concrete color, although the concrete was sometimes painted white.
- 8 - Sign Mast - the split end is the top. Both ends should be swiped with a flat file 2 or 3 times per side, just until the solid side fits into the Sign Base (7) and the split end fits into the Sign Flange (9). The mast does NOT fit all the way into the base! It should slide only about 1/8" into the top of the base.
- 9 - Sign Flange - this covers the connection between the sign post and the Sign Mounting Frame (10-12). Pass a flat file on each side of the inside of the flange - it should fit securely over the slotted end of the Sign Mast (8).
- 10 - Oval Sign Mounting Frame & Oval Sign Panels
- 11 - Round Sign Panel and Side Mounting Frame
- 12 - Round Sign Panel and Bottom Mounting Frame
- S - In the Sinclair kit only, a Sinclair Dinosaur!

Assembly

- Paint the parts as suggested. Any plastic-compatible paint can be used. Avoid getting paint on surfaces that will be glued!
- Glue parts with a medium-viscosity plastic cement such as Model Master Liquid Cement. Remove paint from any mating surfaces before gluing. Some parts will benefit from a liquid solvent cement - these steps will identify when this should be used.

Windows & Doors

The windows and doors are a snug fit into the openings. File the openings as necessary to ensure a flush fit. Insert parts from the outside. While pressing gently from the outside of the window, apply a drop of thin solvent cement to opposite corners of the window. Maintain slight pressure on the window until the joint cures - about 15-seconds. Repeat for the remaining 2 window and 1 door location. Glaze the windows and door with a piece of clear plastic (not supplied).

If any interior detail is desired, this is a good point to install it. A block of plastic for a counter and a print of shelves with automotive supplies can be glued to the rear wall.

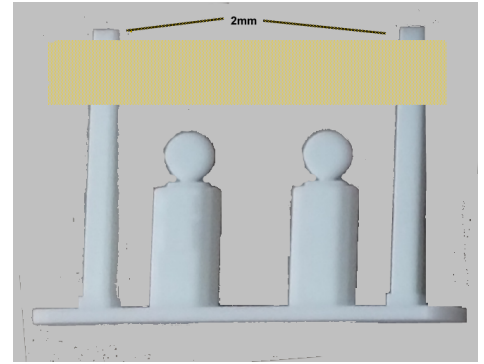
Roof

Test fit the parts before gluing. The Roof Underside panel (2) has a lip that fits over the front wall of the Building Shell (1). Do not glue at this time, but it's easier to see how it fits before the next step is completed.

Turn the Roof Frame (3) upside-down with the clapboard wall facing to the right. Lay the Roof Underside Panel (2) with the post openings to the right and facing up. Apply plastic cement to the four wide roof supports of the Roof Frame (3) and the thin front wall, then place the Roof Underside Panel (2) onto the roof. Align the trim of the underside panel with the front edge of the trim - the eaves will extend forward about 1/16". Make sure the Roof Underside Panel (2) is centered between the side edges of the Roof Frame (3). Allow the glue joint to cure before proceeding.

Locate the Pump Island (5) and place a piece of masking tape across the support columns with the top edge of the tape 2mm below the tops of the columns. Do not wrap the tape around! Just a strip across one side.

Place a bead of plastic cement across the (flat) front edge of the Building Shell (1). Place some plastic cement into the openings under the roof assembly. Set the pumps onto the work surface, lay the roof onto the Building Shell (1), hooking the rim over the inside of the front wall. Tilt the roof and building assembly up slightly and guide the pump Island posts into the holes in the underside. The tape should keep the roof level between the front wall of the building and the pump island. Set this aside until the glue sets - at least 30 minutes. Once set, the tape can be peeled off.



Apply a bead of plastic cement to the top edges of the Roof Frame (3), then apply two strips of cement along the middle of the roof. Align the Steel Roof Panel (4) over the adhesive, pressing the roof panel up to the ridge joint and overhanging the front and rear of the roof frame by an equal amount. Hold until secure - about 30 seconds, then repeat with the other Steel Roof Panel on the other side of the roof frame.

The core building is now complete.

Signs

Test fit the Sign Mast (8) into the Sign Base (7). File the solid end slightly until it just fits into the base. It should only sit in the base about $\frac{1}{8}$ ". Test fit the top (split) end of the Sign Mast into the Sign Flange (9), filing each side of the mast until it fits snugly. Secure the Sign Mast into the Sign Base with a drop of liquid solvent.

Decide on which sign style and mounting you plan to use. Esso uses the oval sign panel while all others use the round panels. Glue the two panel halves together with the rim facing out - make sure the edges are aligned.

Select the mount and glue it to the sign panel assembly. For the oval, it needs to be centered at the bottom - it will fit cleanly only in one place. For the round panels, location is unimportant. Sinclair usually uses a bottom mount, Gulf predominantly uses the side mount, and Texaco seems to use either style. Once the mount is securely bonded to the panels, insert the blade on the bottom of the sign mount into the slot on the top of the sign mast. The Sign Flange (9) should already be in place at the top of the mast. If the blade is too snug, gently file both edges of the blade until it fits into the slot, then secure it with a drop of plastic cement.

Cut the appropriate sign from the next page. Place a small amount of Tacky Glue on the sign panel, spread it evenly, then press the cut sign into the panel, ensuring it is aligned correctly. Repeat for the other side.

The small round signs are placed on the domes of the gas pumps, one on each side. The small black and white rectangle is glued to the upper panel of each gas pump. The larger Motor Fuel placard is glued over the lower panel. These pumps are one-sided and the pumps face opposite sides of the island.

Detail

A small piece of black wire can be looped and glued to the right side of each pump (hoses are on the inside of the island, away from the support columns). If modeling the Sinclair station, the Dino is placed near the sign base or in-line with the island.

The following images can be cut and installed into your model. Select the size appropriate for your model.

HO
1:87.1



HO+
1:75.5



S
1:64



O
1:48



Completion

The sign was usually placed near the road centered with the station building. Signs showing the gas price, clean rest rooms, or snacks and beverages were often hung all about the sign post and the building. A tire might be placed leaning on the support post on the pump island offering flat repairs or new tires.

Small stations like this did not offer much in the way of repair services. Some might have had an outdoor ramp or lift for simple services, but most were stops for fuel, cigarettes, and snacks.

Support

If you have questions or need additional parts, send an email to support@rrcraftsman.com with your request. We are also open to suggestions and feedback to make our kits and documentation better.