"On" the 30" Gauge

with Jack Hess

Mantua 4-6-0/4-8-0 Part 9: Final Details

Intro

This project is now down to adding details. The boiler will get minimal details as will the cab.

Parts List

- **Precision Scale**
- **PSH-40177 Sand Dome**
- **PSH-40178 Steam Dome**
- **PSH-4515 Stack**
- **PSH-4661 Headlight**
- **PSDR-1019 Bell**
- **DR-1342 Cab Roof**
- **Deck Braces**
- **18# floral wire 1" long (2)**
- **.010 styrene disks 1/8" (2)**
- **.010 X 1/16 X 1/8" lugs (2)**
- **Firebox back-styrene**
- **.020 X ½" X 3/8"**
- **Cab supports-styrene**
- **.020 X 3/16" X ¾" long (2)**
- **.020 X 3/16" X 5/16" short (2)**

Construction-Deck Braces

Fig A: Drill the holes in the deck as shown. Fig. B: Make a jig out of wood, 2' high, set it on the deck and mark a line on the smokebox. From the front, measure back on the line 9" and drill a hole. Fig. C: Cut and bend the deck braces- make a left and right. Insert them into the deck and then into the smokebox holes, using smooth-jaw pliers. Fig. E: Keep bending them until they are correct (see photo also). Cut the disks out of .010 styrene, file round and cut a notch for the wire to fit. Glue the disks so they are centered over the center of the brace. Fig. A and D: Then glue the lugs on to the deck.

Construction-Cab/Firebox

I scratchbuilt the cab roof but recommend you buy one. Don't glue the roof on yet. Fig. D. [left side]: Glue the firebox back on to the boiler backhead (chassis mount) and to the firebox sides. The notch is for the drawbar. Fig D. [right side]: Make the long cab supports as shown. Glue them to the firebox back and to the cab floor. Then glue on the short supports. Drill a small hole over the small window on the fireman's side of the cab. This is where the bell cord will be inserted.

Construction-Boiler

Fig. E: Make sure the centerline on the top of the boiler matches the centerline of the cab. If not, mark a new centerline on the boiler with a small square and a marking pen. The castings will need to have flash and parting lines cleaned. The base of the steam and sand domes will need to be filed to fit the curvature of the boiler. Drill holes for the bell, stack and light — test fit all five. Note that the stack must be centered over the cylinders. My stack was distorted at the base and it required filing and much fitting to get it to sit properly. Cut some of the tang off of the light so the weight will be able to slide in. Once you see that all parts are aligned when sighting down the boiler, CA glue them in place. I did the best I could with the stack but it ended up tilting slightly backward.

Conclusion

Next issue I will finish up with handrails and sandpipes, and a few other minor details, then move onto painting. This will complete the project.

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Fig. A

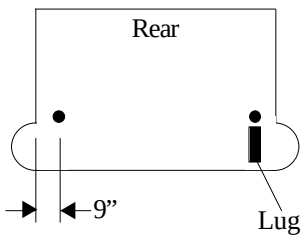

Fig. B

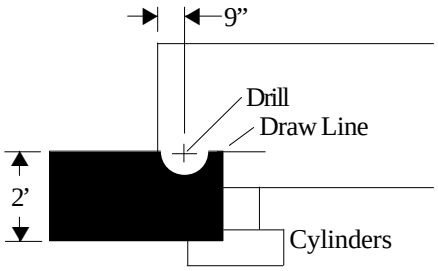

Fig. C
Deck Braces