

# All Nation Line Beginner Modeling Guide

*A friendly introduction for first-time O-scale builders*

## Welcome to Your First O-Scale Model

This guide introduces the essential skills, tools, and steps needed to build any All Nation Line beginner kit. Every kit—whether a caboose, gondola, flat car, tank car, or small structure—follows the same basic workflow. This document is designed for someone who may be completely new to model building.

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## Understanding Your Kit

Each beginner kit includes 3D-printed parts that form the body of a rail car or small structure. Some kits include trucks, couplers, or detail parts; others require you to supply them. Review the product description for your specific kit.

## Common Kit Types

- **Caboosees and Waycars** — Simple body shells with optional detail levels.
  - **Flat Cars and Gondolas** — Straightforward platforms or open cars.
  - **Tank Cars** — Compact cylindrical builds.
  - **Oscar & Piker Cars** — Short, fun passenger-style cars.
  - **Structures** — Sheds, decks, docks, and small scenic elements.
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## Tools You Will Need

- Hobby knife
- Sanding stick or fine sandpaper
- Tweezers
- Small clamps or clothespins
- CA glue or plastic cement
- Acrylic paints (optional)
- Small paintbrush
- Small files

- Screw drivers
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## Preparing Your Workspace

Choose a clean, well-lit table. Lay down a cutting mat or cardboard to protect the surface. Keep parts organized in small trays or cups.

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## Preparing 3D-Printed Parts

1. Remove any support material using a hobby knife or small file.
  2. Lightly sand rough areas for a smooth finish.
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## Universal Assembly Steps

These steps apply to all beginner kits.

### 1. Lay Out All Parts

Compare the parts to the product photo or description. Identify major components such as the body shell, roof, underframe, and details.

### 2. Test-Fit Before Gluing

Dry-fit each piece to ensure proper alignment. Adjust with sanding if needed.

### 3. Glue Main Components

Apply a small amount of glue to join major body parts. Hold or clamp until set.

### 4. Add Detail Parts

Attach ladders, steps, brake wheels, toolboxes, or other details included in your kit.

### 5. Paint (Optional)

Use acrylic paints for best results. Apply thin coats and allow to dry between layers.

### 6. Add Trucks and Couplers

If your kit requires trucks or couplers, attach them using 2-56 screws or the hardware provided.

### 7. Final Inspection

Ensure all parts are secure and the model sits level on the track.

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## **Beginner Kits Overview**

This section lists all beginner kits available from All Nation Line.

### **Cabooses and Waycars**

- C&O Steel Caboose (with or without trucks)
- Western Style CB&Q Caboose (Basic or Comprehensive)
- C&NW Waycar Beginners Kit
- C&NW Drovers Car
- NYC "Riders Car" Beginners Kit
- ACL Class M3 Caboose (Basic or Comprehensive)
- Western Pacific / Sacramento Northern Caboose
- Southern Pacific Caboose Shell Kit
- Bay Window Wood Caboose Base Kit

### **Flat Cars, Gondolas, and Hoppers**

- Scale Craft 70-Ton Gondola
- Fish Belly 46' Flat Bed (6-piece beginner kit)
- Flat Car for Intermediate Modeler (partially built)
- Basic Flat Car 41' Detail Kit
- 41' Flat Car Intro Kit (4-piece beginner kit)
- Flat Car Ready-to-Run Sand Cast
- 100-Ton Ortner Hopper Shell Kit

### **Tank Cars**

- Shorty Tank Car Kit
- "Recycle Tin Can" Tank Car Kit

### **Oscar & Piker Cars**

- Oscar Heavyweight Kit (with or without trucks)
- Piker Heavyweight Kit

## **Trolley and Specialty Cars**

- Trolley Freight Flat / Low Sides Shell Kit

## **Structures and Scenery**

- Grain Bin (15-piece kit)
  - Picnic Table & Sandbox (with 2 figures)
  - All-Purpose Shed (13 pieces)
  - Boat Dock (19 pieces)
  - Outhouse (9 pieces)
  - Deck (10" x 2.5") with Stairs & Toolbox
  - Deck (7" x 2-1/8") with Stairs & Toolbox
  - Cattle Guard & Plank Crossing
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## **Beginner Tips**

- Work slowly and test-fit often.
  - Use minimal glue—more is not better.
  - Keep your hands clean to avoid fingerprints on parts.
  - Paint small details before attaching them.
  - Store unused parts in labeled bags.
  - It is also a good idea to have the right work holding fixtures for the job at hand.
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## **Safety Notes**

- Use hobby knives carefully and cut away from your body.
  - Work in a ventilated area when using glue or paint.
  - Keep tools and small parts away from children.
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## **You're Ready to Build**

With patience and these basic skills, any All Nation Line beginner kit becomes a rewarding first project. Enjoy the process and take pride in each step.

