GM&O 59055 Appliance Car build

By Tim VanMersbergen

Bill of Materials:

Intermountain 40899 40' modified boxcar kit

Kadee 9' door with narrow border

Various sizes styrene

Archer AR88062 .015 perfect weld beads

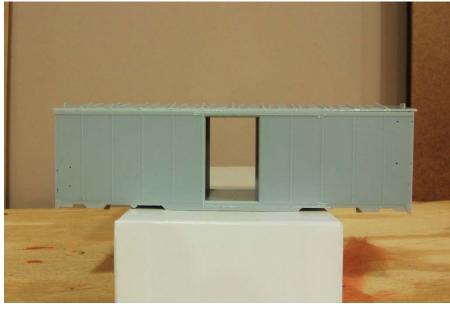
Stanray non-overhanging diagonal panel roof – I used one from an Intermountain 6-panel GN boxcar but a Branchline/Atlas would also work with modification to the bottom tabs to fit.

Your choice of couplers and details

Building the car:

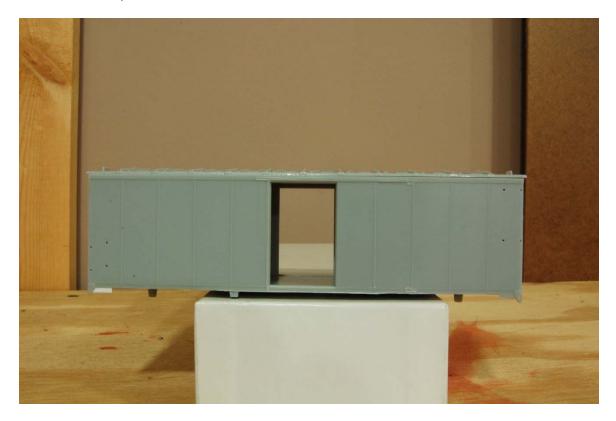
Start by carefully shaving off the door stops on the Intermountain boxcar body and saving them in a safe place. They will be needed later.

Once they are off, carefully remove the door tracks and ridge by the door with a flat blade. For the next step, sand off the cast on rivets with fine sand paper leaving smooth sides.



At this point the car should look like this.

Next, carefully remove the tabs that stick below the floor with the exception of the ones on the ends of the body.



Now the body should look like this.

New side sills have two components, the straight part between the bolsters and the angled portion below. Use .020 X .080 strip for the straight section and .020 X .060 for the lower portion. I cut angles into the strip and then smoothed to a curve once they were glued on. The kit underframe provides bracing for the new side sills and should be installed at this time. Trim as needed to fit.

File the protrusions off the back of the Kadee door so it will sit flat. Center it on the carbody and glue in place. Use .015 X .040 styrene strip for door tracks. The upper is 19' (scale) long and protrudes to the front while the bottom is 18' (scale).

Gussets along the doors are made from .005 styrene sheet.

At this point I glued on the ends, roof and underbody details. The Intermountain ends have poling pockets that can be filled in with putty and smoothed out as the prototype does not appear to have them.

Next step is to add the weld lines. Mark the sides for the location of the panel seams. They are 3' (scale) apart with a lateral along the floor that goes up and over the door gusset. Archer seams are applied like regular decals. At this point the car will look like this.



Once the welds are dry, glue on the door stops that were saved in the beginning at the ends of the door tracks.

The balance of assembly is the end and side details per the kit instructions.

I used Testors Model Master burnt Sienna as an orangy-brown to approximate the prototype photo. Decals are of course Dan Kohlberg set ICG-80.

I used Accurail trucks with Tangent code 88 33" wheels and Kadee scale head couplers.