

Roof-Top Water Tank Chicago Type



RIVER LEAF MODELS, LLC

Thank you for purchasing the Roof-Top Water Tank kit. Your kit includes everything you need to produce the final assembly. We recommend using “Carpenter’s Glue” available in a number of different brands, including Elmer’s. We also recommend using a steel square for aligning your parts for perpendicularity, although a drafting triangle will also suffice. A sharp X-Acto knife and a sanding tool – either fine sandpaper or a nail file will be suitable.

Step #1 –Preparing the Tank Body.

Take a piece of masking tape 3/4” longer than the tank body length.

Stick the masking tape starting from the edge in the middle of the piece tank body piece.

Gently wrap the piece and stick the tape edge with the other side. Help a lot to pre-brake the planks one by one manually.

After the piece is round, check the edges are aligned.

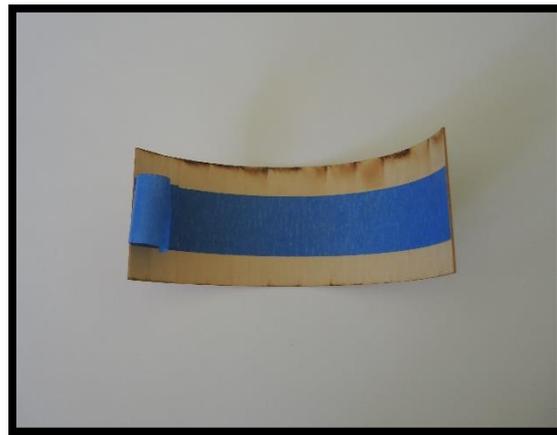


FIGURE 1 – PREPARING THE BODY

Step #2 –Top and Bottom Lids

The top and bottom lids give the tank robustness and shape. Insert the middle beam into the lid slot in the middle. This piece will fit tight, glue is not necessary but if you want to add a small amount of glue will be better. Proceed with both lid, paying attention the beam is leveled with the lids. I recommend to lay the lid and insert the beam all the way down.

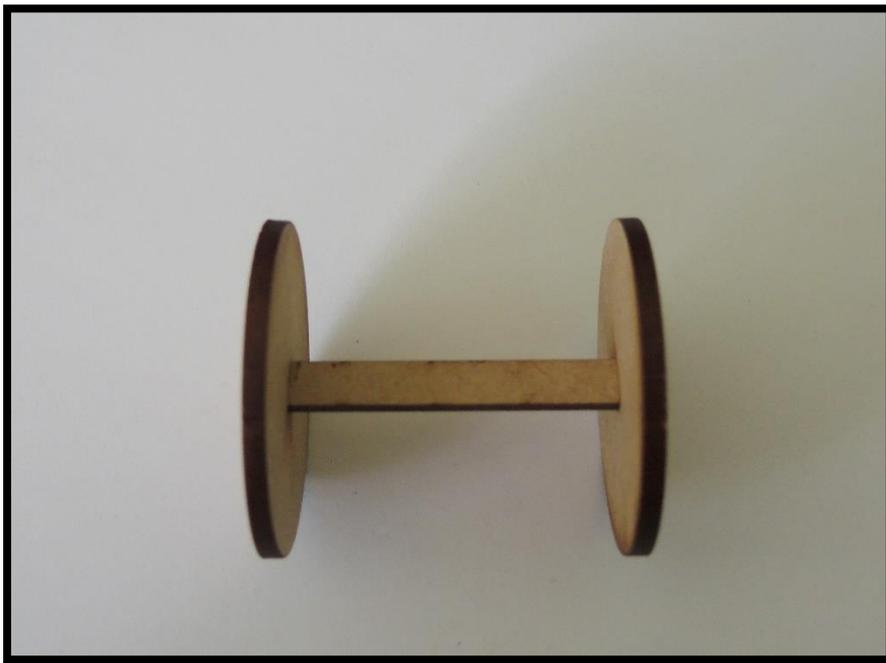


FIGURE 2 – GLUING THE TOP AND BOTTOM LIDS.

Step #3 – Tank and Lids Assembly

Insert gently the lid assembly into the tank cover. The lids will make it round and tight. When it is inside add carpenter glue on the edges pushing glue between the lids and the cover planks.

At this point I recommend to tint and weatherize the tank. Using Indian ink sepia and black you can achieve nice result.



FIGURE 3 – LIDS INSTALLATION

Step #4 – Applying the Tank Truss Bands.

The truss band in real life hold the planks together. The water pressure is higher in the bottom of the tank than the top, making necessary to install the truss close each other in the bottom of the tank. Figure #4.

Take one band and glue the edge on the tank using CA glue. After is the CA is cure encircle the tank with the band and overlap it. Hold it tight using a needle and apply CA over the band overlap. Wait until the CA cure completely. Repeated the procedure with the rest of the band. The first one can be in the bottom of the tank, second $1/16$ ", $1/8$ " and increment in $1/6$ " each band. The bands are already rust color, if you want a different one we recommend to paint it first.



FIGURE #4 –TRUSS BANDS

Step #7 – Roof

The Roof is pre-cut to ensure a correct shape.

Very important to stick masking tape from inside the roof. The tape will prevent the total brake. Bend gently each piece of the roof until both end get together. Connect them using a piece of masking tape as in the step #1.

Add a small amount of glue at the edge of the tank body and install the roof on top keeping it centered. A rubber band will help to keep the roof attached until the carpenter glue cure completely. Be careful with the rubber band because a strong one could damage the roof. Figure #5



FIGURE #5 –ROOF ASSEMBLY

Step #8 – Catwalk

The catwalk fit on the outside diameter. The wood thickness could variate, in some cases is necessary to sandpaper the inner catwalk diameter, until the tank fit into. Apply a small amount of glue and insert. Check that both surface should be flushed.

Tip: -We recommend to paint the catwalk before assembly.

Paint black or desire color the handrail, remove them from the sheet and glue them around the catwalk. The two small pieces are the entrance, glue them separated attaching one side only. Figure #6



FIGURE #6 –HANDRAILS

Step #9 -Base

The base is composed of 4 pieces.

The structure support has 2 pairs of similar pieces. The glass hour shape are between the other two pieces. Keep the structure square and let it cure well.

The platform will be assembled using a small amount of glue between them in gluing them keeping them crossed. Then, glue them on the structure support keeping the short piece in the bottom. After the glue cure completely paint it using any acrylic color.

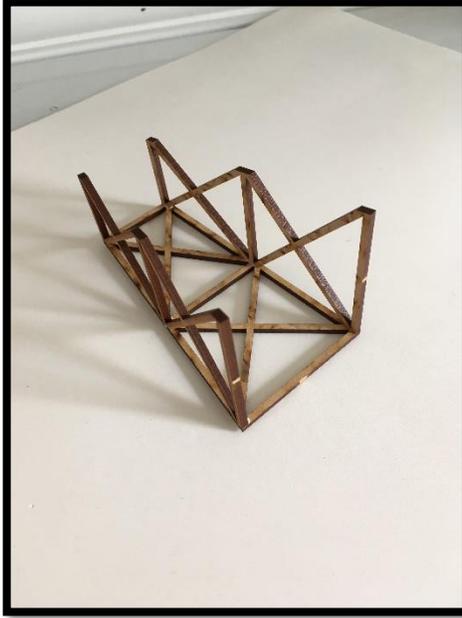


FIGURE #6 –TANK SUPPORT ASSEMBLY

Step #9 – Tank and Base support.

Locate the tank on the base and glue it. Install the bottom pipe supplied with the kit in the middle of the tank. The pipe base could be installed on the bottom or on the base of the pipe. Install the ladder gluing it on the catwalk edge toward the handrail entrance.
Figure #7

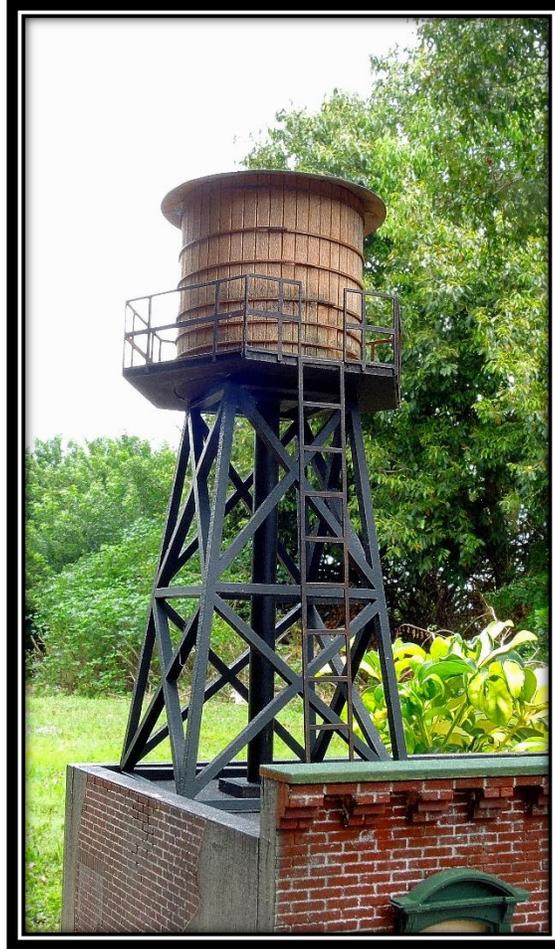


FIGURE #7 – FINAL ASSEMBLY.

Congratulations! Your structure is complete!

With your structure now finished, you may opt to further enhance the structure using weathering techniques such as chalk or misting. Keep in mind weather runs from top to bottom and will be concentrated in areas where water may gather and run off. Likewise, you may have weather “splash up” along the base. We will be posting tips on aging and weathering on our website in the near future.

If you have questions on construction or suggestions, please contact us by email at riverleafmodels@gmail.com

Andre Garcia
www.riverleafmodels.us