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Steel Cupola Caboose

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The familiar caboose at the end of the train traces its origins to the early 1830s when railroads built enclosures in boxcars, or on flatcars, to house crew members. The addition of a cupola is credited to a Chicago & North Western conductor in 1863, when he suggested adding an enclosure on top of a car where he could watch the train more easily. From then on, the cupola style caboose became the standard until the 1930s and 40s when the bay window style started to become popular.

The caboose had many purposes: it sheltered the conductor, brakeman, and flagman from the elements; gave the conductor space for his paperwork; had bunks for rest and a stove for cooking. The cupola was the place to monitor the train while en route, watching for any problems that may occur between terminals. The cupola usually had seats in both directions, so no matter which way the caboose was pointed, the trainman could keep a vigilant watch.

- Multiple road numbers
- Easy-to-assemble with small Phillips screwdriver and glue
- Finely cast end steps; end ladders; grab irons; underbody detail
- Separately applied handbrake wheel
- One piece detailed molded trucks
- 33" Machined metal wheels
- Accurately profiled .110" wide wheel tread
- Plastic semi-scale Type E knuckle couplers, Kadee compatible
- Body mounted coupler box will accept Kadee whisker couplers
- Weighted to Industry standards
- Operates on Code 70, 83 and 100 rail
- Packaging safely stores model when assembled
- Minimum radius 18"

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CUSTOMER SERVICE CREW CONTACT INFORMATION

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As with any model kit, before you start the assembly, take a few moments to familiarize yourself with the various parts of the kit. Assembly is easy and straight forward. You will need the following tools:

1. Sharp hobby knife
2. Small Phillips screwdriver
3. Hobby glue for bonding plastic parts
4. Small tweezers

Step 1 Secure the weight to the floor with supplied screws and washers.

Step 2 Turning the floor over, note the orientation of the coupler centering springs, install one spring in each coupler box. Place the coupler in the box making sure that the coupler shank is centered between the two fingers of the centering spring. Attach the coupler box lid with the screws and check for proper coupler centering operation.

Step 3 Install the trucks with the supplied screws

Step 4 Turn the floor over again so it rests on its wheels. Install the two brakewheels into the brake stands on the end railings. Take one end railing and carefully line up the 9 holes at the ends of the platform. Starting with the three posts on the brakestand, carefully push into the holes on the floor until it is fully seated. Next, make sure the two ladder stiles are fully seated (it is important to make sure these are fully installed when the body is added). Then insert remaining railing posts into the floor – tweezers are very helpful here. Repeat for the other end. Set assembly aside when done.

Step 5 Install the clear “glass” into the cupola and body (see exploded view for position). **IMPORTANT:** On the cupola, install the 4 small end windows first, followed by the side windows. This order will ensure a good fit. Use a glue that is water based or tacky – not a “super glue.” Canopy Glue, Hob-E-Tac, Krystal Kleer and others are good choices.

Step 6 Install the smoke stack into the roof, carefully lining up the two small support “wires”.

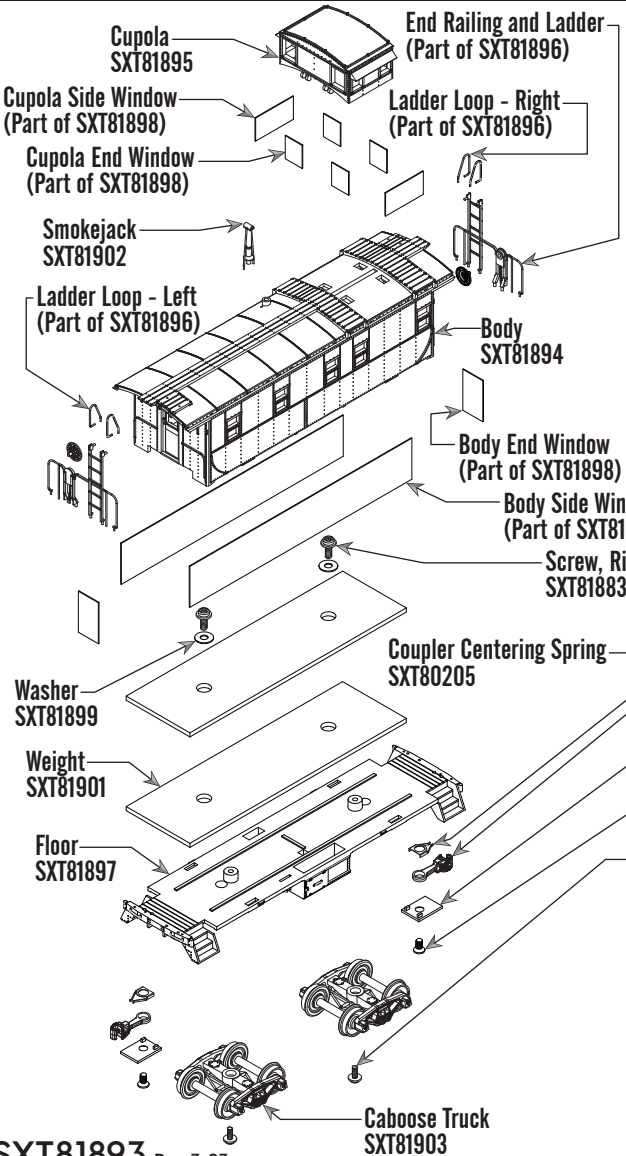
Step 7 Install the metal end railings at both ends of the roofwalk. Please note there are inner and outer railings. Place all of the metal railings close to each other on your workbench – note some will have a shorter angled section (inner), and some will have a longer angled section (outer). Install an inner railing first by inserting into the hole on the roofwalk first, then stretch slightly to install on the end facia using the upper set of holes. Do not push the ends in so far that the vertical rail touches the end, they should stand off a bit – these will line up with the ladder when complete.

Step 8 Install the cupola to the body

Step 9 Line up the body with the floor and carefully snap them together. Then on each end, line up the top of the ladders and insert the post into the lower set of holes on the roof ends. Adjust the metal top railings so that everything lines up vertically.

Your caboose is now ready to follow the freight. Enjoy.

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PARTS LIST

PART NO	DESCRIPTION
SXT81893	Instruction Sheet
SXT81894	Body
SXT81895	Cupola
SXT81896	End Detail Set
SXT81897	Floor
SXT81898	Window Set
SXT81899	Washer
SXT81900	Coupler Box Cover
SXT81901	Weight
SXT81902	Smokejack
SXT81883	Screw, Ring Head, Self-Tapping (For Plastic) 2.0MM X 4.0MM
SXT81903	Caboose Truck
SXT81865	Screw, Flat Head, Self-Tapping (For Plastic) 2.0 X 4.0MM
SXT81866	Screw, Ring Head, Self-Tapping (For Plastic) 1.6MM X 3.5MM
SXT80168	Type E coupler - Plastic 2 Pr.
SXT80169	Type E coupler - Plastic 6 Pr.
SXT80205	Coupler Centering Spring
SXT80206	Coupler Knuckle Spring

Type E Coupler-Plastic
Includes Centering Springs
SXT80168 1 Pair
SXT80169 6 Pair

Coupler Box Cover
SXT81900
Screw, Flat Head, Self-Tapping (For Plastic) 2.0 X 4.0MM
SXT81865
Screw, Ring Head, Self-Tapping (For Plastic) 1.6MM X 3.5MM
SXT81866



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