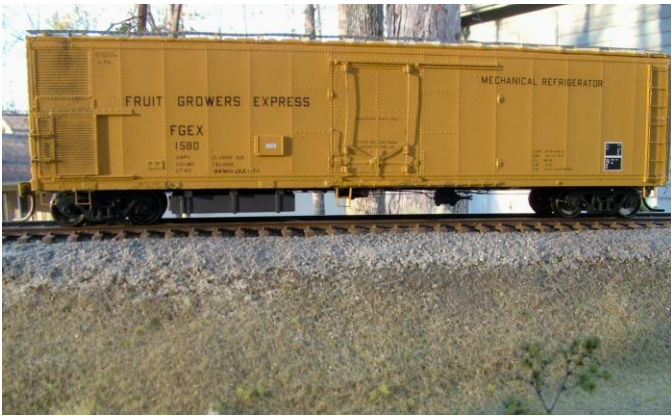




FRUIT GROWERS EXPRESS - Western Fruit Express 50' Mechanical Refrigerator Car



1. Remove the flashing from all of the parts.
2. Test fit the roof. You may have to scrape around the inside of the opening to get a good slip fit. The small extra pre-drill on one end of the roof should be at the same end as the motor compartment louvers. Once you are happy with the fit of the roof, remove it from the body. Drill the small extra pre-drill on the roof #60 and install the small stack. Set the roof aside.
3. Drill the holes in the bolsters 1/16" and tap them 2-56. Test fit the bolsters onto the underframe of the car. You will probably have to file a bit off each end of them to get them to fit perfectly. Glue them in place. Make sure that they are 90 degrees to the floor. You can use the floor boards for a visual alignment aid.
4. Drill the floor for the coupler mounting holes #60. This model is made to utilize the AccuMate proto coupler and it's own box, screwed directly to the floor with the screws included. If you want to use other couplers, simply screw them to the floor. Once you have the couplers of your choice installed, screw the trucks in place and check the coupler height. Adjust with washers as necessary.
5. Glue the fuel tank brackets to the fuel tanks. They should be parallel to the braces that run around the tanks, so that they create six legs on each tank. Using the underframe diagram included, glue them in place. The fuel fillers should be towards the outside of the car and the one with the fuel gauge should be on the right side. Again, just follow the diagram.
6. Glue the tack boards to the side and ends of the car.
7. Determine which type of louvered engine compartment doors your particular prototype had. Glue the door in place. The thicker frame is the top. The left side frame should overlap the cast in riveted frame.
8. Drill a #77 hole up the bottom of the handbrake housing, about 1/16" in. Glue the handbrake housing between the top rib and the brace cast to the top of the end of the car. It should be centered 18" from the center of the car.
9. If you are modeling a car that has had the right side louvered slats replaced with a screen, cut out the opening and install the screen.
10. Drill the holes in the ladder supports #75. Remove the ladders from the fret, bend the edges over the edge of a ruler. Curve the top of the end ladders and glue them all in place. Make sure that the ladder that has the extra small hole, on the right side about half way down, goes on the B end.
11. Remove the roofwalk from the fret and glue it in place.
12. Remove the end walks from the fret. There are small tabs on both ends of them. Bend the tabs with the etched lines in them down towards the bend lines. Glue the end walks in place so that the small tabs on the end are underneath the roofwalk.
13. Remove the end roofwalk supports from the fret. Bend them around into a Z shape. When you bend these parts, make sure that all of the bends are made so that the etched lines are on the inside of the bend corner. Glue these parts in place with the plate underneath and even with the ends of the roofwalk.
14. Drill the holes in the underframe for the brake lever hangers #77. Remove the brake rod assembly from the fret. Bend down the ends of the hangers, and install the assembly to the underframe. Glue the slack adjuster to the small blocks cast to the center sill.
15. Remove the brake cylinder from the fret. Cut off the mounting pin on the cylinder and glue the cylinder to the bracket with the U on the rod over the end of the brake lever. Glue the rod to the lever.
16. Remove the reservoir from the brake sprue and glue it in place between the brackets cast to the underframe.
17. Glue the triple valve bracket to the lip on the center sill so that it bridges between the center sill and the side sill. It should be centered over the length of the car, opposite the air reservoir.
18. Drill the holes in the ends of the car for the long handrails #79. Install the handrails. The longer one goes into the extra hole in the ladder on the B end.
19. Drill the holes between the bolt heads beside the plug doors #79 and install the two 23" grab irons.
20. Drill the holes near the bottom of the car, on the ends #79 and install a drop grab iron in each location.
21. Drill the pre-drills for the side grab irons and install straight grab irons.
22. Using the diagram included with the kit, install the thermometer etchings on the side of the car.
23. Remove the brake platform and supports from the fret. Bend the supports to shape. Drill the holes that are pre-drilled on the B end of the car #77 and install the supports. Glue the brake platform to the top of the supports with the slot facing towards the car end.
24. Drill the pre-drill in the bottom of the B end #77. Remove the handbrake clevis mounting bracket from the fret and bend it into a U shape. Remove the handbrake clevis from the fret. Bend it over and around so that there is a detail on both sides visible. Insert the pin through the slot in the bracket so that the clevis is inside the bracket. Insert and glue this assembly in the hole in the bottom of the B end.
25. Cut 4 pieces of the brass wire included to EXACTLY HO scale 7' 10" long. Put a #78 drill bit into you pin vise. From the bottom of the car and parallel to the side, drill up through the bottom door rod brackets and up through the door lever attachment assemblies. Once you have those drilled, drill at an angle into the top door rod brackets. You only have to go in about 1 HO inch or .010" - just enough to give the rod somewhere to go. Slide the wire pieces into the brackets from the bottom of the car side so that they project out of the bottom door rod brackets about .020". Glue them in place.
26. Remove the door latch assemblies from the fret. Glue them in place so that the center bracket assemblies rest on the center lever bracket and so that the two "arms" rest on the brackets cast beside and on the rods.
27. Remove the door roller/track assemblies from the fret. Install them so that the arms on them rest on the ends of the rods that project past the bottoms of the door rod brackets and so that the door tracks rest on the blocks cast to the car sides.
28. Glue the door handles in place in the center of the middle door latch assembly.
29. Insert the handbrake rod up through the slot in the brake platform into the hole in the bottom of the handbrake housing. Mate the bottom of the rod with the clevis and glue the rod in place.
30. Bend the retainer valve/line assembly into a slight Z shape so that it misses the left side of the handbrake platform. Glue it in place so that the top of the retainer valve is even with the top of the handbrake housing. Bend over the bottom of the line so that it disappears under the car end.
31. Glue the brake wheel in place.
32. Glue the cut lever supports to the bottom of the left corner sills. The little ledge should be downwards. Drill the pre-drill #78. Install an eyebolt in each hole. Remove the cut levers from the fret. Bend over the ends of the cut levers and insert them into the eyebolts. Glue them to the eyebolts and to the bottom of the coupler boxes.
33. Remove the small stirrup steps from the fret. Bend them into a U shape. Drill the pre-drills in the bottom of the side sills #78, about 1/16" in. Glue the small stirrup steps in place.
34. Remove the large stirrup steps from the fret. Bend them into a U shape and install and glue only one of the legs into the holes under the plug doors. The small projecting side with the slot in it should face towards the inside of the car. Remove the stirrup step rungs from the fret and install them into the slots in the stirrups as you install the other edge of the stirrup in the bottom of the car side.
35. Remove the fuel filler chain assemblies from the fret. Install them on top of the little knobs on the side sills. Remove the fuel filler caps from the fret and glue them over the chains and knobs.
36. Weight the car to your preference.
37. Glue the roof in place.
38. Paint and/or weather the car as desired.
39. Screw the trucks in place.



Included in this kit are the following resin items:

- 1 body
- 1 roof
- 1 handbrake housing
- 2 fuel tanks
- 6 fuel tank brackets
- 4 tack boards
- 2 cut lever brackets
- 2 bolsters
- 2 louvered doors
- 1 generator exhaust stack

Included in this kit are the following photo-etched items:

- 4 ladders
- 6 small stirrup steps
- 2 large stirrup steps
- 1 roofwalk
- 2 end walks
- 2 end roofwalk supports
- 1 underframe brake rod/lever assembly
- 2 cut levers
- 1 optional rebuild side screen
- 2 thermometers
- 2 roller/door track assemblies
- 2 door latch assemblies
- 2 door handles
- 1 handbrake rod
- 1 retainer valve/line assembly
- 1 brake platform
- 2 brake platform supports
- 1 handbrake clevis
- 1 handbrake clevis mounting bracket
- 12 eyebolts (for cut lever mounting, end handrail and mounting of roof handrail when roofwalk is removed)
- 2 fuel filler chain assemblies
- 2 fuel filler caps
- 1 long A end ladder mounted handrail
- 1 short B end body handrail
- 2 23" straight grab irons

Miscellaneous other items included in this kit:

- 6 straight 17" grab irons
- 2 drop grab irons
- .012" brass wire
- 2 2-56x3/16" screws for truck mounting
- 2 trucks
- 1 brake wheel
- 1 brake sprue