

YouTube Model Builders eMag

A Free YouTube Model Builders e-Magazine
Produced by YouTube Model Builders.

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VOLUME I

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JANUARY 2015

ARTICLES YOUTUBE CHANNELS COMMUNITY TIPS & TRICKS

Scratch Building an H0 Scale Train Station

YOUTUBE MODELER JACK HYKAWAY SHOWS
US HOW HE IS BUILDING A MODERN TRAIN
STATION FROM SCRATCH!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Setting Up Your Own YouTube Channel
- Lighting Options for Layout Structures
- Google+ Hangouts and Etiquette
- Putting the SBR on YouTube
- Community Collage



BE SURE TO CHECK OUT

YouTube Model Builders LIVE!
Join us LIVE Every Month



Welcome YouTube Model Builders!

Welcome to the first installment of the “YouTube Model Builders eMag”!

We are really excited to see this **YouTube Model Builders eMag** come together for the community. The **YouTube Model Builders “Team”** has committed to putting the “eMag” together with the assistance from the model railroading community at large.

Our plan? To deliver a useful informative publication for Model Railroaders who travel this vast net of information. In this issue and many to follow, we will include **YouTube Model Builders LIVE** show information, along with many informative tutorial based articles, information on happenings in the community, listings of up and coming YouTube Channels, and general information that are inspirational in building of our Model Railroads.

Our Vision:

To establish free online resources as a primary source for model railroad techniques and inspiration in an ad free, selfless service environment.

Our Mission:

The mission of YouTube Model Builders is to inspire individuals for sharing model railroad building techniques through the use of YouTube and other free online resources. Our goal is not only to share knowledge in a community but also assist individuals who are learning or looking for inspiration through the online model railroading community.

— The YouTube Model Builders Team

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You Don't Have a YouTube Channel?



By [ModelerManMike](#)



If you don't have a YouTube channel currently to share your model railroad adventures with the community, I hope this can help you be part of a wonderful, friendly atmosphere of a largely growing community.

Hello, I am ModelerManMike, you may have seen my YouTube Channel and see the things I share for free for the model railroad community. I am retired and spend much of my time sharing as much as I can with my friends on YouTube. Why do I do this? **The need to "give back"**.

I have spent a lot of money on paid subscriptions, DVD sets, instructional classes and even painting classes. Over all, the best resource I have ever found for model railroad building in structures or layouts has been YouTube.

YouTube is by far my choice, my go to place for learning new techniques, understanding model railroad wiring, and anything to do with the hobby. It is my personal mission to get as many people involved sharing their techniques and how-to videos on YouTube. I hope you find this article inspirational and can find the time to share your model railroad related videos on YouTube with the [YouTube Model Railroaders Community](#).

The simple truth is, getting this started is a very easy task: it all starts with your very own YouTube channel. Start one now - once it's there, it's just waiting on your vide-

os to upload. Going to Google mail is a good starting point: mail.google.com. Create a new account that will be used with your model railroad YouTube channel. Pick a name that is something people might remember. Once this gmail account is created, a Google profile will be created for you and you can then "attach" a YouTube channel to it. This process has changed a few times over the past year, so the best thing I can tell you is to follow the prompts and the question for a YouTube channel will appear at some point.

Once your YouTube channel is created, you can add graphics to it and make it more specific for model railroading. This can be done however you like, maybe a photo of your layout or some locomotives or anything that lets people know they have just arrived at your YouTube channel.

I have spent some time with many YouTube model railroad producers, the guys that put their videos out there for everyone, for free! Spending on this adventure is somewhat of a taboo - to invest in something that returns only gratification and praises is a bit on the strange side. However, it's my feel-

Once your YouTube Channel is created, you can add graphics to it and make it more specific for model railroading.

YouTube Model Builders LIVE! Want to see live shows discussing modeling techniques, YouTube resources, and Web resources? Check out the LIVE show that airs monthly. — Free to you!

ing that if someone takes the time to document their builds, why not do it as professional as possible with limited funds?

I have spent the better part of my YouTube adventure using different types of cameras and gear, working toward a better production. And I think I have the right mixture of gear to make a YouTube production that is clear to see and easy on the ears. Where some may not like my format, I think all can agree that the video quality is really good for a YouTube video.

Whereas you can use an iPhone or an Android phone to create videos,

I always recommend an actual camera. It reduces shake and in my opinion produces better video to edit later. Weather you are using a phone or a video camera doesn't matter, the goal in all is

getting your stuff up on your YouTube channel.

Times have changed, YouTube in itself is promoting longer videos, and with this, much larger file sizes can be used. Before, a couple of years ago, you couldn't upload files larger than 1 megabyte (less than 10 minutes long) and with that, the video quality was always horrible. We can now produce television quality videos with "pro consumer" products including software and video equipment that can be shared on YouTube.

This all starts with two very simple things with minimal investment. A camera - this is the beginning and the absolute start to producing a video. Although there are many cameras available with similar capabilities, in my opinion, over the past year studying the best priced, best quality camera for YouTube producers, it has to be the Sony Handy Cam.

Secondly: steady as she goes! Adding a tripod to this camera and getting it out of your hands and on a flat solid surface really helps with the end result.

Once your video is recorded, you can then upload it to your YouTube channel! Taking this one step further will better the production of course. Using a video editor would be the next step. Edit your video, cut out the parts that don't matter. Many times, I can take a video that is 3 hours long, cut it down to 10-15 minutes and it will only include the important stuff!

Many look for free editing software. To date the most used software for editing video on a PC is Windows Movie Maker and is available for free within Windows. On the Mac/Apple platform, iMovie is the included movie editor. These are free video editors so try them out - they both work great! Of

course, these aren't the only free video editors out there, but they do seem to be the most widely used.

For a purchased video editor, my opinion on this is always Pinnacle Studio Ultimate. This is by far the most packed full of features editor you can get in a consumer based product. I discuss this with many people in our live Hangouts found on the [Google+ YouTube Model Railroaders Community](#) page.

A well edited video, removing the fluff and having only the task makes for a great video in my opinion. Get in front of the camera from time to time, talk about what you're doing and let people see you. This may be daunting for some, but it really makes for good relationships later, people get to know you, and revisit your channel, and leave comments.

Creating a YouTube channel and producing videos to share with the YouTube model railroad community is not difficult to do. It's the investment of time, and sometimes the money spent on cameras and other fun things that keep people from doing this. Keep in mind, you generally want to share your models with people and you can reach many more people through YouTube than you can anywhere else. In all, we want to see your models and hear your techniques on how you have built them!

I hope to share more on this subject in upcoming releases of the YouTube Model Builders eMag. If you have questions or need assistance on setting up a channel, creating and editing videos, I am available to assist. You can find me most of the time through the Google+ Hangouts! 

The Sony Handy Cam

With a price tag of less than \$200, the Sony Handy Cam (depending on the model) can record up to 1080p - high definition, crystal clear pictures, and close-ups that will dazzle any viewer of your video. Simply put, it is absolutely one of the best cameras for the money and is without a doubt a YouTube producer's dream. When working with models it is very important to show detail. And the Sony cameras just capture this like a dream.

There are several models to choose from. I personally would recommend getting a Sony Handy Cam that does at least 1080p. These cameras record directly to a M2V file that is digitally processed and simply copied to the computer. Gone are the days of using tape and fumbling about with having to "capture" the video. This makes for an easy transfer to the PC and ready to get jammin' on producing a video.

- ModelerManMike



Want to get your YouTube channel featured or mentioned in the YouTube Model Builders eMag?
Contact us at
YTBeMag@gmail.com
and tell us about your YouTube Channel.

Scratch Building a Modern Station at Silver Lake Junction



By Jack Hykaway

Ever since BLMA first released their “Modern Cantilever Signal Bridge”, I have always wanted one. Finally, a few years ago, I placed an order with Walthers for a signal bridge as well as two BLMA block signals, to govern the cross-over at Silver Lake Junction. To accommodate the new Signal Bridge, I added a shelf to the side of the layout. The shelf was large enough for a whole scene and it is right up front and center. Having a small, municipal passenger station on the shelf would add interest as well as operational variety to the layout.

After browsing through the Walthers Reference Book countless times, and visiting multiple manufacturers’ websites, I couldn’t find an attractive, modern building that was the right size to fit the space. I decided to take a huge leap, straight out of my comfort zone, and scratch build my very own passenger station. I continued to do research on the types of materials needed to complete the build, from the ground up. I also started to look into some examples of modern design.

Eventually, with the help of several kind YouTubers, I was able to compile a list of materials needed. After creating two different designs in Google Sketch-Up, and several hours of work preparing the base, I started work on the platform. I found a large

board of quarter-inch thick MDF lying around and traced out the platform’s dimensions. Using a saw, I carefully cut along the lines with as much precision as possible. After cutting it out, I gently sanded down



The ballast has been removed from one side of Mainline Track 1, and the roadbed has been cut back. The base is installed and is marked to show where the station will sit. June 2014.

the edges and cut away the larger wood fibres left over with my hobby knife.

I then began the priming and painting



The platform undergoing the priming process. June 2014.

List of Materials Used

General Materials:

- Hobby Knife and Blades
- Scale Ruler & Square
- Pencils
- Cutting Mat – Optional
- Fine Point Pen
- Plastic Compatible Glue
- Small Foam Roller
- Small Paintbrush
- Large Paintbrush
- White Glue
- Painter’s Tape

Plastics and Other Raw materials:

- .020” Sheet Styrene (White)
- .015” Sheet Styrene (Clear)
- .040” Styrene Rod (Circular)
- .080” x .080” Styrene Rod (Square)
- .080” x .080” Square Tubing
- ¼” thick MDF Board
- Few Pieces of Roadbed

Paints:

- Rust-Oleum Textured Paint (For Exterior)
- Gray Paint (Any Type)
- Yellow Paint (Any Type)
- Dark paint (For Interior)
- Primer

Building Interior, Exterior, and Other Details:

- Grass Mat/Scenic Material
- Thin Cardboard
- Foam Core Board
- Signs
- Trees
- Lampposts and Light Bulbs
- Wiring

process. First, using a large brush, I covered all surfaces that were to be painted with a thin, even layer of Zinsser primer. While the primer was drying, I began mixing some paints together to create a light shade of gray. I used leftover white ceiling paint and a small tube of black acrylic paint. I poured a small amount of white paint into a roller tray, and slowly added tiny amounts of black, mixing each time before adding more. While you can easily make a color darker with very little black, it is difficult to make it a lighter shade without adding gallons of light paint to the mix.

After mixing up a concrete color, I took a small foam roller, dipped it in the paint – removing any excess paint, and rolled it over the platform. There are several advantages when using a roller. The coats are more uniform and they take less time to dry. Using long strokes also kept the color the exact same shade across the entire platform's surface. I repeated this process a few times, letting each layer dry completely before starting the next one.

I let the final layer dry, and then I started measuring the dimensions of the yellow line. The line is two scale feet thick and one scale foot from the edge of the platform. I then carefully masked off the rest of the platform with painter's tape. For the line

I used some bright yellow acrylic paint. I used very long brushstrokes to ensure that the paint color and coat thickness were consistent all along the platform. After completing the 2nd coat, I gently peeled off the painter's tape. The line was relatively sharp, I think it turned out great.

To affix the platform to the base, I simply used full strength white glue, weighed it down, and let it dry overnight. I made sure that all of my rolling stock could clear the edges before gluing it down.

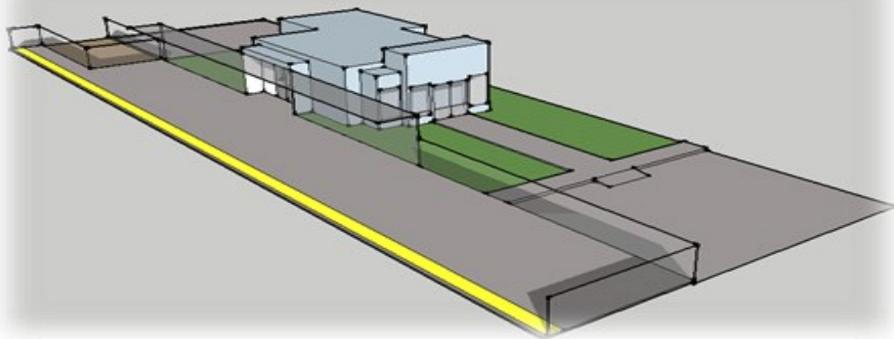
Painting the platform was one thing, but scratch building this fairly complex building would be way out of my comfort zone. I had put together a plan using sketch-up and I went from those measurements. I traced out all of my wall pieces on .020" thick sheet styrene, using a pencil. I re-measured every single piece just to be sure. I used the traditional method of scoring the styrene gently, then snapping it on the line. This technique worked really well. The main part of the sta-

We want your YouTube inspired articles!

Contact us at YTMBMag@gmail.com



Plastic, plastic, and more plastic! The shipment of construction material has arrived and the station is ready for construction. July 2014.



The plan for the Station was first drawn on Google Sketch-up. The dimensions were transferred from this model to paper, then to plastic. July 2014.

tion building is 13 Scale feet tall, with the main entrance being 15 feet and the platform entrance being 11 feet. This sized station fits in a relatively small space – a key item for me.

After the pieces were all cut out (including windows and doors), I began assembling them. Using .080" x .080" strip styrene, I braced the joints and the walls, and glued them all together. After having the walls in 4 main parts, I took them all outside and painted them. I spray-painted the interior walls a dark brown and then I shot the exterior side with a few coats of a textured sandy colored

paint from Rust-Oleum. The textured paint really looks a lot like stucco, which is perfect for modern buildings! Once the wall sections were dry, I took them all back inside and glued all four parts together.

I then took the opportunity to do some landscaping around where the station would go. I put down some leftover grass mat from Busch,



The interior of the station is made from a cereal box and a few pieces of turf. You can see the benches, information booth as well as the side of one of the ticket machines (white). The interior and exterior walls are all painted. The completed interior really brings the building up to a whole new level. September 2014.



The landscaping is complete! The four main parts of the station are sitting on the lot ready to be painted up. The rear and front views show the building is still in raw plastic form. August 2014.



ty to the shelter. The smaller rod will eventually support a few station signs and advertisements.

Because the station is right at the front of the layout, it has to look very detailed. I made a five dollar

and planted a few pruned trees, to give the scene that well-maintained look. I also added a parking lot on each side of the station, as well as a small loading zone on the left hand side. Next, I took some clear styrene (.015" thick), and cut it to the dimensions on my plan. I made a modern shelter that spans approximately half of the platform, sheltering the passengers from the rain and snow. I used some .040" styrene rod to add some finer beams, as well as some larger supports (.080" x .080") for adding structural integri-



The exterior walls are all painted in Rust-Oleum textured paint. The window "glass" has also been installed. November 2014.

interior out of some painted cereal box cardboard, so when I light the structure, visitors to the layout can peer inside.

It was the time that I was dreading: the roof. I should have planned the roof far before this point in time. Whoops! I learn as I go, and I made due. I have all of the roofs cut to shape, but they still need to be braced and painted. I have yet to modify them so that they can accommodate the interior bulbs I plan to put in. I have been thinking of making the roof tar-colored and perhaps adding a few pipes, ducts, and maybe even a skylight.

Recently, I have been working on a

few signs. The large road sign features the VIA Rail and GO Transit Logos. The sign is loosely modeled after the prototype, and will be free-standing in the grassy median between the parking lot and the loading zone. I have also been adding platform details, such as smaller signs and several people, to further enhance the scene. All of the signs were made on the computer using MS Word. I took the photos needed straight off the internet, then sized them down to about HO scale. I then printed them in color, and cut them to fit the sign's face. I affixed the smaller signs to a piece of styrene backing using white glue so they are rigid and easy to glue onto the station.

When all of the structures are in place, lampposts and road



The completed sign is placed in its approximate location. November 2014.



The station canopy and the station are now in one piece. The station's canopy has also been decorated with multiple signs, both from VIA Rail and GO Transit. November 2014.



The main entrance: using a dull hobby blade, I easily created this effect of the double doors. November 2014.

on the roofs, as well as some interior lighting. I will also keep my eye out for interesting details to put in the scene. The station's official opening date has not yet been released, although I'm sure many commuters in the Silver Lake area look forward to the grand opening! 🚂

About the Author

Jack Hykaway is 15 years old and lives in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Model railroading and rail-fanning are his favorite hobbies. He spends his free time working on his HO Scale layout, or trackside waiting for the next train to roar past. Jack has been in the model railroading hobby since he was seven years old. Like most people, Jack started with an oval of track, and an extremely rugged train set. He built his present layout when he was 11 and his layout is constantly being upgraded. However, there is still a long ways to go. It would be great if you would climb aboard and follow Jack's progress on the layout! You can visit Jack's Silver Lake Junction layout and follow his progress on his YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/user/WinnipegRailfanner1>.



Google+ Hangouts! If you like real time video chat with other model railroaders, watch for these LIVE Hangouts to join. Ask questions, help others with their modeling videos, or just join in live chat and simply "Hangout!"



Lighting Options for Layout Structures



By Loggin' Locos

When I first got started in model railroading, it was innocently enough when “Santa” brought two Bachmann train sets for my two children. That was two years ago. My then four year old son got the Union Pacific GP40 set and my daughter who was 8 at the time got the steam set. I was fairly naïve about model railroading but was very interested in putting together a layout.

Having kids who like Thomas and Friends, I purchased for them HO scale engines and structures based on that show. In the interim I started building out my collection of structures, rolling stock, coaches, and various steam and diesel engines.

Now that I am in the process of actually building a full layout, I want to leverage and use on my layout some of the structures I had purchased for my kids, as they look generic enough. Two of these structures are a 7-bay train shed (roundhouse) and a European style train station (see pictures).

As I started planning my layout, I also started planning out the wiring and lighting options. I knew very little about lighting a layout and the type of bulbs and accessories that were available for this purpose. However I did know that I wanted to use incandescent lamps (for their soft glow) and not focus on LEDs.

Even though incandescent lamps have a much shorter usage life than LEDs, as a beginner, this was a more simpler approach to a quick lighting solution for the type of lighting I wanted. In addition LEDs have specific voltage requirements and on top of that I could not find in a cost-effective manner LEDs small enough to fit into small lighting fixtures. LEDs were just too big for the purpose.

So I researched many options and learned about different bulb sizes and different voltages and required transformers. I also learned that I had to give consideration to voltage and wattage requirements and that information plays into how many bulbs will be used on a single circuit and the type of circuit I will be using (serial vs. parallel.).



I used 6 bulb shades—one between each of the 7 bays.

I investigated several options for lighting both of these structures.

In this article I present the options that I found and which ones I selected and why I selected one option over the other.

Lighting the Train Sheds:

I used 12V – 16V rated lamp shades with grain of wheat sized bulbs. These came in a 3-Pack and are built



Cornerstone “Built-Ups” shade & bulbs used to light the train sheds.





The lamp shades are glued to the center trusses and wire leads are soldered together to a feeder wire. The bulbs are joined in a parallel circuit so each bulb gets direct current.

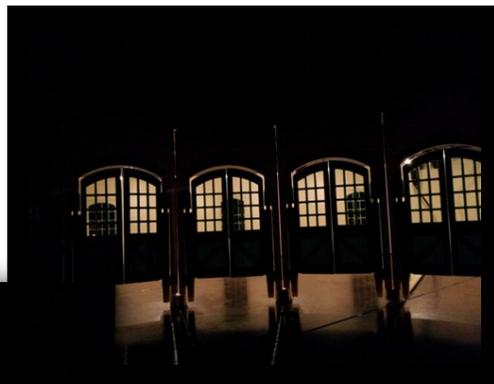


by Cornerstone. I used 6 of these shade lights to light the shed (one between each of the seven bays). These are fairly bright and the light does bleed through the plastic. Therefore I will have to paint the walls black inside.

I glued the shades in place and twisted the wires across. I did not use the included stands that can be used to mount onto sides of buildings/structures. I soldered the connection (covered by heat shrink tubing) into two separate leads that I connected into a parallel circuit (all the left side leads are connected together and all of the right side leads are connected together and are not daisy-chained as would be in a series circuit).

I will punch the lead wire through the foam below and connect it to a main 16V DC line running under the layout table that is connected off of a 16V DC accessory transformer.

The planned layout is 6' x 12' and I plan to divide it into quadrants for accessory lighting with four separate transformers providing power to each zone to balance the load. The transformers are not that expensive.



The sheds lit up in the dark. Note that the pictures do not show the light bleeding as it is minimal, but it is still there.

Parallel vs. Serial Circuits

The advantage of a parallel circuit is that even if one or more bulbs go out, the remaining bulbs continue to light because each bulb receives power directly. Given this same logic, for example, if we were to attach 4 bulbs rated at 16V DC to a 16V DC power supply, then each of the bulbs will receive 16V DC from a 16V DC transformer without any voltage degradation.

In a series circuit, the bulbs would be daisy-chained by connecting one lead of the first bulb to the power source and the other lead to the next bulb, and that bulb's other lead to one of the leads of the next bulb and so on. The last bulb's end lead would be connected to the return on the power source making the circuit complete.

This reduces the voltage to each bulb because the voltage is divided among each of the bulbs. So, for example if a 16V DC power source is hooked up to 4 bulbs, each rated at 16V DC, then each bulb would only receive *4V DC (16V divided by 4 bulbs) and the bulbs would be lit very dim (at 25% of their brightness). Not only that, if one bulb went out, then the remaining bulbs would also go out from that point forward as the circuit would not be complete.

*Assume each bulb has identical voltage and resistance.



In addition to running a 16V DC main, I also plan to run a 1.5V DC main to each of the quadrants under the layout to support any lighting that requires this voltage level.



The European style train station has three platforms and two “glass” canopies. There are hanging lamp shades with the station name placards across each of the platforms. The lamp shades were populated with 1.22mm (grain of sand) 1.5V bulbs to light up the station.



Lighting the Station Platforms:

Unlike the sheds where no lamp shades existed and therefore I chose bulbs that came pre-mounted in lamp shades, I had bit of a choice here. The European style train station, with its open, tubular styled glass canopies came with pre-hung lampshades. Again unlike the sheds, the lighting style needed to be more appropriate for, and match the styling of the train station as it would be visible. Should I use the existing lamp shades or should I attach other lights/bulbs to the station? How would I accomplish either of these choices? Could I find bulbs small enough and wiring thin enough to run through the station pillars? I wanted to accomplish a clean job with no visible wiring. So I researched and purchased several types of bulbs and lighting fixtures. Here are the final three options to which I narrowed my choices.

First Option – Street Lamps.

These lamps could be mounted onto the platform or along the ceiling curves. I did not use these as I wanted overhead lighting. In addition, this style of street lamps would



not look good on a station platform, especially when the station comes with hanging light cones/shades.

I will probably use these lamps elsewhere on the layout.

Second Option – English Style Lamp Posts.

I did not go with these either. Although these lamp



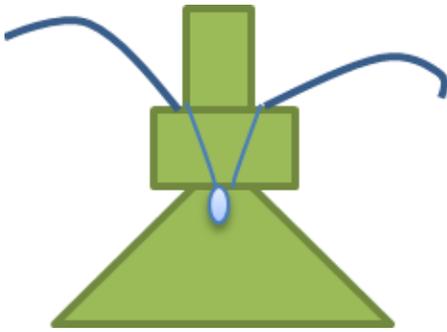
posts from Model Power (may no longer available in the market) looked attractive, but the style did not match the station styling and the glass lens is too clear and “crystally” so you get a bit of harsh light rather than that soft glow. Also due to the styling of the lamp you get too much of a lamp crystal pattern from the light reflected onto the platform.

Final Option – 1.22mm Bulbs. I did some more research on various size of bulbs and found just the right sized bulbs.

I chose 1.5V, 15mA, 1.22mm diameter (grain of sand) bulbs to light the station. Being 15mA (milliamps) these are not as bright as the 16V, 30mA, 2.4mm diameter (grain of rice) bulbs I had also purchased for this purpose. Both of these bulbs have a soft glow to them as they are incandescent, however the 15mA bulb, is of course, a bit subdued.

I used a micro hand drill to drill two holes at an angle from inside the

shade leading to either side of the ballast above the shade. Then it was just a matter of sliding each of the



strands through the holes. It literally took about a minute to do each of the 12 shades.

platform pillars (I will drill micro holes for passage) where the strands will be connected to a thin 28 gauge flat twin lead wire, so the wiring will be hidden as best as it can.



The bulbs are so small that they are hardly visible and it's hard to tell on which end the bulb is mounted on the leads.



The finished lamp shades with the bulbs installed.



The bulbs are so tiny that they are hardly visible inside the very small lamp shades. The bulbs come with about 8" of wire. By the way, the leads from the bulbs are pre-tinned! These leads are thin enough so I can run the wiring from the shades over horizontal surfaces, through and along infrastructure and cross beams of the station, and finally down the

All of the flat twin lead wires coming down from each of the platforms will be joined directly to the 1.5V DC main serving the quadrant where the station will be located on the layout. And of course all of the lamps will be connected in a parallel circuit so each of the bulbs can get the exact same 1.5 volts of DC current.

I also purchased several **Regulated** 1.5V transformer kits (the kits come

with 10 bulbs) from Miniaturics to manage the lighting power needs. Miniaturics produces a wide variety of lighting options and accessories and HobbyTown USA is one place that carries many of their items online. You may be lucky to find them at a local hobby store as well. 

About the Author

Loggin' Locos is currently building two layouts. One is a logging camp based 6' x 12' table style layout. This is his first full sized layout. The other layout he is building is a dream layout in his mind with all the room in the world, from here to there, with all the perfectly weathered engines, rolling stock, structures, and scenery! Until he can get his dream layout to become reality, he is content documenting his current build on YouTube. You can follow him on his channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPYcxEM4sIqJJs0WzImVyKA>.

Putting My South Brooklyn Railroad on YouTube



By William Graham

Good day YouTube readers, it is I, Big Bill from the South Brooklyn Railroad.

I have always found the use of the videos to be very helpful & informative, but something was missing. The missing part was ME! Sounds a bit over the top doesn't it?

Let me explain Lucy: it's not that I thought that I could do it better or that I could come up with a better mouse trap, it was the thought that I could do this, I could put my style of wackiness out there and have fun while doing it. My thinking is that progress always involves risk and you cannot reach second base, unless you take your foot off first base (got that from a baseball site) so why not try it.

I was greatly encouraged by my wife Georgan and then later by ModelerManMike who said to me, "You are crazy, you should do videos!" Why not, what could I lose, my self respect—already lost that years ago. So I went ahead and did my first video and put it out there and the response was overwhelming, and far from what I expected. I didn't think that they would throw eggs at me, but it was encouraging to say the least.

The bottom line is that you have to venture out into the deep end of the pool and try it. For some, like me, it is scary, but after a while you forget that the pool is deep because you are swimming and having fun. And if you falter, there are people, good people, who will help you out, guide you and give you words of encouragement.

Starting out in this area only requires an iPhone [or an Android] camera,



"Big Bill" shares his plans for his new version of the South Brooklyn Railroad on his YouTube Channel.

and something to share in the hobby, whether it be a weathering tip on rolling stock, or an insight in the state of the hobby. It's your playground, have fun with it, enjoy it.

Some people may not like or have an interest in what you have produced, but if 10 people watch it, at least one of them will have learned something from what you put out there.

So grab that camera, throw together some rolling stock and start a channel! And one thing before I go: have some fun, but the last time I checked this is not a dress rehearsal for something bigger.

Until next time God Bless and I will see you on the radio. 🗣️

About the Author

William "Big Bill" Graham is a retired motorman for the New York City Transit Authority (NYCTA) where he pushed the Iron Horse for over 30 years. He spends his time with his beautiful wife Georgan of 38 years and working towards world peace. In his spare time he works on his South Brooklyn Railroad. Follow "Big Bill's" progress on his YouTube Channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqM-v6qryZa702BwAEaCENQ>.

Google+ YouTube Model Railroaders Community! This is the place to be to discuss model railroading, YouTube production, and most of all, share your model railroading layouts and videos!



PICK 3

In each issue we share with you three YouTube Model Builders' channels that stand out and provide the model railroading community new and interesting ideas, tips, tricks, and resources. Please check them out!



Luke Towan - Boulder Creek Railroad

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjRkUtHQ774mTg1vrQ6uA5A/>

Luke is building a small HO scale, switching layout based in North America during the transition era. Luke presents some interesting how-to techniques and product reviews.



Mike Deverell - Colorado Front Range HO Scale Layout

<https://www.youtube.com/user/madeverell/>

Mike is modeling an HO scale layout of the Colorado Front Range Railroad. Follow Mike as he presents details of his layout plan and interesting techniques through his video blogs.



Dan - DansRailroad2011

<https://www.youtube.com/user/DansRailroad2011/>

Dan's channel is another great resource for learning about weathering, adding graffiti, decaling, and even upgrading motors.



Into Facebook?

Check out the YouTube Model Railroaders Facebook page!

Google+ Hangouts and Etiquette



Dude Lindler



YouTube Model Builders works very hard to bring YouTube model railroaders together in what is called Google+ Hangouts. Google+ has many free resources for us to use and we look forward to taking full advantage of these resources.

What is Google+ Hangouts? It's an application that runs through a web browser that allows up to 10 people to connect with webcams. Using this forum for model railroading discussions is great! It builds friendships, inspiration for model railroad building, and most of all a great place to air your designs, models, and share in your building adventures with others in real-time. Many of the YouTube video producers you know "Hangout" in these Google+ Hangouts.

Many builders simply place their webcam on their project they are working on and show others what they are doing, building a model, laying track, or anything model railroad related. Many look for feedback from the group, get questions an-

swered, and elaboration on the many projects they are working on. It's simply a great place to interact in real-time with other YouTube model railroaders.

These Google+ Hangouts are posted most every day on the [Google+ YouTube Model Railroaders Community](#) page. You are not required to use a webcam or even a microphone; you may only use the provided chat box if desired.

With the utilization of Google+ Hangouts by many model railroaders, YouTube Model Builders is now scheduling specific types of events for the community members. Here are two Google+ Hangouts that we have arranged to help bring more model railroaders together.

Topic Driven Hangouts: Tuesday Nights

YouTube Model Builders is inviting specific guests to explain techniques in model building, and many times these individuals are invited to our topic driven hangouts based on videos they have produced. Showing the progress real time, the topic driven hangouts are moderated by YouTube Model Builders staff which keeps these hangouts on subject and informative. The Topic Driven Hangouts are much like clinics as they are more so for instruc-

tion and techniques shared by a presenting individual or individuals.

Recently, Troy, our newest member of the YouTube Model Builders team presented live in our Topic Driven Hangout a complete, step-by-step walk through of custom switch building in N Scale. It was quite well received!

General Moderated Hangouts: Thursday Nights

Where many hangouts posted through the Google+ YouTube Model Railroaders encompass many subjects and often have many people showing their layouts and discussion varies from model railroading to just general conversation, YouTube Model Builders has now scheduled a weekly General Moderated Hangout to specifically keep on the subject of Model Railroading. The subject selection is really driven by community feedback.

YouTube Model Builders as a team helps drive these Hangouts, to spread the word, and get the YouTube Model Railroaders involved. Many people participate and as these numbers have grown, a simple etiquette is followed for the hangouts posted on YouTube Model Railroad resources.

Below is a simple guideline for participating in any YouTube Model Builders hangout event:

- Always keep the conversation G Rated.
- Refrain from political/religion based conversations.
- When not speaking, mute your microphone.
- Keep the hangout fun and on model railroading subjects.
- Remember, you're in a room with others, try not to monopolize speaking time. Allow others to get in their input.
- If you have your camera on, please be presentable – remember others can see you!

Following these simple etiquettes will make hangouts fun, and most of all, suitable for anyone who might want to join! We hope to meet you in a hangout in the near future if you don't already participate! If you have any questions on this subject, feel free to ask any one of the involved YouTube Model Railroaders to help get you into the fun sharing in the Google+ Hangouts. 🚂



YouTube Model Builders Tuesday night Topic-Driven Hangouts start at 9 PM CST / 10 PM EST and are scheduled for up to 2 hours so you have plenty of time to ask questions and learn. For the latest schedule updates go to www.YouTubeModelBuilders.com.

January 2015

- 20th: Track and wiring — follow up of YouTube Model Builders LIVE! with Troy P. and Dave V.
- 27th: Basics of and introduction to DCC with Barry Rosier.

February 2015

- 3rd: Part 1 of JMRI DCC operations: Basics of JMRI operations with Barry Rosier and Mike D.
- 10th: Part 2 of JMRI DCC operations: Interface and roster with Barry Rosier and Mike D
- 17th: Part 3 of JMRI DCC operations: Computer operation with Barry Rosier and Mike D.
- 24th: Structures — follow up of YouTube Model Builders LIVE! with Vinny and Geno.

March 2015

- 3rd: Creating a YouTube channel, editing, and posting videos with Modeler-ManMike.
- 10th: Basic video editing for YouTube videos with Bob Olson.
- 17th: Using Pinnacle Studio for YouTube video production with ModelerMan-Mike, Johnny R, and Bob Olson .
- 24th: Track planning/design — follow up of YouTube Model Builders LIVE! with Chris Heili.

Space is limited so make sure you don't miss these popular Hangouts!

Your YouTube Model Builders Team is working for you! We bring the YouTube channels and FREE resources for model railroading to your doorstep.

This free YouTube Model Builders e-Magazine is produced by the dedicated YouTube Model Builders team on a volunteer basis. Please visit their channels and show your support!

YouTube Model Builders Team

www.YouTubeModelBuilders.com

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Team Lead	ModelerManMike
Secretary	Position is Open
Technical/IT	Barry Rosier
Outside Business & Giveaways Coordinator	William "Big Bill" Graham
Promotion and Distribution	Okcuse Norton
Graphic Artist 1	Position is Open
Graphic Artist 2	Position is Open
YouTube Model Builders eMag	
Editor in Chief	Loggin' Locos
Assistant Editor 1	Position is Open
Assistant Editor 2	Position is Open
Pictures/Articles	Jennifer Cosentino
YouTube Model Builders LIVE!	
Host	William "Big Bill" Graham
Director	Barry Rosier
YouTube Model Builders Hangouts	
Hangout Lead	Dude Lindler
Hangout Coordinator	Johnny "Southeast Rails"
Hangout Coordinator	Troy "PacificNorth Central"

If you would like to submit an article for the YouTube Model Builders eMag or pictures for the Community Collage section, please contact us at: YTMBeMag@gmail.com. Submission guidelines can be found at www.YouTubeModelBuilders.com.

Disclaimer:

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