

One way to Build Roads, Sidewalks and Parking Lots

Presented by Rick Luther for the Northern Utah Division November 18, 2017

Methods for Creating Roads and Parking Lots

“Wet” Methods:

- DIY - Plaster, Hydrocal, Spackle
- Durham's Water Putty
- Appropriate size ballast
- Woodland Scenics Road Kit

“Dry” Methods:

- Styrene Sheets
- Asphalt Shingles (Backside)
- Black Felt Roofing Paper
- Black Sand Paper (Various Grits)
- Foam Core

“My” Method:

- 12” x 18” Craft Foam Sheets
- Available from Craft stores like Michaels, Joann Fabrics and others
- Sizes range from 2 MM = 5/64” to 3 MM = 7/64” to 5 MM = 3/16”
- Prices can range from \$0.89 to \$1.29

Supplies needed for Craft Foam Pavement

- Typical road colors are black, gray and tan
- Basic Tools needed include a Xacto knife, sharp scissors, metal ruler, pencil, fine tipped black markers and adhesive.

Typical Road and Sidewalk Dimensions

- Two Lane City Street with Sidewalks: 5’ sidewalks and 13’ lanes for a total width of 36’
 - O scale = 9” / HO Scale = 4.9” / N Scale = 2.7”
- Two Lane Country / Gravel Road: 10’ lanes for a total of 20’
 - O scale = 5” / HO Scale = 2.75” / N Scale = 1.5”
- Single Car Driveway is approximately 12’
 - O scale = 3” / HO Scale = 1.65” / N Scale = 0.9”

Surface Preparation

- Begin with a smooth clean surface. While undulations in the surface may produce interesting effects in the road surface they can be unpredictable.
- When working with rail crossing or other height transitions you can use foam core or methods to create smooth transitions. Most road surfaces eliminate sharp changes in elevation to prevent damage to vehicles.

One way to Build Roads, Sidewalks and Parking Lots

Presented by Rick Luther for the Northern Utah Division November 18, 2017

Applying the craft foam

- Make your initial cuts of the craft foam to fit the area.
- Make any adjustments that will be needed to for scenery or other obstructions.
- Abut the road surface tight to any grade crossing. Use masking tape to hold in position until the glue dries.
- Glue additional cross roads or parking lots at this time.

Adding Sidewalks

Creating curbs and expansion joints

- Basic dimensions of a sidewalk are a 5' sidewalk with a 6" curb
- Make life easier by creating a Curb / Measuring tool out of 0.06" Styrene (See page 3)
- Place the larger tool against the edge of the foam and mark with a pencil.
- Cutout the sidewalk and mark the curved corner.
- Cut the curved corner with sharp scissors.
- Use the smaller tool to mark your curbs. Connect the marks with the pencil.
- Measure out 5' squares and add the expansion joints with the pencil.
- Add any additional scenery elements before gluing the sidewalks.
- Paint the sidewalks an appropriate concrete color.
- My preferred paint is acrylic craft paint from the craft store like Michaels.
- Colors chosen are: Black, Dark Gray, "Barnwood", Burnt Sienna, "Camel"

Pavement Marking

- Typical pavement marking dimensions are:
 - 10' stripes with 30' spacing between stripes
 - Stripes are typically 6" wide with 4" of spacing between stripes such as double yellow lines.
- There are many different methods for creating striping:
 - Decals
 - Dry Transfer (Rub On)
 - Pin Striping Tape
 - Chalk Pencil
 - Paint Markers such as Testors, Woodland Scenics, Fabric Markers
- "My" Preferred Method:
 - Masking with Painters Tape and Craft Paint
 - Layout the Painters Tape on a sheet of glass and mark out the stripe in pencil and cut the stripe using a Xacto knife or make your own tool.
 - Apply the Painters tape to your road surface and apply Craft Paint with a cosmetic sponge. Load the paint on the sponge and lightly tap the surface until you get the look you want.
 - Now you can glue sidewalks to road the surface to create the curb elevation.

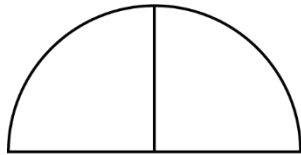
Pavement Details

- Create "pot" holes by diggings out the foam and adding cracks with the pencil.
- Create patches in the pavement with different shades of gray or black Craft Paint.
- Man-hole covers are created with a piece of styrene tubing pressed into the foam.
- Create a cross hatch texture with a pencil and stain a rusty color.

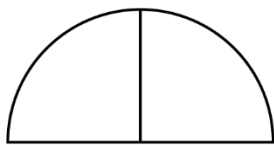
One way to Build Roads, Sidewalks and Parking Lots

Presented by Rick Luther for the Northern Utah Division November 18, 2017

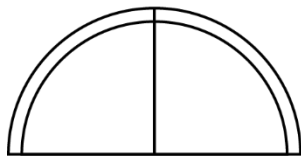
- Create an alligatoring pattern with the pencil and lightly flow in black paint.
- Don't forget about adding cracks to the sidewalks with a pencil or fine marker.
- Add drainage along the street.
 - Painting the curb a rusty color and add black to the side of the curb to represent the grate.
- There are many other details you can add such as parking meters, trash, trash cans, fire hydrants and more!



Outer/Larger Tool
11' Diameter
HO Scale



Inner/Smaller Tool
10' Diameter
HO Scale



Combined Tool
HO Scale