



My Fun Water Tank Project

For a layout I was working on I had a need for some ON30 narrow gauge style water tanks. After pricing the current kits available (\$159 each) I decided I would try and make some water tanks that would act as 'place holders' on the new layout. Place holders are those things you stick on the layout until you get what you really want to put there. Anyhow, this is the result and when placed on the layout they actually might be there for a very long time!.

Materials used:

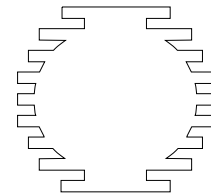
1. A 4 inch piece of 4 inch PVC plastic pipe.
2. A piece of 1/4 inch luan paneling. (Home Depot had some pieces already cut into 24x48 pieces so that's what I used.
3. A small piece of electrical wire with the insulation still on (supports the spout).
4. A printed tank wrapper. (I used ModelBuilder software and printed on legal size light yellow paper.
5. A small piece of cardstock or styrene for the roof.
6. Plastruct ladder o scale.

Tools used:

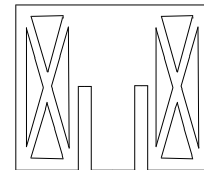
1. Saw to cut PVC pipe.
2. Scroll saw to cut wooden pieces
3. Masking tape.
4. Spray adhesive OR two-sided carpet tape OR full sheet label material

OK, let's get started. First let's print out the attachments that need to be cut from the luan paneling pieces. We need to put those designs onto the wood so we can cut them out using the scroll saw. I have a couple of different ways of doing this so pick one and have at it. Avery and several of the self adhesive label makers have full 8 1/2x11 sheet sticky labels. You could just print on those and peel and stick it on the luan. OR you could print on plain paper and turn the sheet over and use some 3M spray adhesive to stick the designs on the luan. OR you could use two sided tape to stick the printed plain sheet designs onto the luan. Now all 3 of these methods will allow you to cut out the wooden parts. The problem with all of them is getting that junk off the wood when you are all done! First helpful hint: Put some masking tape on the wood pieces and then use whatever method listed above to stick the design onto the TAPED wood. When all done cutting just peel the tape off!

You need to print and cut one piece of luan to put under the PVC pipe that will become the water tank.



You need to print and cut out 4 pieces of luan to make the base of the water tank. The sheet has them laid out sideways to get them all on one sheet but they will be turned as shown to make the base. Once stuck on the luan you need to drill some holes for the scroll way blade to pass through. These holes are shown as black dots on the design.

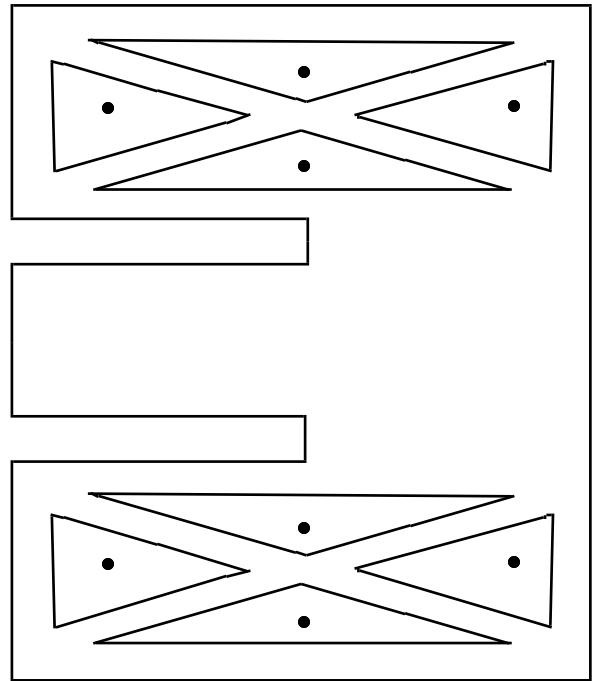
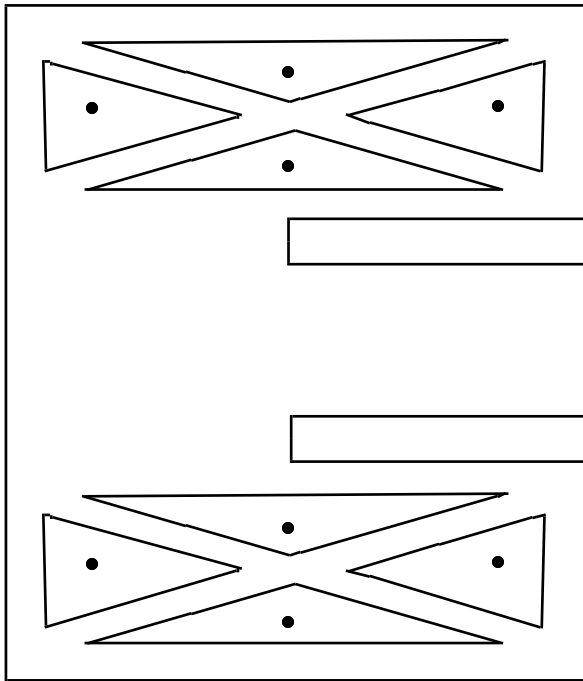
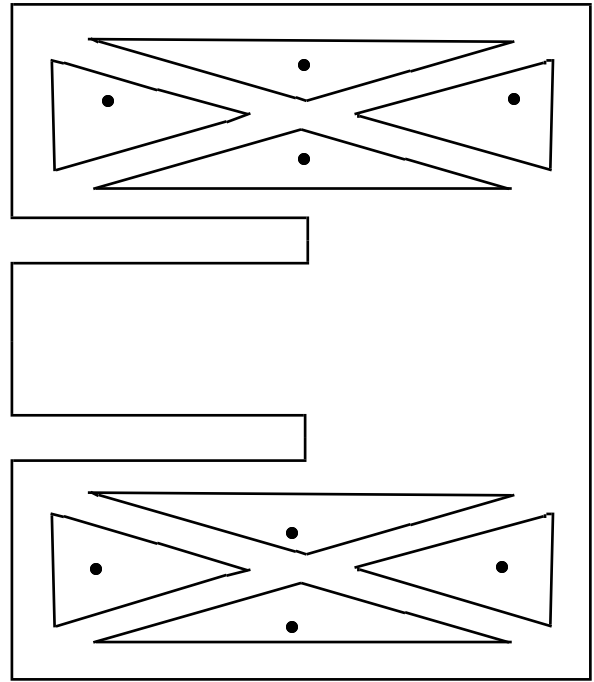
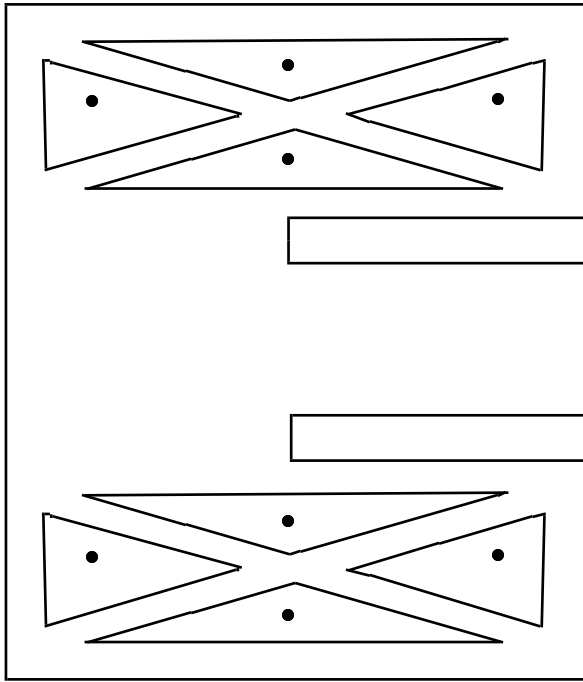


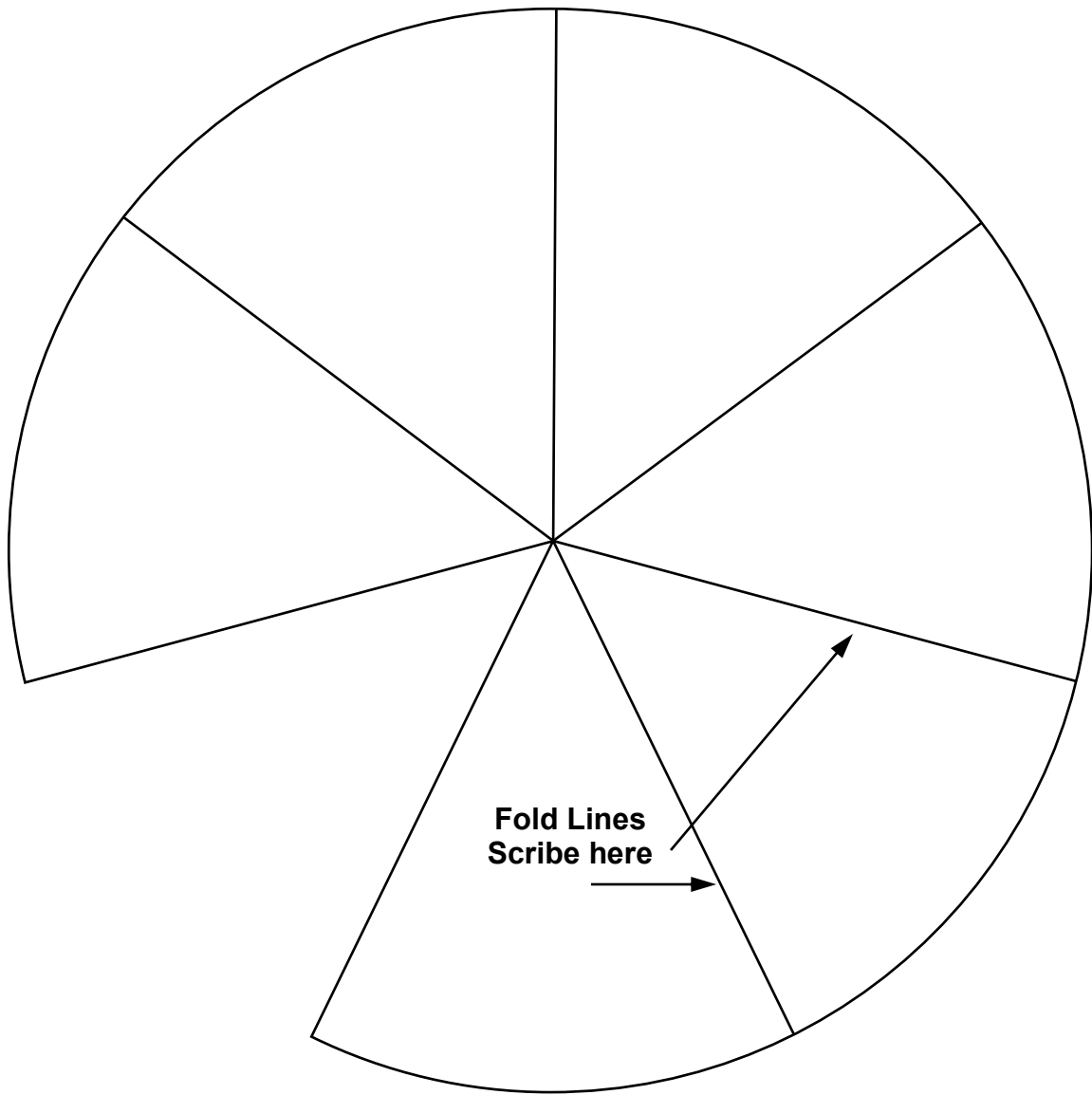
There are two more pieces to cut from the luan material, one piece is the support for the water spout on the front of the water tank and the last is the little front piece to complete the base for the water tower. Now I say one piece to complete the tower base because that is all I needed. Seems the tanks all faced the front on this layout project so I didn't need to do more than just the front. If you find that you need more of these little base pieces simply print and cut what you need.

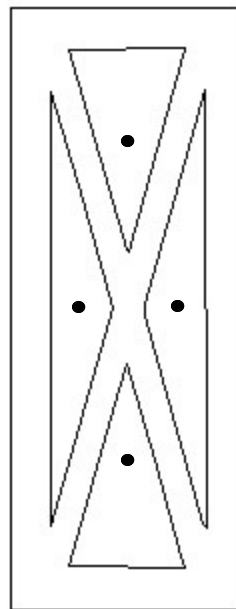
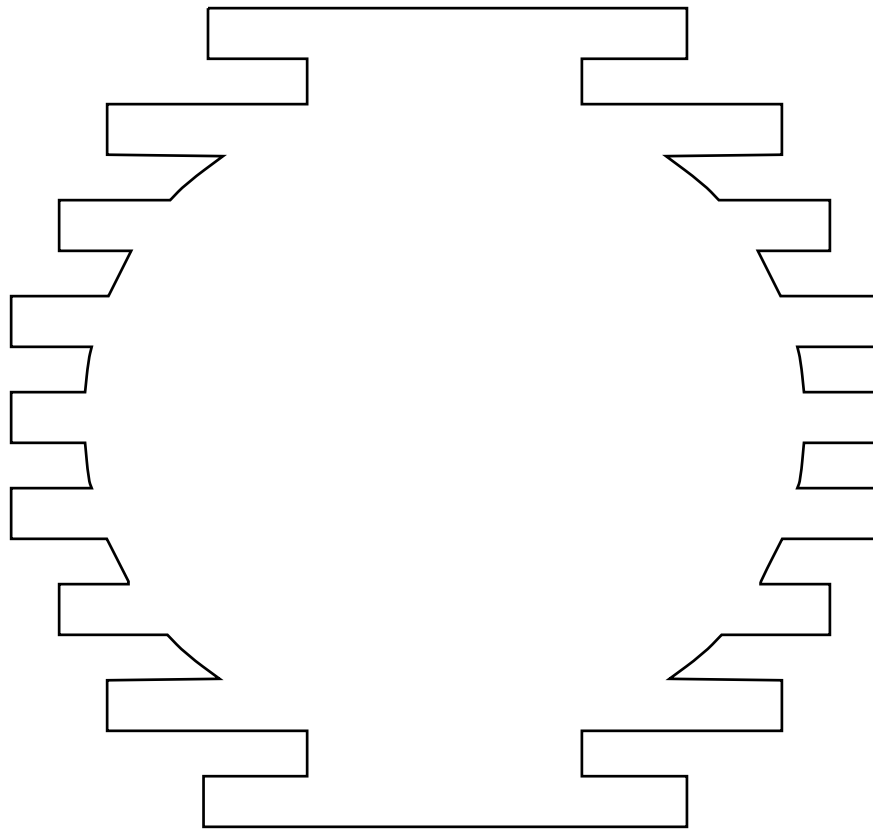
Strip off about 1/4 inch of insulation off of the wire piece. On the spout support drill a very small hole to insert the wire into. The hole goes at the very center of the bottom cross piece. Bend the wire up to hold the spout. The spout is a piece of gray paper rolled into a very slight cone shape.

The roof is just a piece of cardstock. Scribe on the fold lines and give it a slight bend until the ends meet. For the roofing material I just used masking tape laid in strips.

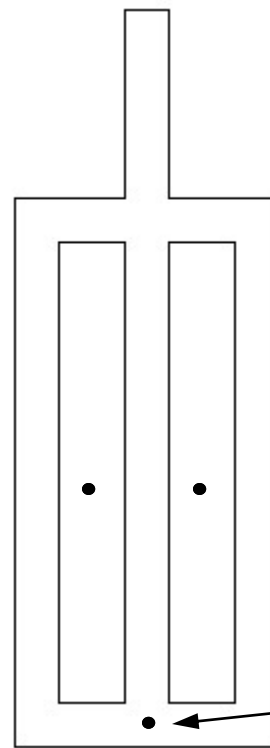








Base Front



**Spout
Support**

small hole
for spout
wire