

# JUDGES' SCORE SHEET for NMRA MODEL CONTEST

**Model Description:** Black Rock Falls Bridge & Trestle **EntryNo.** \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the model in detail. Check all of the items that apply. Add additional data where applicable. Attach extra pages with photos/plans/drawings and additional description as needed to convey to the judges why and what you did to build this model. Add as much additional information as needed to provide information about the work you did and the techniques you used.

## 1. CONSTRUCTION (Maximum 40 Points)

**Points Awarded**

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drew my own plans. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Followed construction article |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Used prototype plans          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cut and fit metal             | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut and fit cardstock         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Used kit plans                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cut and fit plastic           | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut and fit glass             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Used commercial plans         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cut and fit wood              | <input type="checkbox"/> Crosskitted or kitbashed      |
|  |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soldered           |
|  |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Made patterns-jigs |
|  |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Made molds                    |

Describe in detail how model was built, complexity of construction, and materials used:

Two articles from Jack Work and John Corbett in the book Model Railroad Bridges & Trestles were mainly used to draw my own plans to come up with a bridge/trestle combo that would work best for my space I was planning. I needed to cross another route far below so needed to really enlarge the bridge and referenced other articles for that. I used strip wood throughout and built my own jig for the bents to speed construction as well as make them uniform. I could make short or tall bents with the same jig. See attached pages for more detail about the construction process.

## 2. DETAIL (Maximum 20 Points)

**Points Awarded**

Describe complexity, difficulty, refinement, amount of additional detail parts added.

Nearly the entire structure was scratch built so every detail you see I added. A ton of strip wood in various sizes according to what was needed i.e. brace vs. stringer, etc. The inside guard rails will come together once installed. I didn't want rail hanging off the end that would be easily caught on something only to have it rip off! There is one little detail that someone might miss and I don't want to give it away but here's a hint: it gives a sense of scale to the entire structure!

## 3. CONFORMITY (Maximum 25 Points)

**Points Awarded**

Give information as to prototype modeled or explain logic of design. Include copies of photos, drawings and plans.

Included in the attached pages is a photo of the B&O "The Long Bridge" which shows the bracing from bent to bent as horizontal pieces instead of the traditional X - pieces crossing in an diagonal. I like this look better for this particular bridge and the location it is going on my layout. The trestle has double bents (one shorter one) to support the bridge section. The rest was built in a traditional manner including different sized "lumber" for braces, sills, stringers, etc. I also used prototype practices as much as possible to keep the curve as straight as possible over the bridge and centered over the bents as much as the curve would allow.

## 4. FINISH and LETTERING (Maximum 25 Points)

**Points Awarded**

- Finish:  Weathered  Non-weathered  Spray  Airbrush  Mask and spray  
 Signs & Lettering:  Decals  Hand letter  Dry Transfers  Photo reduction  Photo etching

Describe finish and lettering methods in detail

I pre-stained the wood before construction and used wood glue sparingly. The majority of the structure has been complete for 5+ years and held up very well. Recently I finished the details including adding light weathering and darkening the entire structure because even though it was a "nice" wood color it wasn't what a railroad bridge would look like. With sprays and chalks I lightly weathered it and blended everything together so it would look like a well maintained but used structure.

## 5. SCRATCHBUILDING. (Maximum 15 Points)

**Points Awarded**

List all parts you have fabricated. Note any special or unusual features added.

I consider this completely scratch built. I will say that I did use Micro Engineering bridge flex track. Before I started hand laying and building my own track I bought it to "someday" build a bridge. Well, I didn't want it to go to waste. The only thing it came with was ties, rail, guard timbers and the barrel set outs. If I were building it today I wouldn't need to buy that! The rest of the entire structure was scratch built using jigs I made and making calculations using charts from the book mentioned before for the dimensions of the bents (and their placement) and the bridge. I made the "stand" out of 2" foam and painted it so it could be displayed. I may use that on the final install after some refinement. :-)

**This space for Contest Committee only.**

**FINAL TOTAL**

Score Tabulated by \_\_\_\_\_ Verified by \_\_\_\_\_