



## Tools Used in Model Railroading

# Key Points

- \* Safety considerations.
- \* Cost considerations.
- \* Basic Tools used in everyday model railroading.
- \* Advanced Tools used in model railroading.
- \* Optional Homemade Tools

# SAFETY, SAFETY, SAFETY

- \* This hobby can be enjoyable, however one must be safe while using tools.
- \* Safety considerations include:
  1. Lungs – Toxic paint fumes may cause a serious health concern if one does not protect themselves.
  2. Eyes & Hands – Cutting, grinding, and just everyday use of tools and chemicals can cause injuries to the eyes and hands if we do not take the proper steps to protect ourselves.

# How Much Should I Spend?

- \* Whenever possible, purchase quality tools.
- \* Quality tools tend to last longer and are less apt to break. \*\*But they can break\*\*
- \* Start small then work your way up.
- \* Add tools to your toolbox in gradually steps. You do not have to purchase all the tools at once.

# The Basics

- \* Every model railroader should have a basic set of tools in their tool box.
- \* The basic set of tools may vary from one person to the next.
- \* The list presented today is a good representation of a basic set of tools.

# Basic Tools

- \* Toolbox (size may vary)
- \* Hobby Knife (#70238 set of 4)
- \* Assorted cutting knives
- \* Hobby knife with a chisel blade
- \* Small set of screwdrivers
- \* Needle or jeweler files
- \* Tweezers (Tool Man at the Springfield Train Show)
- \* Sprue Cutters (3 Types: plier type, 15 & 15A available at the Hobby Gallery Wolcott CT)

# Basic Tools

- \* Pin Vice (#81497)
- \* Pin Vice drill bits (Hobby Gallery)
- \* Scale Ruler
- \* Pen, Pencil, & Notebook
- \* Pencil sharpener
- \* Glue ( CA type for plastics and Canopy glue for wood)
- \* Razor saw with miter box (#22114)
- \* Flashlight (LED type)
- \* Assorted levels

# Basic Tools

- \* T-Bar Cutting Guards (#80772B set of 2)
- \* Razor Blades (Bulk Pack)
- \* NMRA Track Gauge **\*\*Very Important\*\***
- \* Locomotive wheel cleaner
- \* Small Hammer
- \* Rail Joiner Tool (Custom Made)
- \* Parallel Tool
- \* Razor saw



# Basic Tools

- \* Regular Size Screwdriver (Sears)
- \* Med Oil for Locomotives (Hobby Gallery)
- \* Rolling Stock / Engine Cradle
- \* Coupler Height Tool with track
- \* Clamps (Hardware stores)
- \* Spare parts kit for locomotives / rolling stock. Good storage is a fishing tackle box. (couplers, screws, springs, washers, etc.....)

# Basic Tools

- \* Micro-Mark coupler spring tool (#81029)
- \* Micro-Mark coupler trip pin tool (#80600)
- \* Tape Measure (Home Depot)
- \* Pair of cutting pliers (Home Depot)
- \* Cutting Mat (Various Sizes)
- \* Kaydee 2-56 tap set (Hobby Gallery)
- \* Large metal rulers (Staples)
- \* Small Pick Set

# Basic Tools

- \* Fos Scale DVDs
- \* Yardstick Compass (#82969)
- \* Xuron Pliers (5 types)
  - \* 1. Spike Insertion Plier (#82839)
  - \* 2. Spike Removal Tool (#82840)
  - \* 3. Rail Cutter Plier (#80337)
  - \* 4. Rail Cutters
  - \* 5. Photo Edge Plier (#84903)

# Basic Tools

- \* Bright Boy track cleaner
- \* Putty knife & Artist tool
- \* Exact Socket Tool
- \* Needle Nose pliers
- \* Scissors
- \* Foam Brush
- \* Eye Dropper

# Advanced Tools

- \* Dremel Tool with flexible shaft
- \* The Chopper 2
- \* Magnetic Tray (#60304)
- \* Coffman clamps
- \* Plastic chisel
- \* Ribbon Rail Gauges
- \* Drill bit gauge (#10123)
- \* Digital Level
- \* Brass shaping tool
- \* Specialty Pliers (Pearl Tweezers #82426)

# Advanced / Specialty Tools

## “Craftsman Kits”

- \* Thin Beam square (#83261)
- \* Angle chopper (#50348)
- \* Pounce wheel set (#15200)
- \* Stainless Steel Protractor (#50278)
- \* Mini Square (#82147)
- \* Small Metal ruler (Home Depot)
- \* Distresser Brush (#82466)
- \* Nicholson File Cleaner (#21455 Home Depot)
- \* Angle plate weights (#60714)

# Advanced / Specialty Tools

## “Craftsman Kits”

- \* Nail sander
- \* Grout sponge
- \* Tooth picks for glue
- \* Canopy Glue
- \* Gallery Glass (windows)
- \* Paint Brushes
- \* Post it notes
- \* Transfer Tape
- \* Irwin clamps

# Advanced / Specialty Tools “Electrical”

- \* Electrical Tape
- \* Soldering Iron with solder
- \* Rosin Flux pen
- \* Various Electrical splicers and wire strippers
- \* Meter (optional)
- \* Jumper Wire



# Advanced / Specialty Tools

## “Painting using an Airbrush”

- \* Air Brush (Various Types)
- \* Respirator
- \* Tape Various Types
- \* Burnishing Tool for Fine line tape
- \* Coupler painting / weathering tool
- \* Spray booth
- \* Locomotive & Rolling Stock shell holder

# Solvent vs. Water Based Paints

- \* Solvent based paints in the the bottle or aerosol are toxic.
- \* Water based products are safer to use but safety measures should be taken as a precaution.
- \* If possible make the switch to water based products. They produce high quality results and are safer to use.

# Both Locomotives Painted with Polly S Paints



# Painted with Polly S Paints



# Advanced / Specialty Tools “Decals”

- \* Plastic food container that can hold water.
- \* Decal Tool
- \* Micro-set, Micro-Sol & Solvaset
- \* Dedicated paint brushes
- \* Hobby Knife
- \* Toothpicks
- \* Papertowels
- \* Foam Engine Cradle

# Homemade Tools

- \*Mirror Working Surface Tool
- \*Coupler painting /  
weathering tool
- \*Rolling Stock Servicing Tool

ANY QUESTIONS?