

# GREAT AMERICAN LOCOMOTION

## assembly guide

### Minimum Tools Needed

- #18 chisel blade and handle. I use this to cut the bridges that hold the parts to the sheets.  
I also use it as a scraper, a plane and a whole host of things they were not designed for.  
These are the only blades I use. Make sure you get heavy duty versions. I do not recommend Xacto regular duty blades, they shatter and break. They are dangerous. You can get good ones from MicroMark. Xacto makes a heavy duty version but they are hard to find.
- Cutting pad.
- Sanding block, wet dry paper, 250 grit.
- I use Testers liquid cement. It is not as strong as some so it will not eat the plastic too much. I use this for most joins.
- Super type glue. I use the super glue on pieces that will 1) take a lot of stress 2) where I need a quick spot “weld”. Use sparingly, this stuff migrates and can get into places you do not want it too. I have had some feedback on the use of Gorilla Glue brand super glue. Works great with better impact resistance than Super Glue.
- Small files: mill bastard and round file (about 3 mm diameter)
- Metric ruler. I work and draw in metric.
- Reamer. Hole size range from 1 to 8 mm should cover your needs.
- Small square. For gluing.

\*Avoid using power tools such as sanders or roto-cutters. Styrene is a low temperature Plastic and will melt if machined at too fast a speed.

- **Before you remove any parts from the sheets;**  
**Wet sand the sheets with 250 grit wet/dry paper and a sanding block. The laser raises small edges on the top sides of the sheets. Sand them smooth. Also roughing up the surface makes for better glue joints. You can do this piece by piece but in the sheet saves time and helps maintain the sharp edges. Careful with any etching.**

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