

HO Scale Freight Car Decals Ann Arbor Railroad 40' Boxcars

DF0487

The Prototype

The history of the Ann Arbor Railroad is far too complex to cover in this decal instruction sheet. However, for the time period these decals are targeted at, the basics are that the Annie was owned by the Wabash until 1964, when ownership passed to the Detroit, Toledo, and Ironton Railroad.

Wabash influence is visible in the lettering used for the roadname, as well as the pennant herald, the Ann Arbor's take on "Follow the Flag". Upon takeover from the DT&I, the pennant became replaced with a modification of the new parent road's compass herald.

This decal sheet is intended primarily for the Ann Arbor's 40' steel boxcars, including those of ACF, Pullman Standard, and Wabash heritage. Savvy modelers will take note of other goodies on the sheet, allowing this sheet to be used for other, more obscure cars, if desired.

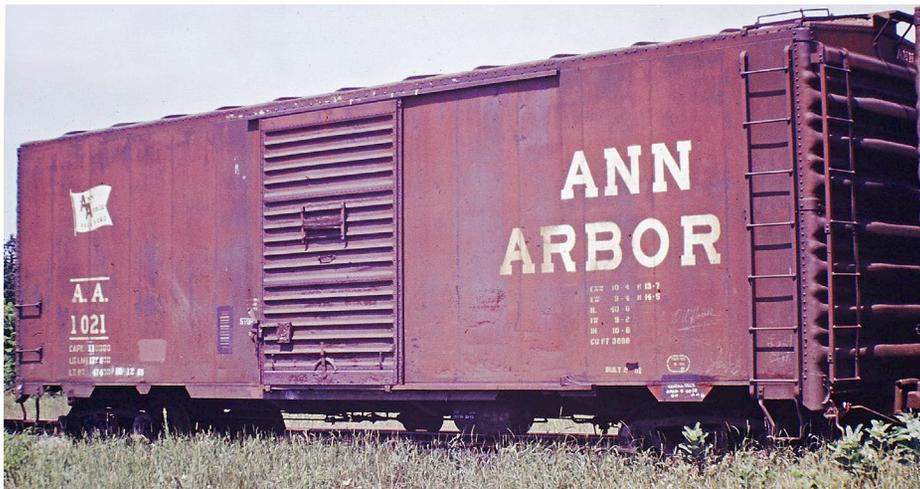
Station and reweigh symbols have been included for several applicable locations (Owosso - OW, DI; Decatur - XD). Repack, brake test, and paint oval

stencils are also included for a variety of dates from the mid-'40s through the mid-'60s.

Most paint schemes are best modeled with a prototype photo, as lettering details varied greatly. Also note that the AA used both "ANN ARBOR" and "A.A." on the ends of the cars at various times. Some cars also used the Wabash-preferred 3-digit splits, placing a space between the "1" and following digits. Lastly, many cars were upgraded to 55-ton capacity late in their careers.

Select 40' Ann Arbor Boxcars

Series	Builder/Type	Year	Door
250-299	Wabash	1955	6'
300-399	Pullman Standard	1956	6'
400-499	Pullman Standard	1958	6'
1000-1099	ACF	1951	7'
1200-1399	Pullman Standard	1958	8'
1400-1409	Pullman Standard	1960	8'
68000-68049	Wabash	1947	6'



Ann Arbor ACF boxcar 1021 at an unknown location late in its career. Car features 18" lettering and medium-sized solid pennant herald. Note space between "1" and "021" in road number. Photo courtesy Richard J. Kirchner.

Suitable Models

Several AA boxcars can be created from off-the-shelf cars, including the PS-1s. ACF cars can be modified from an Atlas (Branchline) 10'-6" IH boxcar using Archer raised panel decals. Similarly, the Wabash-built cars can be modeled by modifying the sill with strip styrene. Cars were painted various shades of oxide red, such as Scalecoat Boxcar Red #1 or #2.

Suggested Reference: "Freight Cars of the Ann Arbor Railroad 1947-1985" by Craig Wilson.

The Decals

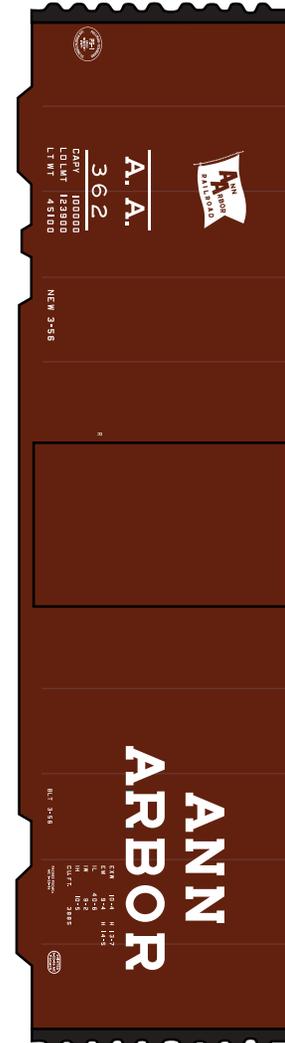
These decals have been created by digitally tracing lettering from actual photographs of in-service freight cars. Printed by Cartograf, these decals capture even the smallest lettering of the prototype. Repack/reweigh data has been provided for the mid-'40s to mid-'60s for AA-specific reweigh stations. This set can decal up to four complete cars.

We would like to thank Craig Wilson for all of his assistance in the production of this decal set!

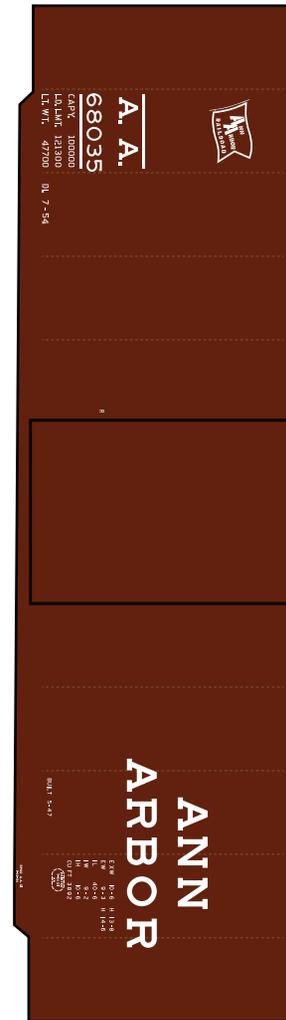
Basic Decal Application

Prepare model with a glossy surface prior to decal application. Cut the desired decal from the sheet. Dip in warm water for about 10 seconds. Set decal on clean cloth to remove excess water. Place decal and backing paper near final location on model. Slide decal film from backing and onto the model. Move into desired location. Once pleased with the

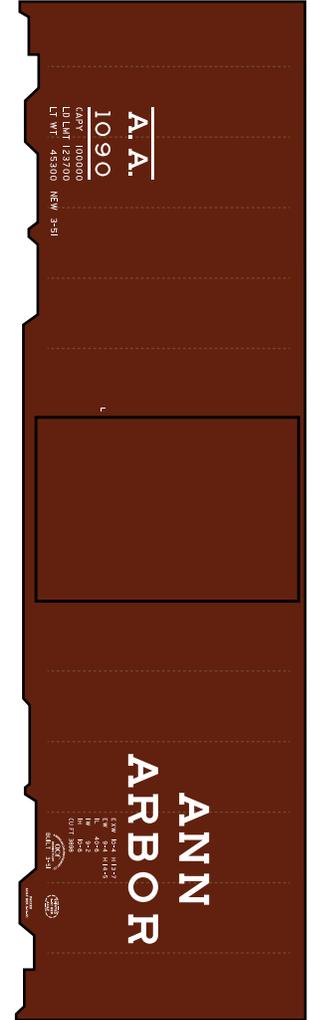
location, remove remaining water and trapped air with clean cloth or swab. Re-wet and reposition if needed. Once completely satisfied with the position of the decal, use setting solution of your choice if desired. Clean surface of decal with water to remove any trace adhesives. Seal with clear flat, weather to taste, and place your car into service!



40' PS-1 as built. 18" lettering with medium solid pennant. Black ends.



Outline pennant scheme w/14" roadname.



ACF cars as built. 14" roadname with no pennant.

See our website for other available HO scale decal sets.

This product intended for ages 14+.

If you are unsatisfied with this product for any reason, please return it for exchange or refund.

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