

Plano Model Products #10963 - ACF cf3510 Phase V Cylindrical Covered Hopper Walkway Kit - Atlas Car

The parts in this kit are designed to be used on the Atlas ACF 3510cf cylindrical covered hopper to convert it to a Phase V 3510cf car like those purchased by CSX and others. These instructions are written with the assumption you are working with an undecorated kit, or an unassembled car. Please read through these instructions to become familiar with them to help understand what each step is and how everything comes together.

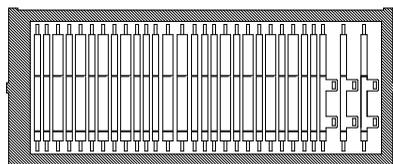
You will need to fill all of the walkway mounting holes (openings?) in the roof of the car. This can be accomplished several ways. One would be to insert the plastic walkway into the opening, glue in place and then slice off flush with roof. Another would be to insert pieces of styrene strip, glue in place and slice - repeat. Or you could just use some filler of your choice. Smooth areas to your liking.

Here is a trying part of the conversion, marking the holes for the new roofwalk supports. Getting the paper drill template to fold and allow you to mark drill locations on the top of outer edge of the long horizontal support will be a challenge. The drill template has an outline that is the same size as the roof. Normally, you would be instructed to cut on these lines and tape to the roof with all edges even. BUT you will also see little "+" marks to the outside of the long edges of the outline. Some options to consider. One would be to cut the template just to the outside of the marks and fold along the long edge line to sit along crease of roof/stiffener line. Another would be to painstakingly cut little scalloped tab areas around each outside "+" mark. This would allow you to line up the edges easier and the little tabs would fold flat on the stiffener easier. And another option would be to cut out the template on the outline proved and tape to the roof. Then, when you mark the inner hole for drilling, you will need to carefully mark each hole straight out to the outer edge of the stiffener so the two holes are even and perpendicular to the edge. All of these options are due to the complexity of getting the template to be accurately positioned for drilling the support holes. Each side is a mirror image. As long as the end of the template is even with the end of the roof and the long edge of the template is even with the "crease" of the roof edge, the supports should line up evenly and as designed. *A tip on taping the template to the roof - using a paper hole punch, punch several holes in the template being careful NOT to remove any of the "+" marks. Then use small pieces of tape at each of those holes to tape to roof.*

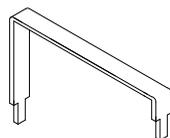
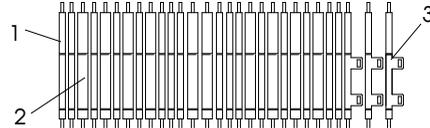
OKAY, got ya totally confused, scratching your head and throwing things? The words "trying part of conversion" were used. Well when you get back to the challenge and have the template taped to the roof, use the supplied T pin to mark a drill pilot point in each of the "+" marks. Once all of the "+" are marked, remove the template and drill a #78 hole in each of the pilot marks, perpendicular to the roof at each point. If you need additional templates, they can be downloaded from our web site.

There are three different roofwalk supports supplied in this kit. One of them, support (#3) is not used in this kit. The ones you will use are two regular supports that are just different widths. In the drawing below you will see numbers for each of the different supports. These numbers correspond to the numbers seen between each of the "+" mark pairs. You need to match these up as you add the supports. Removing one of the supports from the fret/frame, as close to frame as possible and looking closely for small etch mark on one side. At these marks, carefully bend 90 degrees creating two legs. Insert

Supports as packaged
Remove from (shaded) fret



Shape of supports after trimming from fret - note fold lines dividing supports



Shape of support after bending to shape

mounting pins into appropriate holes, glue in place with CA and move on to the next support. Continue adding supports until all drilled holes have supports added to them.

At this time we suggest you add any end detail like brake equipment and lines.

Next you will need to build a new end support framework to hold the end of the walkway. Using the supplied .040 X .020 styrene, cut two pieces to a length of 1.125" and four to a length of .625". The first two pieces (one each end) are to be glued to top - outside edge of the side ladders. The four shorter pieces (two each end) glue to the top of the end framework, the cross bar you just added, against the edge of the first support and about .875" apart. Cement in place. (refer to plastic walkway for additional clarifications).

Touch up paint as needed and allow to dry.

The only item left from our kit for you to add is the roofwalk. It can be added about any time. Just center it on the supports and glue in place. Glue? There are several we can suggest. Canopy glue like the RC model guys use, it is flexible and tends to hold. Contact cement (original Barge) thinned with liquid cement (MEK) applied to both surfaces will work. Should it come loose, hit it again with MEK will reactivate the contact cement and hold them together again. Epoxy will work. Silicone II is flexible and will hold, but may be a paint issue. And then there is J-B Weld, a metal epoxy to bond metal. Very slow drying but great for bonding metal to metal. We DO NOT recommend CA (super glue) type adhesives for adding the roofwalk.

Thank you for using our product on your model. Please see your local hobby supplier for all of our photo etch details or visit us online.

Happy Modeling from Plano Model Products

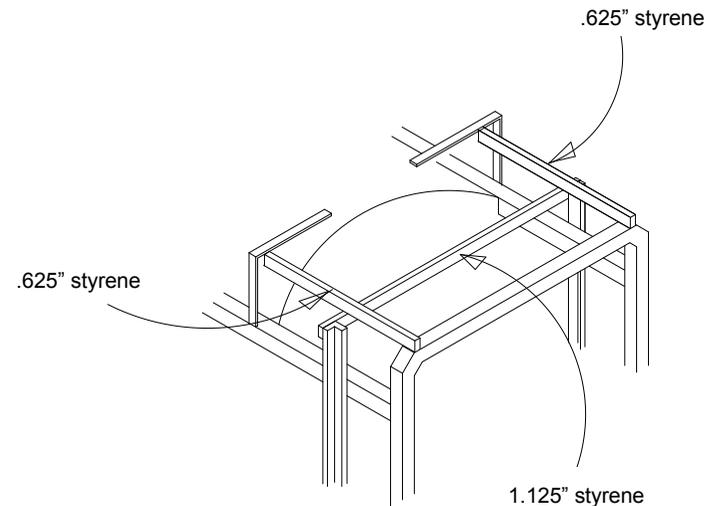


Illustration showing new end frames made from supplied .020" X .040" styrene