

Car Card Worksheet

In order to develop a workable fleet of freight cars for operations, please lend up to 20 cars to remain on the layout for the duration of the operating period (3-4 months). Please provide information on the cars so that we can create Car Cards and Waybills. Please follow the instructions and explanations on the front and back of this sheet. If you have a computer and e-mail, please use the electronic version.

Information for Car Cards

Road	Number	Class	Description	Color	Owner	ID	Lease	Era

Examples

Road	Number	Class	Description	Color	Owner	ID	Lease	Era
WP	1442	FB	65' Bulkhead Flat	Black w/ Lumber Load	SMRHS	SMRHS	CORE	steam
ATSF	142244	XM	40' Steel Boxcar	Brown- "El Capitan"	R Schott	SCHOTT	PRVT	steam

Explanation

Era	Time period for the car. Use STM for Steam, MOD for modern
Road	Use the railroad's reporting marks as printed on the left of the car's side. (ATSF for Santa Fe, UP for Union Pacific)
Number	Use the car number as printed on the left of the car's side.
Class	Use one of the car class codes from the table on the back. This is needed for Waybill matching.

The following are needed for easy identification of the operators. Go with the obvious.

Color	Give predominant color. If it helps to distinguish the car, also give roof and/or ends if different. If the car has large billboard letters, a slogan, or unique herald, give with basic color.
Description	Give the basic car type. Use the table on the back for common descriptions
Lease	Core or private? Use PRVT for these cars.
Owner	Your last name. Give initials with last name if others in SMRHS have same last name.
ID Marks	Your ID code as marked on the car. Preferred ID uses your name or initials.

Common Car Descriptions

40' Steel Boxcar	34' Covered Hopper- Cement	40' Bulkhead Flat
40' Wood Boxcar	40' Steel Reefer	40' Flat w/ Pipe Load
50' Steel Autobox	40' Wood Reefer	50' Gondola w/out Load
53' Steel Mill Gondola	40' Stock Car	40' Gondola w/ Machinery Load
40' 1-Dome Chemical Tank	40' Composit Gondola	36' 3-Dome Tank
125k Single Dome Tank	36' Hopper w/ Ballast Load	40' Wood S/S Boxcar (S/S = single sheathed)

Car Class Codes (AAR Mechanical Designation – modified)

XM	Boxcar, General service	Standard, single door boxcar- usually 40' but possibly 50'
XA	Boxcar, automobile	Double door car of 50' but 40' cars are possible
RS	Ice Reefer- Produce	Ice hatches in roof indicate ice bunkers. Fleets were meat or produce
RM	Ice Reefer- Meat	Ice hatches in roof indicate ice bunkers. Fleets were meat or produce
LO	Covered hopper-short	Short, enclosed for heavy bulk materials: cement, sugar, etc.
LT	Covered hopper-long	40' covered hopper: grain, rice, etc.
HM	Hopper, twin, triple or quad	Open top hoppers for heavy bulk such as rock, ballast, coal
GS	Gondolas, all	Includes drop bottom and mill gondolas of various lengths
TA	Tank - Acid & Chemical	Liquid commodities: acid, chemicals, foods like corn syrup, molasses, etc.
TM	Tank – General (fuel)	Liquid hydrocarbons: fuel oil, lubricants, gasoline, diesel, etc.
FM	Flat car, general use	Common flat cars of any length
FB	Bulkhead	Flats with end bulkheads
SM	Stock car, single deck	Cattle, horses, large livestock

Car Types and Quantities needed for a 350 car Fleet

Car Class	Car Type	Percent	Number
XM	Boxcar, General	28	98
XA	Auto Box	14	49
HM	Hoppers, Open	8	28
LO	Covered Hoppers, Long	8	18
LT	Covered Hoppers, short	8	11
GS	Gondolas, GS+GD+GB	16	56
TA	Tank, Acid & Chemical	2	7
TM	Tank, (Petroleum Products)	6	21
RS	Ice Reefers- Produce	8	28
RM	Ice Reefers- Meat	2	7
FM	Flat car, General	2	7
FB	Flat car, Bulkhead	1	4
SM	Stock Cars	3	11
Misc.	Chip, MOV, etc.	0	0
Total		100	350

Loosely based upon the 1949 Car Builders Cyclopedia. For a western road, the percentage of boxcars and reefers have been increased and open hoppers decreased (lots of produce but not much coal out here).

The era being modeled on the layout is 1955; give or take 10 years. As such, the preference is for cars from this time period.