

BROADWAY LIMITED 4-6-4 HUDSON
COUPLER CONVERSION

PILOT: #78, TENDER: #58

This is a finely detailed locomotive and although other standard size HO couplers can be fitted we recommend using our more detailed "scale" size couplers. Read the instructions and review the illustrations before you begin.

TENDER: Remove coupler pocket cover plate and original coupler, drop in the #58 centering spring and coupler reattach the cover plate. Do not tighten the screw too much or it will bind the coupler. Check the coupler height and, if needed, place thin shim washers (our #208 or #209) between the rear truck and body to raise the coupler height. Our model needed two gray #209 washers (.010" thick).

PILOT: Remove the lead (pilot) truck and remove the dummy coupler. Use a hobby knife and trim off the bottom portion of the original coupler pocket. Trim it to the level of the top inside surface of the box. "Carefully" file or trim the sides of the opening until there is enough room for the assembled #78 coupler to slip in and be level. The opening needs to be .250" wide and .150" high. Note that the opening will undercut the first inside rung (grate) on the cowcatcher so go slow and be careful. Make sure that the mounting platform remains level. Slip the coupler into the opening and check the coupler height. It may be a little low compared to our #205 coupler height gauge. If so, file the platform until the correct coupler height is achieved.

Snip off the back screw hole of the box and set the coupler on the platform and slide it back into the pocket until the front edge and lip is against the slope of the cowcatcher. Make sure that the coupler has enough clearance and that the trip pin clears the end of the cowcatcher. Mark the platform through the hole in the coupler box. Remove the coupler and make sure that the mark is on the centerline. Drill (#55 drill) and tap a hole through the pilot deck for an 0-80 screw. Use an 0-80 x 1/4" screw, the tip will be about flush with the top of the pilot deck without protruding.

If you plan to run on 22" radius curves or tighter then you will need to carefully round off the back end of the coupler box to clear the pilot wheels. We trimmed the box and ran on 18" radius track without any problems.

Check the coupler height, clearance, and function and make any necessary adjustments. Reinstall the pilot truck and check the coupler height again.

Note that there is now, as originally, a gap between the top of the coupler and the top of the opening. You can fill the gap with any styrene compatible body fillers and after it has set up file it to match the general shape of the pilot then touch it up with an appropriate paint.

