







Kadee[®] products are known worldwide for their quality and dependability. With the continuing growth and popularity of "Large Scale" trains Kadee[®] continues to offer a large selection of couplers with our "Delayed Magne-Matic Uncoupling[®]" system in both "G" and "#1" scale. We have been able to adapt our couplers to almost any large scale models. There are some coupler conversions that are as simple as "take theirs off and put ours on" operation but some may take extensive modifications, especially on certain locomotives. Some Brass models are easy to mount our couplers on and there are some that cannot, because brass cannot be modified as easy as plastic.

Most Large Scale manufacturers use their own proprietary knuckle couplers or hook and loop couplers. As many modelers have found out, some may or may not be compatible with each other both operationally and coupler mounting heights. Kadee[®] couplers, when installed correctly and using our Delayed Magne-Matic[®] Uncoupling system, are a complete "hands off" coupler system. As mentioned above, Kadee[®] couplers can be fitted to almost any model which eliminates any compatibility issues.

Our large scale couplers represents the common Type E coupler and come in two types and two scale sizes "G" scale 1:22.5 and #1 scale 1:32 scale ratio. Our original coupler style has an exposed knuckle spring with minimal details. Our newer style AAR Type E (New Generation) has a much more prototypically detailed coupler head and the knuckle spring is hidden inside the head and cannot be seen. Both styles are completely compatible with each other and use the same draft gear boxes, so the conversion information is the same for both. See the included cross reference chart and conversion list.

Kadee[®] coupler heights are based on the NMRA Standards S-1. For G scale the coupler height is 1 1/8" (1.125") and #1 scale is 1 1/16" (1.0625" or 27 mm), measured from the top of the rails to the "center" of the coupler head. These heights are very close to the correct prototypical coupler height that is in line with the center beam of a freight car. On some models we have to use an off-set coupler to raise the coupler to the correct height especially on truck mounted coupler arms. Many large scale manufacturers use truck mounted couplers on their rolling stock for a number of reasons mostly to be able to negotiate tight curves and to mount their proprietary couplers low enough to use their in track uncoupling devices. This low mounting height means that to put a Kadee[®] coupler on the original truck mounting we have to use a large off-set coupler that "goose necks" up to the correct height. We offer large and medium off-set couplers, as well as center-set couplers to help achieve the correct coupler height. The medium off-set is .200" (thickness of the shank) higher than a center-set coupler. A large off-set coupler is .200" higher than a medium off-set or .400" higher than a center set coupler. We do not make off-set large scale couplers that lowers the coupler height as we do in HO and O scale. This is because most often in large scale modeling we have to raise the coupler rather than lower the height and lowering the height is a matter of putting a shim under a center set body mounted coupler. We do make large scale coupler height gauges to help in achieving the correct coupler heights. All your couplers should be mounted at the same height for top performance and dependable operation. Also important is that couplers do not compensate for bad track even with the larger G scale coupler's pulling face. It just better to fix the track.

Since "Large Scale" covers several different actual "scale proportions" ranging through but not limited to 1:32, 1:29, 1:24, 1:22.5, and 1:20.3 scale ratios. The choice of what coupler size to use is left up to the modeler. Many like the smaller #1 scale (1:32 scale) couplers because of their more to scale appearance on 1:32 and 1:29 scale models. You usually have to use 1:32 scale couplers on #1 scale models regardless. But on other scale models you have a choice of either #1 or G scale couplers and we provide the option in our coupler conversion listings.

There are issues with understanding track gauge as all these different scales of models run on the same common 45 mm gauge track, which depicts "standard gauge" for #1 scale models, In the other scales it would be "narrow gauge" track especially with 1:20.3 scale models. The issue then is, are you modeling a narrow gauge operation or ignoring the track gauge and modeling a standard gauge operation?

"Welcome to large scale modeling."





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