

RIVAROSSI

2-8-4 BERKSHIRE

Pilot: #34 coupler, Tender: #26 coupler

Pilot:

1. Remove the pilot wheels and be careful not to loose screw and spring. Remove the dummy coupler by carefully prying the pin.
2. Enlarge the coupler opening (pocket) by carefully filing the sides and bottom of the pocket opening to fit the 30 series draft gear box. Do not file the upper portion or the lip of the opening.
3. Assemble the #34 coupler according to its instructions with the spring side of the draft gear box on the bottom and the thin lid on the top of the coupler.
4. Slip the assembled coupler into the pocket, make sure that it sets flat and level on the platform surface and there is no binding. Slide it back so that the hole is behind the "cow catcher" of the pilot and still on the platform. Make sure the trip pin has enough clearance and the coupler has room to flex properly.
5. Mark the platform through the coupler hole along the centerline. Remove the coupler and drill (#50 drill) and tap a hole through the platform for a 2-56 screw. Place the coupler into the pocket and secure with a 2-56 screw then trim it off flush with the pilot platform. Replace the wheels.

Tender:

Note: Because most Rivarossi truck mounted coupler pockets are rather challenging and inconsistent we recommend body mounting the coupler.

1. First remove the rear truck and coupler. Depending on the production date of the model the underframe layout may have differences. you will need to make a shim from styrene shim stock about the size of a #26 draft gear box (5/16 x 7/16). The thickness of the shim depends on the distance from the top of the center beams to the bottom surface of the rear edge (sill) of the tender.
2. Place the shim along the centerline on the beams and slide it forward against the inside of the sill make sure that it forms a level platform with the sill then cement it in place. Some sills may be double walled with a gap between, this is not a problem as long as the hole in the draft gear box is still on the shim.
3. You can measure back along the centerline 1/4" or place the draft gear on the platform with the lip over the edge of the sill and mark the platform through the hole. Use a #50 drill and drill a hole through the shim and floor then tap it for a 2-56 screw. Assemble the #5 coupler and secure it to the platform with a 2-56 screw. Replace the rear truck, if the truck has a body mounted coupler then you either cut the pocket off of the truck, or if there is enough clearance, turn the truck around facing the pocket to the inside.
4. Check for correct coupler height, function, and clearance and make any adjustments necessary.

