

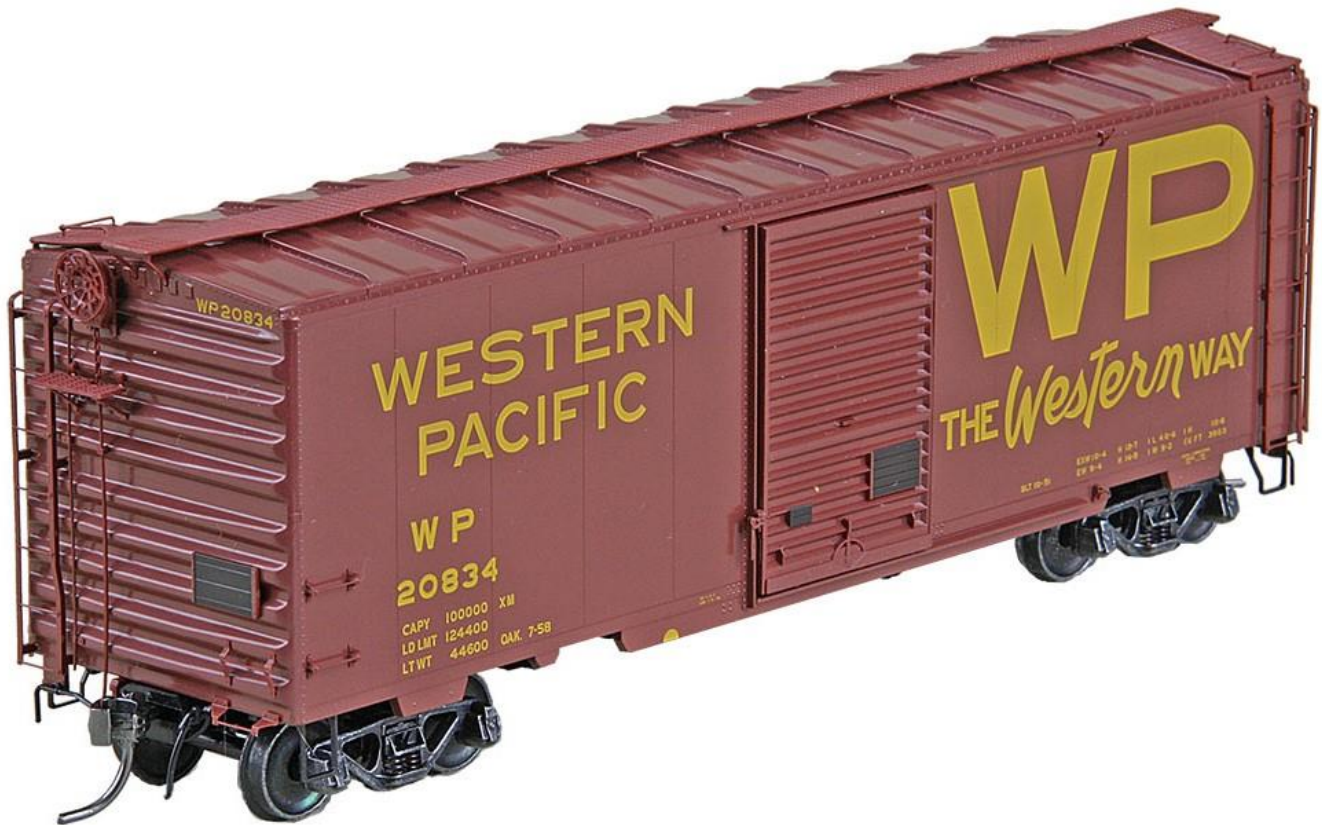
Modeling the Boxcar

One of the most common freight cars to model is the boxcar. These models are offered by several model manufacturers.

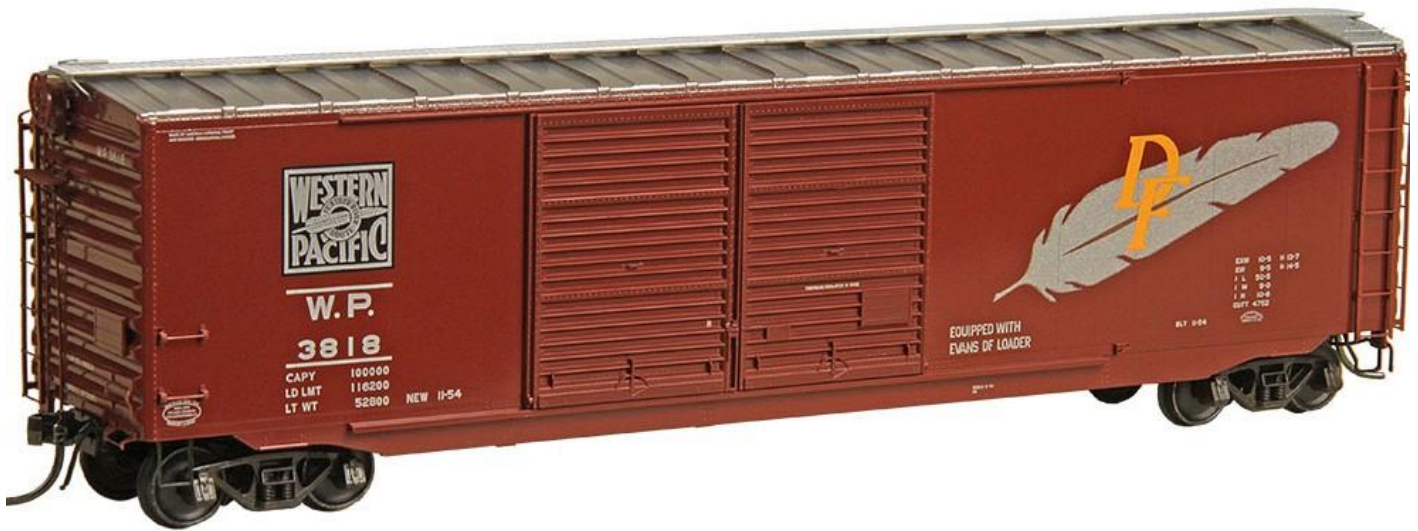
Some of the models have been around for several years, while others are fairly new, and have become more detailed with the new releases.

One thing that has set the older kits apart from the newer high level detail cars, is the price. In general, the older Athearn Bluebox kits that you could find for about \$5.00 to \$8.00 a kit, now Athearn Genesis RTR (Ready to Run) models are no longer a kit and are highly detailed, can run from \$34.99 to \$99.99.

Below are some Kadee boxcars that have been produced, however these are now all out of production and I use them for reference.

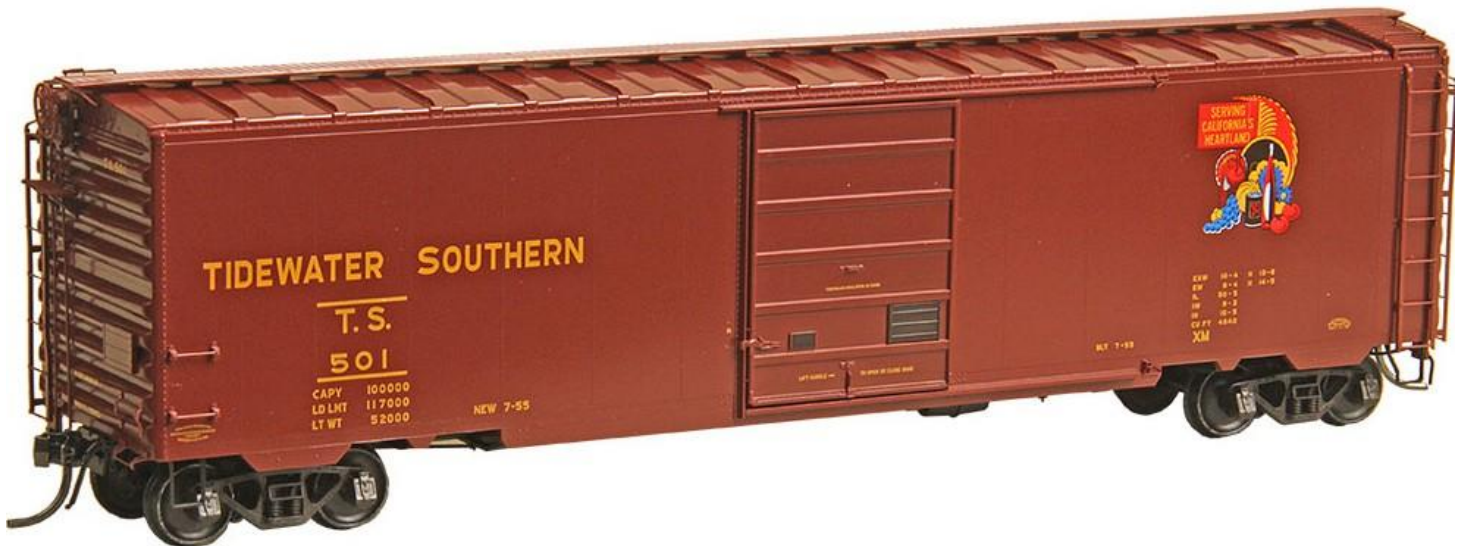


Kadee 40' PS-1 Boxcar WP 20834 7Ft. Youngstown doors Built 1951, Shopped in 1958 in Boxcar Red



Kadee 6511 WP # 3818 50ft PS-1 Boxcar, 15ft Youngstown Doors, Build 1954, Boxcar Red, Galvanized Roof. (Discontinued) originally \$ 37.95

Boxcars from the late 1930's and early 1940's to the 1980's are manufactured by several model companies. Here I list just a few, you may wish to perform an internet search and you will find several results for these cars.



Kadee 6406, Tidewater Southern # 501 50 foot 8 ft 6 Panel Superior Doors, Built 1955, Boxcar Red Two of the Kadee TS cars, # 501 and # 509 were produced for the 2019 Joint PCR/FRRS convention in Sacramento (both now out of production).



Kadee # 6505 WP #3838, 50 foot PS-1 Boxcar, 15 foot Youngstown Doors, Built 1955, Boxcar Red

Pullman-Standard PS-1

Starting about 1947, with somewhere in the number of 200,000 of these cars were built. More than 70 railroads purchased these cars in a variety of styles. Some of the distinguishing features were, welded sides, proprietary roofs, ends, and doors.

Several of the options for the PS-1 boxcar were, 6, 7, or 8 foot doors openings on a 40 foot cars, 8, 9, or 15 foot door openings on a 50 foot cars. On the 50 foot cars they would have cushion underframes, single (SD), double (DD), or plug (PD) doors.

40 foot PS-1, 1950s to 1980s, Atlas, Con-Cor in N Scale, Accurail, InterMountain, Kadee and MTH in HO Scale

50 foot PS-1, Athearn (N scale only, SD and PD), InterMountain (HO only SD, SD-cushion underframe, DD), Kadee (HO Scale Only)

AAR

The Association of American Railroads offered standard designs for boxcars starting in 1932, when it was known as the American Railway Association. In 1937, a revision became known as the AAR boxcar. It had either a 10'-0" or 10'-6" interior height.

The AAR adopted a 50 foot car in 1942, many which followed the 40 foot car design just 10 feet longer. The 1942 car had a 10'-6" inside height with options for 6, 7, and 8 foot door openings. These AAR design cars were built by, American Car & Foundry, Pullman-Standard, Bethlehem Car Co, General American, Magor, Mt Vernon Car Mfg. Co., Pressed Steel Car Co. and some others.

40 foot AAR, 1937s to 1980s, Accurail (PD, SD, DD), Atlas (postwar 1937 SD), InterMountain (HO, N SD) Walthers (HO)

50 foot AAR, 1950s to 1980s, Accurail (HO, SPD, DPD), InterMountain and Walthers.

Some other more recent prototypes have been manufactured by several model companies, such as:
50 foot FMC 5283, 1970 to the present Athearn, Fox Valley.

50 foot FMC 5347, 1970 to the present Athearn, Atlas, Fox Valley

50 foot Pullman-Standard 5277 single door 1970 to 1990, Athearn, InterMountain

50 foot Pullman-Standard 5344 single door 1970 to the present, Athearn, ExactRail, Fox Valley

One of the more interesting 40 foot boxcar that the Western Pacific had in their freight car fleet, is a 40 foot Milwaukee Road ribbed side car. WP purchased two of these cars in 1962 when they needed to fill a specific shipper (appliance service pool) and instead of purchasing them new, WP found two cars from the Milwaukee Road. The two cars were built for the Milwaukee at their West Milwaukee Wisconsin shops in 1948-49.



MDC Roundhouse # 1025 boxcar.

An Article by Peter Arnold on building one of these cars appeared in the Western Pacific Headlight Issue # 8.