

The Old-Fashioned Toy Cars



A quick alteration to the basic design lets you change the roadster into a sedan –that uses the same fenders.

Making multiples of an item...whether you're planning to give them as gifts or sell them at craft fairs...can be a lot of fun. And, given the right "assembly-line-like" set-up, simple projects like these Old-Fashioned Toy Cars can be built very quickly with high-quality, high-perceived-value results.

All you need for these cars are some small pieces of 3/4" thick scrap stock and some ready-made wooden wheels with axle pegs. That's it. Choosing contrasting woods (like our Red Oak & Walnut example) can give your cars a distinctive look. For some real amazing combinations try Red Padauk and Birdseye Maple...or Zebrawood and Wenge. Just use your imagination.

So, let's get started...

1: Either transfer the patterns from the drawings to a sheet of 1/4" gridded paper...or photocopy the drawings, enlarging them to their 7-1/2" length. Attach the full-size drawing to a piece of stiff artist's board or cardboard and cut out the shape for use as a template.

NOTE: If you're planning to make both roadsters and sedans, you'll need two photocopies for making your different templates.

2: Trace your patterns onto your stock, laying them out so the grain of the wood runs from end-to-end on each piece.

3: Use your Scroll Saw or Bandsaw to cut out the bodies and fenders. When cutting out the parts, cut slowly and always use a sharp blade of the highest quality to achieve the smoothest cuts and minimize your sanding time.

4: Smooth the Bodies (A) and Fenders (B) with a Drum Sander set-up and some small diameter Drum Sanders.

5: Use your Drill Press to bore the 1/4" diameter holes for the Axle Pegs...and the 3/4" diameter holes for the Windows (on the Sedan version).

6: Glue and clamp the Fenders (B) to the Bodies (A) and allow to dry thoroughly.

7: Hand sand the cars carefully, rounding off all sharp edges and corners.

8: Apply the finish of your choice. We recommend a non-toxic finish such as Salad Bowl Finish or "Preserve" Oil Finish for toys that children are likely to be playing with.

9: Attach the Wheels with glue. Use washers as spacers between the backs of the Wheels and the car Body. Test to be sure the Wheels are free-spinning and adjust the Axles accordingly. Set aside for the glue to dry.

Suggested retail price: \$10 to \$20 each, depending on woods and finish.

List of Materials

(dimensions in inches)

- | | | |
|----------|--------------------|---------------------|
| A | Body (1) | 3/4 x 2-3/4 x 7-1/2 |
| B | Fenders (2) | 3/4 x 1-3/4 x 7-1/2 |
| C | Wheels (4 or 5) | 1-1/2 diameter |
| D | Axle Pegs (4 or 5) | 1/4 diameter. |

