

HO Structure Kit

933-3777

Thanks for purchasing this Cornerstone kit. All parts are styrene plastic, so use compatible glue and paint to finish your model. Please read the directions and study the drawings before starting construction — note that optional front doors are provided so you can use several of these kits in the same scene.

Uniquely American, the Ranch House (also known by other regional names) first appeared in the 1920s. Inspired by 19th century western originals, the one-story design featured an efficient floor plan and overhanging eaves to provide shade. Homey, practical and unassuming, the design first drew widespread attention in the 1930s when large numbers were built for government housing projects in California and other southwestern states. With the start of WWII, the west coast experienced a huge population surge as workers relocated to fill jobs in aircraft and shipbuilding industries and a severe housing shortage developed. Once again, the ranch house rose to the occasion, transforming vacant fields into subdivisions seemingly overnight. Builders streamlined every part of the process to save time and materials, but were able to make simple changes to exteriors and floor plans for a little variety. These lessons paid off in the postwar years as a housing shortage developed all across the US. Throughout the 1950s and into the late 60s, thousands of Ranch-style homes were built in every state. Rising costs, the look-alike nature of the design and changing customer preferences combined to diminish its popularity, but the design has been revived in some custom homes, while originals are catching the attention of preservationists.

