

# Backdrop Building FLATS

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# FLATS

Start with a painted backdrop (earlier clinic)



Commercial backdrop addition

    Town, City, country, desert, etc...

[SHOW MURAL](#)

Commerical Cut Outs

    The card-stock printed ones – Walthers & others

[SHOW PAPER CUTOUTs](#)

- Cut them out, crop / cut down etc...

- TRACE the cutout on Foam core board, cut it out

- Mount on Foam core board

  - White / Black / color side

[SHOW CUTOUTS](#)

  - Glue to wall (thin elmers film or spray adhesive )

  - Poster putty

  - Add 'stand' to back and place on layout

LAYER the flats to create more depth

    Like Plainfield city, as you move building view changes



## FIND Pictures

- Use google, search sites, some available that provide scaled

- PASTE the pic into something like PowerPoint or Photoshop etc.

Print a gray scale color (cheaper), measure a door (~90") with your scale ruler, stretch, shrink pic till you get the scale right on the gray print....

- COLOR Print - your own printer or take to a print shop (staples)
- Cut out & mount to foam board

## TAKE Your OWN Picture

- Same process, Print gray copy to get scale right (.ppt photo-shop...)
- Color print, cut out & mount

Shingles ... take a picture!

[SHOW BARN](#)

Look for web sites → Tim Wilmot

Question....

Do you have a favorite station like the  
Eric & Lackawanna Scranton PA ?

Use you picture, find one off the web ....

Resize & print & mount .....

Now you have it on your layout !



SO ..... FLATS ARE REALLY FLAT !

To make them pop just a little, add details

Add awnings & signs

Add lights, different door, air handlers

Add dust collectors...



Another way to make a flat is a computer program

Evans Design ([modeltrainsoftware.com](http://modeltrainsoftware.com))

Sidings, doors, windows

trim, roof, details ...

Select your SCALE (a plus here, no re-size step)

Design it, Print it, build it



## SHOW RANCH & SHED

A TIP: If it's SHINNY .... Then DULCOAT IT !

Give it a spray !



What else is available to buy ?

There are '3D' kits you can buy that really flats.

The have the front and building details

They about 1 ½ inches deep.....

Walthers & others

[SHOW WALTHERS KITS](#)

So then there's another. More like KITBASH

Build or buy and old building at our March Show .....

<< PUT IT ON A BAND SAW >>

Yeiks !!

This is hard for most of us, Lew White is good at it

I had Perry Martel do it to a church in Arlington

[SHOW LEW FLAT](#)

## OTHER things you can do in the SMALL SPACE

Add other interesting things

[SHOW BILLBOARD](#)

Use your background in thin layers

Painted backdrop (an earlire clinic)

Add some cutout details, buildings & trees

Add 3D tree next ...

[SHOW SCRAPBOOK ARTs LAYOUT PICS](#)

Add wood fence in front

Put a small hill in front, create depth to the next ridge/buildings

See Plainfield example

GO SEE .....

Plainfield:                   Flats, make a city, hillside

Champl;ain Mill           Tim's pictures & Chris's flats

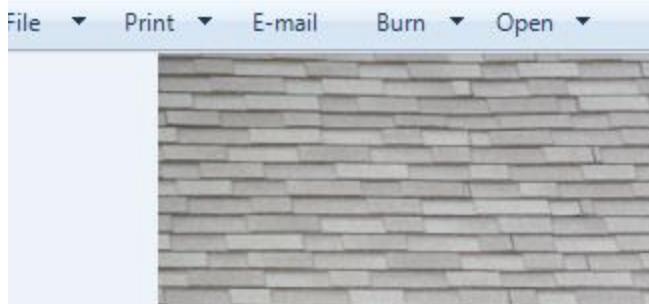
Mill                           Lews band saw flats

Arlington                   Church sawn in half, flats & Station

# THANK YOU

## ROOF picture

PC130503.JPG - Windows Photo Viewer



## Large building , multiple page print



Adding details ....



Erie Lackawanna PA  
Bennington VT

Blending & Layering



Paint, Paper, Trees



Paint,  
Paper,  
Trees & N  
scale on HO