

General Project 15—Model Hotrod Shop and Car Models (1/25 Scale)/DL

DL is a professional welder who goes by the name of "rodburner" on the Internet. He is also a builder of very fine scale models. The first project shown below could almost be considered a "self portrait" in miniature. DL has created a diorama of a home hotrod shop, complete with welder working on a car. The detail is incredible, down to the puddle of transmission fluid leaking out of the tranny and the tools on pegboard on the wall. Even the electrical conduits and light switches are there. You can spend a lot of time enjoying the detail in these shots. In addition, some of his other fine modeling projects are shown in more detail.



DL's hotrod shop in 1/25 scale. Note all the detail in the background on the walls and floor in addition to the nice car model. When prints of this picture are shown, most people don't recognize it as a model, but think it is a real shop.



1/25 scale self portrait? Here a welder (DL?) is working on the next hotrod frame.



Finished hotrod awaits the next Saturday night at the local dirt track. Note the puddle of transmission fluid leaking from the trannie in the foreground.



A picture sent in more recently shows a few items have been added to the shop, like the red motorcycle parked in the middle and the helmet on top of the hotrod.



DL's latest project is a "rat rod" in primer gray. This is an all-business hot rod of the old school with chopped top, stock rims and open headers. Speaking of headers, notice the details like the bluing of the chrome from the heat where the exit the heads. These are the kind of touches that give a model the look of reality in miniature.



1932 Ford roadster features custom touches like special taillights.



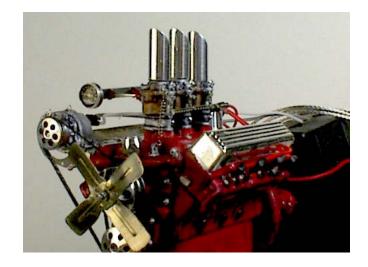
Note the full compliment of custom instruments on the dashboard and even the "brodie knob" on the steering wheel..



A top view shows the exhaust pipes and nice paint finish.

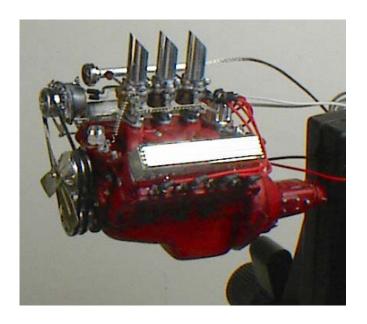


Under the hood, the 32 Ford sports a modern V8 engine with plenty of detail from plug wires to custom turned pulleys and air cleaner covers.



DL's latest hotrod engine features details like braided fuel lines and tiny throttle return spring.

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Another view of the triple carbureted engine.



Nos bottles custom made for a customer's scale hotrod are not even as tall as a quarter.



A detail of the valve on the Nos bottle shows excellent workmanship no matter how close you look.



Here's a hotrod in the authentic tradition. Before show cars got carried away with chrome and neon, hotrods were made from chopped up bodies of discarded cars powered by big engines. Anything that didn't make a car go faster was extra...like paint. Primer black was just fine, as all the tinkering time was spent getting more power out of the engine.



DL captures the spirit of these early hotrods with this choptop, shortened Ford pickup. The only concession to decoration is the racoon tail on the antenna, a popular item before bongos in the back window or fuzzy dice hanging from the mirror. That one small touch gives this car a unique personality.



Displaying another area of DL's talent, this shay looks ready to haul the lumber at the White River Lumber Company. The model is complete with engineer and fireman plus a realistic weathered finish that makes it looks like it's seen plenty of service.