

Scratchbuilt Off World Explorer Vehicle
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OFF WORLD EXPLORER VEHICLE



Most of the model vehicles available for science fiction war games and role playing games are obviously meant to be military vehicles. This project are intended to produce a model with a more civilian appearance for use in 25 and 28mm scale games. As with the earlier MBT and IFV projects, this document provides templates and instructions for making the basic core of the vehicle that can then be detailed according to your own requirements.

Materials:

1mm thick plasticard (one sheet about 220mm x 330mm size will produce two cores)
20mm diameter (approx) tube for wheels
Wire (optional)

Tools:

Knife
Saw
Plastic glue
Super glue (optional)
Sandpaper/files

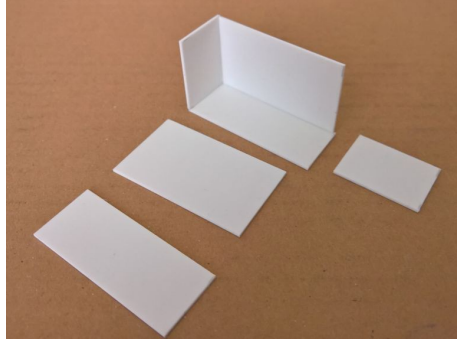
<http://thehazugfiles.uk/Index.html>

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Core Construction.

Centre Section.

The centre section of the explorer is a plain box. One of the side pieces is glued along the edge of the floor. The front and rear pieces are then glued along the longer edges before the final side piece is glued across the open end.



The section is finished with the addition of the roof.

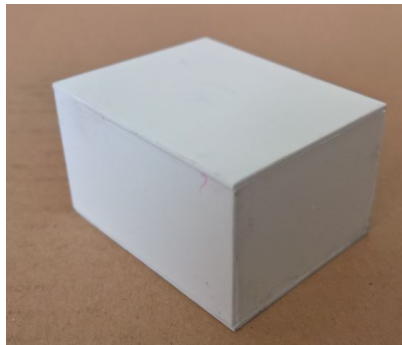
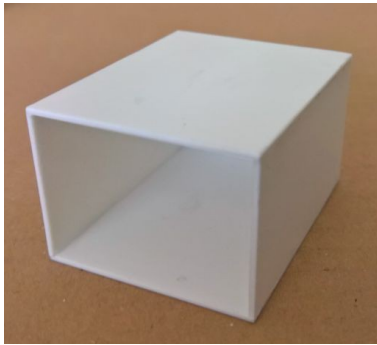


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Rear Section.

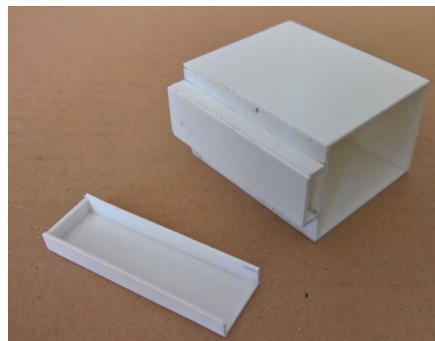
There are two versions of the rear section, a 30mm long one for the four wheeled variant and 50mm long for the six wheeled version. Both types are open ended boxes.

First glue one side plate along a short edge of the floor, then the rear along one of the longer edges before the other side plate is glued in place opposite the first. The roof is then glued on top of the sides and rear.

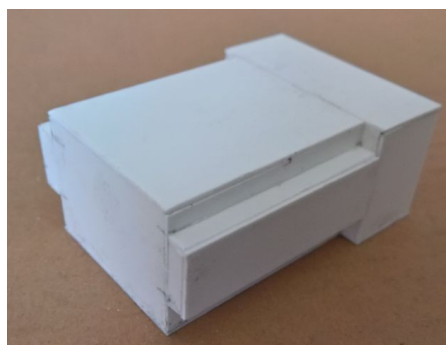


Two outside sections are then added to the sides of the main body of the rear section. Each of these is constructed by gluing the top and bottom pieces along the long edge of a side and an end piece between the sides at one end.

The two outer sections are then glued to the main rear section 5mm below the top of the roof, leaving 10mm clear underneath at each side.



The rear section is then glued to the centre section.



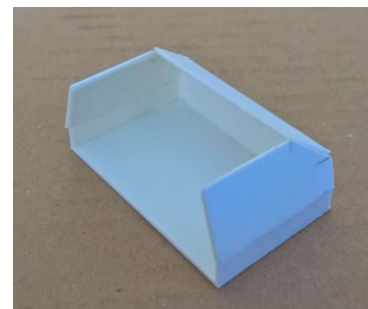
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Cab.

First the cab front and sides are glued to the cab floor.



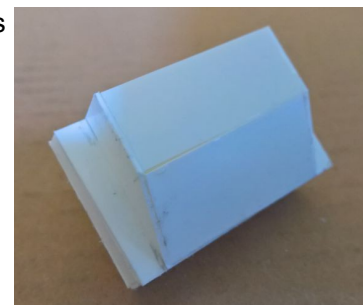
Then the side and front slopes are glued on top of these. The slopes will need sanding where the templates are shaded to fit.



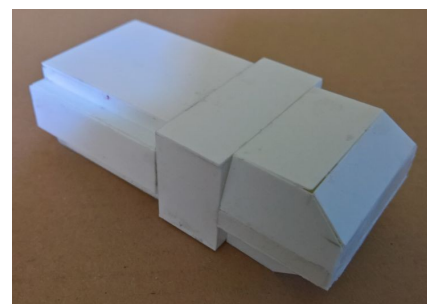
The cab roof is sanded where shaded and glued in place to fill the gap between the slopes.



The cab chassis base and front are glued between two chassis sides and this is glued beneath the cab so that there is a 5mm gap on either side.



The cab is then glued to the front of the centre section.



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Wheels.

The wheels are each made from pieces of the plastic tubing. A length of 10mm is required for each wheel.



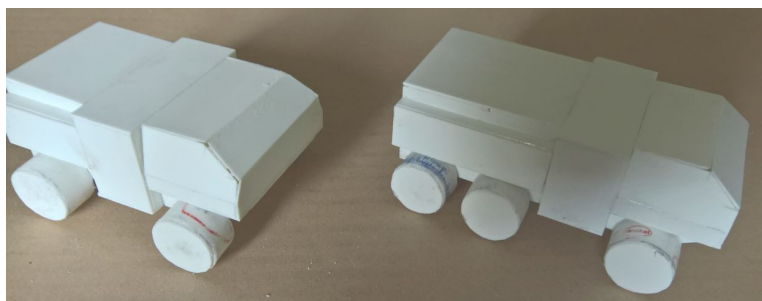
These are then covered at both ends by 1mm thick plasticard.



Note:

1. There are no templates for the wheel covering provided here because of the possible variation in the exact diameter of the tubing. The easiest way to cut the coverings to size is to glue plasticard to the tubing that is slightly larger than it and then cut and sand it to the correct size.
2. Do not glue the wheels to the rest of the model until they have been fully detailed and painted. It is easier to access them while they are separate.

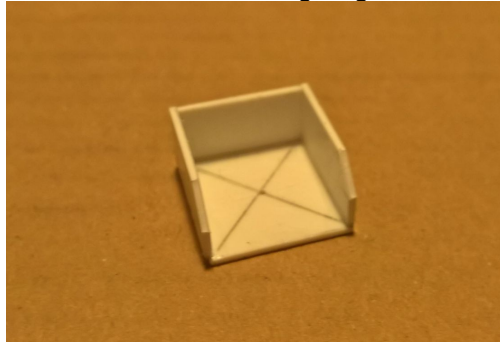
The cores are now complete. Note that in this photograph the wheel are not yet glued on.



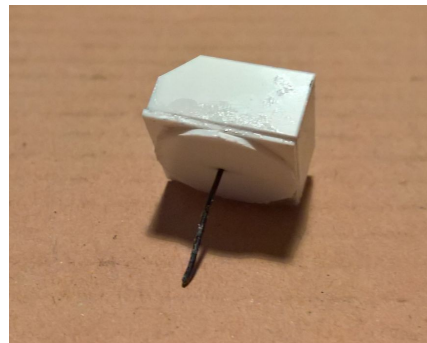
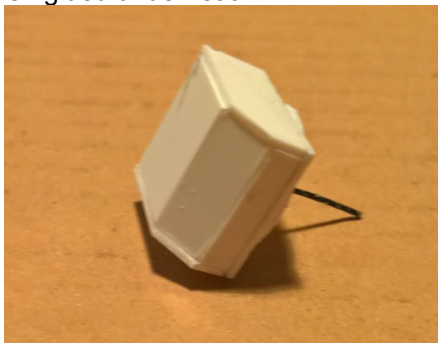
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Turret (optional).

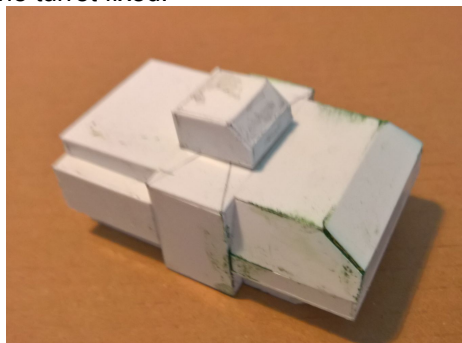
If fitting the turret begin with the turret floor. A small hole should be drilled in the centre of this so that wire can be pushed through and glued in place to allow the turret to be turned. A matching hole will also be needed at the centre of the turret ring and floor before it can be fitted in place. One of the sides glued along an edge. Because the turret floor is square any edge can be used. Then glue the turret rear to the floor and taller end of the side before gluing on the other side piece.



If wire is being use to allow the turret to turn it should be glued in place now. The turret front is glued between the sides at the open end along the edge of the floor. The roof then fits in between the rear and sides. Finally the front slope fills the hole above between the roof and front plate. Note that the slope will need filing down as shown by the shading in the templates. The turret ring is then glued underneath



To mount the turret to the vehicle drill a hole where it is to turn about for the wire or alternatively just glue it in place if no wire is to be used and the turret fixed.



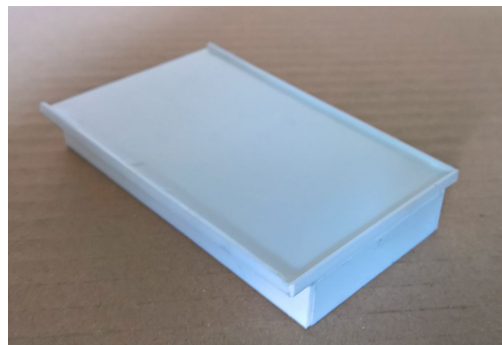
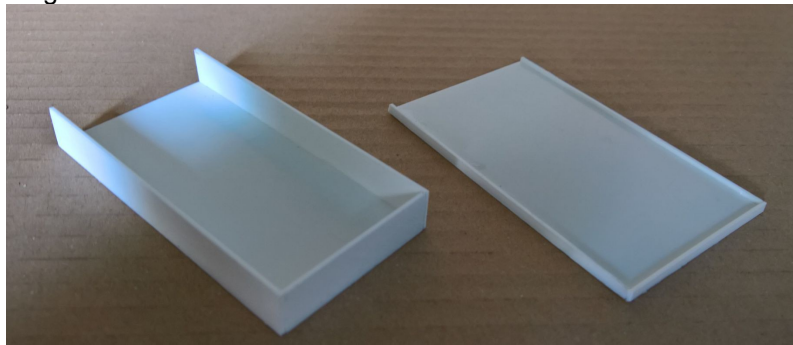
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Flat Bed (optional).

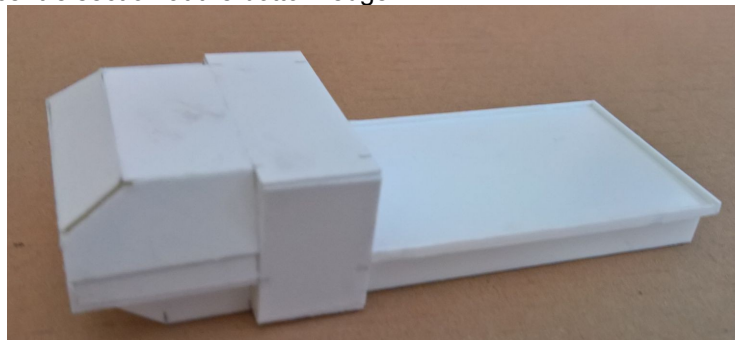
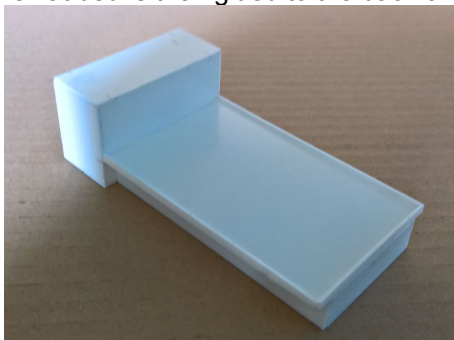
The flat bed is an alternative to the rear section above.

The flat bed itself is made by gluing the flatbed rim, consisting of two sides and a rear rim around the edges of the base to create a 1mm tall lip all around it.

The chassis rear and two chassis sides are glued under the chassis base to form the complete chassis, leaving a 5mm gap along each side.



The flat bed is then glued to the back of the centre section at the bottom edge.



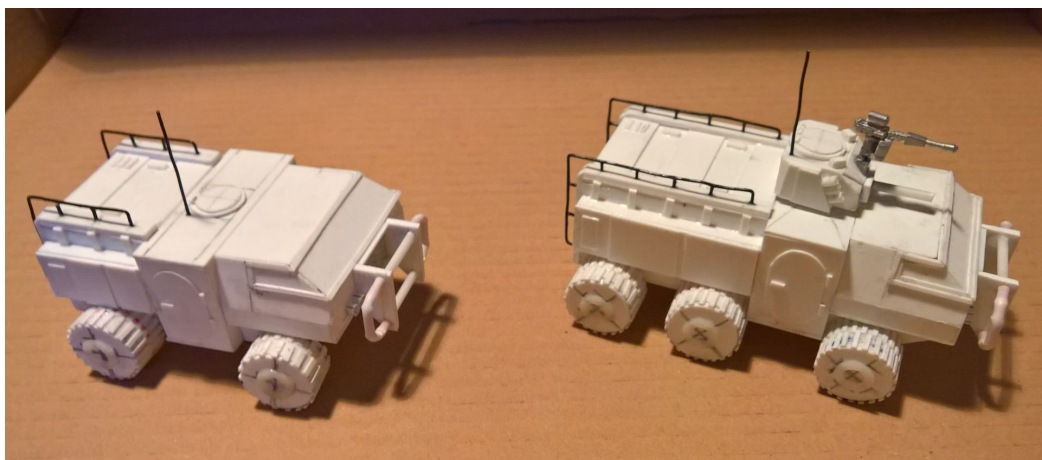
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Detailing

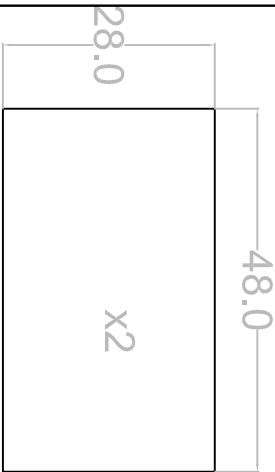
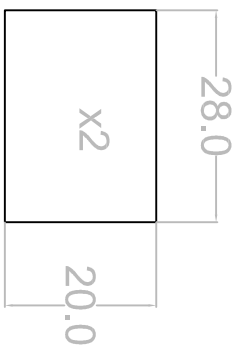
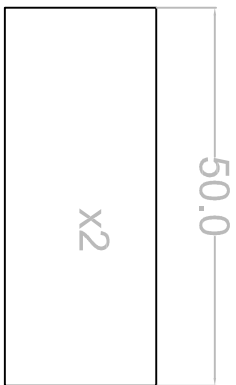
With the core complete the model can now be detailed. Suggestions include:

1. Windscreen frame made from thin strips of plasticard.
2. Wire antenna and handholds.
3. Thin strips of plasticard used to construct tyre tread pattern.
4. Washers for hub caps.
5. Bull bars made from plastic tubing.
6. Trailer made by gluing two rear sections either side of a centre section.

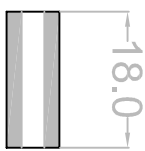
Examples of detailed models. Note that the wheels are still not yet glued on.



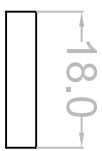
The model can now be painted and the wheels then glued on. It is suggested that 2mm of clearance be left between the top of the wheels and the overhanging sides of the vehicle. Examples of finished and painted models can be found on the cover of these instructions.



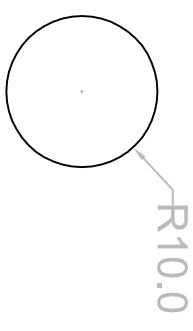
Centre section



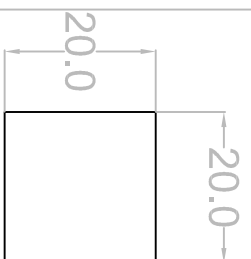
Front slope



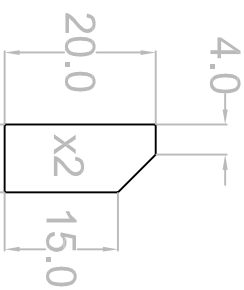
Front



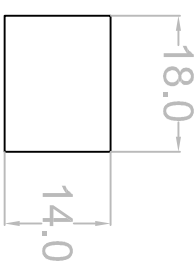
Ring



Floor



Side



Roof

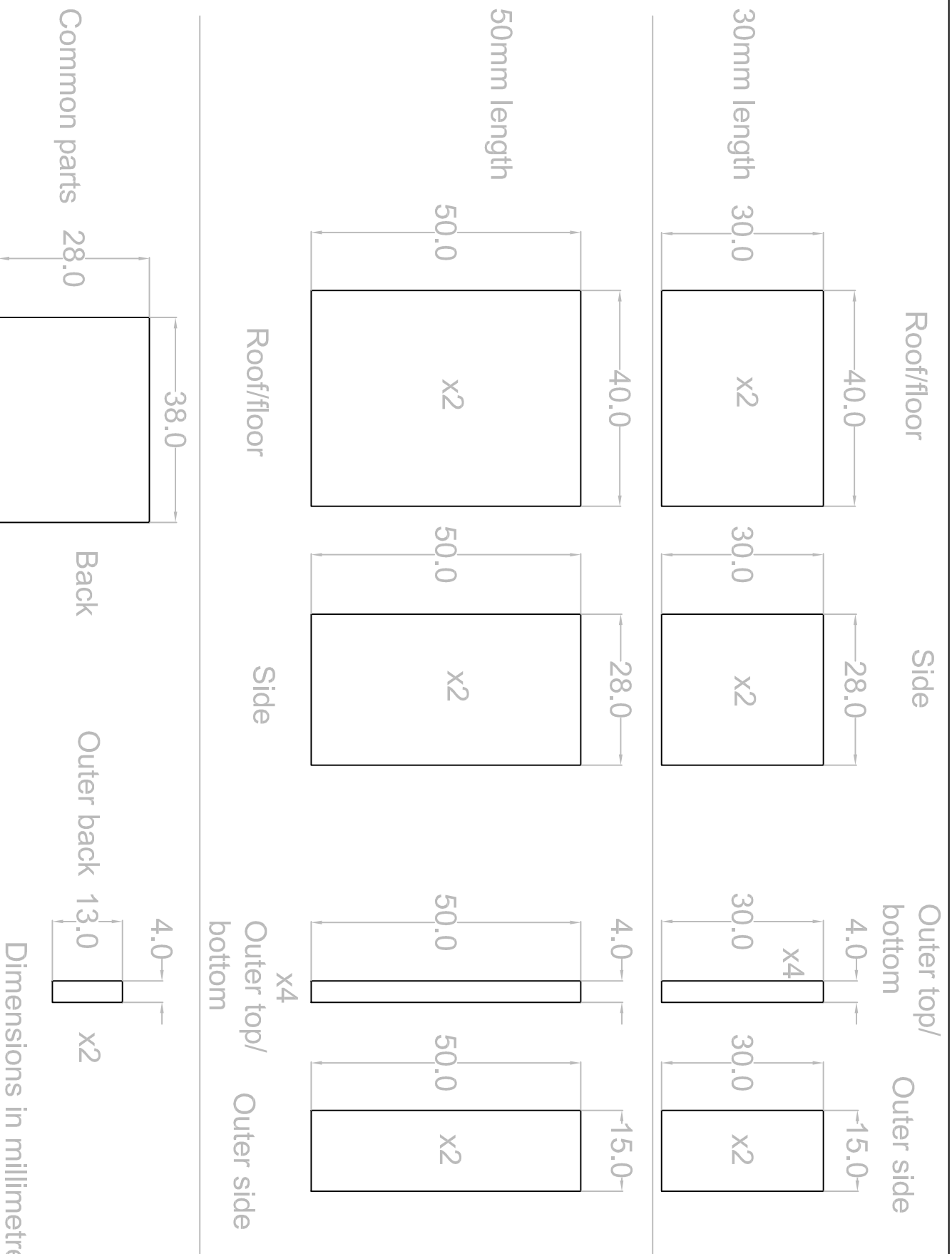


Rear

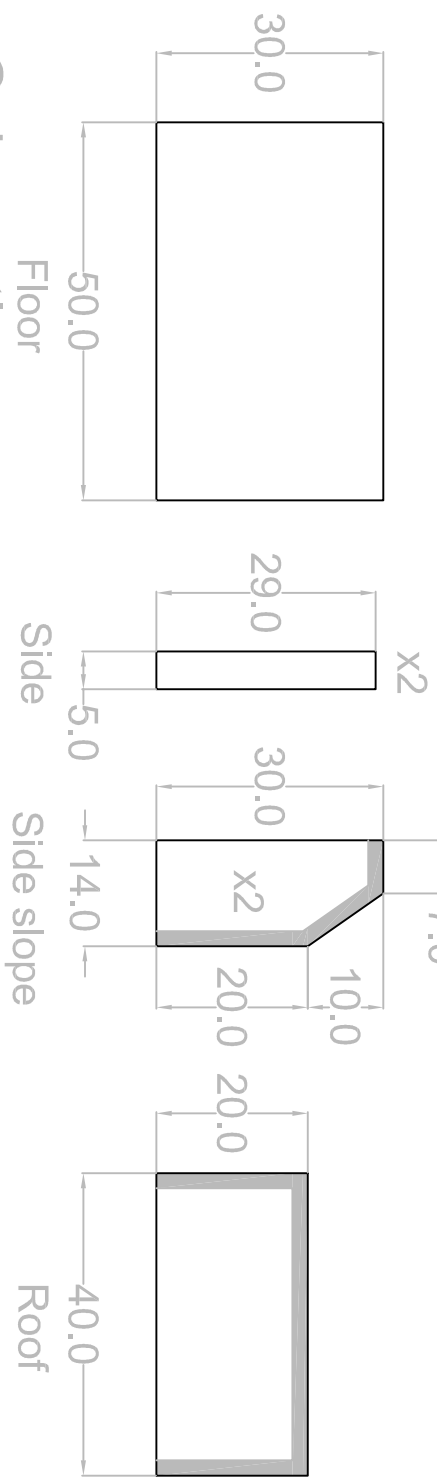
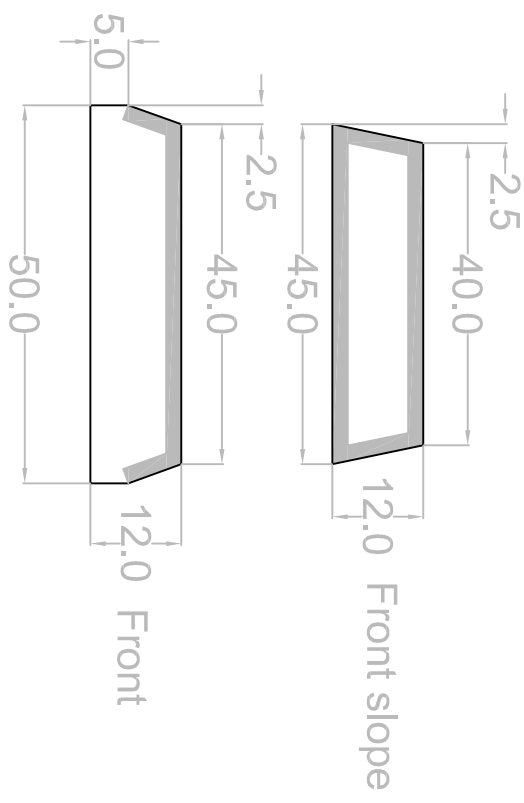
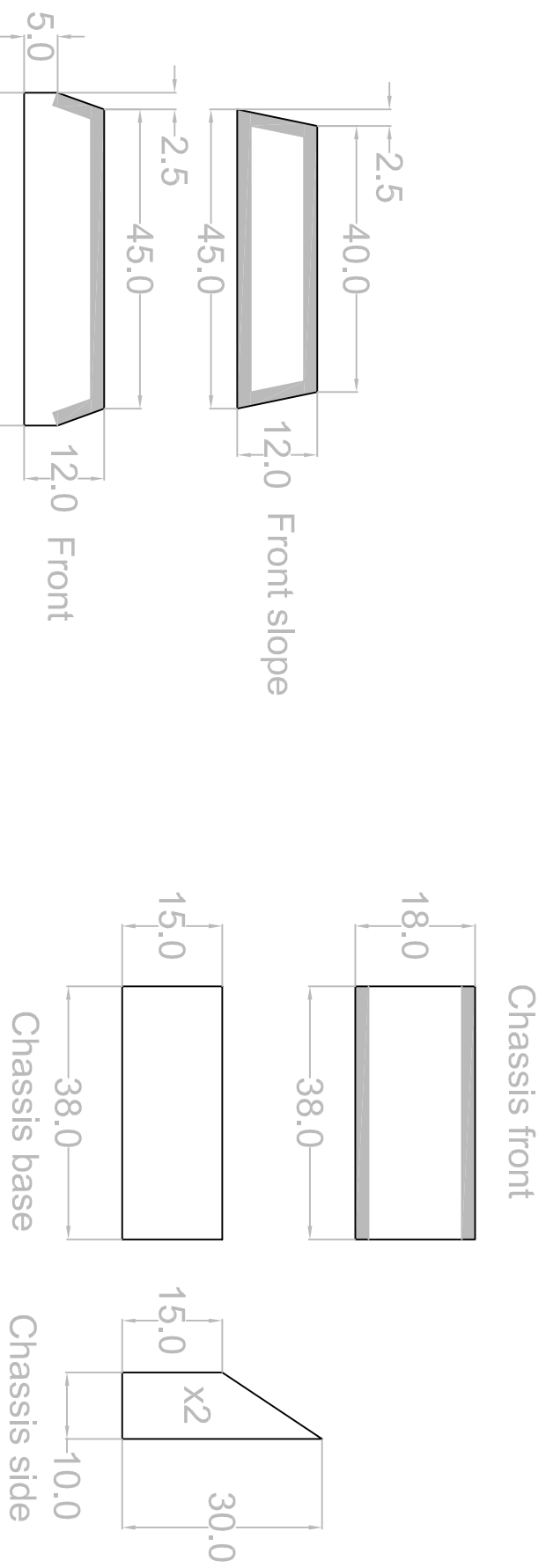
Turret

Dimensions in millimetres

Rear section

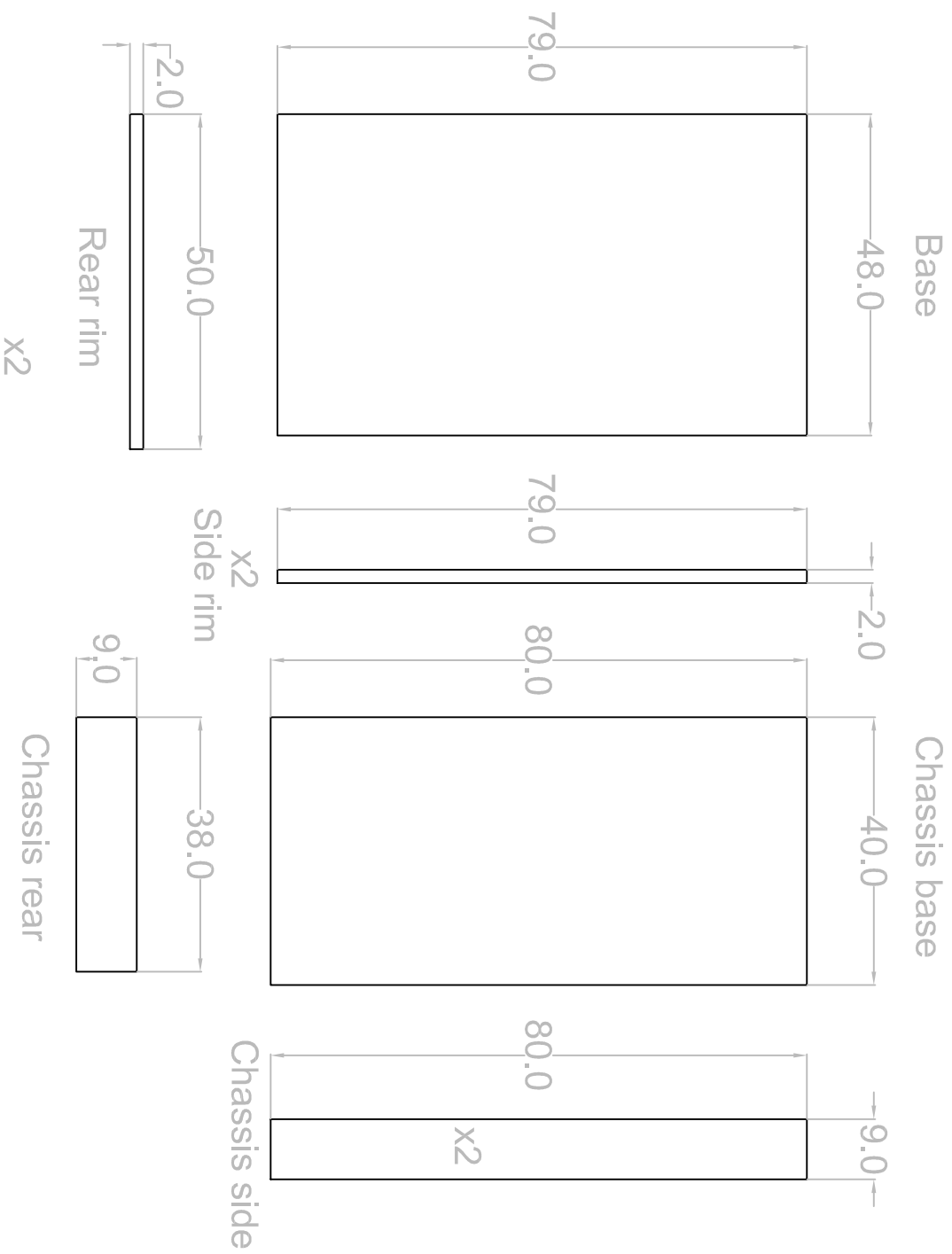


Dimensions in millimetres



Cab section

Dimensions in millimetres



Flatbed

Dimensions in millimetres