
TIPS

Holiday Building Materials

Written By: Gary Zillyette

It's after the holidays, and your cleaning up after all the fun. You have wrapping paper, boxes and the entire fill they use now days to package the items in the boxes. What is a person suppose to do with all this stuff. For instance, our city allowed us to set out 2 additional bags of trash the first pick up after Christmas. This helps but there is still more to throw away. Going through some of to try and condense it, I started noticing things that could be used on our layouts. From boxes to fill to wrapping paper, they can be used on our layout.

Boxes are a great to use if you're planning a railroad or in the process of building one. I received a Dremel motor tool from my wife for Christmas. The box that it came in was perfect for making a building mock up out of. It was thin, yet sturdy. A little extra support and it could be used for quite a while as a building or industry. I say quite a while since some of us wait to find that one special kit or kit's that we can build what we need.

Wrapping paper is a great way to line those building walls to make them look not so bland. Plus with the right paper, you can make window coverings, simulate carpet flooring and more. You could also use it as fill for those hills or mountains you are creating.

Packaging can be used for filler in our mountains and such. Do you not have enough newspaper to fill that mountain and get it to the shape your looking for? If the packaging has Styrofoam in it, you can use it to put down first then put your newspaper on top of it. This will reduce the amount of newspaper or whatever type of fill you're using.

So as you can see, many items from the holidays can be used and save on how many trash bags you need. Please only do this if your spouse approves of the extra items standing around in your space. Like the old saying goes, "one persons junk is another persons treasure".