



### **HOn3 K-27 Road or Switcher Pilot Instruction Manual**

The K-27 pilots are designed for easy installation on the Blackstone Models K-27 locomotives. Whether you are replacing a switcher pilot, road pilot, or a snowplow from an existing K-27, these simple instructions will guide you from the removal of the current pilot and explain the installation process for your new road or switcher style pilot.

#### **Tools Needed**

- Tweezers
- #0 Phillips Screwdriver
- ACC or White Glue
- Small Needle Nose Pliers
- Small sharp hobby knife (e.g. X-Acto blade)

#### **Removing a snowplow or existing road/switcher pilot**

1. Remove the locomotive from the packaging and set it on a secure work surface. With the tweezers or pliers, gently pull the boiler support rods from the boiler casting as shown in Figure 1. For factory snowplow equipped engines, you must also remove the plastic plow support rods as shown in Figure 2.



Figure 1

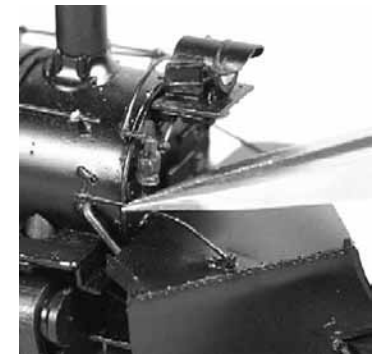


Figure 2

- Turning the locomotive upside down, remove the three screws below the cylinder casting as shown in Figure 3. The center screw is longer than the outside two screws and serves to secure the front of the chassis to the boiler. When removing this center screw, be careful not to place any undue outward pressure on the chassis that would cause it to separate from the boiler.

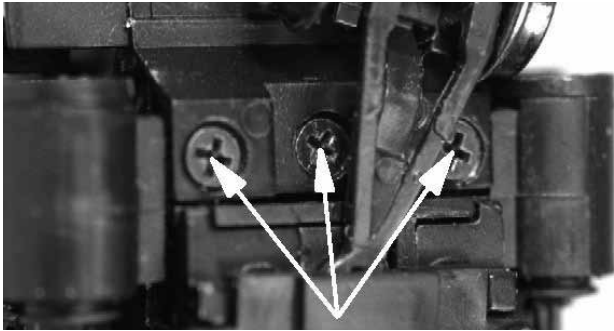


Figure 3

The pilot deck is easily removed once the three screws are removed. Set the factory-installed pilot or snowplow aside.

### Applying the Road or Switcher Pilot Assembly

- With the locomotive upside down, position the pilot assembly over the three holes under the cylinder casting and replace the three screws (two shorter and one long screw) that secure the deck to the locomotive.
- Locate the two blackened metal wires in the package that represent the smokebox supports. You will find that there is one each for the left and right side mounting position. **Note:** The end of each wire that inserts into the side of the smoke box is noted by a 90 degree bend, whereas the end that mounts into the top of the pilot is angled at approx. 45 degrees.

After identifying the left and right support, first insert each wire in the mounting holes located on the top of the deck, then proceed to insert the wires into the mounting holes located on each side of the smokebox by reversing the procedure from Figure 1. *If desired, a small amount of ACC glue may be used in the mounting of the supports on the deck, yet be aware that this may inhibit the removal of these parts later. If the supports do not fit snugly into the side of the smokebox, a very small application of white glue or a non-permanent adhesive into the hole may assist in securing the supports.*

### Tender Details for the Road and Switcher Pilot

Your road or switcher pilot assembly includes tender details that were typically found as an accompaniment to a given pilot configuration. To this end, your road pilot assembly kit includes two rear tender footsteps (see Figure 4), while the switcher assembly includes tender rear footboards, two tender foot stirrups, and a piece of wire that serves as a rear tender “walkover” handrail (see Figure 5). Depending on the locomotive version that have, you may or may not wish to add these details.

**Special Note:** Your Blackstone Models K-27 was not designed for a simple “press fit” of these parts. While it is not necessary to utilize them, we wanted to include these with your pilot kit to maximize the authenticity of the model. A little modeling skill is a requirement for adding these details should you desire to undertake the task!

Visit our website for instructions on the installation of these parts at [www.blackstonemodels.com/?](http://www.blackstonemodels.com/?)

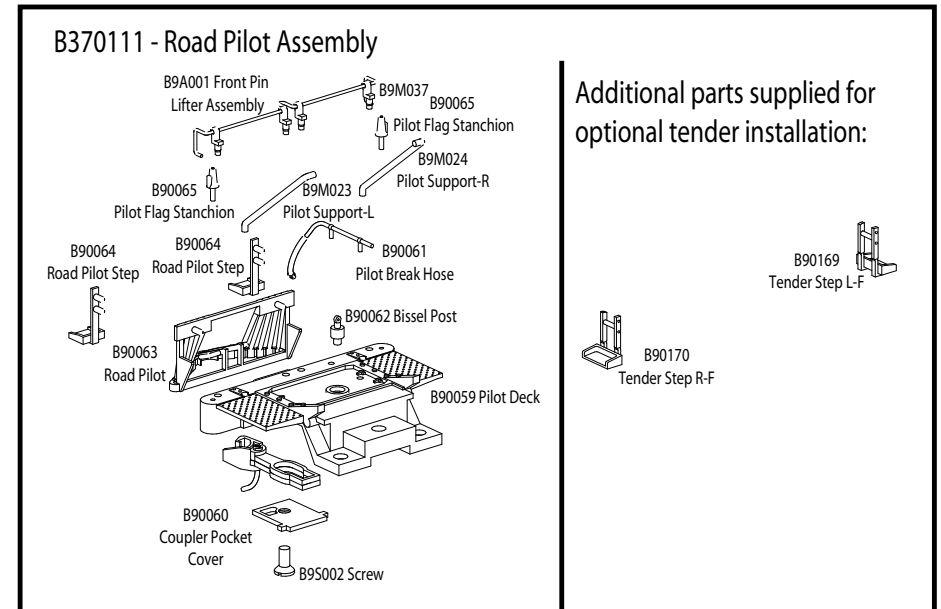


Figure 4

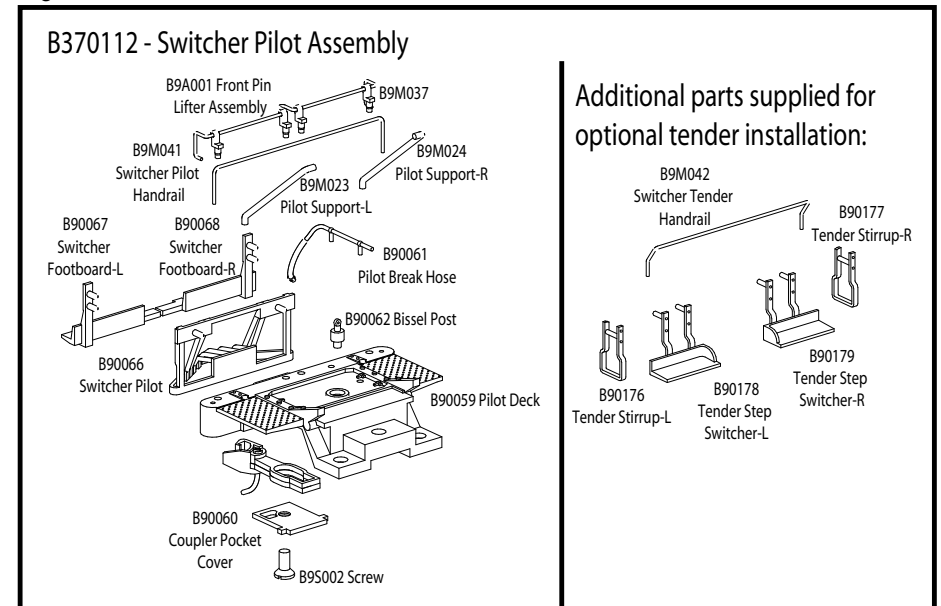


Figure 5