The Magazine for LEGO® Enthusiasts of All Ages!





Builder Dossier: **LEGO**7





Instructions and **MORE!**



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Emily Corl with her bass guitar.

Brick ponies.



People

Creating Life-Size LEGO[®] Models with Emily Corl

Walking around Emily Corl's house, you need to always do a double-take when looking at certain objects, as all is not what it seems! You may not be able to change the channel on the television, or the blender might not blend so well. That is because these amazing items are created out of LEGO bricks.

Emily has always been creating with LEGO as far back as she can remember; it is a passion of hers that runs deep. Being a very creative person, LEGO has always been one of the mediums that she works with, among others. To Emily, anything can be used to create wonderful pieces of art, but the humble LEGO brick is her favorite.

Originally just building for her own enjoyment, Emily now runs her own business, "Emily's Creations," where she takes on commission pieces, as well as holds workshops and parties. She also does live builds online; you can normally see her putting together something amazing on her Facebook page or Instagram.

Even though Emily can pretty much create almost any topic thrown at her, the models that she loves producing the most are life-size objects that you will find in your everyday life. Whether it is a television, blender, or

Article by Kevin Hall Photography courtesy of Emily Corl



Voltron's Yellow Lion springs into action!



Article by Joe Meno Photography by Hsinwei Chi Hsinwei Chi (known as LEGO7 on Flickr) is a LEGO builder from Taiwan. He's a graphic designer and illustrator who has been involved in the magazine industry for more than ten years. He's been in the hobby for only three years (starting when he bought LEGO sets for his daughter), but his creations have been seen by people worldwide. His work goes in all directions, from whimsical car racers to *Star Wars* creatures and characters.

His character models come alive, thanks to the detail that Chi adds to them. With *Star Wars* and *Harry Potter* as his favorite themes, he loves building fantastic storytelling LEGO creations and making them into living flesh and blood. His creations are built to capture a single frame from a movie or capture a moment in time.



Inspiration for Chi comes from a number of sources: He spent most of his childhood watching TV, reading comic books, and playing video games. Another influence on his building is Japanese anime. Some of this can be seen in some of the older mecha models Chi has built—and also in one of the more recent builds he has done, where he built the secret base to Voltron's Yellow Lion (from the LEGO Ideas set).

Some examples of Chi's mecha-based models.

Parts List (Parts can be ordered through Bricklink.com by searching by part number and color)

| Qty | Part | Color | Description | |
|-----|-----------|--|---|--|
| 1 | 3004.dat | White | Brick 1 x 2 | |
| 3 | 3023.dat | White | Plate 1 x 2 | |
| 2 | 3069b.dat | White | Tile 1×2 with Groove | |
| 2 | 6636.dat | White | Tile 1 x 6 | |
| 1 | 11211.dat | White | Brick 1 x 2 with Two Studs on One Side | |
| 1 | 3020.dat | Red | Plate 2 x 4 | |
| 3 | 2496.dat | Black | Wheel Trolley | |
| 3 | 3004.dat | Black | Brick 1 x 2 | |
| 4 | 3023.dat | Black | Plate 1 x 2 | |
| 1 | 11211.dat | Black | Brick 1 x 2 with Two Studs on One Side | |
| 1 | 3021.dat | Light Bluish Grey Plate 2 x 3 | | |
| 3 | 3023.dat | Light Bluish Grey Plate 1 x 2 | | |
| 6 | 61252.dat | Light Bluish Grey Plate 1 x 1 with Clip Horizontal (Thick C-Clip) | | |
| 1 | 3020.dat | Dark Blue | Plate 2 x 4 | |
| 1 | 3021.dat | Dark Blue | Plate 2 x 3 | |
| 1 | 3022.dat | Dark Blue | Plate 2 x 2 | |
| 1 | 3023.dat | Dark Blue | Plate 1 x 2 | |
| 1 | 3023.dat | Blue | Plate 1 x 2 | |
| 1 | 87079.dat | Blue | Tile 2×4 with Groove | |

You Can Build It!

Microscale Bus

Design by Hsinwei Chi Instructions by Joe Meno







Daniel's Bionicle creations at BrickFair Virginia 2018.

Daniel Olvera: A Builder for all Seasons!

Article and Photography by Joe Meno

One of the outstanding builders in the Bionicle area at BrickFair Virginia this year built figures of all types—from superheroes to dinosaurs. Working full-time at a cabinet shop as a carpenter of sorts (interior remodeling, kitchens and other jobs), Chicago native Daniel Olvera spends his off-time building LEGO creatures or figures. With his display at BrickFair Virginia, Daniel showed off his skills, and he took the time to talk to BrickJournal.

BrickJournal: When did you start building?

Daniel Olvera: Well, around age 5, I got a red bucket of play brick on Christmas, and that started it all. However, growing up I was in and out of it till about 2005. When I received a Bionicle set, Toa Inika Nuparu—from then on it was mostly Bionicle, but I had my selection of System on hand. And so here I am, a decent builder of both realms.

Did you have a Dark Age?

Dark Age? What's that? Haven't had one yet; my mind is always overflowing with ideas and not enough time to do them all.

What's your favorite theme?

I can't really pick just one; it's a tie between Bionicle, Ninjago, and Unikitty. Honestly, I love good color selection, and who doesn't love ninjas? But Bionicle just runs deep in my history of building.

What are your inspirations for building?

Mike Nieves. His work and place in the Bionicle world was top-of-the-game. I always had a desire to get to that level, and I'd say I'm slowly on my way. It truly helps when you meet your icon, and they actually praise your work, give advice and tricks, and challenge you to pursue those greater heights. Most of my material comes from pop culture, but I also have a large stash of concept art, and my own art ideas I have to work with.



Baryage, a Bionicle-based dinosaur.

need. During the process of building the *Berserk Fury*, I had only 15 usable parts to achieve all the shaping. I truly wish the best for lines with great color options to dish out new colored parts. Building-wise, if I come across an issue where a part doesn't exist, I improvise. Improvisation is key when building because it challenges you to try new things, see what works, and what doesn't—improve and grow your skills.

When building a MOC, what's your planning process? Most of my builds have a planning process if there is a look I'm going for, or if I need to have an inner support frame, or just overall scale. I'll take a bit of time to do research, gather photo material, or if there is a physical model, be prepared with all kinds of angles so I can build as accurately as possible. From paper, it usually goes straight into building, and each model tends to start differently, depending on the most crucial details. But otherwise it's just a lot of back-and-forth with materials and photos.

What's your favorite part?

You've probably never heard this before, but it's one of the most useful parts in my builds, because I love illegal techniques. My key part is the Technic pin with stud connection. It allows me to flip the brick orientation in a very small space without the usage of brackets.

If you had a chance to make a new part, what would it be?

I usually find a way to make parts work, usually trying to find creative ways to use obscure parts as well, so an entirely new part isn't really necessary, but coming from Deadpool, of course. Deadpool TM & © Marvel Characters, Inc.



Flash and Reverse-Flash.

Nathaniel Stoner: A Real Hero Factory!

Article and Photography by Joe Meno

Super-heroes shown TM & © DC Comics.

BrickFair Virginia 2018 had many builders from across the nation coming together to display and meet. One of them was Nathaniel Stoner, a college student studying for a Bachelor's degree in nursing. As an Eagle Scout, he was introduced to first aid and other medical training, and he knew he wanted to do it as a career. When he's not busy studying, though, he builds characters with LEGO bricks!

Nathaniel's background with LEGO is a bit different than most—he actually *hated* LEGO as a kid. He got a few sets for birthdays, but could never put them together without becoming frustrated. Then randomly one day when he was 15, he dumped all the pieces he owned out on the floor and built one large fortress. Ever since then, he has been addicted. So, while he hasn't been involved with LEGO nearly as long as others, he's been told he catches on quickly!

How quick? He first joined the online community at the end of 2014, having only starting to build a short time before that. At the end of this year (2018), Nathaniel will have been building for just four years!

People



Times sure have changed! I grew up on LEGO; the *Galaxy Explorer* was my favorite set. As the decades went by, I forgot about those "toys," and didn't touch one until a little over a year ago. In my forties I instantly became hooked on the Modular series, and from there I was re-educated to the finest, most creative hobby ever devised. I was officially an AFOL. But I needed to create something myself, with the only instructions being in my mind.

Racers fly by the bystanders!

Presenting the Real Champions of Speed: 12 Hours of Sebring!

Article and Photography by Geoffrey Gabriel





Some looks at the details in the layout.





Worlds Under Glass: Peter Ilmrud

Article and Photography by Peter Ilmrud

Building a diorama can be a challenge. An average full LEGO layout can be the size of a table, or can be the size of an 8x8 plate (a vignette). Each size has a common problem: How does a builder keep their models and layouts dust-free? A Swedish builder found an answer.

Peter Ilmud (known as Zilmrud on Flickr), a father of two kids and a wonderfully supporting wife, began building in early 2016, when he met a member of the Swedish RLUG (Recognized LEGO User Group) at a Toys 'R' Us sale. Stunned by the fantasy creations he saw, Peter began to build his own creations. A few months later, he showed his first creations at an exhibition. After that, he began devoting time to this art form. He now builds most of his models to show at exhibitions.

Because of his building, Peter views himself more of a 'parts monkey' than a collector. Most of the sets he buys are for sorting out parts for his MOCs. When he was a kid, he loved *Space Police I* and had the *Spy-Trak I* set (#6895) and the *Galactic Peace Keeper* (#6886). With those, he played and created MOCs.

Using bell jars for display came from Peter wanting to build the rose from the movie Beauty and the Beast. He bought a glass dome, where it stood on a shelf. He didn't build a rose, but when he started at his current job, he wanted to create something small to put on his desk to use as an 'icebreaker' when people visited his office. His first creation using this was his Microscale Castle in Glass Dome. Peter didn't plan to photograph the model, as he wasn't planning to take it to exhibitions. The day before his first workday, he thought it would be nice to have pictures in case the jar broke.

After that, he continued to build new models—the glass dome was a great way to show a creation without it getting covered with dust. As a result, the only things he has on display at home are in glass domes.

Here are some of the models he has built in glass domes, with comments from Peter.



Mike Nieves works as a Master Model Builder at LEGOLAND Discovery Center in Philadelphia. In his off-hours, he also builds his own models. As Mike says, "LEGO is Life!"

He started building not too long after he was born-according to his parents, he started building when he was two years old. His earliest LEGO memory is building a pyramid with his dad when he was three. Of course, he continued to build and improve since then, and has been recognized online and at events for his work in the past few years, creating character sculptures. His Pokémon-based models are great examples of using Technic parts to achieve curved shapes and dynamic posing. With his technique, tigers appear as if they had fur, and dragons look menacing with their posture.



Two of Mike's Pokémon creations: The tigerlike Arcanine (left) and Gyarados (above and bottom).

Mike Nieves: LEGO is Life!

Article by Mike Nieves Photography by Joe Meno

Pokémon TM & © The Pokemon Company.



Parts List (Parts can be ordered from Bricklink.com by searching by part number and color)

| Qty | | Part | Description |
|-----|-------------------|-----------|--|
| 2 | White | | Antenna 4H with Flat Top |
| 2 | • • | | Cone 1 x 1 with Stop |
| 2 | · · | | Brick 1 x 1 Round with Hollow Stud |
| 1 | Trans-Black | | Brick 1 x 2 without Centre Stud |
| 2 | White | | Brick 1 x 1 with Headlight |
| 4 | Black | | Plate 1 x 1 |
| 1 | Black | | Plate 1 x 2 with Groove with 1 Centre Stud, without Understud |
| 2 | Black | | Plate 2 x 2 |
| 6 | Black | | Plate 2 x 3 |
| 1 | - | | Plate 1 x 1 with Clip Light Type 2 |
| 4 | | | Plate 1 x 2 with Handle on End |
| 2 | Dark-Bluish-Gray | | |
| 7 | 0 , | | Plate 1 x 1 Round |
| 4 | Light-Bluish-Gray | | |
| 2 | | | t Plate 1 x 2 with 2 Clips Horizon- tal (Thick C-Clips) |
| 2 | Light-Bluish-Gray | | |
| 1 | | | Plate 2 x 2 x 0.667 with Two Studs On Side and Two Raised |
| 1 | Light-Bluish-Gray | 3795.dat | Plate 2 x 6 |
| 3 | Orange | 15573.dat | Plate 1 x 2 with Groove with 1 Centre Stud, without Understud |
| 2 | Orange | 3623.dat | Plate 1 x 3 |
| 1 | Trans-Black | 3023.dat | Plate 1 x 2 |
| 3 | Trans-White | 3024.dat | Plate 1 x 1 |
| 1 | Trans-White | | Plate 1 x 2 |
| 2 | White | | Plate 1 x 2 with Single Clip on Top |
| 3 | White | 15573.dat | Plate 1 x 2 with Groove with 1 Centre Stud, without Understud |
| 2 | White | 92593.dat | Plate 1 x 4 with Two Studs |
| 3 | White | 87580.dat | Plate 2 x 2 with Groove with 1 Center Stud |
| 1 | White | 3021.dat | Plate 2 x 3 |
| 2 | Black | 54200.dat | Slope Brick 31 1 x 1 x 0.667 |
| 1 | Black | | Slope Brick Curved 2 x 1 |
| 1 | Black | | Slope Brick Curved 2 x 1 Inverted |
| 2 | Dark-Bluish-Gray | 61409.dat | Slope Brick 18 $2 \times 1 \times 2/3$ Grille |
| 2 | Orange | 11477.dat | Slope Brick Curved 2 x 1 |
| 2 | Trans-Black | | Slope Brick 31 1 x 1 x 0.667 |
| 3 | Black | 32064a.da | t Technic Brick 1 x 2 with Axlehole Type 1 |
| 2 | Black | | Technic Plate 2×4 with Holes |
| 2 | Black | | Technic Rotor 2 Blade with 4 Studs |
| 1 | Black | | Tile 1 x 3 with Groove |
| 3 | | | Tile 1 x 1 with Groove |
| 2 | | | Tile 1 x 2 Grille with Groove |
| 4 | 0 , | | Tile 1 x 2 with Groove |
| 1 | · · | | Tile 1 x 4 with Groove |
| 1 | Trans-Black | | Tile 1 x 2 with Groove |
| 1 | Trans-White | | Tile 1 x 2 with Groove |
| 2 | White | | Tile 1 x 2 Grille with Groove |
| 1 | Dark-Bluish-Gray | | |
| 1 | Dark-Bluish-Gray | | |
| 1 | White | | Wing 3 x 6 Left |
| 1 | White | 54383.dat | Wing 3 x 6 Right |

You Can Build It

MINI Model

Rebel Snowspeeder (Creator set 31060 Alternate Model)

Design and Instructions by Christopher Deck

Hello again everybody, I am really glad to have another building session with you in this issue of *BrickJournal!* Today's building challenge again is alternate building! What makes this a special building discipline is that you only have a very limited parts selection to build your model. It takes some practice and experience to "see" possible alternate models when looking at a set and its parts. An incredible advantage of alternate building is that you have all pieces needed handy at once; no searching for parts is required. Our choice for today is the recent Creator series set 31060: *Airshow Aces*, a common set with a low price.

The model we want to build with parts from this set is the popular Rebel Snowspeeder featured in *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back.* Of course, this is a model that already has been built countless times as a mini version, but as an alternate model, there are very few versions of it. Unfortunately, there are some more leftover pieces that were not used for the model than I usually have for alternate buildings, but the outcome is astoundingly recognizable, and could resemble a set on its own.

The construction is quite ambitious for a mini model, as it is built on a three-wide basis and features many functions and details of the original model. It was a lot of fun to develop this model, and I hope you will also have a great time building the Snowspeeder!

Building

Minifig Customization 101:



Article and Photography by Jared K. Burks

I, apparently like many AFOLs, recall watching *Voltron* as a child (successful LEGO Ideas, YEAH!). I was twelve years old when the original *Voltron: Defender of the Universe* show aired on TV. I grew up and forgot (as with many childhood shows) about how much enjoyment I found in the concept and show, until I was reading Ernest Cline's *Ready Player One* where the legendary robot is mentioned. I even included the Voltron logo in my design for Parzival. This was a short-lived flutter of a childhood memory, but one that made the book *Ready Player One* all the more special for the collection of these sorts of fluttery moments; but I digress.

When Netflix released Voltron: Legendary Defender, I was hooked. It had enough familiarity that I felt right at home, and yet it had a new twist that made it a bit unknown. The extra bonus is I was able to share this new show with my daughter, Branwen. The extra extra bonus: They made two kick-butt female characters to discuss with my daughter, which serve as positive figures who are both smart and techy. But let's get back to the point of the article. LEGO, through LEGO Ideas, has given us a Voltron set; however it doesn't have the Voltron pilots. I am not going to solve that issue completely with this article, but I am going to make one. Then I hope to encourage my daughter to help me make the others, just has she has helped me build my Voltron set, while we watched the series on Netflix. The show, LEGO set, and the start of the pilots will further the enjoyable time I have been able to spend with her.

I was always partial to two characters, Keith and Lance. For today, I want to focus on the best Voltron pilot, Keith! (Sorry Lance, I am sure you will recover.) While my daughter's version of the show is a touch different, I am going with the classics *Defender of the Universe* Keith. While this design is simple, there are some key points that we can discuss. I wanted to keep the figure simple, as I want the Voltron set to stand out and the paladins to stand in front. I also wanted to make the figure all white and print all of the color on the figure, so I can keep all the colors matching. An all-white figure allows me to do this, and I am not having to under-print the design with white, so anyone could make this figure. So let us get started.

Please recall, LEGO is an odd scale; as such, getting a very detailed logo on the left breast of the uniform is a touch difficult, as seen in the reference photos. So even with a basic design, we have to figure out the lower limit of detail in a design, and we need to correct any error in



Building

Michael Brown's F-18 Hornet

Article by Joe Meno Photography by Michael Brown

Sometimes, I get to see a model in the process of being built by other builders, who ask for building advice or parts identification. The requests for information or advice usually come with a sketch or photo of the construction in question.

A builder that I have a building rapport with is Michael Brown. You may have seen his Technic Apache helicopter that was in issue #49 of *BrickJournal*. He builds in a scale that is not quite miniland scale, so his models are very large. The size allows him to add a level of detail that is beyond minifigure-scale building.

Michael's next build, an F-18 Hornet fighter jet, was slated to be featured in this issue, but things did not work out. As a result, the article will be coming next issue.

In the meantime, here's a sneak peek of the model and its construction.





The plane was actually roughly built months before completion like most LEGO models are made: with plate and bricks. However, the model is repeatedly disassembled and assembled as powered components are added, such as lighting, wing tips and landing gear.

While the plane is built, it is constantly compared to an in-scale technical drawing to match wing angles and lengths. In this photo, you can see the main frame of the fuselage as well as the jet exhausts, which are geared to flare open or close like its real counterpart's.

Community

Scott Bowman: Launching a



Article and Photos by Joe Meno Art by Scott Bowman



Community

Photo Gallery: **Tudor Times**

Article by Kevin Hall Photography by Stephan Lewis



A life-size Jousting Helmet.



Kevin Hall.



Henry VIII.

The Tudor times were between 1485 and 1603 when Britain was ruled by the Tudor monarchs. This era was famous for such things as Henry VIII and his six wives, beautiful palaces and castles, and the plays of William Shakespeare. The LEGO® brick exhibition "Tudor Times" brings to life the great era of the Tudors which changed the face of Britain.

Kevin Hall's company Brick Galleria created this exhibit, which was held at the Galleries Shopping Center in Bristol in the United Kingdom from March 24–April 8, 2018. Along with the exhibits, workshops were held for the public to make Tudor-themed models for a display on site.

Models included a huge 1.5m x 1.5m model of Hever Castle, Anne Boleyn's childhood home, a highly detailed Tudor street scene, Shakespeare's Globe, a life size Jousting Helmet, a 60cm tall sculpture of Henry VIII based on the famous painting by Holbein, and many more iconic Tudor items. Here is a sample of the exhibition.

Set Review

42082 - Rough Terrain Crane

Set Review by Geoff Gray Photography by Geoff Gray and the LEGO Group The LEGO Group graciously offered *BrickJournal* a chance to review some of their newer Technic sets this fall, including 42082 *Rough Terrain Crane*. I immediately accepted the offer and I was not disappointed by the sets. This review focuses specifically on set 42082. The information in this review is my personal opinion and does not necessarily reflect the views of The LEGO Group.

The set is the largest Technic set released to date (by part count) at 4057 parts. The Bucket Wheel Excavator (42055) is second at 3929 parts, the Bugatti Chiron (42083) is third at 3599 parts. All other Technic sets come in at less than 3000 parts. Despite the large part count, the model (when completed) is not overwhelming. In fact, it doesn't look like it could contain so many parts.

The build was very clean, and it felt quite "balanced." I know that is a strange way to describe a build, but despite being a technically challenging build, it seemed to flow easily. The overall model was split into many smaller sections that attached to each other and then got secured with a few extra parts. One technique the design team added to the build which was a lifesaver, was to use different colored beams on the front and rear drive-train sections. This was valuable because when those sections were attached to the middle section, it would have been difficult to tell which side was the front when adding extra pieces to the assembly. By checking the color of a few beams, I was able to tell if I was working on the proper side.

The Rough Terrain Crane.

Community





Ryan McNaught: Australia's Brickman!

Article by Joe Meno Photos provided by Ryan McNaught Ryan McNaught is a LEGO Certified Professional based in Australia. He became known as the Brickman there because of the large-scale models he has built for events and corporate clients in the Asia/Pacific area. In 2018, he opened a traveling display: Brickman Awesome.

In this show, there are 39 all-new sculptures, including animals and machines. With the sculptures are building stations, where visitors can add to the displays by building their own time machines to display with the LEGO built TARDIS and the Delorean from *Back to the Future!*

Shown here are a few of the models that were shown at the display. You can check *www.thebrickman.com* for places and dates for upcoming displays!



Back to the Future DeLorean Model made with permission from NBC Universal.



BRICKJOURNAL #54

FOR YOUR EYES ONLY: A covert Dossier on Taiwan's HSINWEI CHI and his revolutionary LECO animals and giant robots! We also declassify other top LEGO builders' creations, including MICHAEL BROWN's colossal Technic-scale F-18 Hornet! Plus: Minifigure customizing from JARED K. BURKS, step-by-step "You Can Build It" instructions by CHRISTOPHER DECK, Brick-Nerd's DIV Fan Art, & more!

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