

# Build a 1:20.3-scale loading platform for a dump truck

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If your railroad handles freight, you will need a number of loading platforms. This particular platform would be used to load bulk goods of any sort into gondolas. If you are modeling a small narrow-gauge line, it can be used to load coal into a tender. The drawing shows a 1:20.3-scale dump truck, a kit for which can be purchased from Northeast Model Products (see [www.nemodel.com](http://www.nemodel.com)).

## Construction

This model can be assembled with carpenter's yellow glue. When dry, this aliphatic-resin glue is quite weather resistant, particularly when sealed and painted.

Cut two pieces of  $\frac{1}{8}$ " plywood to  $6\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ". Notch the pieces as shown—the ramp will need only two notches. Cut 8 pieces of  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " pine strip. Fit and glue these into the

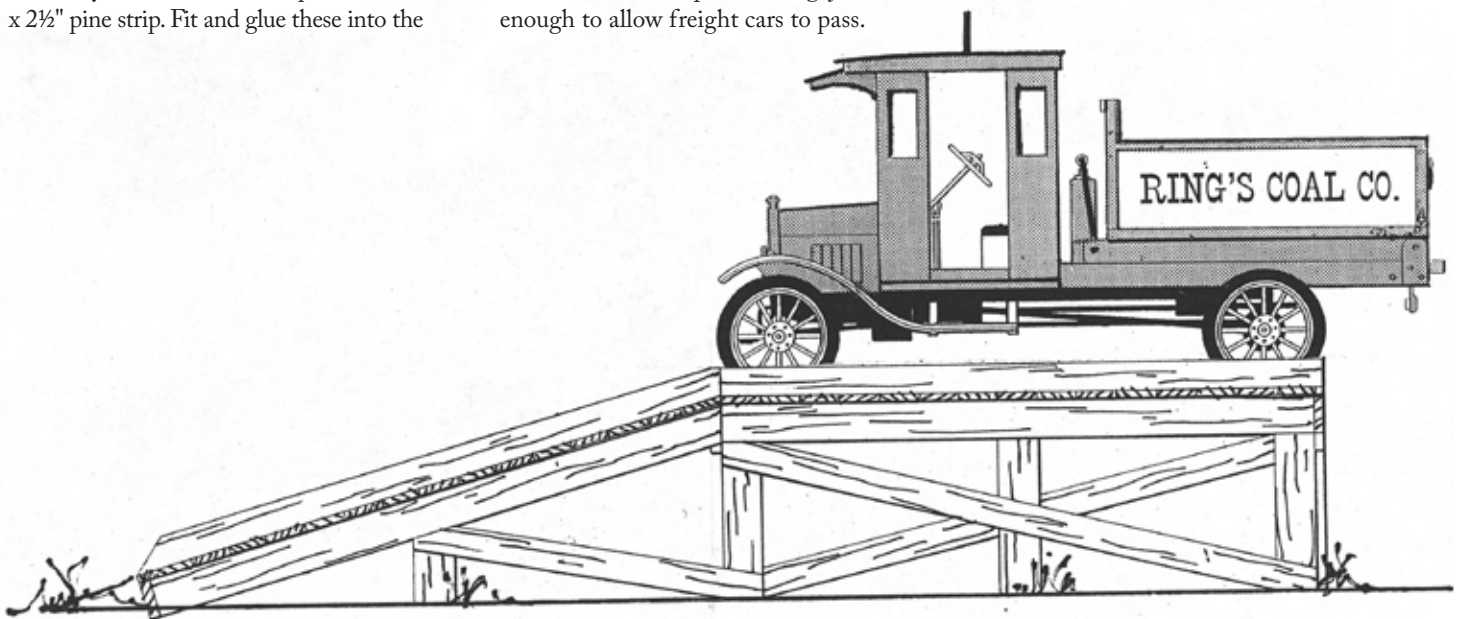
notches of the top piece. Fit, cut, and glue a piece of  $\frac{1}{8}$ " x  $\frac{1}{2}$ " strip around one end. This should be recessed to allow the ramp to rest at the same height as the top. Make the ramp with two pieces of  $\frac{1}{2}$ "-square stock set into the side notches. Use the plan to cut these to shape.

Now fit, cut, and glue  $\frac{1}{8}$ " x  $\frac{1}{2}$ " strip flush with the top of the ramp and the deck. Follow this with  $\frac{1}{8}$ " x  $\frac{3}{8}$ " strip diagonals, cut, fit, and glued to the legs. At this point, paint the structure to suit (oxide red or gray). Now plank the deck with  $\frac{3}{32}$ " x  $\frac{1}{2}$ " strip. These can be stained beforehand or left to weather naturally. Finally, fit, cut, and glue  $\frac{3}{16}$ " x  $\frac{3}{8}$ " strips along the sides of the ramp and deck. These should be treated in the same manner as the planking. The finished platform should be backed up to a siding, just close enough to allow freight cars to pass.

This is an online supplement to the April 2008 issue of *Garden Railways* magazine. To purchase previously published paper plans, see the list of those available at [www.sidestreet.info](http://www.sidestreet.info)

A kit for the Loading Platform (#290) is available from Northeast Narrow Gauge for \$45 + \$7 s&h (to the US). Order from Northeast Narrow Gauge, PO Box 191, Wiscasset ME 04578. Web site: [www.nemodel.com](http://www.nemodel.com)

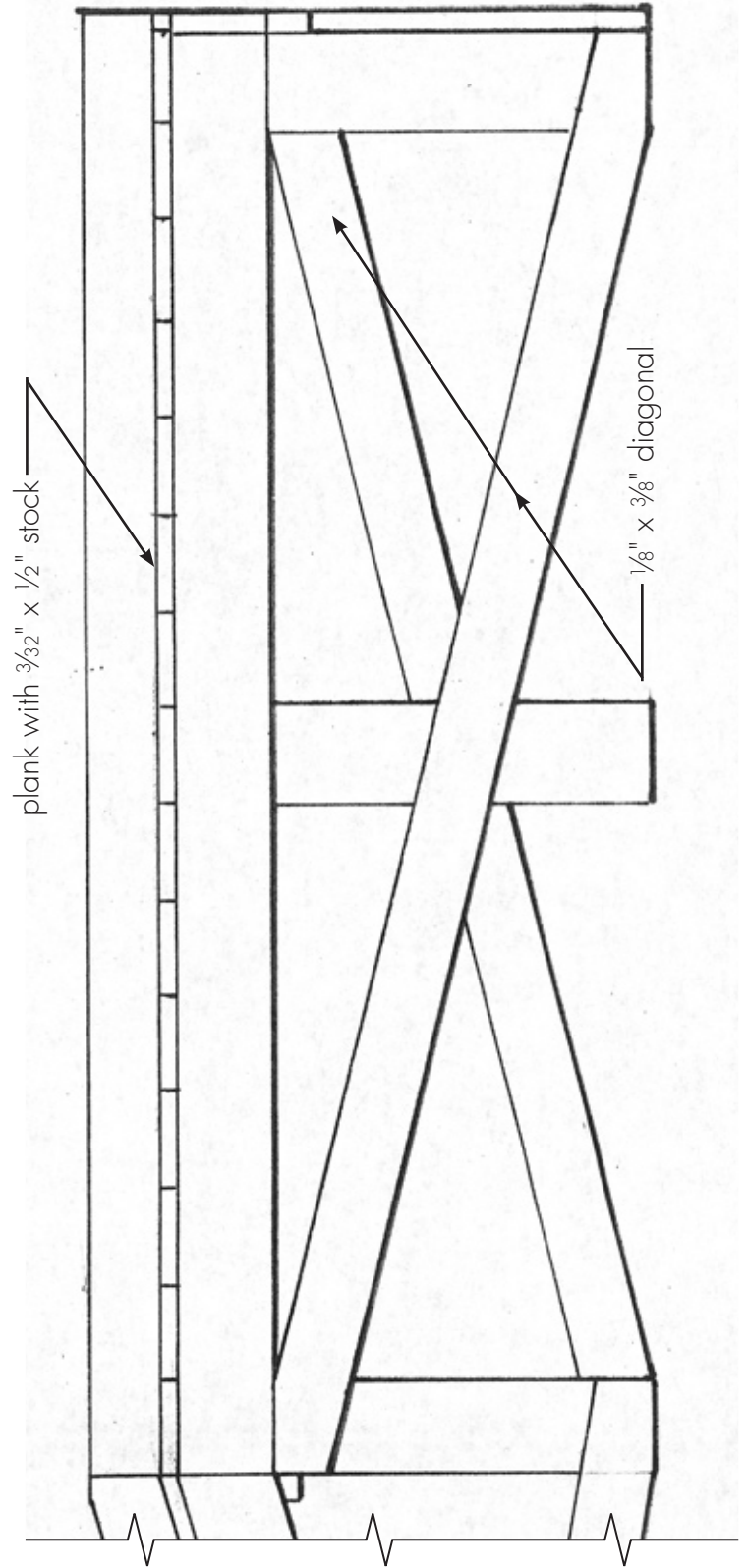
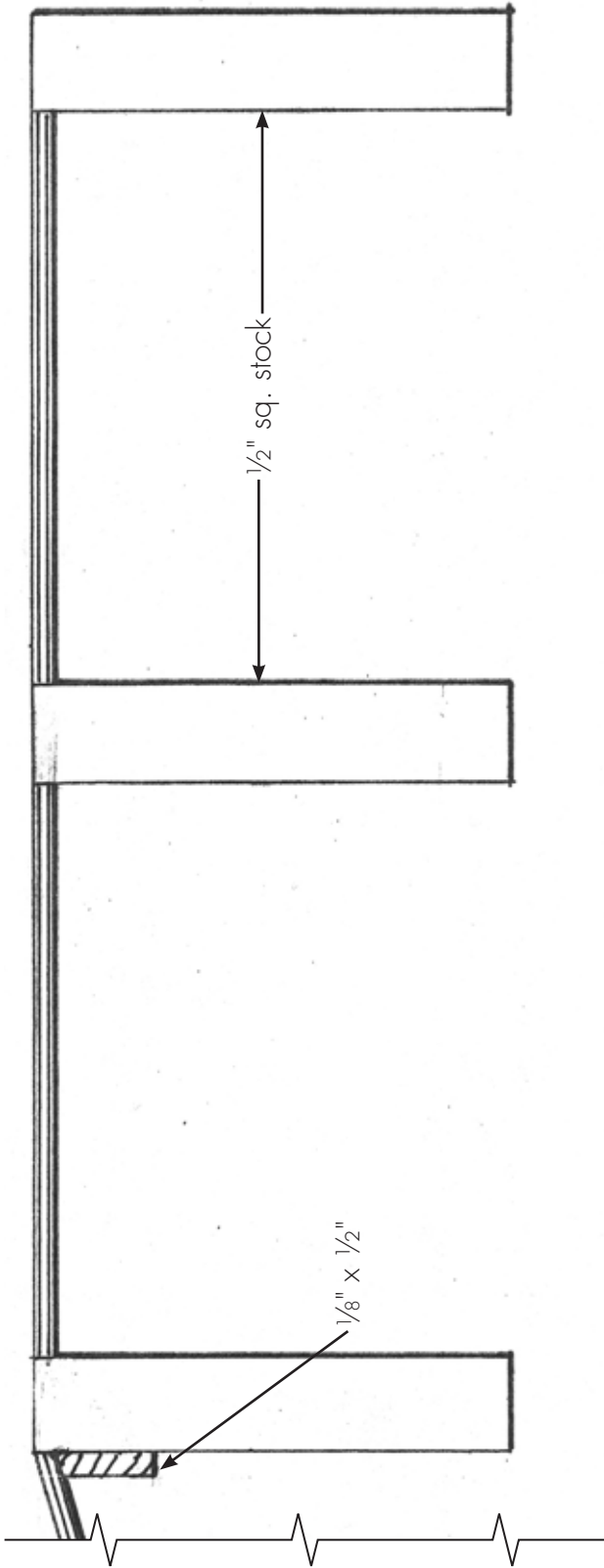
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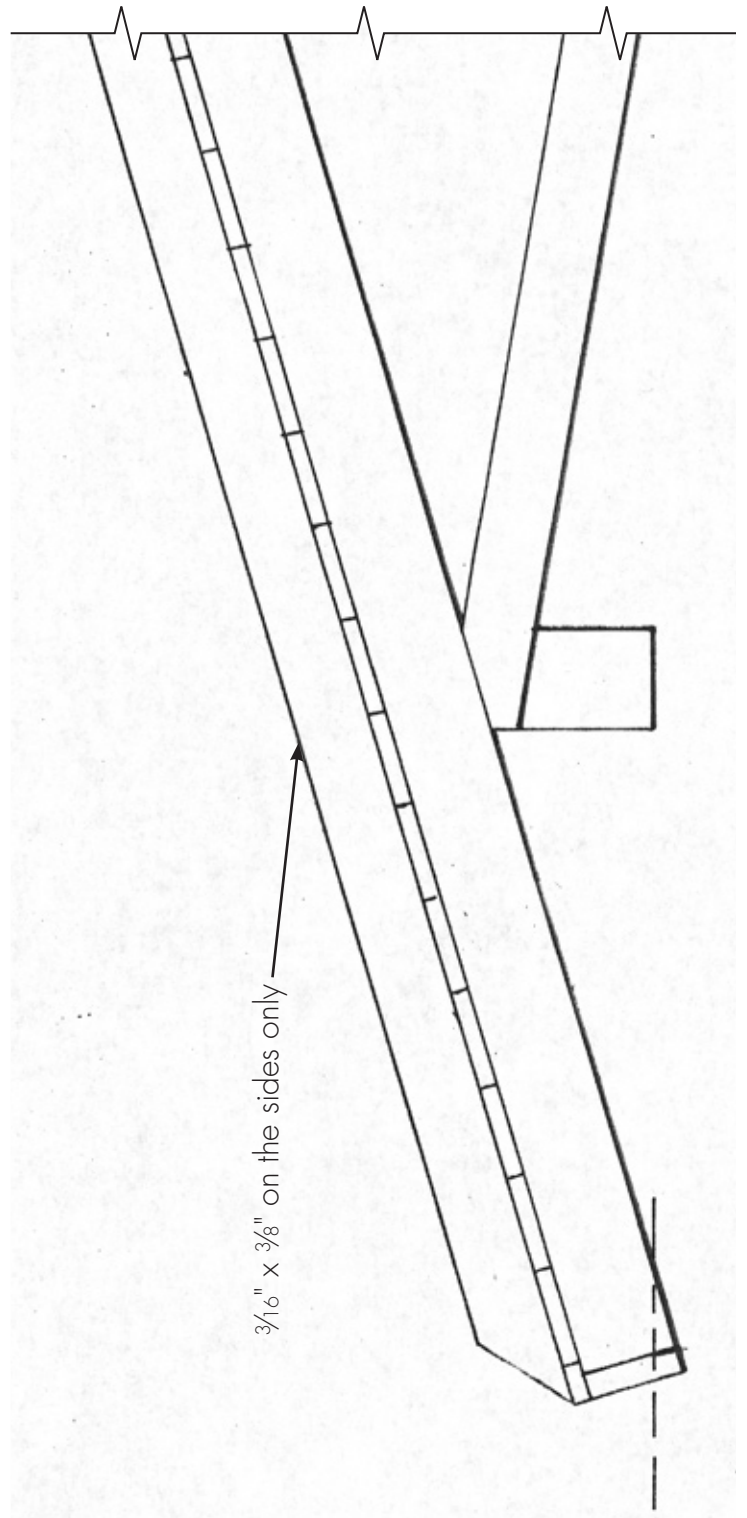
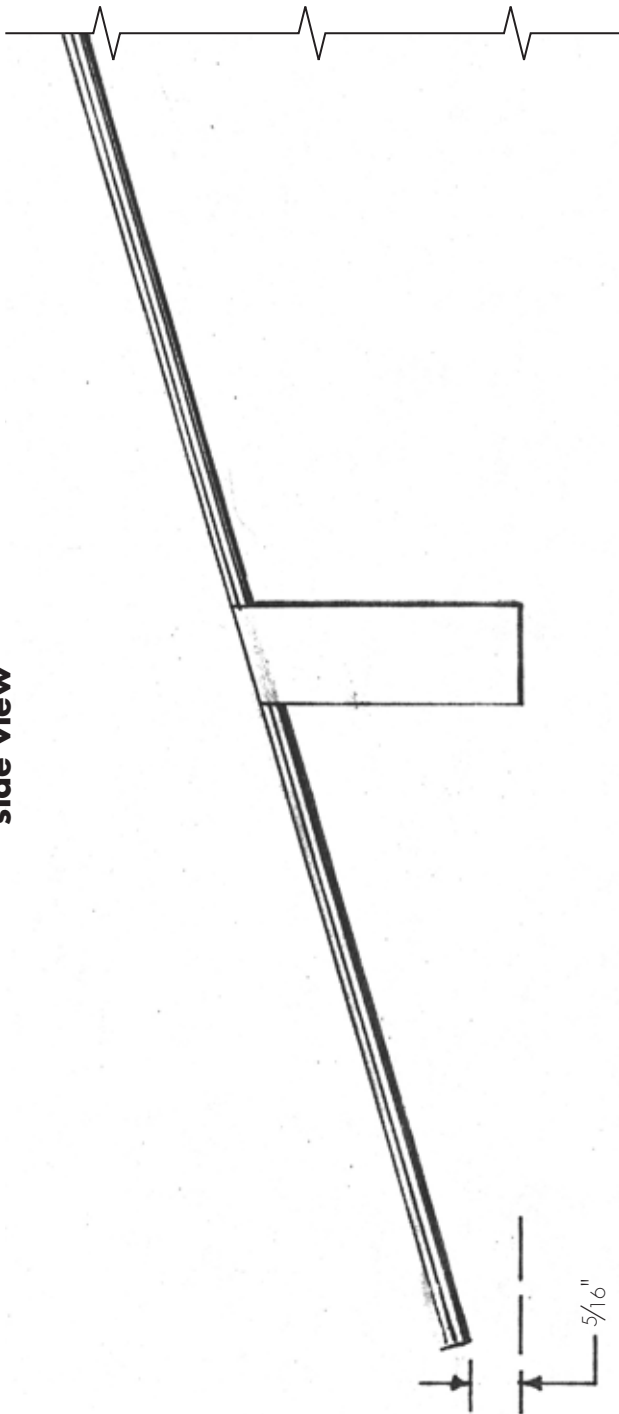
## Are you working in a different scale?

- If you are working in 1:32 scale, reduce these drawings to 63%.
- If you are working in 1:29 scale, reduce these drawings to 70%.
- If you are working in 1:24 scale, reduce these drawings to 88%.
- If you are working in 1:22.5 scale, reduce these drawings to 90%.
- If you are working in 16mm scale, enlarge these drawings to 107%.
- If you are working in 1:13.7 ( $\frac{1}{8}$ " scale), enlarge these drawings to 148%.

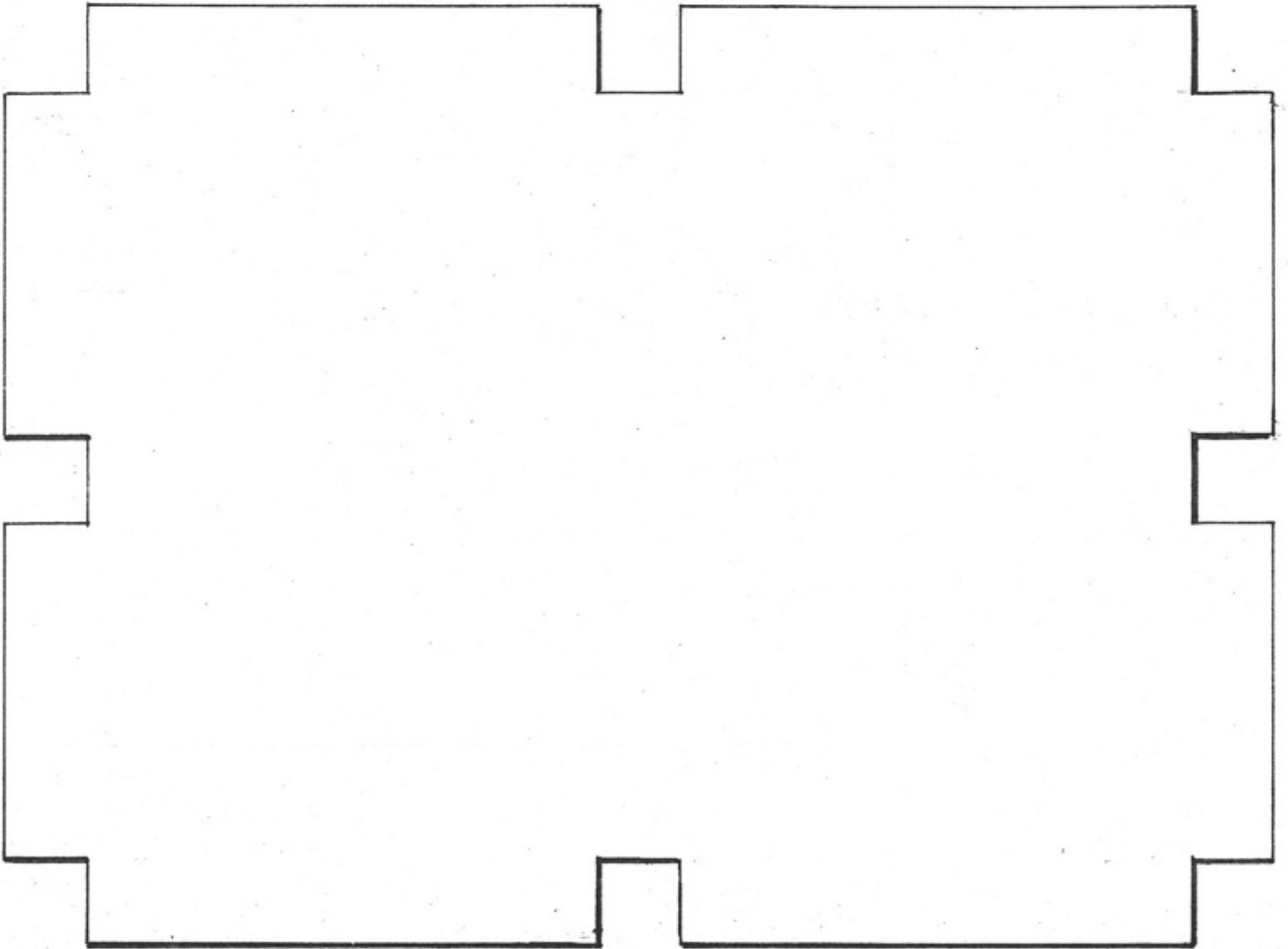
side view



side view



**top view**



Cut 2 pieces of plywood  $\frac{1}{8}$ " x  $5\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $7\frac{1}{2}$ "

Notch the top piece as shown. The ramp will need only 2 side notches.

end view

