

# Review 4207: CITY Garage

By *lluigib*

**Set: CITY Garage**  
**Set number: 4207**  
**Number of parts: 933**  
**Minifigs 5**  
**Recommended retail price: 99,99€**

Every year around April CITY fans wait anxiously for the first images of the set nobody expected and that usually stirs our fondest memories of our childhood.

This year, at LEGOWorld Copenhagen and a little earlier than foreseen, our staff member Vicente spotted the "surprise" set for this year, which was hidden in a huge CITY display. A few months later the launch of the 4207 - City Parking was officially confirmed.

The set is an interpretation of one of the mythical TOWN theme sets. To be precise, the 6394 - Metro Park & Service Tower, but adapted to modern times. I say interpretation, because there have been substantial changes for better and for worse. I won't make the mistake of comparing them, but as there is a certain connection between the sets I can't help but comment on the similitudes and differences.

There are some evident differences, like the change from Shell to Octan and the almost testimonial presence of a petrol station in the new set. The similitudes are to be found mainly in the parking, with a lift that gives access to the floors and a car wash. But enough blasphemy already!



The set is visually very attractive and functional, although it is a little fragile if you want to move it. When I started to build it I first made the 4 vehicles. It seems it's not too hard to design variation of the 2006 Police Car (7236) and in this set I have found 4 new and interesting ones. The most outstanding one is the new minivan, an interesting vehicle that is quite different from what we have seen so far, although it is still in line with current designs. In two of the cars there is a captivating change. The wheels of these two vehicles are no longer the typical CITY wheels, which are completely off scale except in 4wd vehicles. Now the rims are the same as those from the RACERS and CARS™ themes, together with narrower tyres, the same ones that were used in the 7731 - Mail Van. This combination of rim and tyre is a lot compact and integrates better with the vehicles. Bull's eye, in my opinion.

The parking has a lot of details and characteristics that provide hours of playing time. On the ground floor there is the typical car wash. Cars can drive through and the brushes turn simultaneously, simulating the car being washed. The car wash is protected by two windows to keep the water in. On the other side is the parking meter, a barrier and a ramp that leads to the lift that will take the vehicle to the corresponding floor to park it. The lift is in the centre of the structure and has access to the platforms on both sides.

On the first floor there is one of the novelties in the design of this set. On the left side there is a booth for the security guard, which has a surveillance station with a computer and a security video camera. Of course there is a security guard watching over the parking. On the right side there is a small mechanical shop for basic repairs. The shop has a tow truck to assist





broken down vehicles. On the upper floor there are 4 parking spaces, two on either side.

The parking is designed in the OCTAN colours (white with a green and a red line). In the top centre there is a large OCTAN logo which partially hides the lever that is used to make the lift go up or down. It's a simple system and from my experience of building and using it, it isn't perfect. The small tolerances in the thickness of the parts, combined with the weight of a car and the platform of the lift mean the lift occasionally gets stuck where the pieces of the shaft meet while going down.

The small petrol station is a little poor and doesn't have a fixed place in the model. It's a pity there is no specific location as this way it looks a bit like an afterthought.

The set has quite some stickers, but contrary to other cases in this model they are necessary to give it a finished look. Without the signs indicating the Parking, the car wash, the mechanical shop or the license plates of the cars the set looks a lot poorer.

Here we have a set that has never been made in the CITY era, with some interesting novelties, that is striking and colourful. Since the set is an exclusive which is not distributed in the normal shops I'm sure it will become one of the mythical CITY sets.

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