

Review: 10247 Ferris Wheel

Set name: FERRIS WHEEL

Set number: 10247

Parts: 2464

Minifigs: 10

Text by lluisgib

Pictures by LEGO® System A/S and courtesy of Brickset

The Ferris Wheel and the Roller Coaster are two of the most desired sets when talking about Amusement Parks. Some years ago there was a Creator Ferris Wheel (Set #4957) which had a great success and a lot of people adapted it to their cities.

When LEGO launched last year the Mixer the community started to be excited about future rides that would appear. And this year we received the first good news: the Ferris Wheel. It is a quite big set with 2464 parts. The building process is divided in 4 different parts.

The set includes 10 minifigs: 6 adults, including the ride operator and an ice cream seller, and 4 kids. It's a nice variety of citizens with colorful dresses and varied hairs and accessories, including a balloon, ice creams, a pretzel, tools and money.

The Ferris Wheel measures over 23" (60cm) high, 21" (55cm) wide and 14" (38cm) deep. These measures could make us think about a fragile building. Nothing far from the reality. It is a very strong structure and you shouldn't have any concern about taking it with your hands.

In the first step of the building process, you build the base of the ride. It consists in 5 - 16x16 green plates and 2 8x16 green plates. They are distributed in a kind of "H" letter with one 16x16 plate in the center and on the sides 2 "columns" formed with 2 16x16 and 1 8x16 plates. This "H" structure is fixed with technic bricks. It permits to attach the parts where the main beams of the ride will be fixed in the next step. There are also the axles that will allow to move the Ferris Wheel, and the mechanism that fixes the ride when the visitors want to go into the Ferris Wheel or leave it.

Once the mechanical part is finished, it is fully covered with green plates and slopes. When the first building step is finished, we have a fragile base. It will become strong when we start to attach the other parts, but at this point you can see how big the Ferris Wheel will be.



Let's continue with the second step. In this part you build the ride control cabin, the access to the ride, including stairs, fences, ramps, a turnstile... together with the main beams and some decoration including two trees with a new and very interesting flower part. In the control cabin there is another brand new part: a brick arch 1x3x2 inverted. There aren't a lot of inverted arches and they are usually bigger, so i think this part will have a lot of success.



But the new flower part will be one of the top ones in the next LUGBULK. It is a Plant Flower Stem with Bar and 6 Stems. This year it appears in 4 sets (the Ferris Wheel, and Friends / Elves sets). This part will be useful to increase or variety of trees, and flowerpot stands.



In this set there are two trees and each one includes 5 of this part, attached to a 1x1 modified brick with 4 studs on side. The result is a round crown very beautiful and without empty parts.

The beams are made with standard bricks and plates, forming an inverted "V" with two cross pieces in each side. The same structure is build twice. Then we have a total of 8 beams to fix strongly the wheel to the basement.

In the third building step, you build the structure of the wheel itself. This is the part where we start with the 12x building steps. There is an interesting mixture of axles and standard plates to build a 12 axle wheel where we'll attach the 12 cabins. I must admit that it's a bit boring. But when the process evolves, and you start to see the wheel growing, it becomes more interesting. Besides the structure itself, there are two trans-clear parts to decorate the axles, in orange and yellow. I am trying to figure how to add light to these parts, to make a spectacular night scene, but I still have not found the right way.

In the 4th and last building step, you build the cabins. There are 12 cabins in 3 colors. Perhaps it's not the best color choice (Green, Yellow, and Purple). I miss perhaps a 4th color (like Red) to make it more attractive and colorful. The cabins are all equal, besides the color. There are two small doors that can be opened, and space for up to three minifigs. They have a roof made with a radar dish 6x6 inverted.



Once the set is built, you can start to play by turning the wheel with the pulley on the rear side. The movement is transmitted by 2 x 18mm wheels, that are in contact with the external ring of the wheel structure. When you are tired to make it turn manually you can easy attach a PF M motor to make it work electrically. The mechanism is ready for this attachment and you don't need to apply any modification. That is great.

The overall set is wonderful. It's big, functional, very detailed. In one word: Spectacular. There's not only the ride, but also a lot of small details like a ice cream stand, the amazing trees, a bench. I only found a problem. Sometimes it's difficult to put the minifigs in the cabin. Its size is not big enough to easily put the minifigs, and the adults are even more difficult to put inside because their head hit with the top axle that

connects the cabin with the structure. A tip for this is to remove the radar dish before you put the minifigs. Once they are inside, put it again. This is a minor complaint that does not decrease the interest and spectacularity of this great set.

In my opinion this set will be one of the most successful set of the year in the AFOL Community. We will start to see MODs and MOCs around it. The

Amusement Parks are usually very liked by the kids on exhibitions, because of their movement and colorful designs. I will test in our next exhibition with the MIXER, the Ferris Wheel and one or two more rides I have in mind. But... will there finally be a Roller Coaster next year? We need special parts to make it work. A set with tracks and cars to make your own Roller Coaster would be amazing. Let's wait a year and keep the fingers crossed.

#

Acknowledgements: CEE Team and Kim E. Thomsen for this set.

