

Presentation: New summer sets 2015

By HispaBrick Magazine®

Pictures courtesy of LEGO® System A/S

This summer LEGO® has launched some interesting new sets for AFOLs. In this presentation we take a look three sets we have built in order to share our first impressions.

10248 - Ferrari F40 Creator Expert

The summer started with images of the new Die-Cast car from the Creator Expert theme which included a new logo for this theme. The logo is made up of 7 modified 1x1 headlight bricks, that form a cube. It is a very clever logo as it shows how you can build a cube with 7 of these bricks, something that fits very well with "Expert" building. ;)

When Speed Champions came out and I saw some of the Ferrari sets, I already imagined the Creator Expert car for this year might be a Ferrari, but I have to say that I was surprised the chosen model was the F40. It is a mythical car, but today there are other much more recognisable and promoted models than the F40.

Building the F40 is very entertaining. It is built in much the same way a real car is built, starting with the chassis, then the interior, the engine, and finally the bodywork,. The chassis is simple. It is made with Technic bricks and reinforced with technic axles in order to support the weight of the rest of the car. One of the most interesting parts is the interior. It contains two red sports chairs, a gear shifter, a hand brake, a (non-functional) steering wheel, and the clocks, which is just as simple and spot on as the original. The windscreen is the only new part in this set, and it is printed in red to simulate the connection between the chassis and the roof.

The engine has 8 cylinders and is a faithful reproduction, including the turbo, collector, and gearbox ... After finishing it and fitting it on the chassis it's time for the icing on the cake, the bodywork. Evidently a car from 1987 doesn't have the curves a modern car might have, which allows the shape to be built quite faithfully with LEGO bricks. Maybe the simplest part is the rear spoiler which is completely square. The rest of the bodywork is built using wedges and curved slopes. There are some interesting construction techniques, for example in order to build



certain shapes, bricks need to be used upside down. As with all Creator Expert cars, the doors, hood, and the cover of the engine can open, allowing access to the different parts of the car.

The final result is a faithful reproduction of the F40. The shapes, proportions, and small details like the closing headlights, are identical to the original! The car comes with a small sticker sheet which helps to complete a superb car. There is only one drawback, the model is quite fragile. Compared to the Mini Cooper or the VW Camper, this car needs to be handled with care if you don't want any parts to come off.





We knew of this model some months in advance, when it was nominated in one of the LEGO® Ideas reviews, and I believe this set was highly anticipated by fans of the Sitcom.

Upon opening the set, the first thing that draws your attention is the instruction manual. It is quite thick. Not just because of the building instructions, but because it also contains an explanation of the series and its characters (in three languages English, French, and Spanish- if you get the international version) at the beginning of the booklet, and of the designers at the end.

For those who know the TV series not much explaining is required, so I started building the set almost immediately. The build is divided into two parts. In the first part the minifigs of Bernadette, Amy, and Howard are built together with the living/dining room where much of the sitcom takes place, with very little detail.

In the second part the minifigs for Leonard, Penny, Sheldon, and Raj are built together with the furniture of the room, including all the geeky details that come with the set.

The minifigs are splendid. They capture the style and look of each character. Some of the minifigs include molded parts in two colours, like in the Simpsons® minifigs. Sheldon and Leonard's T-shirts stand out as the most recognisable from various episodes.



The room is also spot on compared to what you see on TV. The sofa with Sheldon's favourite seat, the centre of his universe where everything is perfect... the small table, the shelves which are loaded with collectibles, as well as the table near the window where Sheldon occasionally fights the birds he hates so much ...

It's the details that give this set its personality. There is a blackboard for Sheldon to work on when he is at home, a telescope, a DNA sequence, the Green Lantern, collectible figurines, and a long list of other items I will not mention so as not to spoil all the fun of the build.

The set was designed for fans of the series. It isn't very playable, rather static, and reproduces a scene in the famous sitcom. It is also not much of a building challenge, nor anything anyone who doesn't know the series would ever buy. But it is a delight for the fans of the series who, I am sure, will want to own them in pairs - one to keep and one to play - just like Leonard, Sheldon, Howard, and Raj would do.

21303 – Wall·E from LEGO® Ideas

The other LEGO Ideas set for this year was also much anticipated : Wall·E, the main character from the 2008 Disney® Pixar film. I must say I recognise Wall·E, but I haven't actually seen the film which make it a little harder to judge how faithful the reproduction is.

The box certainly stands out, in bright yellow, and it is quite a lot thicker than that of the Big Bang Theory. The instruction booklet introduces Wall·E as well as the designer of the set, but in this case only in English. The box is quite full and heavy for its size.



The set is not built in stages (there are no numbered bags). The yellow parts are a different colour from the standard LEGO® yellow. they are a little more orange and I'm not quite sure if this colour has ever been used before.

The robot is larger than I imagined before building it. It is approximately 12x12 bricks and its height depends on whether or not you stretch its neck, but on average it is about 15 bricks.

The first thing you build is the body of the robot. It has an 8x10 base on which a cube is built that serves as its body and to which the arms, legs, and neck are connected. Also, in the front part, there is a door that can open so Wall·E can store his treasures. On that door there are two silk printed parts with Wall·E's name. At the top of the door there is a control panel, indicating the solar power level and the other new part that is also printed. As you build the body you add the small appendages to the robot, using SNOT techniques.



When the body is done, the tracks that allow Wall·E to travel are built. This is the most "Technic" part of the build, but it isn't complex and soon our robot is capable of moving around.



The most elaborate part is the head. The neck is simple, but the parts that hold the eyes are very complex as they must allow the eyes to turn 360 degrees and express different emotions.

Finally the arms are connected to the body using ball joints. The arms can be turned forwards or backwards, opened, and turned 360 degrees. Each arm is finished with three "fingers" that allow Wall-E to grab objects of a certain size. The set comes with a flowerpot and a plant that the robot can hold in its hand. The flowerpot attaches to the hand via a stud.

After finishing the build, the set looks really great. The

tracks aren't very smooth which means you need to press them down to make them turn. Being able to change the expression on the face of the robot is a very positive aspect of this set and, together with the movement of the arms, this makes the set playable. Some people who have seen the film tell me the set is an excellent reproduction of Wall-E.

So now that I have built my own Wall-E I feel obliged to watch the film in order to confirm that opinion. Anyway, I have very much enjoyed building it which makes my expectations for the film high.

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