

# Review: 60098 Heavy-Haul Train

**Set: HEAVY HAUL TRAIN**

**Set number: 60098**

**Parts: 984**

**Contains: 5 minifigs**



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**Images by LEGO® SystemA/S**

A new Cargo train has arrived to our cities. The engine is red, the cars are interesting and they carry new and unseen load... and there is also a loading area!



The set comes with 5 minifigures. 3 of them are employees of the railway company. The other two minifigures are construction workers and have appeared in several sets. The torsos of the railway company have been used in the prior cargo train. Anyway, they are great!

Yes, the engine looks like a yellow one that appeared some years ago (Set 7939 - Year 2010). At first sight you could think that it's the same engine. But although it looks familiar, the construction of this new engine is completely different compared with the prior one.



The building starts with the engine. Instead of the cargo train launched last year, with a blue engine that looks very "American" (it reminds me of the Maersk train engine), the engine of the 60098 looks very "European". It's nice that LEGO mixes these two different concepts of cargo engines, because we have more diversity in our train lines.

The engine has two symmetric cabins. They can be opened and you can put a minifigure inside. Just behind the cabin, there are 2 windows (one on each side). They are simulating the entrance doors to the cabins, with the rails that help to come into the cabin. Although the look is very realistic, those "doors" are not real and they are only for decoration. Inside the area covered by these windows, there is the IR sensor on one side. On the other side there are some bricks simulating another IR sensor, basically to keep the symmetry on both sides. To unite both cabins, there are two Tile, Modified 6 x 16 with Studs on Edges that cover the battery box. This building technique is different compared with the yellow engine. On this old engine, all laterals were build with bricks, instead of this new way. This new method allows you to have two small corridors in the engine, to go from one cabin to the other. Because of this reason, the designers have added a handrail to keep the train employees safe. The roof is made up of 2 separated parts that cover both sides, and it is open in the middle, to give access to the battery box. Like other trains, this engine is ready to add lights and give more realism to the model.

There are three cars in this train, as usual. Two of them are not really interesting themselves. They both are platforms, one longer than the other. The long one, that has 4 axis, comes with a yellow excavator. It is a very nice addition because it helps to pick up the round

bricks 1x1 and carry them to the loading area and be charged into the cargo-car. The short platform comes with an helicopter. Due to the weight it has to carry, it only needs two axis. I have to admit that I experimented some problems in our last event with this car. Depending on the car you have beside the tail of the helicopter, there could be some collisions.



The most interesting car for me is the hopper. It is a brown car with the possibility to load cargo in the top, and unload the charge from both sides of it, where there are two doors that you can open. The color of this car is reddish brown and light stone gray, and the pattern is very realistic. This is the typical car that you'd like to build 15 or 20 of and make them run with a double traction engine.



The track circuit is the simplest I got in a LEGO cargo train. This is the second time that there are no switches in a cargo train set, and there is only an oval, although it has more straight tracks compared to the passenger train. There is also an ungated railway crossing.

The loading area has a crane that can be moved in parallel of the track. The cabin turns 360 degrees and it has an arm that can be moved forward and backward

with certain limitations. It uses the same parts as the very old cranes of the 90's seaports. All these movements allow the crane to take the load from the ground and go to the hopper and leave the load there. All this load area is strongly connected to the track and very playable.



The set is very nice and there could be different reasons to get it. For the newbies it's a beautiful train, fun building and lots of playability. For the people who have the set with the yellow engine, the cars are a good reason to buy the set, or at least to try to get the parts of them (especially the hopper). Price wise, the set comes with nice additions like the excavator and the loading area, although I missed the two switches that usually come with the cargo trains.

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