



Reviews

Review: 10260 - Downtown Diner

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Set: Downtown Diner

Set Number: 10260

Parts: 2480

Minifigures: 6

Recommended Price: 149,99€ / \$169,99



On December 7, during the HispaBrick Magazine Event 2017 (HBME2017), we had the honour of presenting a global exclusive: a live build of the new modular building for 2018, the 10260 Downtown Diner. To allow other AFOLs to participate in the exclusive and let the public enjoy it, we built the set during the first day of our event. Four AFOLs shared in the experience which was shared on our Facebook page [1] as well as on Promobricks [2], thanks to Christian Giudici who visited our event. The set was highly anticipated and many visitors recognised the model.

Now let's have a look at the set. The first big change after ten years of modular building is in the minifigs. No more classic smiley faces. However, each of the minifigs has their own personality. I would like to highlight the waitress, with a blue and white striped blouse and a scarf around her neck, the boxer with his gloves and classic haircut, and the singer with his frilled jacket, Elvis hairstyle and double face expression: smiling and singing.



The minifig accessories are also interesting. The waitress uses rollerskates and has a tray with pancakes, The sporty girl has a pair of weights and the singer has a red electric guitar.

The car that comes with the set follows the same 50s style. It is a beautiful pink car with that touch of exaggeration characteristic of cars from that era. The rear part stands out especially, with two big aerodynamic fins leading to the rear lights. The car can hold three minifigs. The designers have managed to create a six-wide car that will hold two minifigs in the front and one in the back.



The ground floor of the Downtown Diner reproduces a typical 50s diner. For anyone who didn't experience this decade personally, it may evoke memories of Back to the Future, when Marty goes back in time and meets his father.

The façade is one big effort to make things as 'curvy' as possible. The columns, the windows and the marquee try to avoid any square shapes and are very effective. Since a considerable number of curved tiles and brick arches of different sizes have appeared, this kind of design has become more feasible. The combination of colours on the outside is very retro, with white, pink and a reintroduction of teal green (aka dark turquoise, last seen in 2005).



The marquee runs all the way around the building, reaching the rear and even the stairs on the side leading to the upper floors. In the front of the marquee there is a gorgeous 'DINER' sign, in a darker pink. The letters are built with plates, bricks and round bricks, and are very well connected to the structure.

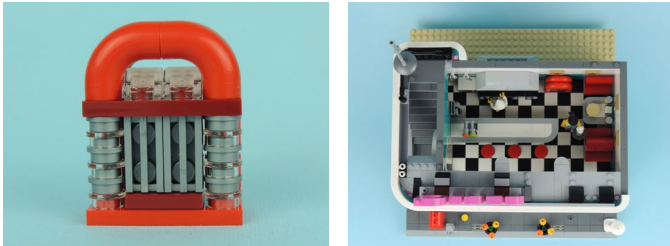


To finish off the exterior, the door to the diner is printed with the name 'Jims' and an 'Open' sign with some decorative borders. In the street there is a mailbox in a more Danish than American style, two flower pots with plants and a new style of flower, and a parking meter

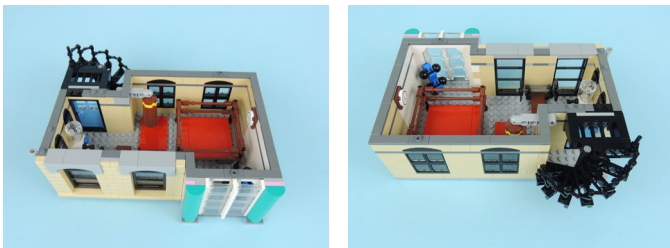


The inside of the diner is very detailed. The floor is tiled in black and white. The kitchen has four burners, a hood, kitchen utensils, two drinks dispensers and a coffee machine. A large bar separates the kitchen from the dining area. There are three stools in front of it, and on the right side there is table with a

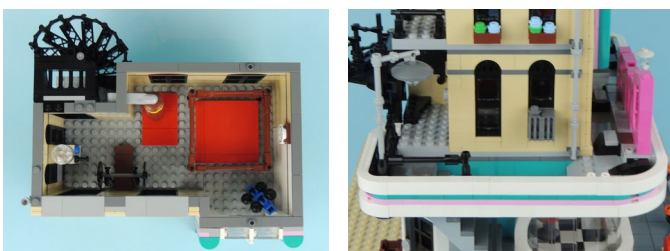
bench on either side, a ketchup and mustard bottle and a box of napkins. There is also a Wurlitzer-style jukebox. The bottom part of the of the wall is green and the top is white, with a pink stripe, matching the outside. There are pictures on the wall of Hollywood stars, and on the left side there is an exit to the back for the personnel.



On the first floor there is a gym with a boxing ring, a punching bag, a weightlifting bench and some weights. Since the stairs finish on the side of the building, the entrance is at the back. The boxing ring takes up a 9x9-stud space, so you can fit in two minifigs for a fight. In this case, since there is only one minifig with boxing gloves, you'll have to resort to the collectible minifig collection to find an opponent. The punching bag moves if you punch it. This effect is quite well achieved with a ball-joint. There is a stand for the weights right next to the window. A water fountain helps the sportsmen to stay hydrated.



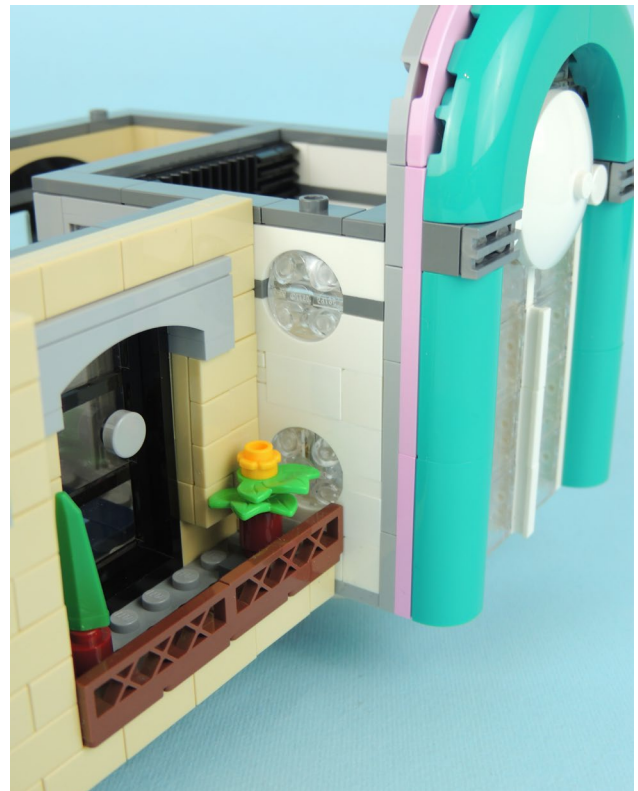
The outside is quite sober, except for the continuation of the green columns at the entrance of the diner, which protect the window that rises all the way to the top of the building. The front façade is covered with tiles. This is achieved by building a wall of bricks with studs on one side and covering those studs with tiles, resulting in an interesting appearance. On the side, above the stairs, there are two windows. One of them holds the aircon unit. On the rear there are also two large windows and the stairs to the top floor



I will focus on the stairs for a moment as they use an interesting building technique I haven't seen before in any other set. Each of the rungs is built identically and they are joined using a Technic Axle. To stop the rungs from moving some mechanical battle droid arms are used, providing support and separation all the way up to the top floor. This takes building stairs to a whole new level :)



The outside of the top floor is almost identical to that of the middle floor. The main difference is the balcony which takes the place of the large windows. On this balcony there is a plant made with the new plant leaf elements. The other big difference goes almost unnoticed: there is a round window on the side of the balcony. It is made with two arch bricks, one of them placed upside down. The window pane is a Trans Clear Plate, Round 2 x 2 with Rounded Bottom. The green columns that come up from the ground floor are finished off with a rounded structure, providing the perfect 50s finish.

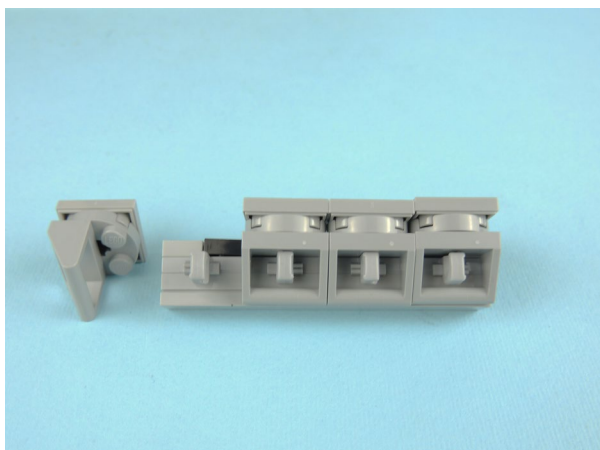


The interior of this floor is a fully equipped recording studio. First there is a waiting room with an armchair, a side table and a rug. There is another rug in front of the door to the balcony, as well as a drinks cabinet. By way of decoration,

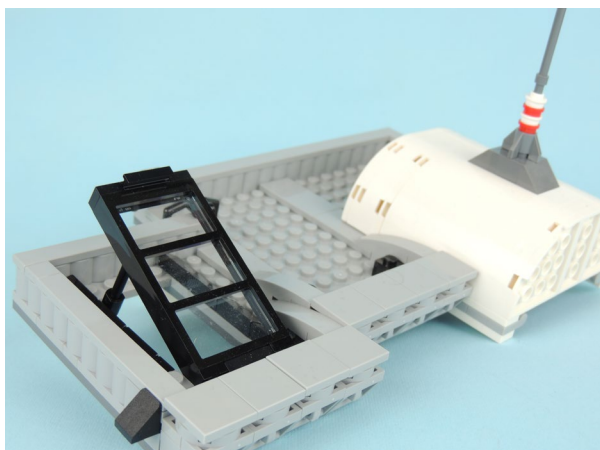
there is a golden disk on the wall as well as the cover of the singer's latest album. The recording equipment is in the corner. It consists of a large mixing desk and a 'Revox'-like tape recorder. The sound engineer can see the singer through a large window and give him instructions. The sound-proofed recording studio contains a large standing microphone, so the singer can give it all.



The roof, which is accessible from the stairs on the side of the entrance door, has a skylight which opens right on top of the waiting room. The ledge is built using a new construction technique.



On the right side there is a curved roof atop the green columns that rise up from the diner. On top of this roof there is a radio antenna. On the inside of this roof there is a lamp which illuminates the sound-proofed recording studio.



The set is fascinating. It is true that it breaks stylistically with the traditional modular building concept we have seen over the last ten years, but since LEGO® has also broken other tabus – like the traditional smiley faces – why not add more diversity to our cities?



It is really hard to find any defects in this set (and it's usually easy to find fault with something you haven't designed yourself). In this case, there is hardly anything I do not like. The design is robust, beautiful, mould-breaking, and fun to build judging from the comments of the AFOLs who participated in the HBME2017 live build. The selection of minifigs is excellent and all the furnishings and accessories, from the jukebox to the car, are in style. The colour combination is spot on. They bring out the diner style and make the top floors more austere. Since the diner has a large window, I'm thinking of ways to light the interior. It is going to look spectacular!

We would like to thank LEGO® for providing this set for review. However, LEGO® neither approves nor endorses the opinions we publish about their sets.

[1] [facebook.com/hispabrickmagazine](https://www.facebook.com/hispabrickmagazine)

[2] [promobricks.de](https://www.promobricks.de)

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