

MARX TRAINS

North Pole Express Streamliner and Cars



A Beginner's Guide to the Marx Trains' Christmas Items

While attempting to collect the perfect Marx Christmas Train, I found it difficult to find information, photos and video for what was available. This little guide, along with videos I will post, are my efforts to share what I've found. If you're reading this, I'm guessing you're also a Marx Train enthusiast, and looking for a great Tin Christmas Train. I hope you find this helpful! Special thanks to Jim & Debby Flynn, Steve "Papa" Eastman and Dan Schievelbein for their posts on websites and helping me directly.

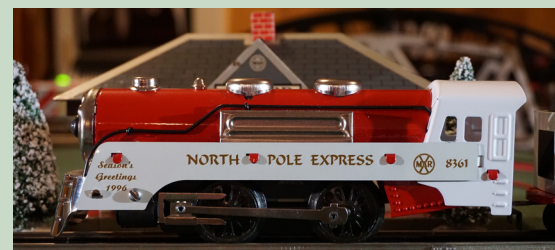
Louis Marx, who started building trains in 1932, never built any Christmas train items as far as I can tell. The infamous "Bunny Train" must have turned him off of Holiday items for good. However, luckily for you and me, Jim and Debby Flynn, and Jim's sister Sandi, revived the Marx spirit with "Marx Trains" production from 1992-2004, which continued with "Ameritrains" from 2004-2007. This is an amazing collection of quality tinplate Marx trains, including the Christmas items listed here, all with tremendous graphics. The fabrication and graphics have classic 1930's-60's era designs with modern quality. Old man Marx would have been proud of their efforts!

The "Ameritrains" name came along after the rights to the Marx name expired, but they are of the same quality.

This guide is a work in progress, so please let me know if you have any revisions, or items for sale! I'm in the Marx Trains Facebook Group hosted by Johnny Thompson, and I'm "MarxTinMan" in the O-Gauge Forum. The photos with the vintage Marx Girard Station in the background are the items I own.

I'll start like any train starts, and that's with the locomotive! From there I'll go by production date. *ALL ABOARD!*

1996 **8361** North Pole Express Stream Line Locomotive AND 8361T Tender Set, 8-wheel, tab & slot couplers -\$209.95.
Obviously, this is the cornerstone of the Modern Marx holiday collection. There were 3 color variations I know of (see photos). The white cab with white boiler, with red tender, seems to be the most rare. I really like the white tender with different litho on each side.



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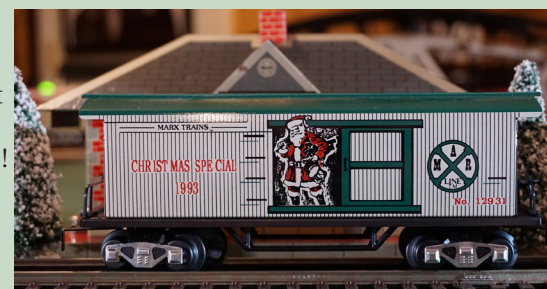
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1995 **10355** Holiday Special includes a 1995 Rock Island Stream Line Locomotive, 1995 Marx 73512 Christmas Snow Gondola, 1994 Marx 73412 Rudolph's Express Car, 1993 Marx 12931 Christmas Special Boxcar, and a 1993 Marx 12932 Christmas Special Caboose (photos below). Twenty-five (25) sets were made at - \$379



1993 **12931** Christmas Special Boxcar with Lithographed Santa, 8-wheel, tab & slot coupler, 7.25" car - \$39.99
Also part of 7333 set with 12932 caboose (below) - \$80.00, and as part of the of an early set with the Streamliner and Tender listed on page 1.
Look closely, there is a train for a lucky kiddo tucked under Santa's arm!



1993 **12932** Christmas Special Caboose with lights and windows, non-smoking chimney, 8-wheel, tab & slot coupler, 7.25" car - \$39.99
Also part of 7333 set with 12931 boxcar (above) - \$80.00, and as part of the of an early set with the Streamliner and Tender listed on page 1.
Also made without lights and without windows in window openings.
Reverse side is the same.



1994 **73412** Rudolph's Express Car with **lighted nose**, two non-smoking chimneys, 8-wheel, tab & slot coupler, 7.25" car - \$45.95. Also sold as part of the of an early set with the Streamliner and Tender listed on page 1. Also available with lithographed nose and "Y-tilt" couplers (see middle pic). I like both the lighted and nice litho versions.
Notice Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner and Blitzen are also here...with Cupid acting Cheeky!



Lighted Nose



Lithographed Nose

Back side (literally for Cupid)



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1995 **73512** Christmas Snow Gondola, 8-wheel, tab & slot coupler, 6" car - \$31.95



1995 **7356-5** & **7356-6** Christmas Tree Flat Car, red, green or aluminum, 4 or 8-wheel, tab & slot coupler, 6" cars - \$19.95 (4-wheel), \$24.95 (8-wheel). These were the first of the Marx Trains and Ameritrains Flat-cars. Debby Flynn said the tree cars also have flocked and unflocked variations. I cheated by adding my own tree (see photo on the far right)



1996 **7357** Christmas Package Flat Car in red, gray, green or white, 4 and 8-wheel versions, tab & slot couplers, 6" cars - \$24.95. I believe it might have also been re-released later as a "Christmas Special 01" in 2001 pictured on the right.



1997 **73712** Rudolph Racing Fuel Tank Car, 8-wheel, tab & slot coupler, 6" car - \$36.95. Reverse side is the same.



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1998 **73812X** Non-Musical Santa's Private Car 8-wheel, tab & slot coupler, non-smoking chimney, 7.25" car - \$39.95

1998 **73812** Musical Santa's Private Car is a lighted unit with graphics of Santa, Rudolph and elves listening to the the music. The car plays "Jingle Bells," "Oh Christmas Tree," and "We Wish You A Merry Christmas" - \$99.95.

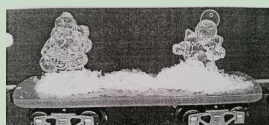


Musical version pictured here

1999 **"Ice Parade" Flat Cars**, white or red, 8-wheel, tab & slot couplers.

There was a 3-car set (\$69.95) that included snowman & train ice sculptures, teddy bear & rocking horse sculptures, and Santa & second figure ice sculptures. There is also a fourth ice parade car with an angel, house and third figure. All are 6" cars.

(photos from Jim and Debby Flynn's published Marx Train Flyers)



2000 **76012** Comet's Flight School Car 4 or 8-wheel, tab & slot couplers, 6" car - \$38.95. This came in several versions. Some had snowman or a figure inside. Rare versions, as shown on the left, had sliding doors on both sides. Examples of both sides and both 4-wheel and 8-wheel cars shown. They have nice graphics are on top too.



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2000 **76013-3** Marx Snowman & Penguin Jamboree Flatcar 3-car set, 6" cars - \$69.95 (photo from Jim & Debby Flynn's published Marx Train Flyers)



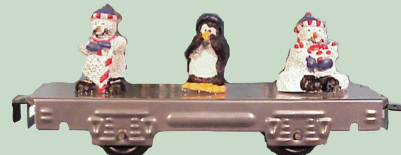
2000 **Special Pine-Cone Flat Car**, 7" flat-car. Jim Flynn said only 25 were made as gifts, so there wasn't any pricing.



2001 **76111** Nutcracker Flat Car with 3 Nutcrackers, 6" cars - \$24.95. Debby Flynn says several variations were made, with different soldiers and some uncataloged specials with a Nutcracker & Drum also at \$24.95. Here are the photos I've gathered thanks to the Flynn's Marx Train Flyers and Steve Eastman.



2002 **Special-02** uncataloged Snow-Guins On Ice flat-car 4-wheel, tab & slot - \$24.95. Several variations were made. 6" cars. (photo from Jim and Debby Flynn's published Marx Train Flyers)



2002 **76211** Happy Holidays, Christmas In America Car, 8-wheel, Y-tilt coupler, 7.25" car - \$39.99

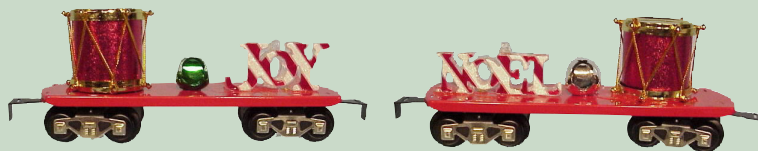


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2003 **Special-03** Jingle Joy and Jingle Noel 4-wheel or 8-wheel, tab & slot coupler, 6" cars - \$24.95



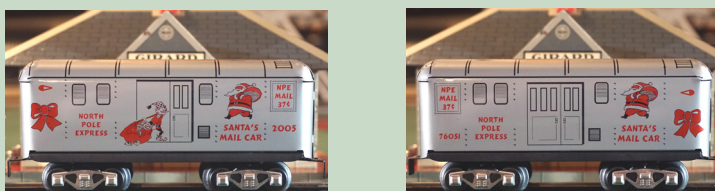
2004 **Special-04** SnowBell flat cars in gold, silver or blue with tab and slot couplers, 6" cars - \$24.95



2004 Ameritrains **76042G** & **76042R** "Blitzen's Toy Box" 8-wheel Gondolas with tab and slot couplers, 6" cars- \$29.95. Available in both red and green, with packages or with snow.



2005 Ameritrains **76051** Santa's Mail Car 4, or 8-wheel, tab & slot coupler, 6" car - \$39.99



2005 Ameritrains **76052** Dasher's Elf Diner-Car, 4 or 8-wheel, tab & slot coupler, 6" car, available in silver or light green - \$34.95
Also available as the trackside diner shown on next page.



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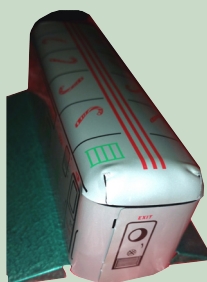
2006 Ameritrains **Elf Flat Car** 4-wheel or 8-wheel, tab & slot coupler, 6" car - \$24.95



2007 Ameritrains **5551 Dasher's Track-Side Diner** \$39.99

Also available as a diner-car shown on the previous page.

Both the diner and diner-car are identical with the same tabs underneath, so you can easily turn a trackside diner into a diner-car if you also have a Modern Marx flat-car.



Here are some custom Christmas train items made from both Marx Trains and vintage Marx.

Mr. Steve Eastman's custom 6" Marx Caboose using a traditional Marx top, and Marx Trains flat-car. I love this!



This is often found on eBay. This seller (RadTrains) has purchased the Marx Trains side plates and put them on a re-painted vintage Marx Streamliner. He's done a good job on the tender too!

