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KATO 10-491

KATO N Gauge 800 Series Tsubame Shinkansen (6-car set)
Model 10-491 Instruction Manual

Model: 10-491 | Brand: KATO

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the safe and enjoyable use of your KATO N Gauge 800 Series Tsubame Shinkansen (6-car set), Model 10-491. Please read these instructions carefully before setting up and operating your model train. This product is designed for enthusiasts aged 8 and up and is manufactured in Japan. It is officially approved by JR Kyushu.



Image: The KATO N Gauge 800 Series Tsubame Shinkansen (6-car set) Model 10-491, showcasing its detailed design on a model railway track.

Product Features:

- Beautifully reproduced Tsubame emblem on the car body side.
- Accurate car numbers and body markings.
- Precisely replicated roof equipment, including lightning arresters and antennas.
- Functional head and tail lights.
- Standard equipped with KATO diaphragm couplers (PAT.) for intermediate car connections.
- Includes destination display seals and user-attached roof equipment parts.
- Set includes six cars: 821-2 + 826-2 + 827-2 (M) + 827-102 + 826-102 + 822-102.

SETUP

Follow these steps to set up your KATO N Gauge 800 Series Tsubame Shinkansen:

1. **Unpacking:** Carefully remove all components from the packaging. Inspect for any damage during transit.

2. **Track Preparation:** Ensure your N Gauge tracks are clean, properly assembled, and laid on a flat, stable surface. Refer to your track system's manual for specific setup instructions.
3. **Attaching Roof Equipment:** Some roof equipment, such as antennas and lightning arresters, may be user-attached parts. Gently attach these components to the designated locations on the car roofs. Refer to the included diagrams for correct placement.
4. **Connecting Cars:** The set includes intermediate car connection parts. Use the KATO diaphragm couplers to securely link the six cars together in the correct sequence (821-2, 826-2, 827-2 (M), 827-102, 826-102, 822-102). Ensure couplers are fully engaged.
5. **Placing on Tracks:** Carefully place the entire train set onto the tracks, ensuring all wheels are properly seated on the rails.
6. **Power Connection:** Connect your N Gauge power pack to the tracks according to its instructions. Ensure the power pack is turned off before connecting.



Image: A close-up view of the KATO N Gauge 800 Series Tsubame Shinkansen, highlighting the detailed car body, windows, and the KATO diaphragm coupler system.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Once your train set is properly assembled and placed on the tracks, you can begin operation:

1. **Power On:** Turn on your N Gauge power pack.
2. **Direction Control:** Use the direction switch on your power pack to select the desired direction of travel (forward or reverse).
3. **Speed Control:** Slowly increase the throttle on your power pack to start the train moving. Adjust the throttle to control the speed.
4. **Head/Tail Lights:** The head and tail lights will illuminate automatically depending on the direction of travel. Ensure they are functioning correctly.
5. **Stopping the Train:** Gradually reduce the throttle to bring the train to a smooth stop.
6. **Safe Operation:** Always supervise operation, especially with younger users. Avoid operating the train at excessively high speeds for prolonged periods to prevent wear and tear.

MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance will ensure the longevity and smooth operation of your model train:

- **Cleaning Wheels:** Periodically clean the wheels of all cars, especially the powered car (827-2 (M)), using a soft cloth and a specialized model train cleaner. This removes dirt and grime that can affect electrical contact and smooth running.
- **Track Cleaning:** Keep your tracks clean. Dirt and oxidation on the rails can interfere with electrical conductivity, leading to erratic train movement. Use a track cleaning tool or a soft cloth with track cleaner.
- **Coupler Inspection:** Check the diaphragm couplers for any damage or misalignment. Ensure they connect securely between cars.
- **Storage:** When not in use, store the train set in its original packaging or a dust-free container to protect it from dust and physical damage. Avoid exposing the model to extreme temperatures or direct sunlight.
- **Lubrication:** KATO models are generally designed for low maintenance. Avoid over-lubrication. If the locomotive's movement becomes stiff over time, apply a tiny amount of specialized model train lubricant to the moving parts as indicated in advanced maintenance guides, if necessary.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your KATO N Gauge 800 Series Tsubame Shinkansen, consider the following:

- **Train Not Moving:**
 - Check if the power pack is on and connected correctly to the tracks.
 - Ensure all wheels are properly on the rails and making good contact.
 - Clean the wheels of the powered car and the tracks.
 - Verify that all car connections are secure.
- **Lights Not Working:**
 - Confirm the train is receiving power and moving.
 - Check the direction switch on the power pack; lights illuminate based on direction.
 - Inspect for any visible damage to the light components.
- **Derailment:**
 - Ensure tracks are laid flat and securely connected without gaps or unevenness.
 - Check that all cars are properly coupled and not binding.
 - Reduce speed, especially on curves.
- **Erratic Movement:**
 - Clean tracks and wheels thoroughly.
 - Check for any obstructions on the track.
 - Ensure consistent power supply from the power pack.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Brand Name	KATO
Model Number	10-491

Gauge	N Gauge
Set Count	6 Cars
Product Body Size	31.8 x 22 x 3.2 cm (approximate packaging dimensions)
Product Weight	1.59 pounds (approx. 0.72 kg)
Manufacturer Recommended Minimum Age	8 years (96 months)
Assembly Required	No (minor user-attached parts)
Rechargeable Battery Included	No
Remote Control Included	No

WARRANTY

KATO products are manufactured to high standards. For specific warranty information, please refer to the documentation included with your purchase or visit the official KATO website. Keep your proof of purchase for any warranty claims.

SUPPORT

If you require further assistance or have questions not covered in this manual, please contact KATO customer support. You can typically find contact details on the product packaging or the official KATO website. When contacting support, please have your model number (10-491) and a detailed description of your issue ready.

ASK A QUESTION ABOUT THIS MANUAL

Ask about setup, troubleshooting, compatibility, parts, safety, or missing instructions. Manuals+ will review the question and use this page’s manual context to help answer it.

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Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

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Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

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