

Stourbridge Jn SimSig timetable for 1975

Timetable using the summer 1975 WTTs and a 1971 trip notice. It is preset to start in '2007 era with additional locations', this must be used. The timetable runs 0400 - 0430 next day.

The other scenario presets are 'No problems', TORR, no AB, no LC but these be changed as desired to increase difficulty.

Thanks to Steve Fulcher & the sim teams for the sim and arranging to enable older timetables via the 'additional locations' era.

Thanks to Pascal (58050) for the copy of the 1971 trip notice.

Notes to Timetable

A freight - heavy timetable showing just how far the freight - passenger balance has moved over the years. For passengers there is only a roughly hourly service to Kidderminster, not always that 'clockface', with just 7 trains a day onwards to Worcester/ A fair proportion of the freight is still running via Dudley which was a through line in 1975. There are a number of banking and pilot moves up the hills to Rowley Regis or Round Oak, and trips to all the sidings. Some variation is included with day of week (TUE/WED/THU/FRI) and chemical / oil trains running as required. Things are eased slightly by the panel signalling, in 1975 it was still conventional block & semaphores, as seen in many of the images listed further below.

Sources are 1975 WTT's and 1971 trip notice.

Destinations and Layout changes

Many destinations are no longer present, and these are listed below with their 2007 sim era location and any amendments that were needed to run in the sim

1 - Handsworth Area

The 2007 layout Smethwick - Handsworth is actually quite close to that for 1975, as Handsworth & Smethwick SB was open until December 1975 working the double line to Smethwick Junction conventionally. A 1980's timetable, when this line had been singled, would actually be more difficult.

- Winson Green goods is off sim just short of Birmingham Snow Hill (which by 1975 had closed).
- Handsworth Blue Circle Cement is now Queens Head sidings and a scrap yard

2 - Rood End Area

Rood End had 6 loop sidings in 1975 (see images) as well as the UGL, so the sim layout cannot handle the full service of stabled stock. Minor alterations were needed to 6M82 and Trip 87 at around 1000. Otherwise it just gets (very) hectic with only two in-sim lines to shunt.

- British Industrial Plastics Rood End - Langley Green US
- Albright & Wilson Chemicals Rood End - Oldbury Branch
- ICI depot - Oldbury Branch

It is recommended to use the scratch pads & stickies to keep track of Rood End shunting activities along with the F2 screen. It gets busy with triple stacking in the loops at times.

3 - Round Oak line

In 1975 this was a through line to Bescot and served Dudley / Dudley FLT, which was beyond the Round Oak sim exit so runs fine despite the slow line speed. In 1975 the sim exit to Kingswinford Down sdgs led to a large yard complex steel terminal known as Brierley Hill and also the Pensnett freight branch.

Brierley Hill Sidings - Pensnett branch trains do not enter the sim, although in reality were signalled by Kingswinford Jn SB, before it burnt down.

See images listed below

Note the description of operation described in the sim manual. This timetable has trains reversing at 'STOP2' from up line to the down Round Oak or to Kingswinford sidings (Brierley Hill, Pensnett) which require authorising to pass the stop boards, and aslo some loco detach there.

Consider calls from the 'Round Oak Shunter' to be from Round Oak SB due to a block failure.

4 - Kidderminster Area

In 1975 there was a large goods yard, the site of which is now the Severn Valley Railway station and sheds. Calls from "Kidderminster Station Signal Box (SVR)" can be considered as the Kidderminster yard supervisor.

In 1975 there were carriage sidings loops between the station and the 2007 turnback siding on the up side. For the sim timetable some the ECS passenger trains exit to the goods yard (Severn Valley Railway), although only 5V98 needed any major creative adjustments.

5 - Stourport Power Station

There are several trains for Stourport Power Station. In 1975 these worked to Hartlebury Jn and were tripped back north to Stourport. For the sim timetable these trains are sent to Kidderminster goods yard (Severn Valley Railway exit) and assume continuing via Bewdley instead. (Parts of trips 78, 87 and 90).

Trip Timings

While most trips running on the main lines were timetabled in the trip notice (eg Trip 90), some sections were only defined as 'trip between as required' so these have had to be created and are based on resolving imbalances in the timetabled trains, getting empty wagons back to Bescot and the few images that were found.

Applies to Trip 78, Trip 87 up to 10:00 and also to Trip 79/85 although those are local to Rood End and Handsworth.

Reporting Numbers / Headcodes

Local passenger trains in 1975 were route identified, so all Lichfield - Kidderminster would be 2H94. In the timetable these have been numbered in the more familiar current [class] [route] [sequence] to aid identification.

The main letters used are M and V (Birmingham - Worcester), and L (Lichfield - Kidderminster) with H for the Town car.

Freight trains are as WTT

Trips have been numbered as 9T[trip number] (or 0T if running light) with a UID of T[trip number][leg] - eg T9006 is 6th leg of trip T90

Trips in sim

T79, T85 Rood End Yard 08's

T81 Stourbridge Jn banking loco (24 hour, 47)

T83 Brierley Hill Yard 08

T91 Stourbridge Jn banking loco (nights, 25)

Other assisting locos appear from Bescot / Dudley as at one point in the evening 4 trains are being assisted.

Images from the time

Images noted during the timetable research

Smethwick West & Handsworth

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lickeybanker/11097448344/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/137766734@N08/50048641582/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/geoffsimages/32847667050/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/geoffsimages/8805769551/>

Langley Green & Rood End. Yard and sidings

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/geoffsimages/52453733296/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/geoffsimages/49496201762/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/invader1009/19281177268/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/geoffsimages/12390488715/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lickeybanker/43263555274/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/95430950@N07/52424442111/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lickeybanker/29404070121/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/geoffsimages/52453733296/>

Rowley Regis oil train

https://www.flickr.com/photos/wulfruna_kid/45338033582/

Cradley Heath

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/invader1009/19468673055/>

Kingswinford

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/invader1009/16746850194/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/invader1009/15602355712/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/invader1009/14981267173/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/invader1009/14639883399/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/invader1009/15415711870/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/invader1009/14826173452/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/geoffsimages/49407622148/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/85689709@N04/14980480234/>

Kingswinford South 'box'

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/55140787@N08/5146764752/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/55140787@N08/5146140933/>

Stourbridge Junction

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/71592768@N08/6637056127/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/invader1009/14846377113/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/invader1009/16748175883/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/invader1009/32634710250/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/71592768@N08/6637065269/>

Kidderminster

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/189203541@N03/50141169931/> - 9T60 is 9T78 in the timetable
<https://www.roscafen.com/signals/Kidderminster/index.htm>

Hartlebury Panel

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/alanroberts56/8034367960/>