

Introduction to Model Railroading



An Introduction to Model Railroading

Presented at Trains 2010
November 13 and 14
Burnaby, B.C.

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Trains 2010 Burnaby, B.C. 11/13 & 11/14

- Available Space?
- To Join a Club or Not
- Benchwork or Door Layout
- Scale
- Modeling Different Eras
- Track and Power
- Equipment
- Scenery
- Details
- How to Get Helpful Advice
- Where to Buy?
- Help

Space

- What Kind of Space Do You Have?
- You Need Layout Space
- You Need Work Bench Space
 - Trainset?
 - Home Layout?
 - Club?

Trainset

Pros

- Cheap
- Everything Included Loco, Cars, Track
- You May Have To Buy a Power Pack
- Snap Track

Cons

- Low Quality Loco and Cars
- No Spare Parts
- No Support

Home Layout

Pros

- Design Your Empire The Way You Want
- Freedom To Select Size, Scale, Layout Design, Rail Gauge, Locos, Rolling Stock, Structures, Scenery, and Operation

Cons

- Alone
- No Help

Club

- Modular
- HO or N Scale
- Can Make Module at Home
- Combine with Others for Op Sessions
- Camaradarie

- Permanent Layout Club
- Choose Your Scale
- Fixed Location
- Help Build Empire
- Camradarie

N



N SCALE
RATIO 1/160

HO SCALE
RATIO 1/87



HO



Z



Z SCALE
RATIO 1/220

S SCALE
RATIO 1/44



S



O SCALE
RATIO 1/48



O



PLEASE
DO NOT
TOUCH
THE
MODELS

G SCALE
RATIO 1/28



G



HO Scale

- Most Popular
- Largest Range of Models and Accessories
- Great Detail and Quality
- Takes a Lot of Space

N Scale

- Growing in Popularity
- Operating Scale
- Plenty of Operation in a Small Space
- Very Good Quality Models

O Scale

- Excellent Detail Opportunity
- Few Modelers - Not Growing
- Very Expensive

Z Scale

- Great Operating Possibilities
- Very Expensive
- Some Detail Compromise
- Small But Growing Segment

Modeling Different Eras

- Model No Era and Run Anything with Anything Else
- They Can Model an Era:
- Modern - No Steam - No Caboose - No Roofwalks
- Steam - No Diesels - Caboose - Roofwalks
- Transition - Steam + Early Diesel - Caboose - Roofwalks

Track

- Many Varieties of Snap Track Available in All Scales
- Can Choose Flex Track, But Have to Permanently Install
- Can Hand Lay Ties and Rail. Most Prototypical. Requires Most Skill.

Power - DC

- Simple Power Pack. Can Only Control 1 Train at a Time.
- Dual Power Pack Will Control 2 Trains at a Time.
- Layout Needs to be Correctly Wired.
- Layout Needs to Have Blocks if There Will be More Than One Train Operating.
- Expensive and Complicated Wiring.

DCC

- Requires Simple Wiring. Only 1 or 2 Blocks Needed.
- Can Operate Many Different Trains at a Time.
- Can Buy DCC Equipped Locos.
- Entry Level Systems Available.
- Buy From a Dealer for the Support
- Best Choice if Just Starting a Layout.

Equipment

- Steam or Diesel?
- Freight or Passenger?
- All
- Are You a Collector (Accumulator) or an Operator?

Scenery

- Do you Even Want Scenery?
- How Elaborate do You Want Your Scenery.
- From Grass Mat to Museum Quality
- Bridges
- Grass
- Trees
- Water
- Look at Layouts in Person or Magazines
- Buy Books on Scenery

Details

- Vehicles
- People and Animals
- Road Details
- Sidewalks Details
- Lights
- Mini Scenes

How To Get Helpful Advice

- Buy From a Local Retailer - Ask Questions
- Don't Buy On Line and Expect Local Help
- Have a Friend
- Join a Club
- Attend a Train Show
- Buy a Magazine
- Join On Line Forums

Where to Buy?

Local Trainstore or Hobby Shop

- Central Hobbies - Vancouver
- On Track Hobbies - Port Coquitlam
- Euro Rail Hobbies - Langley
- Kelly's Kaboose - Kamloops
- I Only Listed Brick and Mortar Stores
- I Did Not List On Line Merchants

Enjoy Model Railroading

It's a Great Hobby

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