O Gauge Accessories



M.T.H. Train Store 3-Story City Building w/Blinking Sign 30-90049 \$64.95 Measures: 12 3/4" X 6 5/16" X 9"



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Rugged - Realistic - Reliable

At M.T.H. we believe a track system should allow your model railroad empire to grow. The RealTrax system includes 72 different components for maximum expansion capabilites. You'll find bridges, curves of all sizes. elevated and graduated trestles, crossovers, and every straight and curved configuration you'll need to create your own model railroad empire. And every piece of RealTrax is rugged, realistic, and reliable so you can have fun running your trains.

Rugged

Because most toy train empires begin on a carpet or floor, RealTrax is designed to hold up to the rigors of childhood play. Strong snap-together connections make it easy to assemble or change a layout in minutes. And the built-in roadbed helps keep dirt on the floor away from the wheels and gears of vour trains.

Realistic

With its realistic crossties and ballasted roadbed, RealTrax looks like the main-

line track used by heavy freights and high-speed passenger trains. Unlike older O gauge track with a round cross section, RealTrax uses flat-top "T"-rail like a real railroad.

Reliable

Nickel silver rail ensures that RealTrax will never rust. Spring-loaded phosphor bronze contacts provide superior electrical connections between track sections. The contacts are spring loaded to maintain a solid connection over time and are highly resistant to corrosion of any kind. Similar materials are used in many electrical connections around your home, such as lamps, battery-operated appliances, and electrical outlets.

RealTrax switches feature the same durable construction as regular RealTrax sections and utilize long-lasting switch motors that provide precise throws every time. The reversible motor mechanism guickly snaps onto the other side of the switch if space is a problem. No disassembly of the switch is required! Lighted switch controllers allow you to throw a switch remotely from a distance, and lights on the controller indicate which direction the switch is thrown - green for straight and red for curved.



O Gauge RealTrax[®]



IT TAKES EIGHT O-31 CURVES TO MAKE A CIRCLE. IT TAKES TWELVE O-42 CURVES TO MAKE A CIRCLE. IT TAKES TWELVE O-54 CURVES TO MAKE A CIRCLE. IT TAKES SIXTEEN O-72 CURVES TO MAKE A CIRCLE. IT TAKES SIXTEEN O-82 CURVES TO MAKE A ORCLE.





RealTrax 3.5" Track Section 40-1018 \$3.79



RealTrax

RealTrax

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5.5" Track Section

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Section

40-1054

RealTrax- O-82 Curved Track Section



RealTrax - 30" Straight Track Section 40-1019 \$11.99



RealTrax

40-1002



RealTrax RealTrax O-31 Half Curve Track O-42 Half Curve Track 40-1045 40-1022 \$3.79

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RealTrax O-42 Curved Track Section 40-1042 \$4.49



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RealTrax- O-72 Curved Track Section 40-1010 \$5.49



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(RH) 40-1004 \$64.95



RealTrax - O-54 Switch (L) 40-1056 \$79.95

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(LH)

RealTrax - O-31 Switch RealTrax - O-42 Switch (RH) 40-1005 \$64.95 40-1043 \$74.95



40-1082

RealTrax - O-72 RealTrax - O-72 Switch Switch (LH) (RH) 40-1021 \$89.95 40-1020 \$89.95



RealTrax - O-54 Curved Track

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RealTrax - O-42

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Switch (LH)

RealTrax- O-72

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O 2-Track Steel Arch Bridge - Silver 40-1062 O 2-Track Steel Arch Bridge - Black 40-1060 \$99.95

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O Bridge Girder - Rust 40-1032

O Bridge Girder - Silver 40-1014

O Bridge Girder - Black

40-1051

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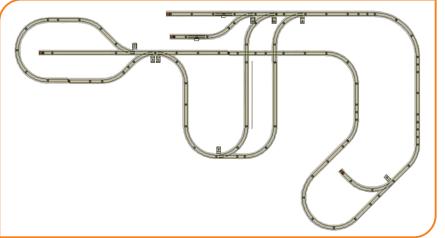


O Gauge RealTrax®

RealTrax Layouts



STORY OF OIL 13X23 FEET



This layout is a good example of how a loop can be elaborated until it doesn't look like a loop anymore. This track plan also thinks like a point to point, because we are following the entire cycle of the oil business, from the oil well to the gas pump and beyond. On the left we have the oil fields and the storage tanks for the freshly extracted crude oil. At the storage tank station, you can fill tank cars with black gold. These tank cars will be dropped off at the oil refinery, which is that building inside the fence in the middle of the picture. You'll need to build the refinery yourself, but it's a relatively easy model to build. Refineries are basically flat-roof metal buildings surrounded by LOTS of pipes and storage tanks. Empty tin cans, tin foil, and lots of flexible drinking straws colored silver with a paint marker will create the effect quite nicely.

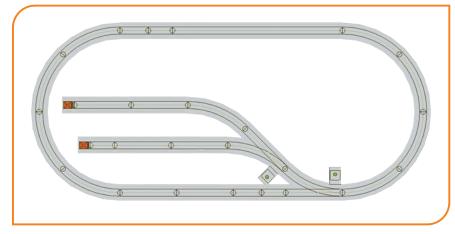
Behind the refinery is a plastics factory. Here you drop tankers of oil on one track and carry away covered hoppers full of plastic pellets from the other track.

Finally, we pass into a suburban area, with a McDonalds[®], houses, and gas station. This gas station is unusual in that it receives its gasoline in a tank car that you leave on the siding in the back, rather than having it trucked in. The operating gas station and car wash add the final touch of delivering the gas to its final consumers!

TRACK REQUIRED

- (38) MTH 40-1001 10 inch straight
- (7) MTH 40-1016 5.0 inch straight
- (3) MTH 40-1019 30 inch straight
- (4) MTH 40-1024 track bumper
- (5) MTH 40-1043 O-42 lefthand switch
- (3) MTH 40-1044 O-42 righthand switch
- (40) MTH 40-1042 O-42 curve
- (6) MTH 40-1017 4.25 inch straight
- (2) MTH 40-1006 90° cross
- (6) MTH 40-1012 5.5 inch half straight
- (2) MTH 40-1008 uncoupling track
- (4) MTH 40-1018 3.5 inch straight

ACTION IN 3X6 FEET



Here's the layout shown on the previous pages, small enough to fit in a closet, yet still big enough to give you the fun of real railroading. The track plan is basically a loop, but the small yard enables you to have passengers and switching operations, in addition to continuous running trains. With detailed scenery, this layout makes a pleasing and eniovable railroad for the modeler with limited space.

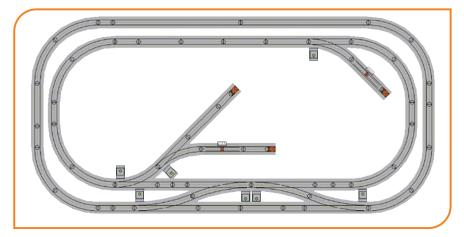
TRACK REQUIRED

- (9) MTH 40-1002 O-31 curve
- (1) MTH 40-1019 30 in straight
- (3) MTH 40-1017 4.25 in straight
- (2) MTH 40-1016 5.0 in straight
- (1) MTH 40-1004 O31 righthand switch (1) MTH 40-1005 O31 lefthand switch
- (6) MTH 40-1001 10 inch straight
- (2) MTH 40-1024 track bumper

SPACE

The most important limitation most railroads encounter is space. Does the house have a spare room, basement, or attic? These are by far the most popular places for model railroads, because they use space that nobody else in the house wants. That means the railroad can be set up permanently, with appropriate lighting, backgrounds, seating, and even a little workbench for assembling buildings, painting cars and so on. If you are lucky to have such a space available, get a tape measure and plot out how large the room is. The size and shape of the room will help define your railroad.

DOUBLE TRACK IN 4X8 FEET



This layout strikes a nice balance between action and scenery. Create a contrast between town and country by using scenic separation to stretch the 4x8 feet into a whole countryside. Your town might have an attractive station (complete with street clock and operating American flag) and a coal loader, as well as a water tank for your engines. Add a lake and a farm on the opposite shore, with a siding for picking up milk cans in the morning and unloading empties in the evening. And with two tracks, you can run two trains at a time, ensuring constant movement.

TRACK REQUIRED

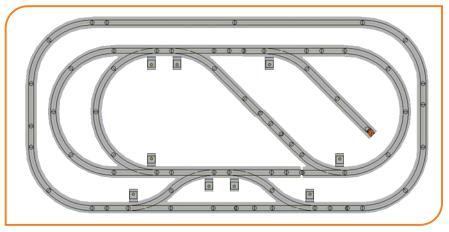
- (16) MTH 40-1002 O-31 curve
- MTH 40-1005 O31 lefthand switch
- (2) MTH 40-1004 O31 righthand switch
- (4)MTH 40-1018 3.5 in straight
- (9) MTH 40-1001 10 inch straight
- (2) MTH 40-1012 5.5 inch half straight
- (3) MTH 40-1017 4.25 in straight
- (6) MTH 40-1016 5.0 in straight (2)
- MTH 40-1019 30 in straight
- (2) MTH 40-1020 O72 righthand switch (2) MTH 40-1021 O72 lefthand switch
- MTH 40-1024 track bumper (3)
- MTH 40-1008 uncoupling track (2)
- (2) MTH 40-1014 10 inch girder bridge

SHAPE

Often, instead of getting an entire room or basement to itself, a railroad can acquire several small adjoining areas, spread across one or more rooms. Perhaps the main line will fill the corner of the basement rumpus room, with storage yard tracks running through a tunnel in the wall and onto a shelf over the washer and dryer. Perhaps the line can fill shelves along two walls of a room.

These kinds of limitations can radically change the track plan of your railroad. In addition, these sorts of small intrusions into other space can provide areas of expansion for a more conventional train table line that needs room to grow.

MAX ACTION IN 4X8 FEET

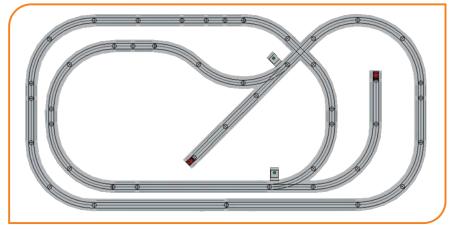


Just as the name implies, this track plan really packs in the activity! As many tracks as will fit, plus all the operating accessories to keep them humming, make this a great plan for the modeler who likes to keep his freight trains busy. With two tracks, you can keep a train rolling at all times while another works its way around serving the many industries in this town. Accessorize this layout with lighted RailTown buildings and an operating coaling tower, water tower, freight transfer dock, or crossing gates, and you and your visitors will have plenty to see and do!

TRACK REQUIRED

- (18) MTH 40-1002 O-31 curve
- (2) MTH 40-1019 30 in straight
- (6) MTH 40-1001 10 inch straight
- (5) MTH 40-1016 5.0 in straight
- (6) MTH 40-1004 O31 righthand switch
- (16) MTH 40-1018 3.5 in straight
- (2) MTH 40-1012 5.5 inch half straight
- (3) MTH 40-1017 4.25 in straight
- (3) MTH 40-1005 O31 lefthand switch
- (1) MTH 40-1024 track bumper

TWICE AROUND 4X8 FEET



One way of making your layout seem bigger is to have the trains make two trips around the table before it gets back to the starting point. This track plan does just that. It also includes a couple of sidings for you to pick up and drop off cars. If you have more room and can put in more straight track, this plan can become very realistic.

TRACK REQUIRED

- (4) MTH 40-1018 3.5 in straight
- (20) MTH 40-1002 O-31 curve
- (3) MTH 40-1019 30 in straight
- (7) MTH 40-1001 10 inch straight
- (1) MTH 40-1006 90° cross
- (3) MTH 40-1017 4.25 in straight
- (2) MTH 40-1012 5.5 inch half straight
- (1) MTH 40-1005 O31 lefthand switch
- (1) MTH 40-1004 O31 righthand switch
- (1) MTH 40-1016 5.0 in straight
- (2) MTH 40-1024 track bumper

THE SCENIC ROUTE

The style of scenery you want will also determine the shape of your layout. Mountains and bridges will require more up and down space than fields and forests. A desert will make a big open, flat area, that may require a mountain to hide the other end of the track. Cities can look great and provide a real contrast with rural scenery, but buildings do take up considerable space. Tracks move differently through different kinds of terrain, with a mountain logging railroad having a very different track plan from the Union Pacific roaring across the Nebraska cornfields.

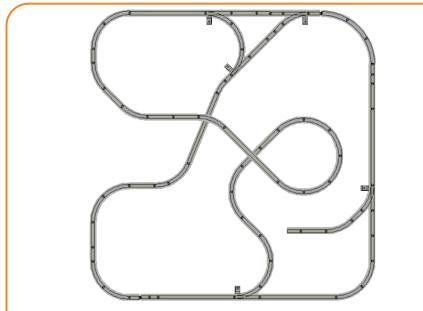
TRAIN TIME

Tracks were also used differently at varying points in history. If you are modeling the 1850s, there won't be much call for double-track mainlines or complex switchyards. On the other hand, if you are modeling today's high-speed container trains, complex yards and multi-track should be the rule.

ROOM TO OPERATE

The kinds of railroad action you most enjoy will also influence your layout. Do you like lots of switching cars in the yard? Then your layout will feature a big yard, which often works well on a shelf. Do you want long mainline runs through rural terrain? Then your layout will probably require a twice-around loop with mountains, trees, or other view blockers to make the trip look longer.

WILD WEST/ CIVIL WAR 10X10 FEET



This is an old-time layout which incorporates several interesting features. The most challenging is the helix curve around the mountain, where the train passes over itself. This not only gives you a cool over/under effect, but it captures the rugged flavor of early railroads clawing their way through the mountains to open up the country. This will require a relatively steep grade, but since 1860s trains were short and pulled by little 4-4-0 locomotives, you shouldn't have trouble operating it. You'll want to be sure to use RailKing engines with Proto-Sound 2, so that you have the speed control, otherwise you might have some runaway trains!

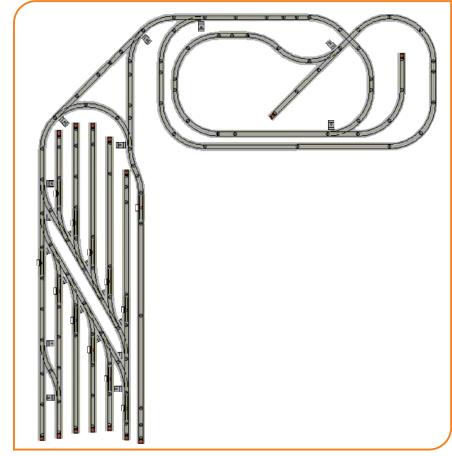
Another important detail is the arrangement of track switches up by the town. This arrangement is called a "wye" because it resembles the letter "Y." It's important because a wye enables you to turn trains around, so they can face either direction. It's sort of like backing your car into a driveway to change directions on a street. A wye can be a helpful addition to all sorts of track plans and the one shown here is about as compact as you can build.

To keep the trains busy, there is also a mine on the side of the mountain, served by the siding in the lower right corner. The water tank makes sure the trains don't get stuck out in the wilderness, miles from town. And the track from the bottom of the wye passes through a tunnel in the mountain, which is always a popular sight with visitors. If you want to represent the Wild West, you can paint your scenery in desert shades of orange and brown, with little cacti and tumbleweeds. For a Civil War scene, cover the mountains with pine trees, and fill the fields with grass, farm crops, and soldiers. In the West, the mine might be producing gold or silver, in the Civil War, it's probably digging coal.

TRACK REQUIRED

- (24) MTH 40-1002 O-31 curve
- (6) MTH 40-1019 30 in straight
- (3) MTH 40-1005 O31 lefthand switch
- (14) MTH 40-1001 10 inch straight
- (2) MTH 40-1004 O31 righthand switch
- (5) MTH 40-1012 5.5 inch half straight
- (3) MTH 40-1042 O42 curve
- (4) MTH 40-1018 3.5 in straight
 (4) MTH 40-1017 4.25 in straight
- MTH 40-1017 4.25 in straight
 MTH 40-1022 O-31 half curve
- (2) MTH 40-1022 O-31 half curv(2) MTH 40-1016 5.0 in straight
- 2) IVITE 40-1016 5.0 IN Straig

ADD-ON YARD PLUS TWICE AROUND 11X12 FEET



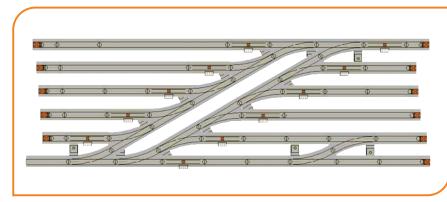
This layout is an example of how to build a simple layout into a more complex and realistic arrangement. The Twice gains an amazing amount of operational flexibility with the addition of the yard. In addition, we've added a wye to the track leading into the yard, creating an additional storage track and allowing you to turn trains around for still more action.

If you added some more track to the Twice Around section this could quickly become as attractive and enjoyable a layout as the Farm to Market or Story of Oil designs above. But even in this rough form it offers lots of railroading!

TRACK REQUIRED

- (6) MTH 40-1043 O42 lefthand switch
- (8) MTH 40-1044 O42 righthand switch
- (9) MTH 40-1019 30 in straight
- (24) MTH 40-1001 10 inch straight
- (14) MTH 40-1024 track bumper
- (8) MTH 40-1018 3.5 in straight
- (12) MTH 40-1008 uncoupling track
- (22) MTH 40-1002 O-31 curve (1) MTH 40-1006 90° cross
- (6) MTH 40-1017 4.25 in straight
- (5) MTH 40-1012 5.5 inch half straight
- (4) MTH 40-1005 O31 lefthand switch
- (2) MTH 40-1004 O31 righthand switch
- (4) MTH 40-1016 5.0 in straight
- (2) MTH 40-1022 O-31 half curve

FREIGHT YARD IN 3X8 FEET



Here is a vard designed to hold as many cars as will fit in this amount of space. It has a series of switch tracks arranged in a "double ladder" so that cars can be shunted in both directions. There is a crossover between the two long tracks at the bottom right, so that locomotives can escape the track after bringing a train in. The ladder tracks offer other escapes for trains backing into place. Every siding has been provided with an uncoupling track, although if you work the yard with a Proto-Sound 2 equipped switcher, you'll be able to use the Proto-Coupler feature to drop cars wherever you want. The long track at the upper right is probably best used as a "RIP" (Repair In Place) track for damaged equipment. since it will only be possible to move a few cars at a time into its ample storage space. The short lower left tracks make good caboose tracks, holding these cars in waiting for the next freight train to depart.

This vard offers interesting switch action, but it is most useful tacked onto the end of a loop layout, creating point to loop realism and offering the contrast between rolling down the mainline and shuffling cars around to make up the train. Real railroading includes plenty of both.

TRACK REQUIRED

- MTH 40-1043 O42 lefthand switch (6)
- (8) MTH 40-1044 O42 righthand switch
- (3) MTH 40-1019 30 in straight
- (15) MTH 40-1001 10 inch straight
- (11) MTH 40-1024 track bumper
- (6) MTH 40-1018 3.5 in straight
- (11) MTH 40-1008 uncoupling track

ACCESS

Another key concern in layout design is access. Simply, this means you shouldn't have track where you can't reach over to fix a problem or clean the rails once in a while. The best rule of thumb is never have the track more than 3 feet from the edge of the layout. That way, a 5-6 foot tall person can lean comfortably over a 3-4 foot tall table and reach the track. This explains why so many layouts are "island" tables standing in the middle of a room. But a welldesigned layout can cover one whole wall and extend deep into a room as long as it provides adequate aisles for "walk-in" access.

Std. Gauge RealTrax Std. Gauge RealTrax - 72" Curve Std. Gauge RealTrax Std. Gauge RealTrax 11-99072 Switch Adapter Track Section \$5.99 1/2 42" Curve Lighted Lockon 11-99043 11-99011 \$8.99 \$4.49 11-99004 \$5.99 Std. Gauge RealTrax 14" Reg. Straight Adapter Track 1/2 72" Curve 3.5" Straight 1/2 Straight 11-99001 \$4.99 11-99073 \$4.49 11-99018 \$4.49 \$4.49 11-99010 \$8.99 11-99002 Std. Gauge Track - 84" Dia. Curved Std. Gauge RealTrax - 28" Straight Std. Gauge RealTrax - 42" Curve 11-99095 \$5.49 11-99003 \$9.99 11-99042 \$4 99 Std. Gauge Track Std. Gauge Track 1/2 Reg. Straight Std. Gauge Track - 42" Reg. Curved Std. Gauge Track Straight w/Extra Ties 11-99096 \$2.99 2" Wide Radius Curve 11-99093 \$4.49 11-99092 \$4 99 11-99094 \$4.99 Std. Gauge Track Std. Gauge Track - 36" Reg. Straight Std. Gauge Track - 36" Extra Ties Straight Lighted Bumpers (2) 11-99098 \$7.99 11-99099 \$8.99 11-99024 \$49.95 Std. Gauge Track Std. Gauge Track 14" Reg. Straight 42" Reg. 1/2 Curved O/Std. Gauge Track Activation Device Std. Gauge 90° Crossover 11-99097 \$2.99 11-99091 \$4.49 Lighted Lockon 11-99090 \$12.95 11-99006 \$49 95 11-99021 \$4.99 Green Base - Std. Gauge Switch - Right Hand 42" Black Base - Std. Gauge Switch Right Hand 42" 11-99044 \$89.95 11-99046 \$89.95 Green Base - Std. Gauge Switch - Left Hand 42" Black Base - Std. Gauge Switch Left Hand 42" 11-99045 \$89.95 11-99047 \$89.95 Green Base - Std. Gauge Switch (Wide Radius) Black Base - Std. Gauge Switch Right Hand 72 Right Hand 72" 11-99076 \$99.95 11-99075 \$99.95 Black Base - Std. Gauge Switch Green Base - Std. Gauge Switch (Wide Radius) Left Hand 72" Left Hand 72" 11-99077 \$99.95 11-99074 \$99.95 **HO RealTrax** THITTE Code 83 HO ScaleTrax 22" Radius Curve Track 80-1022 \$0.99 HO RealTrax 22" Radius Curve HO RealTrax Track Railioiner Track w/Roadbed (Cards of 4) HO ScaleTrax 18" Radius Curve Track Pack (Not Shown) (48 ct) 81-1022 \$7.29 (Not Shown) 81-1014 \$2.99 80-1018 \$0.99 HO RealTrax 18" Radius Curve Track

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Standard Gauge Track

