

RCT&HS

Modular Planning Handbook

1. CONSTRUCTION

Size:	Minimum size 2ft X 4ft, width may be either 24" or 30", length may be any multiple of 2ft (4ft, 6ft or 8ft)
Top:	1/2" plywood
Frame:	1" X 4" pine (1" X 3" acceptable for 4ft module)
Legs:	2" X 2" X 36" (folding legs recommended)
Bolts, washers & wingnuts	1/4" X 20
TeeNuts:	1/4" x 2" carriage bolts (used for leg adjustment)
Plexiglas:	1/4" thick, 12" high, 10 1/2" above table top and attached by wood channel

***** **Note -- all wood pieces MUST be screwed together** *****

2. ELECTRICAL

Male plug:	Radio Shack #274-201
Female plug:	Radio Shack #274-202

Connecting plugs are used to carry current between modules.

You MUST wire as follows:

Standing inside the modular layout, the FEMALE PLUGS WILL BE TO YOUR RIGHT, with the MALE PLUGS TO YOUR LEFT.

There will be one plug for each mainline track.

On each plug there is a thick and thin blade.

The THIN blade of each plug will be connected to the INSIDE RAIL with RED wire.

The THICK blade of each plug will be connected to the OUTSIDE RAIL with BLACK wire.

A total of four plugs (two male and two female) will be required for a 2-track mainline module. On a 3-track module six plugs are needed.

Insulators:	Plastic joiners used ONLY on the INSIDE rail.
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3. TRACK

Flextrack:	Code 100 NICKEL SILVER (mainline)
Cork Roadbed:	Standard grade 1/4" thick
Insert pieces:	6" long -- Code 100 NICKEL SILVER

Rail Joiners: NICKEL SILVER
Switches: Minimum #6 (preferable #8) on mainline or where mainline trains are expected to operate. Industrial sidings may be #4
Rerailers: Only for road crossings on mainline

4. SCENERY

****** All modules must be at least partially scenicked ******

Any 'partially scenicked' module should show improvement from one display (show) to the next display.

A 'partially scenicked' module MUST have, at a minimum, track ballast and ground cover on all table top wood surfaces. Buildings, roads and other structures would be added as soon as possible.

Note:

1. All new modules must be modeled after a Reading Company scene. This may be as it existed in the past or in the present.
2. All new modules must be approved by the Modular Committee. A scale drawing of your proposed (Reading Company scene) module should be submitted to the Modular Committee Chairman.

5. MOTIVE POWER & ROLLING STOCK

Couplers: Kadee or compatible (no X2F)
Era: Prior to ConRail (April 1, 1976) or
As the Reading Company might exist today.

****** An operating train should have all engines and cars from the same era ******

6. OPERATION OF THE MODULAR LAYOUT

The OUTSIDE MAINLINE shall be designated as TRACK ONE and the INSIDE MAINLINE shall be designated as TRACK TWO.

Each train will generally operate for 30 minutes, except for the long coal drag which shall operate for one hour.

There should always be trains made up and ready to take the place of the trains coming off the mainline at the end of the 30 minute operation.

7. OPERATORS

Mainline Engineer: At the mainline throttle with communication equipment at all times
Dispatcher: Responsible for designation of trains for mainline operation
Yardmasters: Responsible for train makeup, entering and exiting yard
Trackwalkers: Assist with derailments and answering questions of spectators

8. SETUP and TAKEDOWN

All modular members are responsible for the setting up and taking down of their individual modules, UNLESS an agreement has been made with the Modular Committee Chairman PRIOR to the show.

9. SHOWS (displays)

Every module available is considered for all shows , so long as size permits.

At shows with limited space, modules displaying a Reading Company scene, and most completed scenery will be utilized.

10. SHOW DATES

Any member may suggest a new location for a show (display) of the modular layout.

All shows for the calendar year should be decided upon by April 1st. of that year. The Chairman shall be responsible the actual scheduling of all shows.

The Chairman shall be responsible for submitting notice of show dates for free advertising.

11. I.D. BADGES

Name identification badges should be worn at all times within the modular display. See the Chairman for ordering current id badges

12. MODULAR COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Any member of the RCT&HS with a module, or an interest in helping with the modular layout, may become a member of the modular committee.

Provide your Name, Address, Phone number and RCT&HS membership number to the Modular Committee Chairman. You will then be provided with a copy of this Modular Planning Handbook.

13. TRANSPORTATION

Transportation of the modules is the responsibility of the member, UNLESS prior arrangements have been made with the Chairman for transportatioin in the RCT&HS vehicle.

11/30/98