MODEL RAILROAD – TRACK

Part I

SELECTION CRITERIA

Sep 21, 2024

SELECTION CRITERIA - GENERAL PROS / CONS / LIMITATIONS

DECISIONS DECISIONS DECISIONS

What Scale Decision?

- Available Space
- Level of Commitment   Time & Budget
- Level of Skills Needed
- What Purpose? Holiday vs Operating
- Personal Preference
- Others?

SELECTION CRITERIA - GENERAL PROS / CONS / LIMITATIONS

- DECISIONS DECISIONS DECISIONS
  - What Type: (Sectional, Handlaid, Flextrack, with or without built-in roadbed
  - What Code: What is Track Code?
  - What Material: Brass, Steel, Tinplate, Nickel Silver
  - What Manufacturer: See Separate Manufacturer Listing

Many options, depending on the Scale you choose

(Each scale will be discussed separately)

'O' SCALE Decisons– 1/48

- What Type? Pros & Cons

    Mostly Sectional, some flextrack (MTH Realtrax) , 3-rail or 2-Rail (By Mfg.) Also handlaid

- What Code? 148, 125 or 100 Equivalents. Limitations?

- What Material? Steel coated w/Tin (Tubular Rail), Some Nickel Silver (Solid Rail) (MTH)

- What Manufacturer? Lionel, MTH, Bachmann, Williams. Difficult to mix manufaturers

'HO' SCALE Decisions– 1:87

- What Type? Pros & Cons.
  - Sectional, (with/without built-in roadbed), Flex Track, Handlaid. Each increases level of & effort.
- What Code? 100, 83, some 70. Often mixed like prototype. Main line vs yards/sidings
- What Material? Mostly Nickel-Silver (Preferred), Brass, Steel. Trade offs?
- What Mfg.? Many – See Mfg. List for details. Mixing manufacturers and codes needs attention to detail.

'N' SCALE Decsions – 1:160

- What Type? Pros & Cons.

    Sectional, (with or without built-in roadbed), Flex Track, Handlaid. Each increases level of & effort.

- What Code? 80, 55 some 65. Often mixed like prototype. Main line vs yards/sidings

- What Material? Mostly Nickel Silver (Preferred), older brass, steel. Trade offs?

- What Mfg.? See Manufacturer List. Mixing manufacturers and codes needs attention to detail.

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Questions & Comments

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