

Plain Line - 24 sleepers per 60 foot panel

Instructions for assembling track using NewTrack mouldings

Please read these instructions before removing any mouldings from their sprues.

The NewTrack mouldings for 24 sleepers/60ft panel consist of 18 sleepers, most of which are spaced at a scale 2' 7" (10.33mm) but with the end three sleepers at both ends of the moulding spaced appropriately for a rail joint. The last (joint) sleeper at one end is a scale 10" (3.33mm) wide while that at the other end it is a scale 12" (4.00mm) wide.

If you want only to have 10" joint sleepers, then make 60' panels by cutting off the last six sleepers from each moulding at the end with the 12" joint sleeper and use the resulting 12 sleeper pieces in pairs with the closer spaced sleepers at the outer ends.

Conversely, if you want only 12" joint sleepers, then make 60' panels by cutting off the last six sleepers from each moulding at the end with the 10" joint sleeper and use the resulting 12 sleeper pieces in pairs with the closer spaced sleepers at the outer ends.

If you need a mixture of 12" and 10" ended panels, then you can make two 60' panels, one of each, out of three mouldings. Cut three sleepers at the 12" end off the first moulding, three sleepers at the 10" end off the second moulding and divide the third moulding into two nine sleeper sections. You can then arrange the pieces so that one 60' panel consists of a nine and a fifteen sleeper section with 10" joint sleepers and a second panel consists of a nine and a fifteen sleeper section with 12" joint sleepers.

The pips on each sleeper are designed to locate any of the range of Exactoscale plastic functional chairs. The chairs are a close fit but there is sufficient play to give about 0.1mm adjustment in gauge. For most purposes, applying light pressure towards the track centre-line as the chairs are cemented in place will be the best approach and give a gauge of, or very close to, 18.83mm. For curves, applying pressure away from the centre-line will give a gauge of up to about 18.95mm.

The recommended solvent for cementing chairs to sleepers is butanone. It is important not to flood the chairs with solvent but it is also important to get good penetration of solvent under the chair. The chairs are designed to be pressed flat under pressure as they are cemented and should have no gap under them when stuck down.

Cut rails accurately to the appropriate lengths and ensure the ends are free of burrs before assembly.

The best sequence for assembling track is probably as follows:

- 1 Cut and arrange the sleeper mouldings to provide a 60' length (see above). If building straight track, it may be best to leave the mouldings in their sprues until the track is assembled.
- 2 Feed prepared rail through the chairs while they are still on their sprues, breaking each one off once it is on the rail. The keys on the chairs nearest each rail joint should point away from the joint.
- 3 The chairs should be spaced at about the right positions on the rail, the rail then placed over the pips and, one by one, each chair eased fully on to its pip. Make sure at this stage that the rail end is 4mm from the centre line of the end (joint) sleeper.
- 4 Cement the first rail's chairs in position, working along the chairs from one end of the panel. Repeat for the second rail. Allow the cement to harden fully before (if not already done) removing the sprues, adjusting alignment and laying the track.