Division 8 MCR NMRA
T-TRAK Module Build Instructions
What to buy for your first module
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I am asked a lot about what the things that I need to buy when I build my first T-TRAK module. So here goes my experienced recommendation.

The most efficient way to build your first module is to consider what you are building it for. By itself, other than as a display diorama, it only has value if you want to put it into a display with other modelers at a train show. The real value comes as you fine tune your skills by adding structures and scenery to the module. A **double length module** optimizes the latter by giving the modeler enough room to build a meaningful display of structure and scenery.

To start with, you will need to order an un-assembled module from a limited number of suppliers.

The Module Kit

My observation is that the best place to start is with an order from **CMR Products** based in Ohio.

https://www.cmrproducts.com/store/N-Scale-T-Trak-Double-Module-14in-Depth-p129683418

They offer a starter kit called the Double Straight Module (SKU TM-ND140). It is a part of the TabTek line of Laser cut Wood T-TRAK Modules that is designed to match *current T-TRAK Standard sizes*. This Kit comes unassembled and includes steel leveling screws and nuts, the module pieces along with leveling supports. The only tools that are required is glue and masking tape to hold the module together until the glue dries.

One of the important parts of the standards is the height the bottom of the module from the tabletop. Leveling screws are how that standard is accomplished. Each train show has a standard that all modules must conform to. The layout designer will always specify the height to the module owner that will be displaying in that particular show.

Steel hex key bolts come **standard** for each of the four corners of the module. These allow the modeler to rise and lower the module by inserting a hex style, Allen wrench into the head of the bolt and then adjusting the up and down travel of the bolt.

Another option is the depth of the module. In order to take advantage of every bit of structure I would recommend that the new modeler choose a 14” depth.

So, order a CMR N Scale T-TRAK Double Module SKU TN-ND140 and make sure that the order is **upscaled** with 14” depth.

Total bill with free shipping is $26.50

Leveling Bolts Upgrade

Randy Coffman from Division 10 and the owner of Coffman Engineering has a kit that can replace the steel leveling screw with a stronger stainless steel ¼”-20 assembly that solves many problems. The leveling screws are available at this link: https://www.coffmaneng.com/product-page/tt-2-3-standard-3-4-pc-screwset-w-nylon-feet

To make his system work best the modeler should enlarge the hole in each corner of the module top to 3/16”in diameter. This improvement can be added later in the life of the module.

Tools and Glue

No special tools are required but pay attention to the instructions in the kit. Get a good quality wood glue to use in your build.

My recommendation is to get a squeeze bottle of ***Gorilla Ultimate Waterproof Wood Glue, 8 ounce, Natural*** $5.47 or at Amazon or **Titebond III Ultimate Wood Glue**, 8 oz at your local hardware or big box store. There are other solutions, but these are a starter.

Total cost w/o shipping is in the neighborhood of **$5.50**

Kato Track and Power Wiring

There are two different Kato tracks that work on T-TRAK Modules:

- Ground level Single tracks
- Ground level Double tracks

The Kato Unitrack web pages that support the products inside of these groupings are:

- Single Track: https://www.katousa.com/N/Unitrack/g-single.html
- Double Track: https://www.katousa.com/N/Unitrack/concrete.html

The most bullet proof track to use on your first module is:

- **Ground level Double tracks**

So, in order to meet the requirements for track that perfectly fits the 620mm (double module), see the chart below

Double Module (Preferred Track Arrangement)

Type Module	Kato Part	Length	Required	Units per package	Purchase	MSRP
Double	20-004	248mm	2	2	1	**$13.50**
Double	20-042	62mm	2	2	1	**$11.00**
Single	24-818	NA	2	1	2	**$10.00**

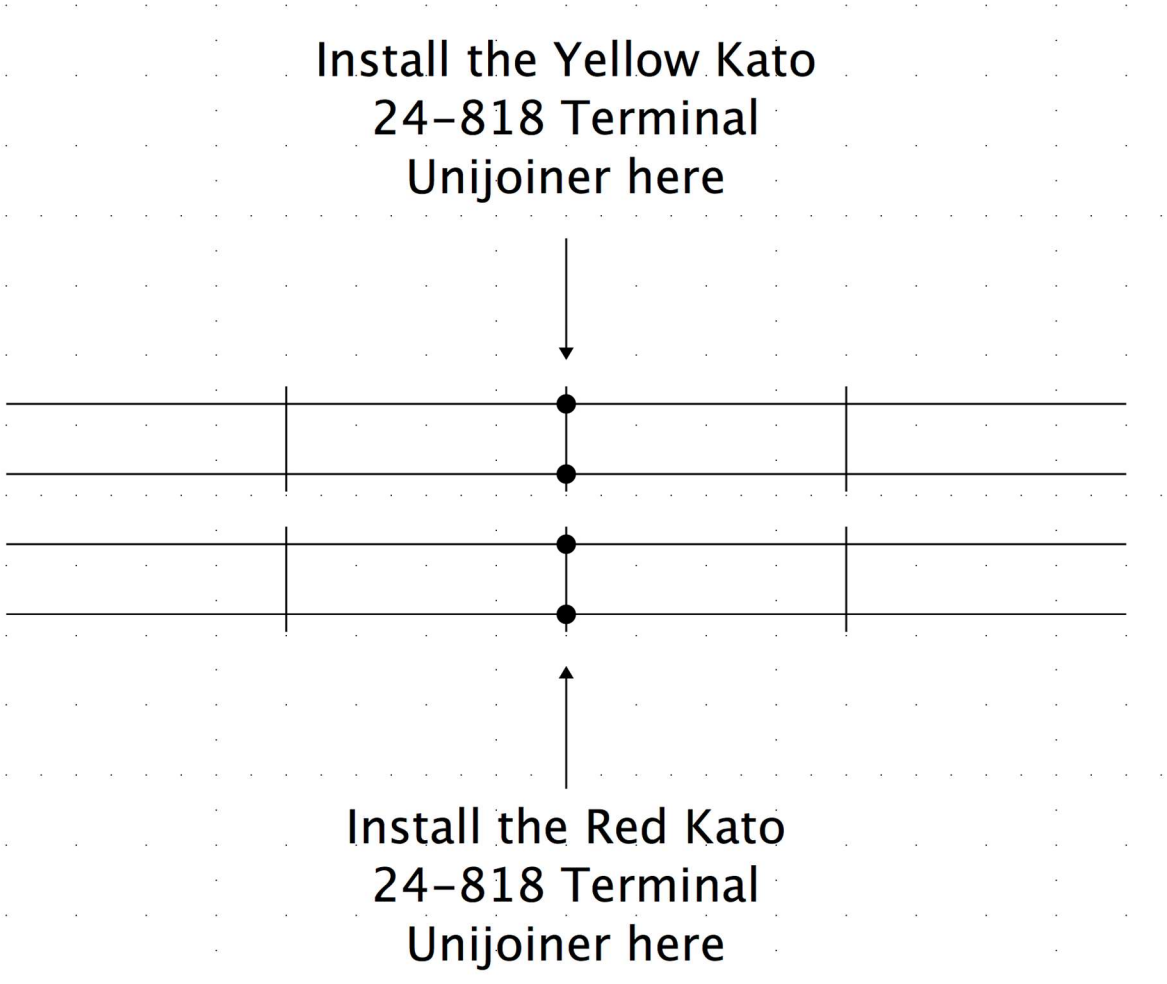
Requirement if using Kato double track

The 620 mm of Kato Double Tracks in the above chart would be installed from left to right

Kato Double Track Part #

20-042	20-012	20-012	20-023
62mm	248mm	248mm	62mm

Size in mm



Total Cost for parts at MSRP is $35

Use the Engineering Guidelines to install the tracks and terminal Unijoiner to the painted completed module kit

Module/Track Screws

The module has holes pre-drilled to the Kato Track to be attached. The Kato Track has a raised neck on the bottom of the piece. The holes drilled in the module are aligned to these holes. Use small **#2x3/8" screws** min of 12 req'd. These can be obtained at Lowes. This method of assembly best assures that the track is correctly assembled onto the modules.

Paint from Lowes

Latex Primer: 32oz. KiLZ All Purpose Primer Fast Drying Latex. $8.98
Any equivalent water based primer will work. Single coat
Apply with a 1 inch foam brush that is fully disposable.

Final Coat: Valspar Zero VOC, Sample Size Container, 3010-8, Cowboy Hat, Satin, Base C (purchased from Lowes). Half Pint Sample Mixed to order. $3.98
A small sample can be purchased. More than enough for a double module. Double coat
Apply with a 1 inch foam brush that is fully disposable.