

Getting Your Train Ready for the Holidays

- Pre-plan your space
- Unpack Carefully. Save packaging.
- Check over for damage. Look for missing parts in the packaging and save them for repair
- Examine the power pack.
 - Check the power cord
 - Check the connection to track
 - Do not use defective cords
 - Check for smooth operation
- Examine Track
 - Look for gunk buildup and corrosion
 - Clean the top of track.
 - Use isopropyl alcohol and a rag or paper towel to remove gunk
 - Use a bright boy to remove corrosion.
 - If you have a rotary tool, use a buffing attachment to polish the rail tops
 - Check for missing tack pins or clips. Replace missing ones (they may be in the packaging).
- Assemble track
 - Make sure all rails are engaged and top of track is level across joints
 - All rail ends should butt up tight at joints
 - Place track on hard surface. (carpet fibers will get into the engine and make for poor running)
- Connect power pack
- Check engine
 - Clean wheels
 - Lubricate at appropriate points
 - Motor bearings
 - Gears
 - Use appropriate lubricant
 - Verify electrical contacts or pickups are clean
 - Test engine on the track to verify proper operation
 - If jerky or erratic, try cleaning the wheels and pickups again
 - Check proper operation of couplers
- Check Rolling Stock
 - Make sure all wheels and axles are properly aligned
 - Clean wheels
 - Check couplers
 - Make sure all parts are present
 - Lubricate axles with graphite
- Test your train
- Enjoy!