



www.lionelcorporation.com

No. 254 Electric Freight/ Passenger Sets

Operation Manual
Traditional Version

PLEASE READ BEFORE USE AND SAVE

Table of Contents

Set Up Checklist	3
Getting Started	4
Assembling RealTrax	4
Connecting the Transformer	4
Lubricating the Engine	5
Coupling the Engine and Cars	5
Placing the Engine on the Track	5
Basic Operation	6
Activating Features	6
Maintenance	7
Lubrication and Greasing Instructions	7
Cleaning the Wheels and Track	7
Locomotive Light Bulb Replacement	8
Passenger Light Bulb Replacement	8
Caboose Car Light Bulb Replacement	9
Transformer Compatibility Chart	10
Service and Warranty Information	11

CAUTION: ELECTRICALLY OPERATED PRODUCT:

Recommended for Ages 14 and up. Not recommended for children under 14 years of age without adult supervision. As with all electric products, precautions should be observed during handling and use to prevent electric shock.

WARNING: When using electrical products, basic safety precautions should be observed, including the following:
Read this manual thoroughly before using this device.

- M.T.H. recommends that all users and persons supervising use examine the hobby transformer and other electronic equipment periodically for conditions that may result in the risk of fire, electric shock, or injury to persons, such as damage to the primary cord, plug blades, housing, output jacks or other parts. In the event such conditions exist, the train set should not be used until properly repaired.
- Do not operate your layout unattended. Obstructed accessories or stalled trains may overheat, resulting in damage to your layout.
- This train set is intended for indoor use. Do not use if water is present. Serious injury or fatality may result.
- Do not operate the hobby transformer with damaged cord, plug, switches, buttons or case.
- The transformer was designed to operate on regular US household current (120 volt, 50-60 Hertz). Do not connect to any other source of power.
- To avoid the risk of electrical shock, do not disassemble the transformer unit. There are no user-serviceable parts inside. If the unit is damaged contact M.T.H. Service for instructions.
- The transformer is equipped with an internal circuit protector. If the circuit protector trips, unplug the power cord from the electrical wall outlet, check your layout for any short circuits. The circuit breaker will reset automatically when the short is removed from the circuit.
- Unplug the transformer from the electrical wall outlet when not in use.
- Do not use this transformer for other than its intended purpose.

Transformer Ratings:

Input: 120 VAC, 60 Hz Only, Output: Z-500: 18VAC, 54W

This product may be protected by one or more of the following patents: 6,019,289; 6,280,278; 6,281,606; 6,291,263; 6,457,681; 6,491,263; 6,604,641; 6,619,594; 6,624,537; 6,655,640.

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Set Up Checklist

- Assemble RealTrax®
- Lubricate the engine
- Connect the transformer
- Place the engine and cars on the track and couple them together
- Apply power to run as described in the Basic Operation section of these instructions

Set Includes

- Electric Engine
- 3 Cars

8-Pieces O-31 Curve RealTrax (40-1002)
4-Pieces Straight RealTrax (40-1001)
Controller
Transformer
Real Trax wire harness (40-1015)
Lighted Lock-On (40-1003)

Tools Needed

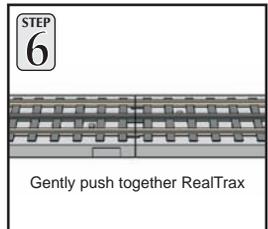
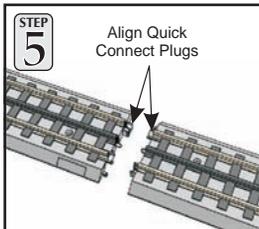
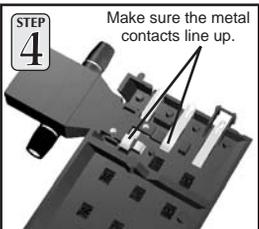
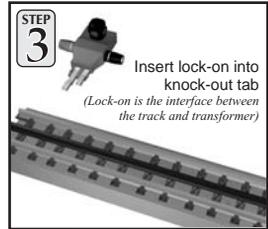
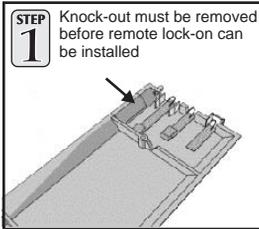
Optional Battery Charger (50-1019)
Pliers
Scissors
Philips Screwdriver
Cotton Swab or Rag
M.T.H. Maintenance Kit (30-50051)

You can obtain replacement parts and replacement instructions from the M.T.H. Parts Department (Order online: www.mthtrains.com, e-mail: parts@mth-railking.com, Fax: 410-423-0009, Phone: 410-381-2500, Mail: 7020 Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia MD 21046-1532).

Getting Started

Assembling RealTrax[®]

The quick connectors and built-in roadbed allow you to set up RealTrax anywhere, including carpeted surfaces.

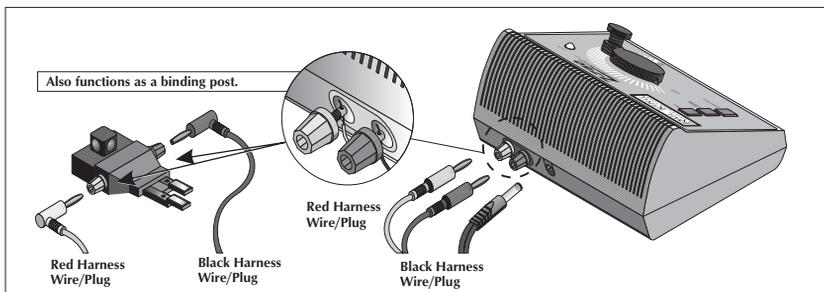


Connecting the Transformer

The transformer included with this set provides an easy-to-use, safe power source for AC-powered trains and accessories.

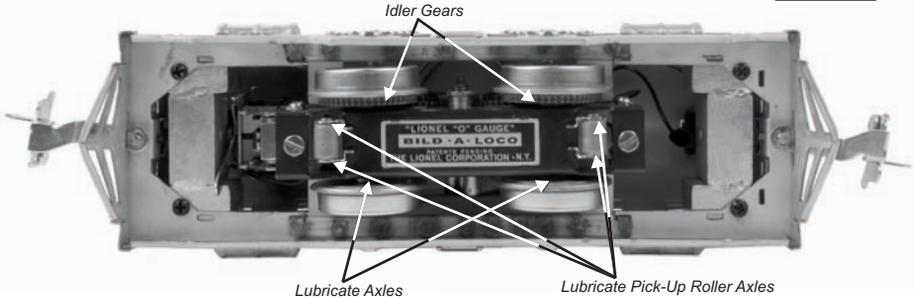
To complete the connection between the track and the transformer, simply plug in the color-coded wire harness that was included in your set and plug the transformer into your wall outlet.

- Plug the wire from the transformer into the Z-Controller's center port.
- Connect the Wires from the Z-Controller to the Lighted Lock-On, being sure that the wires are connected from red-to-red and black-to-black.
- Unplug when not in use



Lubricating and Greasing the Engine

Before operating, lubricate all exposed moving parts using a multi-purpose oil (available with M.T.H.'s Maintenance Kit, sold separately) or a light household oil. Follow the lubrication points.



Coupling the Engine and Cars

STEP 1 Place the engine and cars on the track.

A photograph showing a Lionel train engine and several passenger cars on a track. The engine is on the right, and the cars are on the left.

STEP 2 To couple latch style couplers together, you will have to manually align hooks and lift and latch couplers.

A close-up photograph of two latch-style couplers on a track. The couplers are silver and have a hook-like shape. The hooks are being aligned.

STEP 3 To couple box style couplers together, you will have to manually align hooks and gently push box couplers together.

A close-up photograph of two box-style couplers on a track. The couplers are silver and have a rectangular, box-like shape. The hooks are being aligned.

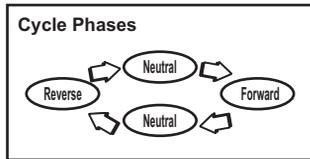
STEP 4 To couple box and latch style couplers, you will have to manually align hooks and gently push couplers together.

A close-up photograph of a box-style coupler and a latch-style coupler on a track. The couplers are silver and are being aligned.

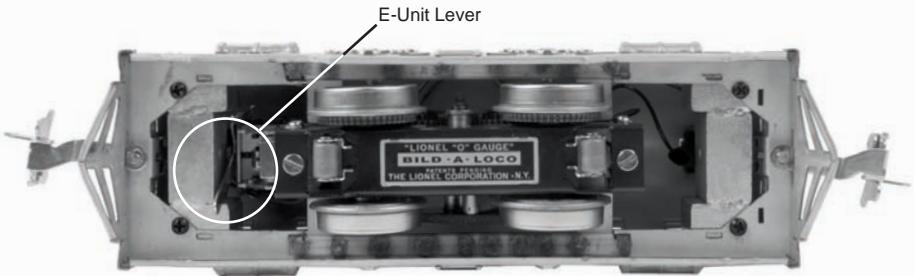
Basic Operation

The Throttle knob controls how fast your train will travel.

The locomotive is stopped, started and reversed by means of the reversing 'E-Unit' located inside the locomotive. The E-Unit is a three position sequence relay which cycles whenever current to the locomotive is interrupted. This can be done by operating the 'direction' control on the transformer, or by moving the transformer voltage control to the OFF position. The sequence of its operation is Forward, Neutral, Reverse, Neutral, etc. In other words, if the locomotive is in forward motion, operate the 'Direction' control once to stop it, and twice to reverse it.



If you want to operate the train in one direction only, which is necessary if you have automatic stations or Insulated blocks in your layout, you must 'lock-out' the E-Unit. Make sure the locomotive is moving in the desired direction then stop it. Now, move the E-Unit lever (located at the rear of the motor) to its OFF position or toward the right side of the locomotive. If the E-Unit is 'locked out' while it is in the Neutral position, the locomotive will not run at all. Also, because the E-Unit works partially by gravity, it will not operate properly if the locomotive is held on its side or upside down. To resume normal operation move the E unit level to the left.



Activating Features

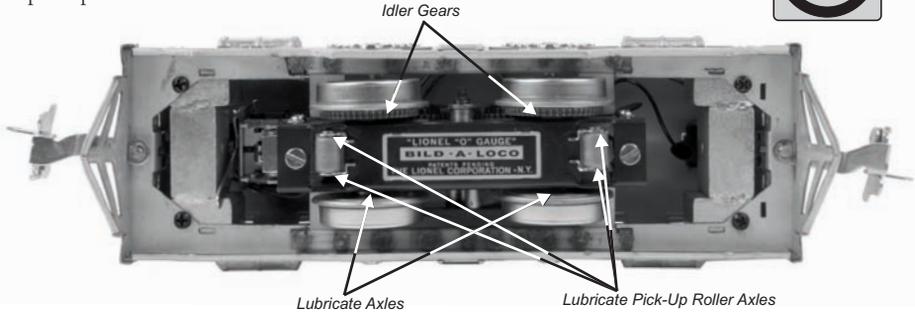
Throttle- To increase or decrease track voltage, and therefore train speed, turn the throttle control knob. Turning clockwise will increase voltage and speed, while turning counterclockwise will decrease voltage and speed. The engine will maintain the speed you set after you release the throttle until you turn it again to change the voltage and speed.

Maintenance

Lubricating and Greasing Instructions

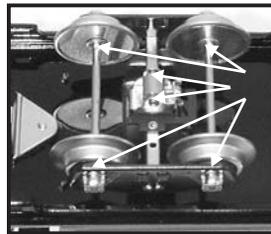
The engine should be oiled and greased in order to run properly.

Regularly lubricate all axles and linkage components, including pickup roller axles, to prevent squeaking. Use light household oil, such as that found in M.T.H.'s maintenance kit. Do not over oil. Use only a drop or two on each pivot point.



Car Lubrication

Use a light household oil for lubrication. Apply oil sparingly, using a toothpick or small applicator. Add a drop of oil to the axle holes in the front and rear of each wheel (see photo below). Wipe away excess oil with a cotton swab.



Lubricate pickup rollers, where axle meets wheel and where axle meets truck side.

Cleaning the Wheels and Track

Periodically check the locomotive wheels and pickups for dirt and buildup, which can cause poor electrical contact and traction. Wheels and tires can be cleaned using denatured (not rubbing) alcohol applied with a cotton swab.



To clean the track, use RailKing Track Cleaning Fluid found in Maintenance Kit (30-50010) or denatured (not rubbing) alcohol and a clean rag. Unplug the transformer and wipe the rails of the track, turning the rag frequently to ensure that you are using clean cloth on the rails. Thereafter, keep an eye on the track and clean it when it gets dirty to ensure good electrical contact and to lengthen the life of the tires.

Clean any type of track with this heavy-duty track cleaning block (40-1099). Durable constructed from ABS plastic, the block includes a built-in cleaning pad. For really stubborn track, you can insert sandpaper into the block in just a few quick steps.



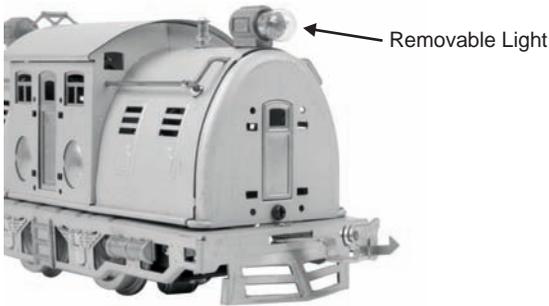
Track Cleaning Block (40-1099)



Maintenance Kit (30-50010)

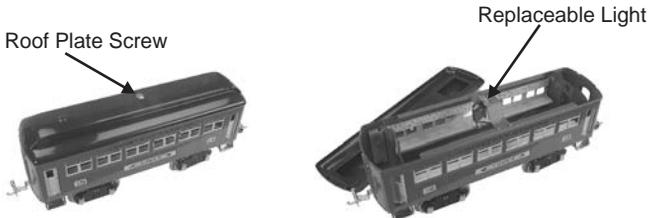
Locomotive Light Bulb Replacement

Rotate the headlight bulb counter-clockwise to remove.



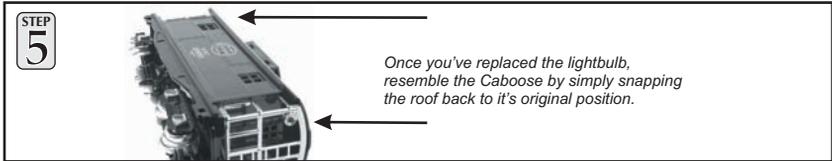
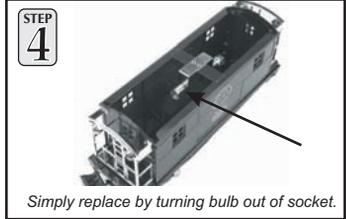
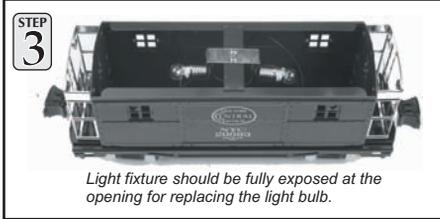
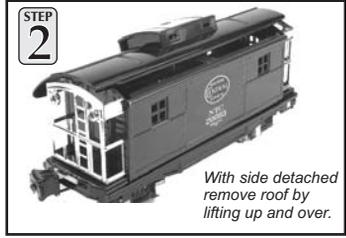
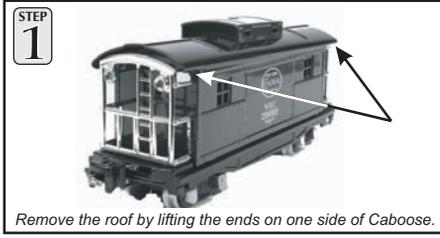
Passenger Car Light Bulb Replacement

To replace the interior light bulbs remove the screw in the center of the roof plate.



Caboose Light Bulb Replacement

To replace the interior light bulbs follow these instructions and see the diagrams below.



Transformer Compatibility and Wiring Chart

The chart below lists the many compatible transformers. Please follow the chart details for how the terminals on these transformers should be attached to your layout.

RECOMMENDED AC TRANSFORMERS					
Transformer Model	Center Rail	Outside Rail	Min/Max. Voltage	Power Rating	Transformer Type
MTH Z-500	Red Terminal	Black Terminal	0-18v	50-Watt	Electronic
MTH Z-750	Red Terminal	Black Terminal	0-21v	75-Watt	Electronic
MTH Z-1000	Red Terminal	Black Terminal	0-21v	100-Watt	Electronic
MTH Z-4000	Red Terminal	Black Terminal	0-22v	390-Watt	Electronic
Lionel 1032	U	A	5-16v	90-Watt	Standard
Lionel 1032M	U	A	5-16v	90-Watt	Standard
Lionel 1033	U	A	5-16v	90-Watt	Standard
Lionel 1043	U	A	5-16v	90-Watt	Standard
Lionel 1043M	U	A	5-16v	90-Watt	Standard
Lionel 1044	U	A	5-16v	90-Watt	Standard
Lionel 1053	U	A	8-17v	60-Watt	Standard
Lionel 1063	U	A	8-17v	60-Watt	Standard
Lionel LW	A	U	8-18v	75-Watt	Standard
Powermaster	U	A	8-18v	135VA	Electronic
All-Trol	Left Terminal	Right Terminal	0-24v	300-Watt	Electronic
Dallee Hostler	Left Terminal	Right Terminal			Electronic
Lionel LW	A	U	8-18v	75-Watt	Standard
Lionel KW	A or B	U	6-20v	190-Watt	Standard
Lionel MW	Outside Track Terminal	Inside Track Terminal	5-16v	50V.A.	Electronic
Lionel RS-1	Red Terminal	Black Terminal	0-18v	50V.A.	Electronic
Lionel RW	U	A	9-19v	110-Watt	Standard
Lionel SW	U	A	Unknown	130-Watt	Standard
Lionel TW	U	A	8-18v	175-Watt	Standard
Lionel ZW	A,B,C or D	U	8-20v	275-Watt	Standard
Lionel Post-War Celebration Series ZW	A,B,C or D	Common	0-20v	135/190 Watt	Electronic

* Conventional Mode Only

Service & Warranty Information

How to Get Service Under the Terms of the Limited One-Year Warranty

When you suspect an item is defective, please check the operator's manual for standard operation and trouble-shooting techniques that may correct the problem. Additional information may be found on the M.T.H. Website. Should you still require service, follow the instructions below to obtain warranty service.

First, e-mail, write, call or fax a M.T.H. Authorized Service Center (ASC) in your area to obtain Repair Authorization. You can find the list of ASCs on the M.T.H. Website, www.mthtrains.com. Authorized Service Centers are required to make warranty repairs on items sold *only* from that store; all other repairs may-- or may not be done at the store's own discretion. If you did not purchase the item directly from the ASC, you will need to select a National Authorized Service Center (NASC). These centers are compensated by M.T.H. to perform warranty service for any customer whose repair qualifies for warranty service. A list of NASC retailers can be located on the M.T.H. Website or by calling 410-381-2580. Should the warranty no longer apply, you may choose either an ASC or NASC retailer to service your M.T.H. Product. A reasonable service fee will be charged.

CAUTION: Make sure the product is packed in its original factory packaging including its foam and plastic wrapping material to prevent damage to the merchandise. There is no need to return the entire set if only one of the components is in need of repair *unless otherwise instructed by the Service Center*. **The shipment must be prepaid and we recommend that it be insured. A cover letter including your name, address, daytime phone number, e-mail address (if available), Return Authorization number (if required by the service center), a copy of your sales receipt and a full description of the problem must be included to facilitate the repairs. Please include the description regardless of whether you discussed the problem with a service technician when contacting the Service Center for your Return Authorization.**

Please make sure you have followed the instructions carefully before returning any merchandise for service. Authorized M.T.H. Service Centers are independently owned and operated and are not agents or representatives of M.T.H. Electric Trains. M.T.H. assumes no responsibility, financial or otherwise, for material left in their possession, or work done, by privately owned M.T.H. Authorized Service Centers.

If you need assistance at any time email MTH Service at service@mth-railking.com, or call 410 381-2580.

Limited One-Year Warranty

All M.T.H. products purchased from an Authorized M.T.H. Retailer are covered by this warranty. See our Website www.mthtrains.com to identify an M.T.H. Retailer near you.

You can register your warranty online at www.mthtrains.com/warranty.

M.T.H. products are warranted for one year from the date of purchase against defects in material or workmanship, excluding wear items such as light bulbs, pick-up rollers, batteries, smoke unit wicks, and traction tires. We will repair, replace, or credit (at our option) the defective part without charge for the parts or labor, if the item is returned to an M.T.H. Authorized Service Center (ASC) or M.T.H. National Authorized Service Center (NASC) within one year of the original date of purchase. This warranty does not cover damages caused by improper care, handling, or use. Transportation costs incurred by the customer are not covered under this warranty.

Items sent for repair must be accompanied by a return authorization number, a description of the problem, and a **copy of the original sales receipt from an Authorized M.T.H. Train Merchant**, which gives the date of purchase. If you are sending this product to an Authorized Service Center, contact that Center for their return authorization.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may have other rights that vary from state to state. Specific questions regarding the warranty may be forwarded to M.T.H. Directly.

Service Department:

M.T.H. Electric Trains

7020 Columbia Gateway Drive

Columbia MD 21046-1532

410-381-2580, service@mth-railking.com