

USERS' GUIDE

Using The Fast Tracks Rail Roller (UG12)



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Rail Roller Users' Guide

The Fast Tracks Rail Roller is a dual-purpose tool that allows you to not only bend rail to any radius, but also straighten bent rail. This users' guide will detail how to bend and straighten rail and will show you how to get the most from your Rail Roller.

The latest version of this users' guide is always available for download from the Fast Tracks website at <http://www.handlaidtrack.com/documents.php>

Last Updated February 28, 2005

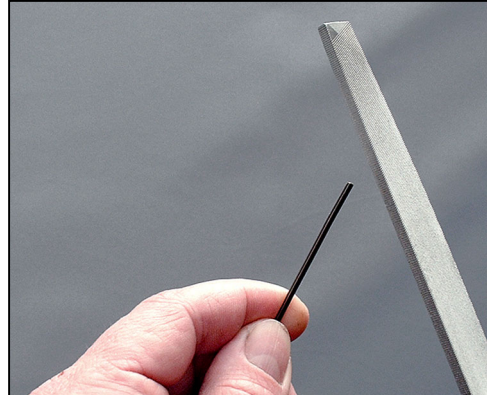
How To Bend Rail With The Fast Tracks Rail Roller

The Fast Tracks Rail Roller has been designed to help you produce virtually perfect bends quickly and easily. For best results we suggest that you carefully study the following instructions before you begin.

Step 1

To ensure long life of your Rail Roller, clean off any burs from the ends of the rail with a file. (Image 1)

Image 1



Step 2

Start by turning the radius adjustment knob (Image 2) counter-clockwise to create a gap large enough to accept the code of rail that you will be rolling.

Image 2

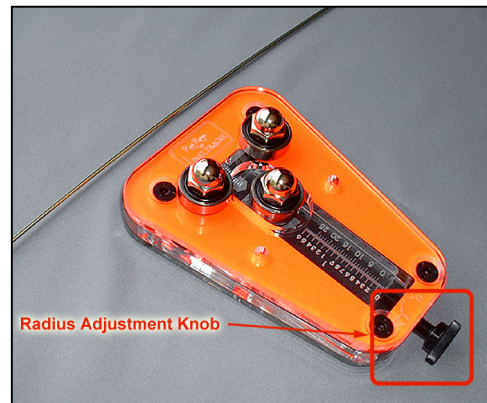


Image 3

Step 3

Insert the rail between the top and bottom rollers with the end of the rail protruding about 1/2" (12mm) past the top idler roller. (Image 3)



Step 4

Apply slight pressure to the rail by turning the radius adjustment knob clockwise and then using a series of short progressive pushes; **push** the full length of the rail through the rollers. (Images 4 - 6)

Image 4



Note!

Never pull the rail through the Rail Roller, as this will tend to de-radius the rail.

While some larger codes of rail may require a second pass through the roller to achieve the radius that you want, you should avoid passing the rail through the Rail Roller more than once.

Image 5



Image 6



Step 5

Image 7

Once you have achieved the radius that you want with one rail, note the value on the vernier scale to use for rolling subsequent lengths of rail to that same radius. (Image 7)



Creating Consistent Radii

All rail is not created equal. This is due to minute variances in materials, and different production techniques and processes used by each rail manufacturer. As a result it is not possible to establish and publish radius settings that can be simply dialled in using the vernier scale on the Rail Roller.

Instead the vernier scale is used to establish your own radius charts for the rail code and manufacturer of your choice. You can then use these charts as a reference for re-creating the radius that you want.

Radius Variations

One quirk we did encounter during testing is that rail (any rail from any manufacturer) will have different stresses from one side to the other. So if you do not achieve the radius that you want using the same setting on the vernier scale that you used previously, simply turn the rail over and roll it in the opposite direction. This will usually solve the problem.

Straightening Bent Rail With The Fast Tracks Rail Roller

In addition to bending rail, the Fast Tracks Rail Roller can also be used to straighten pre-bent or misshapen rail. Simply insert the bent rail into the Rail Roller and adjust the radius adjustment knob while pushing the rail through the rollers to straighten the rail.

