

MODEL RAILROADS

<http://www.vmt.org/collections/rail/model-railroad/>

When you visit the VMT, you get the great opportunity to visit the O Gauge model railroad in the front of the museum. There are several model trains running over 600 feet of track within the layout, and you will spot all kinds of unique features in the built landscape.

Thomas the Tank Engine is in the lower window scene. There's always something new to see in our model layout! This incredible layout is maintained by the Roanoke Valley O-Gauge Club.

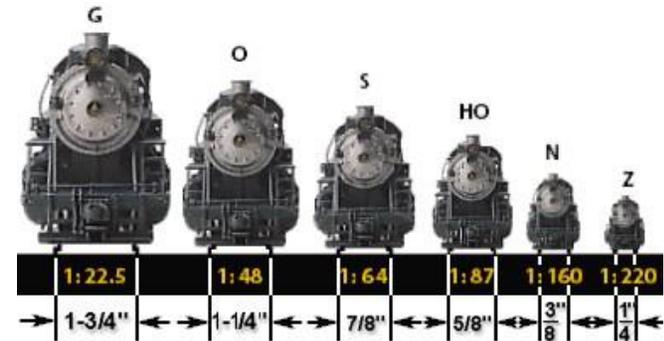
Model railroading started before the Civil War. The O scale, like ours, began as toys in the early 1900s and became more realistic in the 1930s with Lionel's true to 1/4" O scale engine and cars. The O Scale was most popular until after World War II. Most locomotives required painting and assembly through this time and layouts were entirely created by hand with no pre-made tracks.

Today, O Scale models are great for the locomotive and car detailing as well as the layouts can be created to look realistic. Our model has popular Roanoke businesses, signs and even our Mill Mountain Star.

SCALE...What's that About?

SCALE refers to the size ratio of the model to the prototype, which in O scale is based on 1/4" equals one foot (1/4"=1'), or 1/48 full size.

<https://oscalekings.org/WP/2-rail-o-scale-primer/>



Working with any scale model requires creativity, patience and MATH!

We are thankful to the Roanoke Valley Model Railroad Club for their hard work making the VMT O Gauge Model so AMAZING! They meet on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 in the basement at the VMT and work on models of all sizes. Check them out when the VMT re-opens.

Check out this great video:

O Scale Lionel Legacy

<https://youtu.be/9VnCxUO5nl4>

<https://www.modeltrainstuff.com/o-scale/>

Grab a piece of paper and design a layout that you'd like to create. Share it with us when we re-open!