

Compound Ladder

On-view freight yards typically amount to a waste of precious layout space, and should therefore be avoided. A good layout should have at least one off-view staging yard though. Train lengths in staging yards will typically be fairly identical, which calls for the use of a Compound Ladder, as it causes track spurs to have fairly identical lengths.

In this module all tangent tracks have at least the minimum 4-inch clearance required for track separation, and even with seven tracks, there is at least 2-inches of gap to the module front and rear edges. All turnouts and curves are O-54, so even autoracks and passenger equipment can be accommodated. Optional uncoupling tracks were given to all but the front most spur, and every spur has at least 35.5-inches of uncoupled length.

Normally a staging yard would not require any accessories, but if you had one, a Lionel #465 Sound Dispatching Station would both add interest and function as an intercom.