

# The Nashville Road

1956

The Nashville Road is a proto freelance railroad. The modeled portion of the railroad is centered around my version of Nashville, TN. This railroad has specifically been designed for operations.

## A Brief Railroad Overview

The Chicago, Indianapolis, Nashville and Southern Railway, popularly known as the Nashville Road runs from the Great Lakes to the Gulf. The railroad has two northern terminals, Chicago and Detroit, both with mainlines to Indianapolis and then onto Nashville, Birmingham and New Orleans. The railroad has been in and out of receivership throughout the years and is now controlled by the Milwaukee Road and the L&N, friendly takeovers to save the railroad. This gave the L&N a route to Chicago and the Milwaukee, access to the Gulf and the South.

## The Layout

The layout is in a basement in an overall area of 48' x 56'. This is the extreme length and width of the layout and it does not completely fill this area. There are 3 total decks with a 4<sup>th</sup> deck for staging on the main peninsula. At this time there is staging for approximately 30 trains with additional areas to add 20 more if needed.

The mainline is approximately 1150' long and takes a train running at realistic speeds without stops, a little over 40 minutes to complete the staging to staging run. The layout is designed so that there was only one helix needed. That is used to get trains from north staging (lowest level) to the first scenicked deck. From there on, the room becomes the helix (or nolix as some call it). Anytime you are looking at the mainline, you are always looking west, with south the left and north to the right.

The City of Nashville and suburbs are located on the center or main deck. The mainline is double tracked throughout the city and is single track with passing sidings both north and south (lower and upper decks). CTC is planned for the center portion of the railroad. Signals have been acquired but not yet installed.

There are 3 busy yards on the layout along with 4 industrial switching districts in the City. Additionally, there is an 8 track passenger terminal that is completed but not yet operational. Freight locals work both north and south of the City. It is the twilight of steam on the Nashville, holding down the Nashville to Birmingham runs. All other operations are diesel powered.

The B&O has trackage rights on the Nashville Road from Louisville to Nashville and the Rock Island comes east out of Memphis to Columbia, TN where it has trackage rights into Nashville. These two railroads terminate at RiboYard, the other main yard on the layout. Additionally, the NC&StL, L&N, and Tennessee Central all interchange with the Nashville Road.

The railroad is Dispatcher controlled using Timetable and Trainorders.

There are approximately 70 trains on the daily schedule. Car forwarding is by car cards and waybills.

The DCC operating system is wireless NCE.