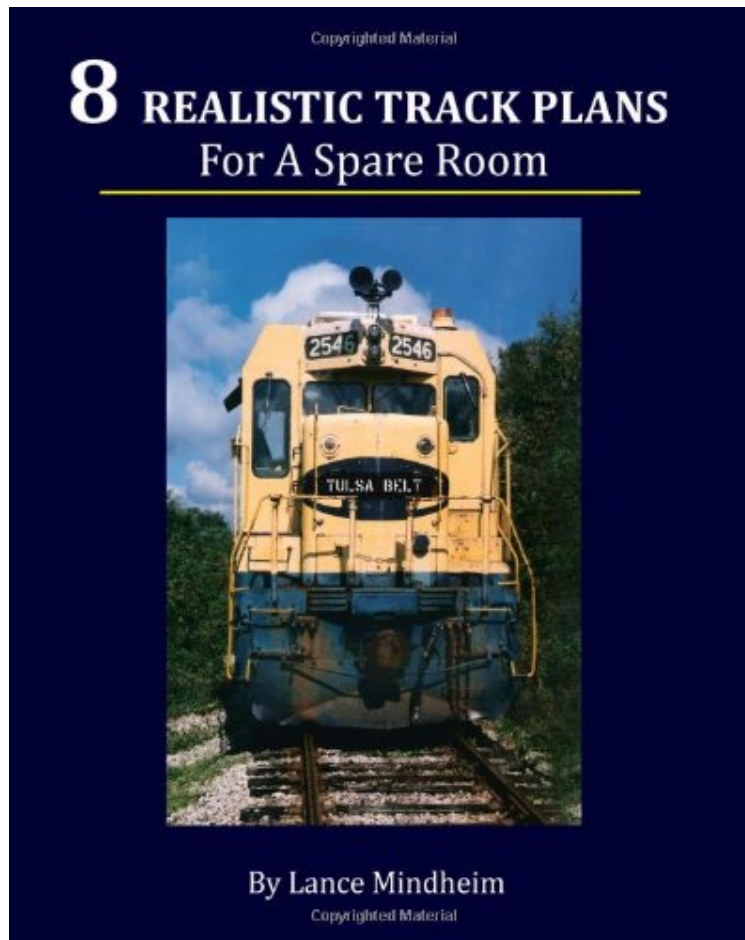


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8 Realistic Track Plans For A Spare Room

Lance Mindheim

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Lance Mindheim : 8 Realistic Track Plans For A Spare Room before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 8 Realistic Track Plans For A Spare Room:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Should be in a modeler's library.By FredBLance Mindheim's books should be on every modeler's "to read" list. His writing is concise, down-to earth, and always helpful in some way, even if one is a veteran modeler. There's always something to be learned about the hobby, even if it's just a little, less time-consuming way to do something, or maybe something that's been troublesome that you've overlooked, and found the answer in one of his books or magazine articles. Lance was kind enough to take the time to answer an e-mail I sent him once, (as a total stranger!) asking for some advice about DCC. Later, I was fortunate to meet him in person at a train show, and a conversation with him in person is like his books; down-to-earth, personable and helpful. Any book by him is worthwhile to have and to read!3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Apartment switching at its best...By Philanthropic PunditIf space is tight, there are enough ideas in this book to help you create a believable small layout, be it a shelf or small room sized layout.Construction methods are glossed over as there are enough books on

the relevant subject matter (bench-work, scenery, wiring, operation etc) that deal with them exclusively if you require more reading. One suggestion would be Lance Mindheim's book *How To Build A Switching Layout* However, the plans are some of the most adaptable I have seen in many years. For example, two notable plans stand out (to me anyway) *The Appalachian Coal Branch Line* and *The Milwaukee Branch Line*. The former provides for some continuous running whilst switching can be done in two towns and the loading tipple... very reminiscent of the Clinchfield. The Milwaukee Branch is a wonderful example of a prototype that is selectively compressed and an actual timetable provides an idea on how to operate this type of layout. Colour pictures abound and provide examples of the types of scenes and details to aid in successfully producing a satisfactory outcome. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. *Layout Design For the Real World* By Paul Boehler It's tempting to think of Lance Mindheim's book "*8 Realistic Track Plans For a Spare Room*" as strictly appealing to the small-layout fans among us, but I think it's got a lot to say to every student of model railroad design. The railroads in this book are modest and attainable, firmly based in the prototype, operationally interesting and refreshingly free from the gimmicks and gadgets that seem to teem in other current trackplans. The book itself is a simple soft-cover of 56 pages which includes 22 color photos and 12 diagrams, both trackplans and construction diagrams. One minor but much appreciated feature; smooth-finish uncoated page stock is used, making it easy to write notes and marginalia. A yellow data block accompanies each plan, with dimensions, curve radii and other vital info. Pretty standard, but appreciated nonetheless. My one gripe is with the perfect binding--opening the book flat on the workbench (it is essentially a workbook, after all) will likely result in damage to the spine and possible loss of pages. Perhaps the greatest value of this book is the support and validation it provides to the 'average model railroader'. The model press features large, elaborate layouts, as it should; such endeavors are inspiring and contain lots of great ideas. But most of us are far more humble in our vision, and Lance's books and articles serve as a continuing reminder that small and relatively uncomplicated layouts can be just as absorbing and fulfilling as the gymnasium-sized railroads. I'm considering two of the trackplans in this book for my next layout project. There's no higher accolade a planbook can receive than that.

Featured inside are eight creative track plan ideas for your typical spare room. Each plan is designed to be easy to build, fun to operate, and visually inspiring. Explore themes such as a Milwaukee Road branch line, a Maine shortline, an Appalachian coal branch, the fictional Tulsa Belt and more!

About the Author Lance Mindheim is owner of The Shelf Layouts Company, a custom model railroad building and design firm. He speaks nationally at a variety of prototype modeling conferences and is author of numerous articles for the model railroad press. An engineering graduate of Purdue University, he is a strong believer in the value of simplicity when it comes to model railroad design. Visit his website at www.shelflayouts.com.