

A COMPACT END MODULE PART TWO

This article is meant to clarify information on the Compact End Modules written about in the December Dispatch.

Fig. 1 shows the basic dimensions of my compact end modules. The 30" x 60" frame should fit easily in any station wagon or van. I built the frames so that the two sections can be stacked.

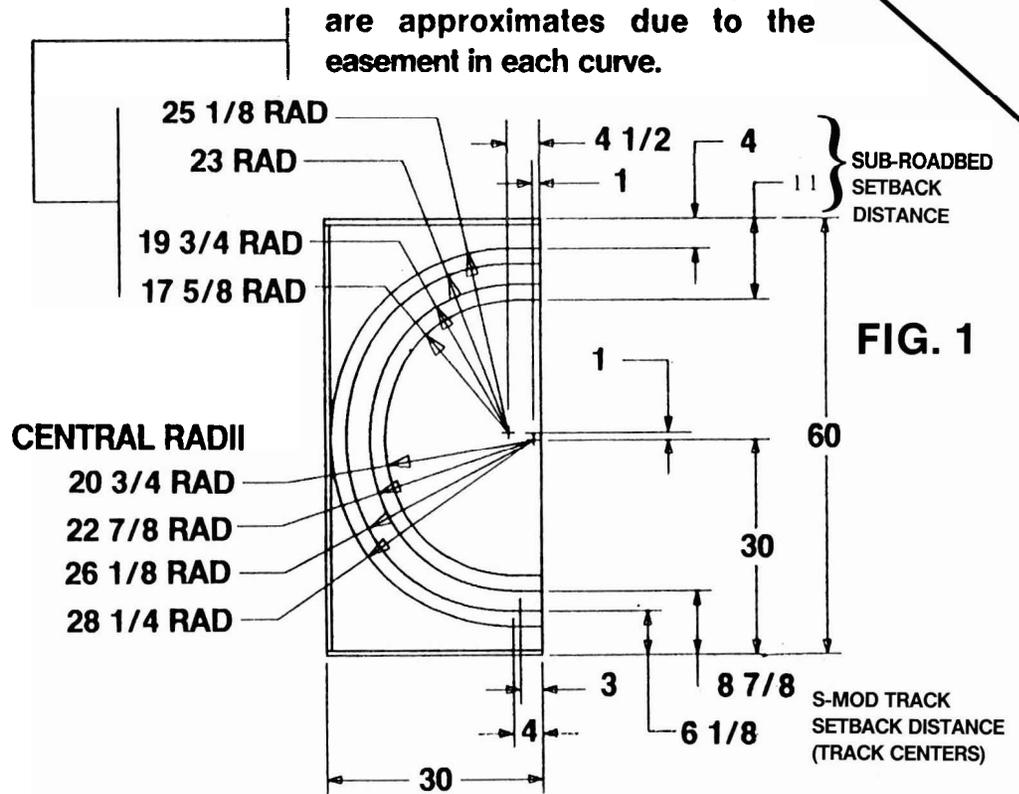
The most important radii shown are the track center lines; 22 7/8" and 26 1/8". The sub-roadbed radii are also shown; 20 3/4" and 28 1/4". You will need to calculate the radial locations of your roadbed, ties and rail from the track centerline locations depending on the sizes of your components. Note: that the curve section between the straight zones and the center portion of the curve is really a spline which includes easements. Therefore, the indicated radii are construction guidelines only.

Lay out the straight sections and the radii for the central section of the curve in one color of ink, and the spline radii in a different color. Bend a section of rail or strip of wood into alignment with each straight zone and central section of the curve; then use the spline radii to help define the best fit location for the easement. Trace the easement from the rail or wood strip spline onto your workpiece. Next, cut and install your sub-roadbed making sure the track centerline positions will line up with the next module.

In Part I (December issue), I mentioned the problem that an AF 290 running on the inside track might collide with a train on the outer track due to a wide pilot. To increase the track separations, make the straight zones of the outer track longer than those of the inner tracks. Note the 4" additional straight added to the outer loop in Fig. 1.

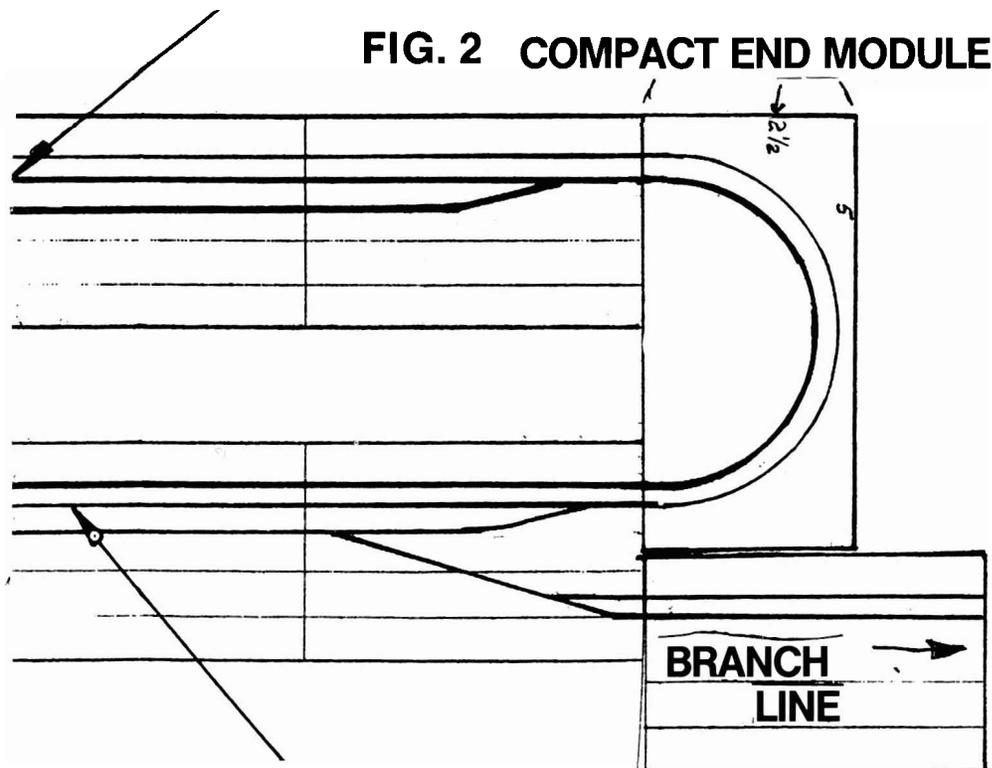
When running an American Flyer train on the modules, a new member didn't even recognize that we were running Flyer because we weren't using Flyer track.

These radii and their center points are approximates due to the easement in each curve.



COMPACT END MODULE CODE 148

FIG. 2 COMPACT END MODULE



CODE 100