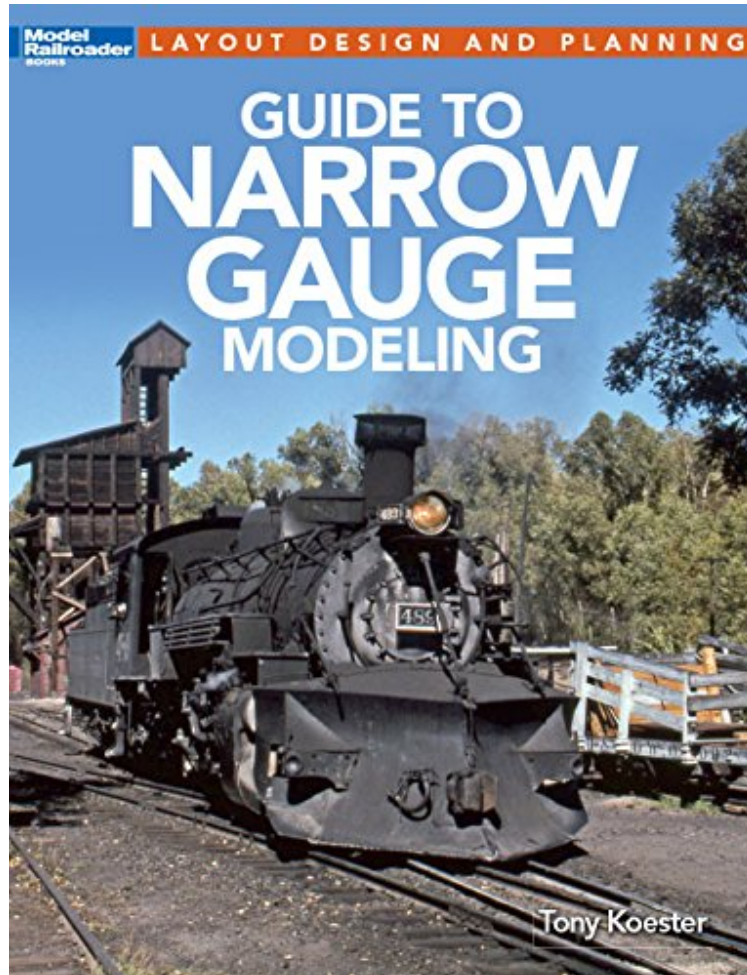


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Guide to Narrow Gauge Modeling (Layout Design and Planning)

Tony Koester

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#419546 in Books Kalmbach 2014-12-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 10.69 x .20 x 8.581, .60 #File Name: 162700150696 pages KALMBACH 12490 Guide To Narrow Gauge Modeling | File size: 20.Mb

Tony Koester : Guide to Narrow Gauge Modeling (Layout Design and Planning) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Guide to Narrow Gauge Modeling (Layout Design and Planning):

8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. erudition and research recommend this book for the modeler's library with some reservations By Roland L. Fortin The latest from Tony Koester and Kalmbach Publishing provides a teasing overview of narrow gauge modeling. No doubt this is due to the constraints of Kalmbach's 96 page standard for this and similar publications. Nevertheless, Tony Koesters friendly writing style, erudition and research recommend this book for the modeler's library with some reservations. Primary among the reservations is the generality of the information presented. The novice narrow gauge modeler will no doubt extract value from the commentary, but anyone who has and does model narrow gauge, at least to an intermediate-skill level, may have their expectations quashed. A bold discussion of applicable and comparative standards of scale would have been helpful.

Perhaps a chart or two (or three) could have cogently summarized and compared the necessities, constraints and demands of narrow gauge modeling in a variety of scales (let's recall the technical difficulties of squeezing a Faulhaber coreless motor with flywheel into an HO_{n3} boiler, or Sn₂). Further, while brief histories of several narrow gauge lines are re-told to stimulate the imagination of the modeler, only 6 track plans are presented - the book is, after all, subtitled: *Layout Design and Planning*. (If all modelers share one stimulus it has to be track plans!). The chapter dealing with commercial support is thinly veiled advertisement, yet I understand the need to suggest to the entry level modeler that he/she will have access to the materials and locomotives to whet their narrow gauge appetites. The chapter, "Car and Train Movements", is reflective of one of Mr. Koester's strengths - operation - and provides purposeful commentary for all modelers. There may always be expansions and amendments of any publication where it is found to be lacking, and certainly there will always be criticism of its shortcomings. A "Guide to Narrow Gauge Modeling (*Layout Design and Planning*)" could have been a bit more technically and visually expansive. It is, nevertheless, a solid, general assessment of narrow gauge modeling by a highly respected and accomplished author whose only constraint is, perhaps, a 96 page format. A bit more breathing room is needed to do the subject justice. Thanks for listening to one man's opinion. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Good, but lacking. By MikeGood guide if you're looking for an overview of narrow gauge railroads, but not a lot of info if you're starting in narrow gauge modeling. Sort of sits in the middle between prototype and model and doesn't excel at either. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. It is very informative and Tony Koester is an excellent writer. I have been reading his "Trains of ... By Steven Wilk Model Railroader always has quality books and this one is no exception. It is very informative and Tony Koester is an excellent writer. I have been reading his "Trains of Thought" in Model Railroader for many years and it is always an eagerly awaited treat.

This book provides an entry point for any modeler interested in building a narrow gauge layout. Narrow gauge railroads remain popular among railfans and modelers due to the spectacular mountain scenery in which many operated. Although narrow gauge layouts have a passionate niche following, there are very few books on this subject. The book is an overview of prototype narrow gauge railroading as well as available models. This is a one-stop book for introducing modelers to the subject of narrow gauge railroading. It explains why and where narrow gauge railroads were built, how they operated, what their equipment was like, and why they were abandoned.

About the Author Tony Koester has written a half-dozen books focusing on his life-long hobby of model railroading. Tony is the editor of *Model Railroad Planning*, a special annual issue of *Model Railroader* magazine, as well as a contributing editor to MR. He writes MR's popular *Trains of Thought* column and has written numerous feature articles for MR. He also served as the editor of *Railroad Model Craftsman* magazine until 1981. Tony spent a quarter of a century designing, building, and with his friends, operating a freelanced coal-hauling HO railroad, the Allegheny Midland (the Midland Road). More recently, he has been hard at work on a multi-deck HO layout that accurately depicts the Nickel Plate Road's St. Louis Division as it appeared in 1954.