

**Welcome to iRunTrains**, my new model-train simulator web-app designed for most desktop and laptop computers. Although any web browser should work, Google Chrome is recommended. A desktop-mouse is also recommended.



To get started, select a Track-Plan from this menu in the top-left corner. Your selected track should normally load within a few seconds. The trains are set to start running automatically, but you can take control at any time, or just enjoy watching them run. There are now twelve different viewing modes, and those are described in more detail below.

Each track-plan supports several scenery-themes that you can select from the menu ... Irish Meadows, Siberian Tundra, etc. If you don't like the track-plan's default theme, simply select a theme you like better.

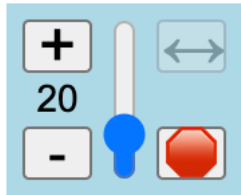
Eventually you'll also be able to design and save your own track-plans like these, but my design tool needs more polish before I make that public.



Each layout has three numbered trains, and each [Train #] button selects that train. You can also select a train by just typing its number on your keyboard. You can

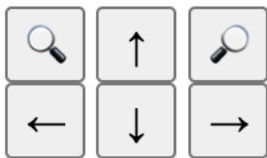
actively control the selected train, and in most viewing modes, the view follows that train automatically. The direction and speed of each train is displayed below its train-selector button. For example, here Train-1 is showing "F: 23" which means it has a speed of 23 units in the forward direction.

Lastly, the [📢] buttons sound that train's whistle, and the [🔔] buttons toggles that train's bell on and off. You can also operate the selected train's whistle and bell using the "W" and "B" keys on your keyboard.



These controls set the speed and direction of the selected train. The vertical slider sets that train's target speed, or the [+] and [-] buttons can be used to change the target speed by five units. The '[' and ']' keys on your keyboard also change the target speed by five units.

The [●] button stops the selected train, as do the BACKSPACE or DELETE keys on your keyboard. Note that since trains have momentum, they take some time to stop, and longer trains have more momentum. When a train is stopped, the [↔] button becomes active, and it can be used to toggle the train's direction between **Forward** and **Reverse**. Or the '\' key on your keyboard does the same.



iRunTrains shows your trains in three view at the same time, one large main view, and two smaller views on the right. A scroll-wheel mouse is generally the best way to manipulate these views, but these six buttons provide an alternative for manipulating the main view. Depending on your view

mode, the [🔍] and [🔍] buttons either change your zoom, or they change your view-height above the layout. The [+] and [-] keys on your keyboard also change the zoom/height. Or better yet, you can adjust these values with your mouse's scroll-wheel.

The four arrow-buttons generally change your viewing angles, and your keyboard's four arrow-keys do the same. Or you can just drag the views around with your mouse. If you hold down the SHIFT key on your keyboard, that will vary the behaviors of these controls. With a little experimentation, it should be pretty obvious how they work.



These buttons switch the labelled turnouts. Note that the turnout-labels auto-display when you manipulate a view, but otherwise auto-hide. The horizontal blue line on each turnout shows where

the trains will go, so you should see these switch each time you

hit its button. You can also switch turnouts using your keyboard. For example, typing the three characters 'T' '0' '2' is the same as pressing the [T02] button.

✓ Follow Train - All

Follow Train - Front

Follow Train - Back

Railfan - Train

Railfan - Front (Wide)

Railfan - Front (Zoom)

Railfan - Back (Wide)

Railfan - Back (Zoom)

Ride Train - Front

Ride Train - Back

Orbit Center

Look Around

Each of the three train-views has this view-mode menu in the top-right corner. There are 12 view modes total, and they are described below.

The three “**Follow Train**” modes (which are the default) will follow the selected train, as if you’re watching it from a drone or helicopter or vehicle. In these modes, you control the viewing angle and viewing distance.

The five “**Railfan**” modes will also watch the selected train, but your viewing location is stationary. In these modes, you can control the viewing location and viewing height.

The two “**Ride Train**” modes will put you on top of the selected train, as if you’re riding a large 1/4 scale model train. In these modes, you can

control your viewing direction.

The “**Orbit Center**” mode does not follow any train, but lets you manually move around the layout while always looking at its center. In this mode, you control the viewing angle and viewing distance.

The “**Look Around**” mode also does not follow any train, but lets you manually move around the layout. In this mode, you control viewing direction and height. And if you hold down the SHIFT key on your keyboard, you control your viewing location.