Introduction to DCC Part 1D
Putting it all together

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Controlling our trains

using

user friendly technology

Putting it all Together

To make a layout work with DCC is a simple process of connecting a DCC starter set to the tracks and using a DCC ready locomotive.

A simple loop of track will work and only 2 wires need to be hooked up to the track.

On your throttle select the address of the locomotive (default =3) set the direction and advance the speed control to run the train. It can be that simple.

If you have blocks in place, I suggest that you set all the blocks to one throttle position, remove the DC power packs from the layout and connect the output of the DCC system to the selected throttle connections on the layout.

Use your throttle to select the address of the locomotive (default =3) set the direction and advance the speed control to run the train.

Adding a second train

Now that you have one train running on the layout with DCC it is time to take real advantage of the system and add another locomotive and cars to run a second or more train(s).

Because the locomotive decoders come with the default address of 3 you will need to change the address before being able to control your locomotives separately. This will require that you program the decoder address. This is **not** a difficult process and don't let the idea of "Programming " make you think of computer programming with "Ifs, ands, and goto" statements. Programming decoders is not like computer programming. You will have your DCC system send data load registers with information but you will not need to know all of this. In many cases you just answer a few questions on your throttle.

Program Track

Most DCC systems provide connections for a programming track.

This track is not part of the layout but a separate section of track that is used to program and test your locomotives. The power to the program track is limited and will shut down if there is a short that could damage your decoder.

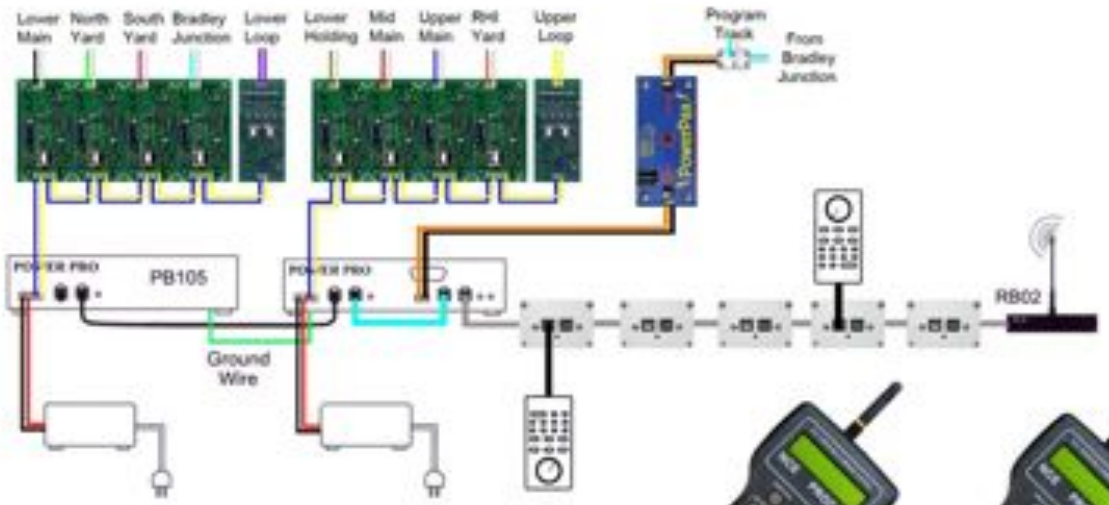
With most systems today programming sound locomotives will require a **program booster** that will allow enough current to flow to the program track to program the higher current sound decoders.

You may include the Program track as part of your layout as long as you isolate it from the rest of the layout with a double pole double throw (DPDT) switch with one set of contacts from the Program track output and the other contacts connected to the main track output. The DPDT will allow you to select between having that section of track be for operation or programming.

Installing Decoders and
Programming locomotives

Topics for more Clinics

Here is an example of a larger layout with
2 boosters and 10 breaker districts
2 of which are reverse districts



End of
Introduction to DCC Part 1

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