

Build Your Own Track

One of the most exciting things about the new 1 RC Racing 18th scale Midget race cars is the size and how this sized RC car allows you to build your very own race track at your house, at your shop, or almost anywhere you want. There is no need to go any further than your own house to race these cool little cars. You can even invite you friends and family over anytime and have a ton of fun racing each other, and your friends can build their own tracks and you can start a series racing at each other's race tracks to even have more fun. So the next question, how do you Build Your Own Track? Well, we have some info below that will help you with this. Keep in mind all the information below are just suggestions on how to build a simple and very basic track, you can get more or less creative with your track as you see fit and we encourage this as this is your track so make it awesome and make it your own, and be sure to post pictures to our social media sites to give other racers ideas.

Before you start, please be sure to follow all recommended safety instructions on the tools you use to build your track. Always be sure to wear safety glasses and take your time.



Step 1:

First, decide where you will want to build your track. The ideal track size is 12' x 24' with a 3' wide racing lane, you can obviously make it larger or smaller depending on your space, but we recommend going with the 12' x 24'. This size makes for good racing and keeps the cars very controllable for all racers. Be sure your area is fairly smooth, the cars are very light and although they have suspension it is not used much since they are so light weight. The track we will show you below is a no-pile carpet surface and this track is not attached to the floor so you can easily disassemble the track when not in use. This no-pile carpet works really good for the racing surface but you can also run the cars on most painted shop floors or other surfaces. To see if the surface will work for your track, simply run the car on the surface you are looking at and see how it works, you will know right away if the surface will work for your track. One suggestion if you have a smooth concrete garage floor and the car is a little loose or wants to spin out, try mopping the floor. Even a well swept smooth concrete floor still has a little dust and could make the car loose coming out of the corners, try mopping the floor and then try running the car again to see if that surface will work.

Decide on what size track you will build and write that down so you know how much carpet to get in step 2.

Step 2:

Now it is time to take a trip to your local hardware store to get all the supplies you will need to build the track we detail below. Here is the list of items you will need.

Hardware List

- No-Pile Carpet
 - When you are looking at the carpet, ensure you get a no-pile carpet. This is critical as the pile in carpet will make the cars drive weird and not track straight. Most hardware stores have some version of indoor/outdoor carpet and some do have a pile rating, if you run into this look at the back side of that carpet. Most of the indoor/outdoor carpets have a smooth and no-pile backing and it works really well. If you have trouble finding this no-pile carpet at your local hardware store you can look at your local carpet store or boat shop, standard indoor/outdoor boat carpeting is a no-pile carpet in most cases.
 - Most carpet comes in 12 foot wide rolls, so just get the length you need to fit your space if you are going to make your track 12 foot wide.
 - Most hardware stores have this carpet in gray and brown, if you want your track to look more like pavement track we recommend the gray and if you want a more dirt track look you can go with the brown.
- 4' x 8' x 1/8" White Covered Hardboard - Qty 2
 - This will be used to make the inside of the corner for your track.
- 1" x 4" x 12' Board - Qty 2
 - This will be used to make the outside wall on the straightaways. You should only need two of these but you can get more if you make your track longer than the 24' for this track build.
- 2" x 4" x 12' Board - Qty 2
 - This will be used to support the 1x4 outer straightaway walls. You should only need two of these but you can get more if you make your track longer than the 24' for this track build.
- 24" x 48" x 0.093"(3/32") or 0.125"(1/8") Polycarbonate Sheet - Qty 2

- This will be cut into 4" wide strips and used to make the outside wall in the corners. If you make your track wider than the 12' noted for this build, you might need another sheet.
- 2" Long Standard Wood Screws - Qty 10-12
 - We recommend some standard countersink phillips head wood screws that are about 2" long. These will be used to secure the 1x4 to the 2x4 on the outer walls.
- 2" Wide Velcro Brand Plastic Hook and Loop - Approx 9' of 2" Wide with Adhesive Backing
 - This will be used to join the polycarbonate strips of the outer corner walls together and also to attach the outer corner walls to the straightaway walls.
- Small Bricks or Paver Stones - Qty 16
 - These will be used to help keep the outer wall shape and help keep the straightaway wall from moving.
 - Depending on how heavy the bricks are that you purchase, you might be able to get away with less than 16.
- Paint - Red and White - Optional
 - This is an optional step but we think is a great addition to your track. This will be used to paint the walls as shown in the images below. You can choose whatever colors you want but adding some simple color to the walls just makes the track look even cooler.

Tools Needed

- Safety Glasses
- Cordless Drill
- Skill Saw
- Jig Saw
- Utility Knife
- Scissors
- 1/8" Drill Bit
- File or Sand Paper
- Dust Mask
- Tape Measure
- Masking Tape
- Long Ruler or Long Straight Edge
- Pencil or Marker

Before you start, please be sure to follow all recommended safety instructions on the tools you use to build your track. Always be sure to wear safety glasses and take your time.

Step 3:

Now that you have all the items you need, let's get started building that track. Roll out the carpet in the space you want to build your track and make sure the length is what you want. Since the carpet was likely rolled up for transport, you might need to let the carpet rest for a bit to flatten out.

Step 4:

Now that you have the carpet layed out, we will start by building the outer straightaway walls. If your carpet is 12' x 24', use the dimensions below for the cut lengths of the 1"x4" and 2"x4" boards, see Fig 4a. Then assemble the boards as shown in Fig 4b. You will need two (2) of each board assemblies so you can build the front and back straightaway outer walls. In Fig 4c, this is an optional feature you may wish to add.

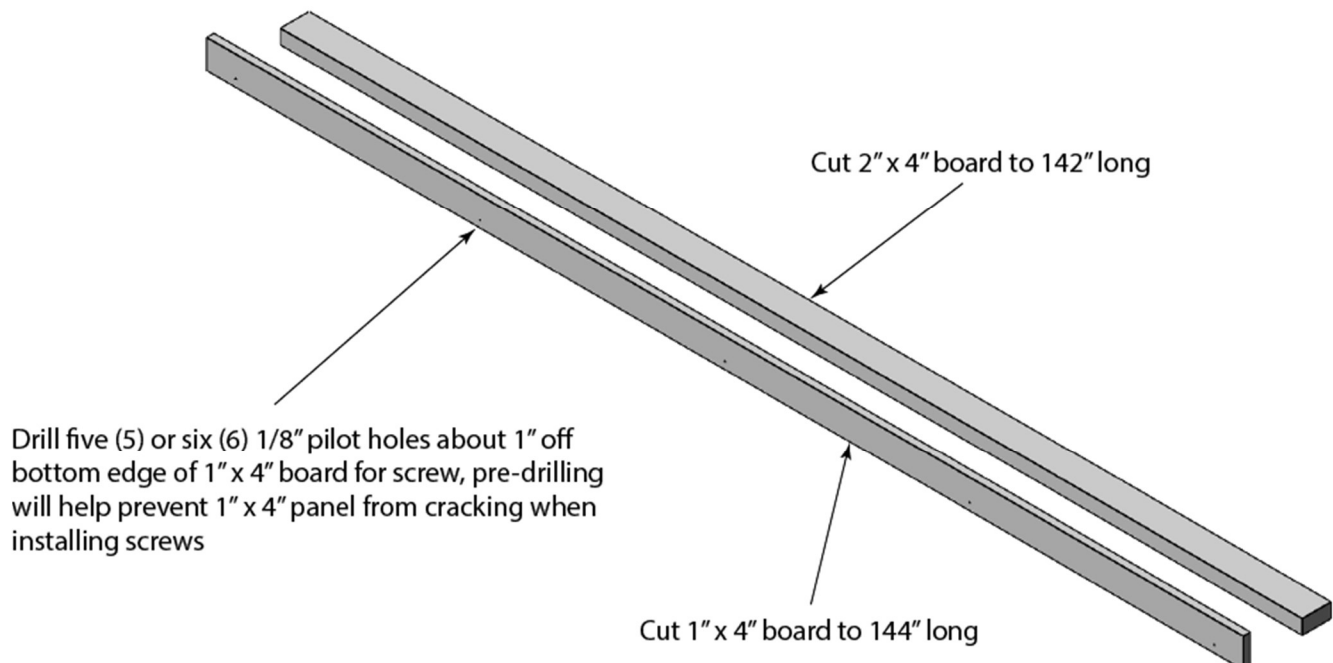


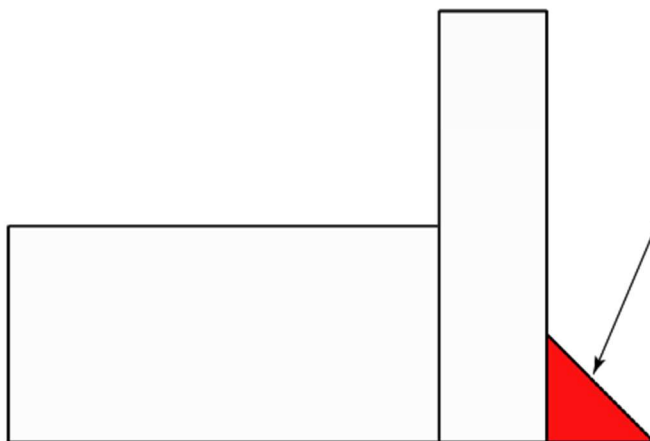
Fig 4a

Align ends of 1" x 4" and 2" x 4" boards flush as shown

Once boards are aligned as shown, install wood screws in pre-drilled holes as shown. Ensure heads of screws are flush with 1" x 4" board to ensure cars do not get caught on screw heads while running or damage to car will occur.

When making opposite ends flush, 2" x 4" board will be 2" shorter than 1" x 4" board as shown

Fig 4b



Track Option

One thing we recommend is adding a piece of 45 degree wood or plastic strip to the base of the outside straightaway walls as shown in this image. This will need to be fastened to the outer wall so piece does not come loose when running cars. This 45 degree strip will help cars from getting damaged when cars slap outside wall when running on the track.

Fig 4c

Once you have these straightaway walls assembled you maybe choose to paint these at this time. After painting and once they are completely dry or if you choose not to paint these, set these on the long sides of the carpet about 2" in from the edge of the carpet and centered end to end as shown in Fig 4d.

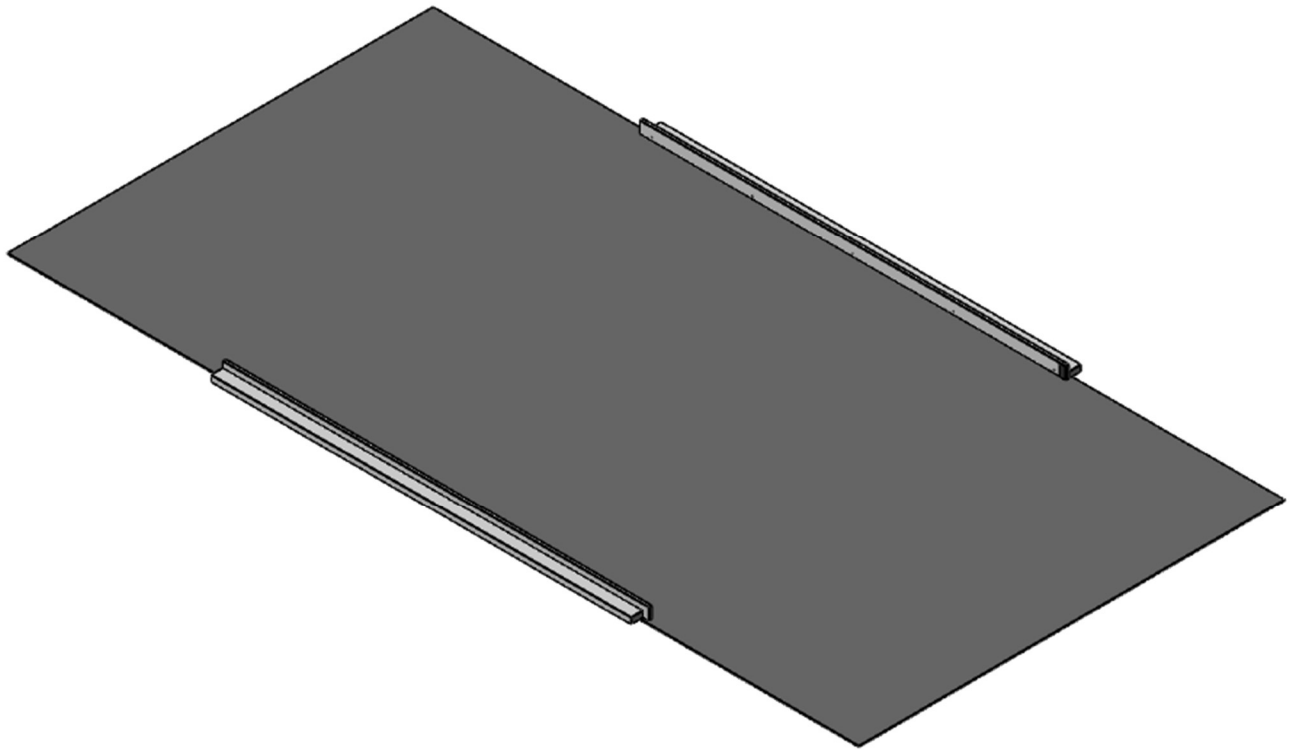


Fig 4d

Step 5:

Now let's move onto the outer corners. For this step you will need to take the polycarbonate sheets and cut strips that are 4" wide x 48" long. You will need to cut ten (10) of these strips. Once these are cut you should paint all these strips on what will be the outside surface of the wall. After these are completely dry, you will need to take the 2" wide Velcro Branded Plastic Hook and Loop and cut 4" wide pieces and apply as shown in Fig 5a. Ensure you pay attention to the hook side and loop side in Fig 5a.

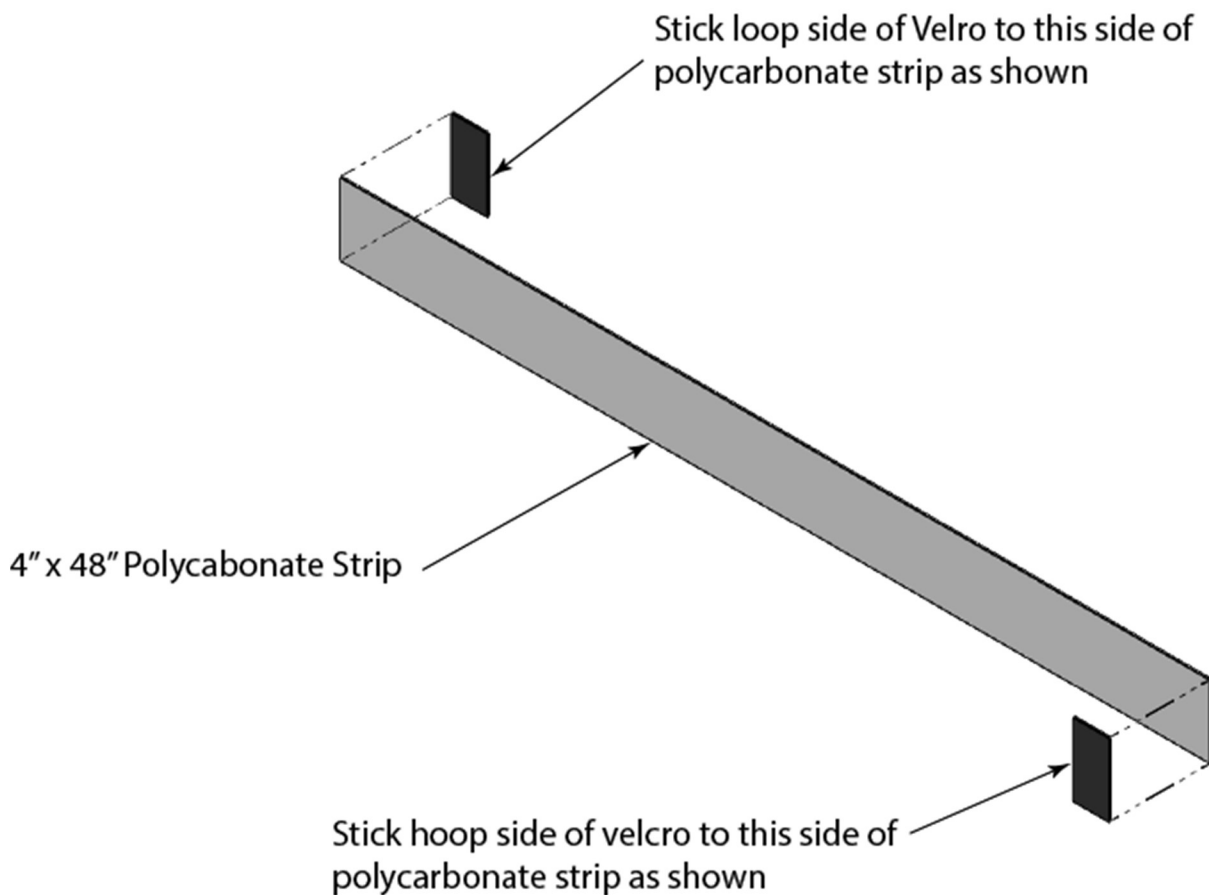


Fig 5a

Now apply the cut Velcro Branded strips to straightaway boards from Step 4, see Fig 5b.

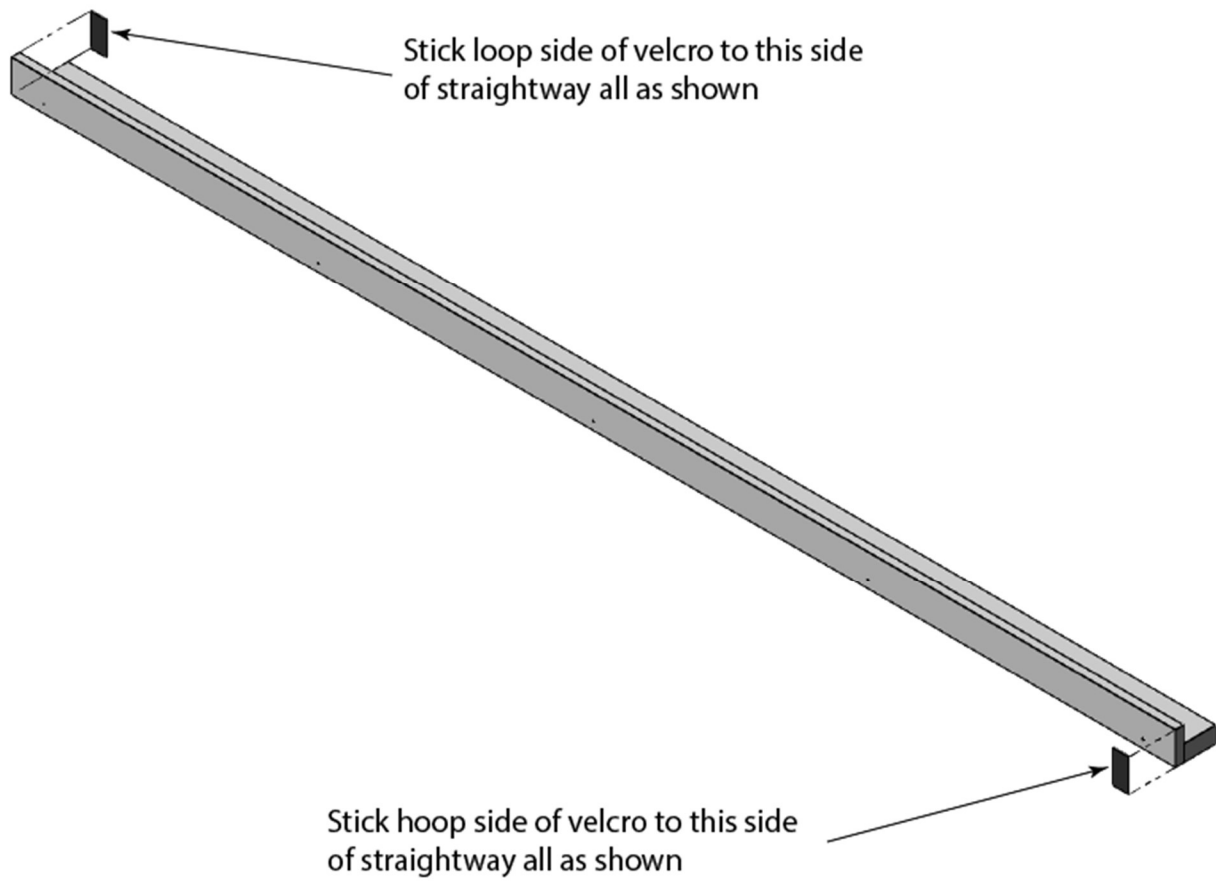


Fig 5b

Now arrange the 4" x 48" Outer Wall Strips as shown in the Fig 5c. Start at the end of one straightaway wall and attach outer wall strip to straightaway board using the velcro strips you applied, ensure hook side goes to loop side and ensure the panels are attached firmly at the joints.

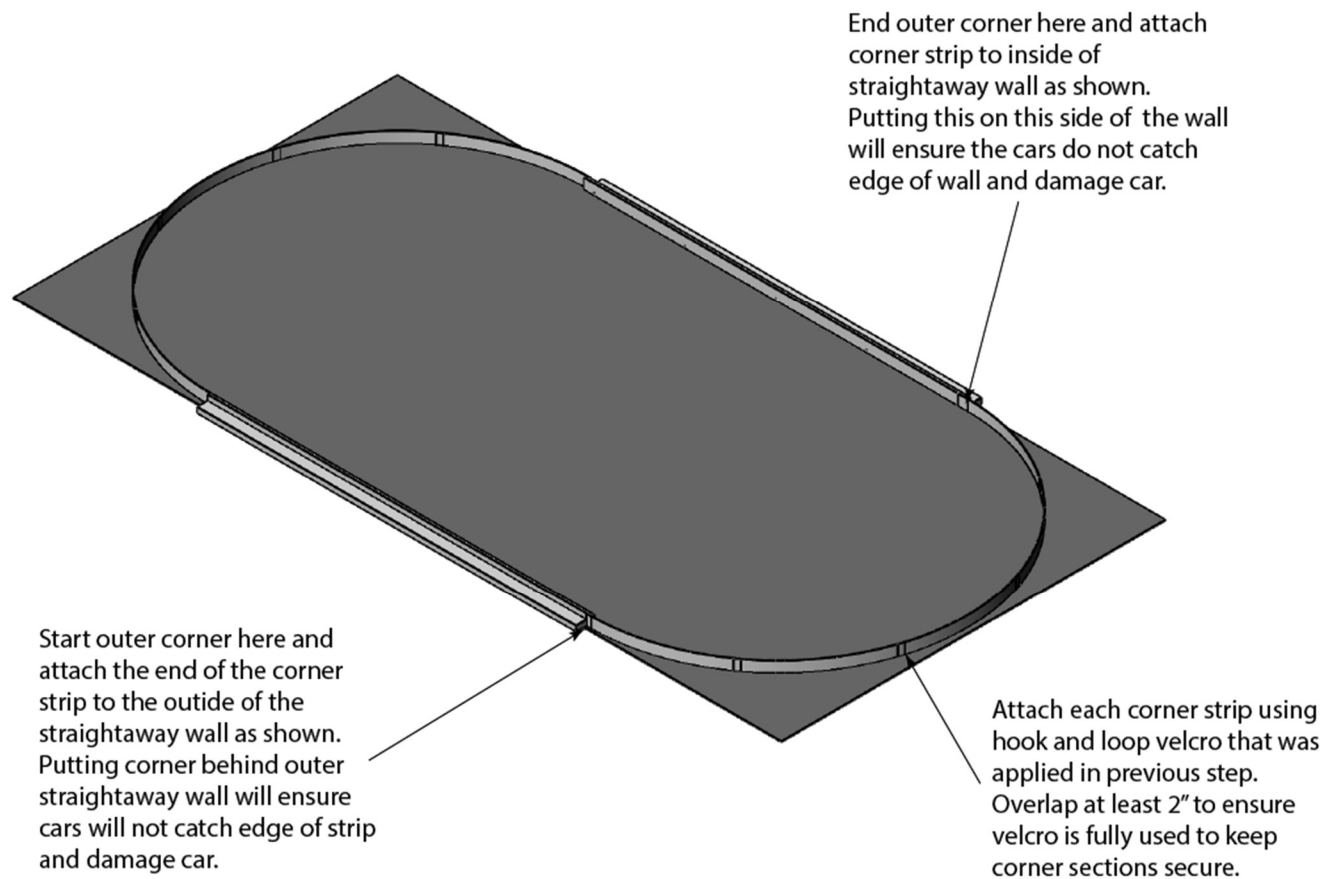


Fig 5c

Now that you have all the outer walls in place, we need to add a little reinforcement behind the walls to keep them from moving too far if a car hits them, we know we never hit the walls but we better do this just in case, lol. Place the bricks or pavers as shown in Fig 5d. You may find you don't need as many bricks/pavers as we have shown but this is a good place to start.

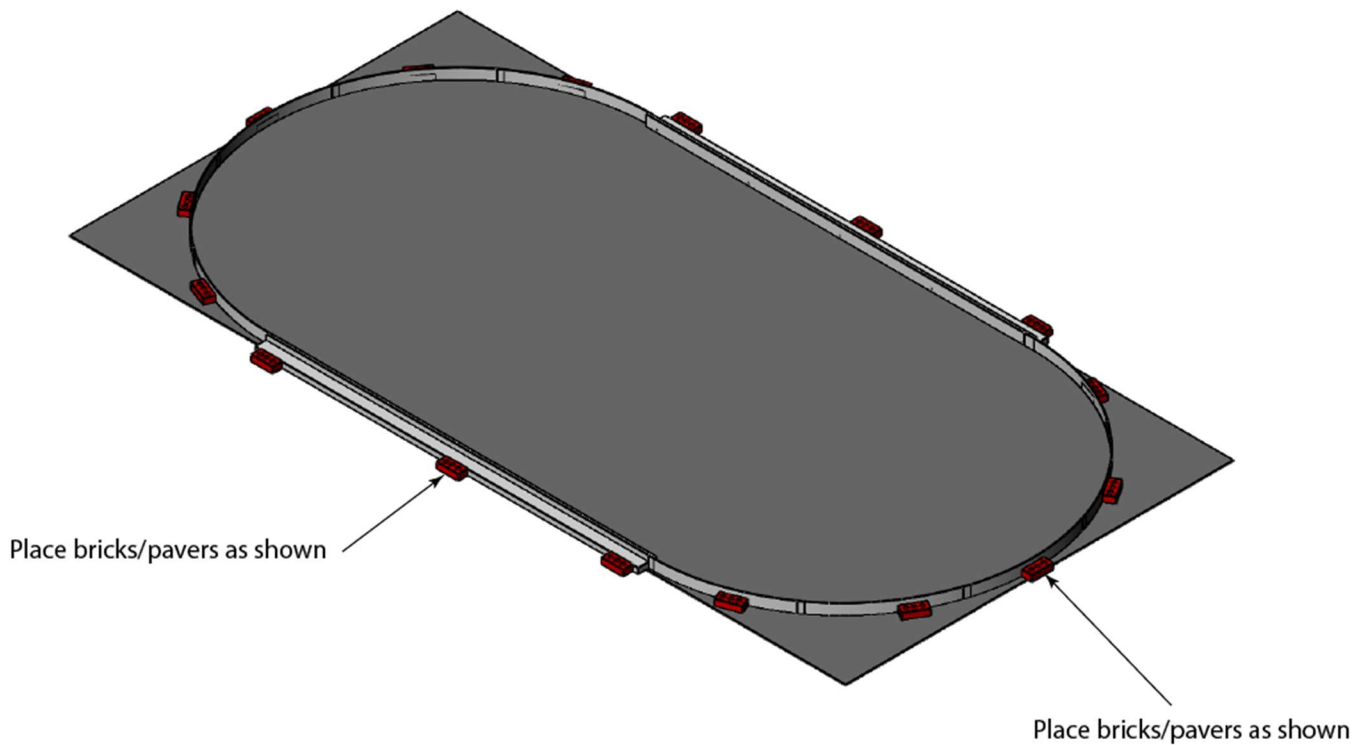


Fig 5d

Great job, we are getting closer and it is now looking like an oval. At this point we have one very critical step in the track building process and that is to make sure you have your battery on the charger and your car is ready to go, after the next step it is time to gas it up and turn left.

Step 6:

In this step we will cut the 1/8" White Hardboard to make the inside of the corners. Before cutting these we will need to draw some lines so you can follow those lines with your choice of saw to cut the White Hardboard. When you draw the lines on the board, draw everything on the back side or non-white side, this will help the white side edge from chipping to bad when cutting. Refer to Fig 6a for all the needed cut lines. We recommend you wear a dust mask when making the cuts and be sure to wear safety glasses and do all cutting in a safe open space away from others. After you get done with all the cuts, use a file or sandpaper to smooth out the edges on both sides where you made the cuts, this will help prevent any damage to the cars if you run the cars on and off the boards.

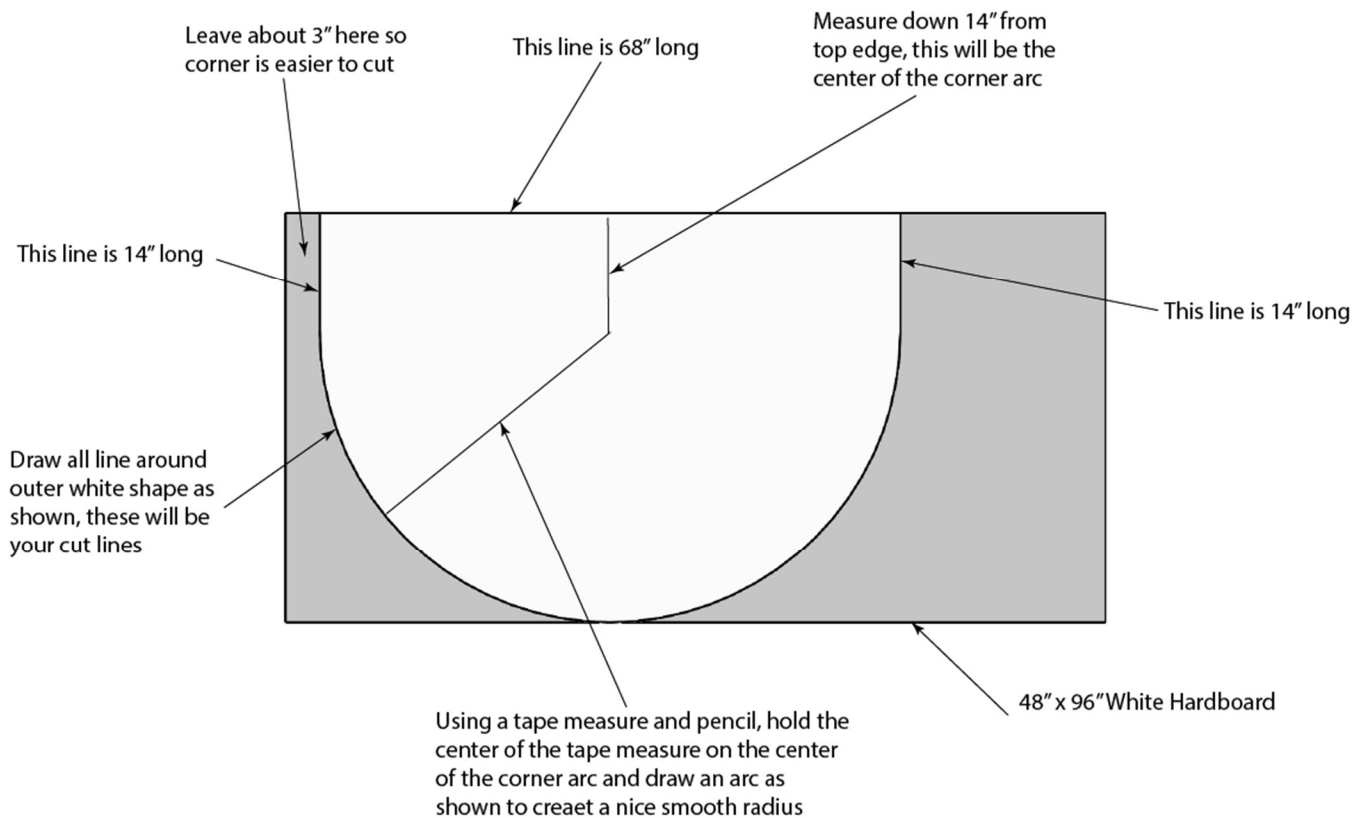


Fig 6a

Now place the two Inside Corners as shown in Fig 6b. Center the Inside Corner pieces as shown so the racing lanes are the same all the way around the corners. The Inside Corner pieces should be heavy enough to stay in place but if they move you can apply the hook side of the velcro to the underside of the corners and that will help keep it in place. If your track is on the floor where people can walk across the track, we recommend you add the velcro on the underside of the Inside Corner pieces so they do not move and cause people to slip.

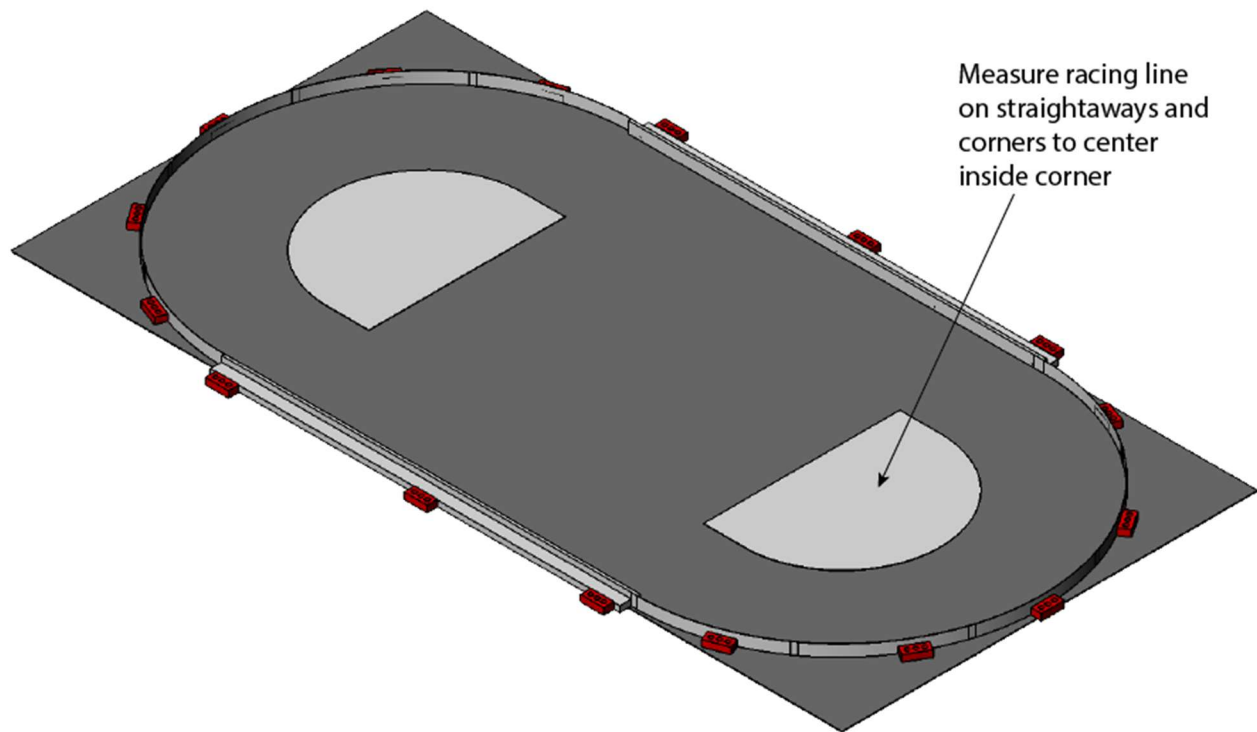


Fig 6b

Well that is it, how easy was that? Now for the best part, put that battery in the car, turn on the radio and car and grip it and rip it around your new oval track.

Step 7: - Optional

Now that your track is completed we have a couple optional additions you might want to add to your track.

Option 1:

We recommend adding a start/finish line. For this you can usually find some checker board and other styles of duct tape at your local hardware store. We recommend using the tape for this as it can be easily replaced and also moved around as needed.

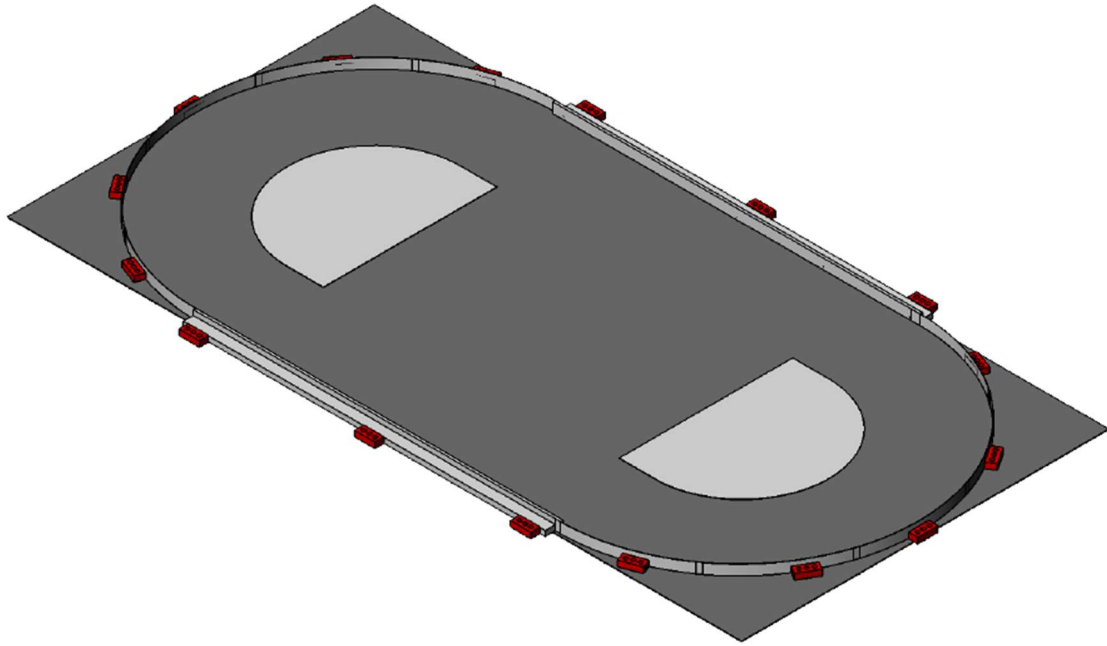
Option 2:

A really cool option is to add an automated lap counter system. There are a couple different units on the market but be aware, some of these can be expensive. If you keep the races short and quick and you don't have a lot of racers you can do your scoring by hand counting but if you are going to have longer races and more people at your track we recommend getting a lap counter. To find lap counting systems, do an internet search for "RC Car Lap Counter System" and you should see a few options. The cars are setup with an extra port on the ESC/Rx to plug in a transponder as needed.

Have a ton of fun and a great time with you new track and your new car and be sure to tell all your friends you have your own track and to get their cars over to your track for some racing, and of course if they don't have a car, make sure they go to www.1RC-Racing.com to get a car or two or three. Have fun and be sure to post pictures of your track on our social media pages.

WARNING:

1 RC Racing, LLC is not responsible for any damage or injuries that occur on your track to the cars, persons or property. You as the track owner and track builder you assume all responsibility for your track. All information above is only a recommendation for building your track, you as the track owner assume all responsibilities for your track.



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