



## Top 10 Train Features Guide

### **1. Safety Features**

When moving people, safety is the number one priority. Necessary safety features such as All-Wheel Air Brakes, Emergency Brakes, and Speedometer should come standard on a train. The Conductor should have a clear view of the passengers in the rear and the track ahead. The train should also be outfitted with a public address system to communicate safety messages, crowd control, and tour commentary.

### **2. Performance**

Since trains are usually the most popular attractions for guests it is important that they perform day in and day out. Look for a variety of engine options including gas, diesel, and propane depending on your specific application. A hydraulic transmission will ensure a smooth ride while providing the long duty cycle required for a continuously operated train. A minimum of 8 drive wheels should be incorporated to provide adequate traction. A suspension system consisting of coils and leaf springs give riders a smooth and gentle ride.

### **3. Ease of Maintenance**

By nature, trains have a great number of moving parts. Easy access to these moving parts and simple maintenance procedures are key to keeping your train on the tracks for decades to come. Make sure the ongoing maintenance procedures can be performed without special skills and the need of complicated tools. Easy access to the engine for oil changes and routine maintenance will be appreciated by your maintenance personnel. Grease points should be easily accessible and in open view or else the areas might be neglected resulting in unnecessary wear and tear.

### **4. Stylish Design**

A scaled train that resembles an original train from the 1800's era appeals to guests from all generations. The old-time charm and attention to details such as authentic brass trim, cast drive wheels, whistle, and mock smokestack draw the guests' attention to hop on board this timeless treasure of American history.

### **5. Fit and Finish**

All edges should be smooth and every panel should be painted with a quality automotive finish consisting of a primer coat, base coat, top coat, and a final clear coat to keep the train looking like new for years to come. A scaled train is a piece of art and the level of quality should be so high that the train could be mistaken for a fully restored train from the 1800's.



#### **6. Trim**

Trim components include the bell, whistle, track sanders, boiler bands, hand rails, hardware, and fasteners. Trim pieces should be available in brass or chrome. All brass trim should be clear powder coated with a hard finish to keep the trim pieces looking brand new.

#### **7. Seating**

Comfortable seating is paramount to ensure guests enjoy their ride on the train. Simulated oak slat bench seats offer a historical style without the maintenance of real wood while providing a comfortable seating surface for your guests. Just because this is a scaled train does not mean that the seats must be uncomfortable. A minimum of 42" wide seats are recommended to comfortably fit 2 adults and 1 child (or up to 4 children) per seat.

#### **8. Solid Construction**

The assembly of the body to the frame should be electric arc welded and reinforced at all stress points to form an integrated total assembly. All frame members should be strong steel sections, thoroughly sand-blasted, high pressure cleaned, and treated with a high quality self-etching wash primer. Construction must meet or exceed all ASTM standards.

#### **9. Wheelchair Accessibility**

Guests who are confined to a wheelchair should also be able to partake in the joy of riding the train. To make this possible, the train should incorporate a ramp for easy entrance and exit, as well as a locking system to secure the wheelchair during the ride.

#### **10. Passenger Access**

The train coaches should allow guests easy entrance and exit. Open-sided seats and no more than one step will allow riders to move on and off the train safely and comfortably. A train is a family ride and people of all sizes should be able to comfortably enjoy this attraction.