This is a Graphic Standards and Brand Identity Guide for the National Model Railroad Association.



Updated October 2025

1	Identity	24	
2	Typography	29	
3	Color	33	
4	Identity Kit	39	
5	File Formats	41	

CONTENTS

SECTION

PAGE

NMRA Graphic Standards

2

A 'BRAND' IS A PROMISE NMRA Graphic Standards 3

A brand is not a logo. You achieve a 'brand' by making a promise, showing the promise is different, then speaking to how that difference has value. A promise should not be confused with a service or offering (but it often is one).

The visualization inherent to the mediums where this 'promise' occurs is your brand identity. Thus, a consistent aesthetic philosophy for non-verbal communication is a key part of the brand, and is one part of keeping the promises your institution makes.

Marketing material and correspondence—any form of information that bears your identity—represents the NMRA as a whole. Viewers make snap assumptions about the NMRA the first instance they see an element of the brand identity and will continue to do so through each medium they receive, in each channel they experience.

People cannot typically verbalize the difference between good and poor visual communication, yet they recognize it, they respond to it, and they make decisions based on it. Failures in non-verbal communication are not just damaging to the brand promise, they can also waste revenue and even discourage engagement. If a brand is a promise, then how well you keep the promise is everything.

CONSISTENCY NMRA Graphic Standards

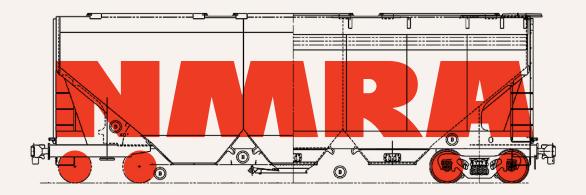
The key in maintaining your brand identity is consistency; however, this doesn't necessarily mean "sameness". Being consistently inconsistent—via variety of expression or iteration of expression—is a form of consistency.

The NMRA's identity system is designed to inject a contemporaty sensibility to the longstanding brand. It allows for a range of interventions and incorporates several methods to build visual equity into the brand over time.

This Graphic Standards places these methods in context. While the Standards are thorough, there are certainly permutations not yet discovered nor imagined. We encourage you not to view your Graphic Standards as a straight jacket or a tool box, nor as corporate livery, but to view the components of the identity as a toy box.

Play creatively, iterate, and remember: demonstrate, don't explain.





1.1 NMRA Primary Wordmark NMRA Graphic Standards 7

A. PRIMARY











1.1 NMRA Secondary Wordmark NMRA Graphic Standards 9

B. SECONDARY

NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

1.1 NMRA Secondary Wordmark NMRA Graphic Standards 10

Four (4) secondary lockup configurations are available. Select the configuration that best suits the application. A. LEFT-ORIENTATION

NATIONAL

MODEL RAILROAD

ASSOCIATION

B. CENTERED

NATIONAL
MODEL RAILROAD
ASSOCIATION

C. RIGHT-ORIENTATION

NATIONAL
MODEL RAILROAD
ASSOCIATION

D. SINGLE LINE

NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL

MODEL RAILROAD

ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL
MODEL RAILROAD
ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL
MODEL RAILROAD
ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

1. STRETCHED







3. SKEWED



4. OUTLINED



5. STROKED



6. GRADIENT



7. BOXED



8. RENDERED IN AN UNPRESCRIBED COLOR WITH A DROP SHADOW

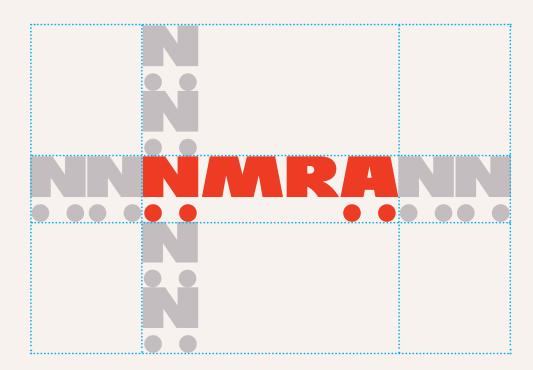


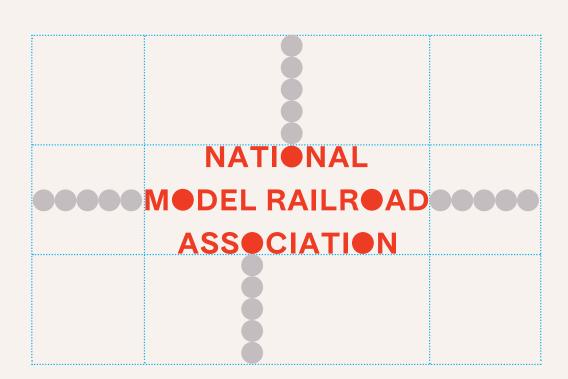
The NMRA wordmark has been customized and built by hand. The relationship between the letters in the wordmark have been scaled and dialed for visual balance and only provided vector art should be used. By default the wordmark should be displayed in the lightest color on a dark background.

Alternatively, the wordmark should be displayed in the lightest color on a dark background.

The wordmark should never be stretched, squashed, outlined, or distorted in any way. If you scale them for other uses, be sure the proportional lock is turned on in the software you are using. See 1-4 above.

The wordmark should not be stroked, displayed with a gradient fill, or in any color other than that which has been specified. The wordmark should never be placed inside a box or decorated in any way. See 5-8 above.





The primary wordmark is its own measuring tool.

The primary wordmark always stands alone, and should never be crowded by other text or graphic matter. The wordmark should always have 2 "N's" on all four sides. More is desirable, but 2 "N's" are the minimum required.

Likewise, the secondary wordmark is also its own measuring tool.

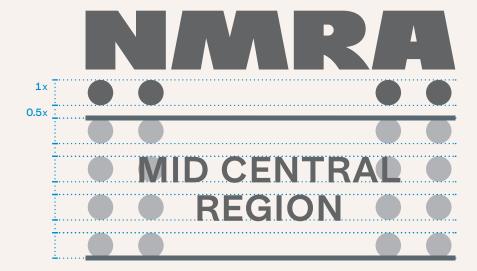
The seconary wordmark always stands alone, and should never be crowded by other text or graphic matter. The wordmark should always have 5 "O's" on all four sides. More is desirable, but 5 "O's" are the minimum required.

1.1 NMRA Regional Lockup Convention NMRA Graphic Standards 14

This is the primary NMRA regional lockup convention that should be used on all official documents.



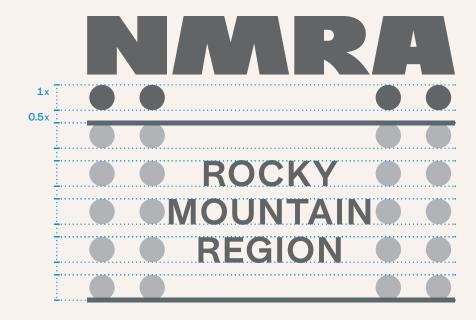
MID CENTRAL REGION



The container can expand to house 2–3 lines of text, depending on the region.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION



In the spirit of championing standardization, the division and club logos should cohere to a more uniform degree of fidelity and adopt a single-color approach. Three examples of different division logos that adopt this standard are demonstrated here.













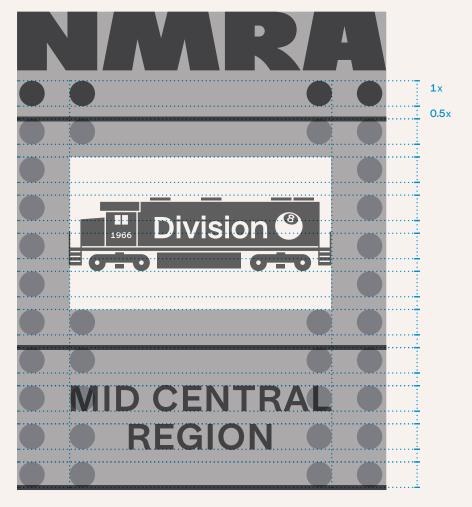
This is the only approved lockup that combines the NMRA primary wordmark, divison/club logo, and region name.





MID CENTRAL REGION

The scale and placement of the division/club logo is informed by the dots derived from the primary wordmark. These dots define the clear space required around the division/club logo as well as the maximum height and width—whichever is met first depending on the aspect ratio of the division/club logo.

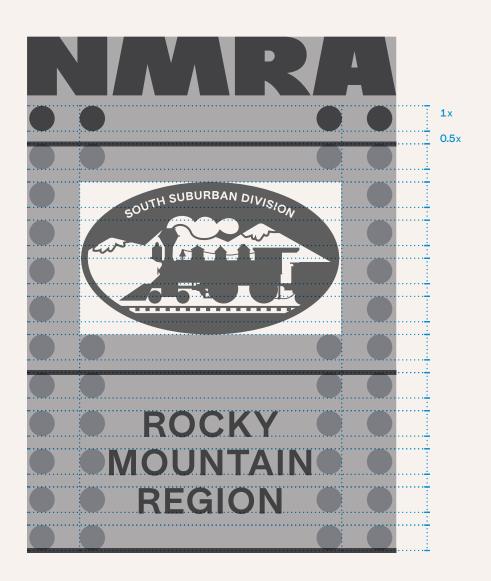


16





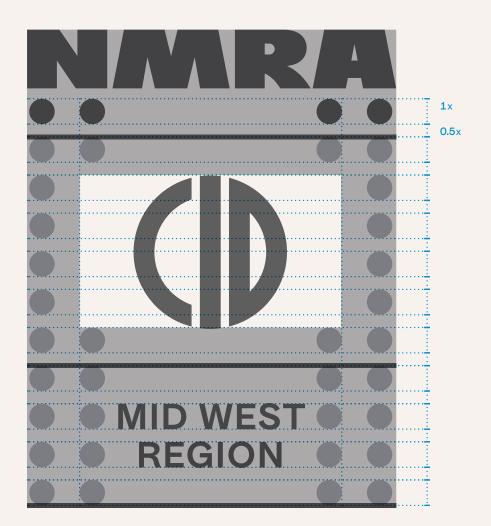
ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION







MID WEST REGION



18

NMRA regional lockup shall consist of only the NMRA logo and the region name.



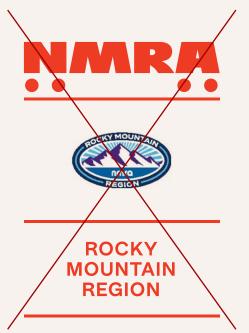




19

Regional logos are NOT permitted to be locked up with the NMRA logo.







There are three approved variations of the NMRA division/club lockup:

- 1 NMRA logo + division/ club logo + region name
- 2 NMRA logo + division logo
- 3 NMRA logo + division name

NMRA



MID CENTRAL REGION

2





3



DIVISION 8

1





ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION 2





3



SOUTH SUBURBAN DIVISION

2 TYPOGRAPHY

2.1 NMRA Graphic Standards 122

The primary typeface for the NMRA is OT Format Display.

OT Format Display is a bold, single-weight display typeface released in 2021 by Omnitype and designed by Simon Mager. It has a heavy, impactful presence and is intended for large-scale uses like headlines or signage. As part of Omnitype's foundry roster, it stands out for its strong visual weight and clear, clean forms.

Foundry: Omnitype Available styles: 1 **USAGE GUIDANCE**

Primary Text
OT Format Display was adapted from its original form for the NMRA wordmark.

Heavy weight is reserved for headlines, emphasis, and display applications.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz 0123456789

OT Format Display Heavy 36pt 2.1 NMRA Graphic Standards 13

The secondary typeface for the NMRA is Nuckle.

Nuckle, designed by Filip Matějíček for Heavyweight, is a modern grotesque sans-serif with a balance of functionality and character. Its high x-height, generous proportions, and angled terminals create strong readability while adding subtle distinction. Spanning eight weights with broad language support, it adapts easily from body copy to bold display use. Conceived in 2011, Nuckle was designed to hold space effectively in posters yet stay legible in smaller text, making it a versatile, contemporary workhorse.

Foundry: Heavyweight Digital Type Foundry Available styles: 8

USAGE GUIDANCE

Primary Text

Medium and SemiBold weights should be used for body copy and functional text across brand applications.

Emphasis

Bold weights are reserved for headlines, emphasis, and display applications.

Elegance & Contrast

Regular weights may be used sparingly in largescale applications to convey refinement.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz 0123456789

Nuckle Regular

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz 0123456789

Nuckle Semibold 26pt

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz 0123456789

Nuckle Medium 26pt

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz 0123456789

Nuckle Bold 26pt 2.1 NMRA Graphic Standards

These tracking rules should be applied across the system with optical kerning on.

CORRECT LOOSE OT Format Display × OT Format Display × OT Format Display Heavy Heavy Heavy UPPERCASE UPPERCASE UPPERCASE 18pt, tracked at 0pt 18pt, tracked at 100pt 18pt, tracked at -50pt Optical kerning on Optical kerning on Optical kerning on Correct Loose Nuckle × Nuckle × Nuckle Medium Medium Medium Sentence case Sentence case Sentence case 9pt, tracked at -5pt 9pt, tracked at 100pt 9pt, tracked at -50pt Optical kerning on Optical kerning on Optical kerning on CORRECT LOOSE Nuckle × Nuckle × Nuckle Bold Bold Bold UPPERCASE **UPPERCASE UPPERCASE** 7pt, tracked at 35pt 7pt, tracked at 100pt 7pt, tracked at -50pt Optical kerning on Optical kerning on Optical kerning on Correct Loose Nuckle × Nuckle × Nuckle Medium Medium Medium Sentence Case Sentence Case Sentence Case 7pt, tracked at -10pt 7pt, tracked at 100pt 7pt, tracked at -50pt Optical kerning on Optical kerning on Optical kerning on

24

TIGHT

Tight

TIGHT

Tight

2.1 NMRA Web Safe Typography NMRA Graphic Standards

When type must render as live text in applications that exist in the Google ecosystem, it will be necessary to deploy a web-safe font which is readily available cross-platform.

For these instances, Manrope is recommended on both PCs and MACs.

Manrope Medium 36pt Tracked at 75pt ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz 0123456789

Aa

25

Nuckle Medium 36pt Tracked at 30pt ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz 0123456789

Aa



Color Palette

NMRA Graphic Standards

27



RGB: 255/48/0 HEX: FF3000 PMS: Warm Red U CMYK: 0/70/100/0



RGB: 255/182/18 HEX: FFB612 PMS: 122 U CMYK: 0/15/100/0



RGB: 94/181/219 HEX: 5EB5DB PMS: Blue 0821 U CMYK: 60/0/10/0



RGB: 96/90/49 HEX: 605A31 PMS: 7757 U CMYK: 26/24/89/50



RGB: 43/22/26 HEX: 2b161a PMS: 6077 U cmyk: 50/74/34/34

RGB: 43/22/26 HEX: 2B161A PMS: 6077 U CMYK: 50/74/34/34 RGB: 63/30/41 HEX: 3F1E29 PMS: 222U CMYK: 34/81/46/26 RGB: 96/90/49 HEX: 605A31 PMS: 7757 U CMYK: 26/24/89/50 RGB: 14/51/49 HEX: 0E3331 PMS: 3165 U CMYK: 99/18/39/43 RGB: 225/216/200 HEX: E1D8C8 PMS: 9203 U CMYK: 5/9/34/3 RGB: 247/242/237 HEX: F7F2ED



Color Palette

















29







COLOR TYPES NMRA Graphic Standards 30

Pantone™ ■■■■■■

Pantone[™] is the industry standard for color matching.
Pantone[™] should only be used for professional offset
printers. On screen values will not match actual printed
material, and some laser and inkjet printers will not
be able to reproduce a Pantone[™] specified color.

Pantone[™] may also be referred to as PMS by professionals. Please refer to a Pantone[™] book for actual color values. Use CMYK in house, but always use your Pantone[™] chips as a measure of color calibration coming from any given vendor or method of print.

CMYK ••••

CMYK stands for cyan, magenta, yellow, and key (black) and is often referred to as process color or four color.

CMYK is used in ink jet and laser printers. Please be aware that because of the process, CMYK colors can shift, so always refer to a Pantone™ book for actual color values.

RGB and HEX

RGB stands for red, green, and blue and is the color model used for the web or anything that will be viewed on a screen or monitor.

Hex values and RGB values should only be used online with items not intended to be printed. These are useful in websites and web safe GIF file formats.



4.2 NMRA Standards NMRA Graphic Standards 32

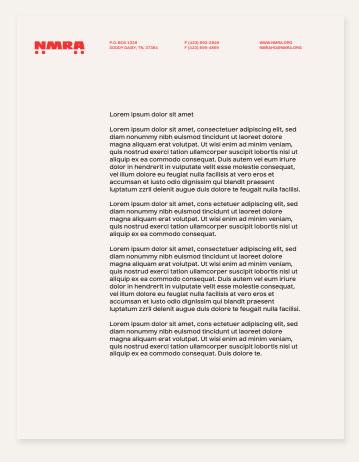
Membership Form



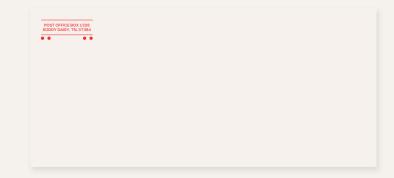
Renewal Form



Letterhead



Envelope



Business Cards



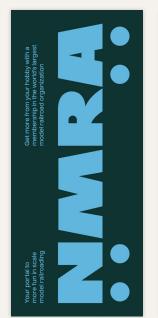


Membership Card





Tri-fold









Rack Card



4.2 NMRA Graphic Standards 33

Tee Golf Shirt Hoodie









Stickers



Enamel Pins





Hat



Buttons

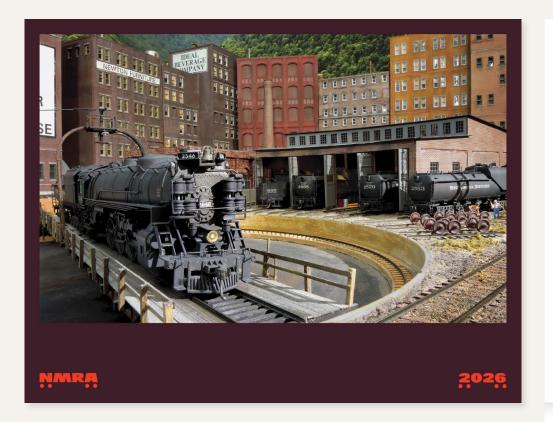


Lanyard and Badge Holder



Crewneck

NMRA Calendar





JULY						
sunday 28	monday 29	TUESDAY 30	WEDNESDAY O.1 Canada Day 1802. Unlon Pacific Railfroad founded 1897. Chicago, Indianapolis à Louisville Railway formed 1878: Chesapake & Onio Railway formed	THURSDAY 02	FRIDAY 03	SATURDAY O4 Independence Day, U.S. 1828: Ballimore & Ohio Railroad lays first stone
05	06	07	08	09	10 1865: Union Pacific Railroad lays its first rail	11
12	13	14	15 1853: Grand Trunk Railway formed	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Parenta' Day	27 NMRA National Convention July 27-August 2 Chattancoga, TN	28	29	30	31	01



a magical moment and a railfan's cream! The Royal orge Gorge busties with rail traffic of every conceivable iety on the Golden-Blackhawk and Central City model road.

Photography and Z Scale modeling by Dave George, Woodlands, Texas. Submitted by John Buckley



Welcome to the 2026 NMRA Calendar!

As the new co-manager of the NMRA Calendar, I stand on the shoulders of a giant: Mike Brestel. Mike led the Calendar team for the last 20 years and helped elevate it to a showpiece we can all be proud of. Sadly, we lost Mike in May.

But Mike's role in the NMRA was much larger than that. He was a National NMRA President, Vice-President, Trustee, Director, chair of three committees, Publications Manager, and more. The list of his service to the Mid-Central Region and Cincinnati Division 7 is just as long. He received an Honorary Life Membership, four President's Awards, as well as the NMRA Meritorious Service Award, and NMRA Fellow Award.

Mike truly loved the NMRA. He was a friend to many, including me, and will be missed by all. Mike, this calendar is dedicated to you.

The Calendar Team thanks everyone who submitted photos this year. With so many outstanding entries, the selection process was both fun and challenging. Thank you for your generous donations and for being an active and engaged NMRA member!

Gerry Leone, MMR, HLM and the NMRA Calendar Team

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John Buckley	TX	Z	LSR	Jack Mason	Jack Mason WI	Jack Mason WI HO
Jack Burgess, MMR®	CA	HO	PCR	Linn Moedinger	Linn Moedinger PA	Linn Moedinger PA HOn3
John Campbell, MMR®	MI	HO	NCR	John Munson	John Munson IN	John Munson IN HO
Michael Collins, MMR ^e	FL	HO	SSR	John O'Nell, MMR®	John O'Nelli, MMR* NE	John O'Nelli, MMR* NE HO
Steve Crise	TX	0	LSR	George Pandellos	George Pandelios PA	George Pandelios PA O
Bob Farquhar	ON	НО	NFR	John Parrish	John Parrish CA	John Parrish CA HO
Bruce Friedman	DE	HO	MER	Chip Pecere	Chip Pecere FL	Chip Pecere FL On30
David Gunn, MMR®	NS	но	NER	Marc Pitanza	Marc Pitanza NJ	Marc Pitanza NJ HO
Bill Hamilton	TX	НО	LSR	Jay Qualman	Jay Qualman MI	Jay Qualman MI HO
Greg Harter	IN	НО	MWR	Brook Qualman, MMR®	Brook Qualman, MMR [®] MI	Brook Qualman, MMR [®] MI HO
Julian Hemstock	UK	On30	BR	Robert Rodriguez, MMR®	Robert Rodriguez, MMR® VA	Robert Rodriguez, MMR® VA HO
Peter Hocking	ON	но	NFR	Neal Schorr	Neal Schorr PA	Neal Schorr PA O3R
Gary Hoover	MO	НО	MCoR	Jeff Schramuk	Jeff Schramuk IL	Jeff Schramuk IL *
Jim Hopes	FL	но	SSR	Richard Seymour	Richard Seymour IN	Richard Seymour IN HO
Dennis Jackson	CO	HOn3	RMR	Jeff Traintime	Jeff Traintime CA	Jeff Traintime CA HO
Ken Kilby	CA	но	PCR	Jesse Walden	Jesse Walden CA	Jesse Walden CA →
Thomas Klimoski	GA	НО	SER	lan Wilson	lan Wilson UK	lan Wilson UK HO
Greg Komar	FL	но	SSR	Steve Wysowski	Steve Wysowski PA	Steve Wysowski PA HOn3
Gail Allen Komar, MMR®	FL	НО	SSR	Joseph Zebrowski	Joseph Zebrowski NJ	Joseph Zebrowski NJ HO
Matt Lacrouts	LA	НО	LSR	Andy J. Zimmerman		
Rusty Lacy	GA	НО	SER			

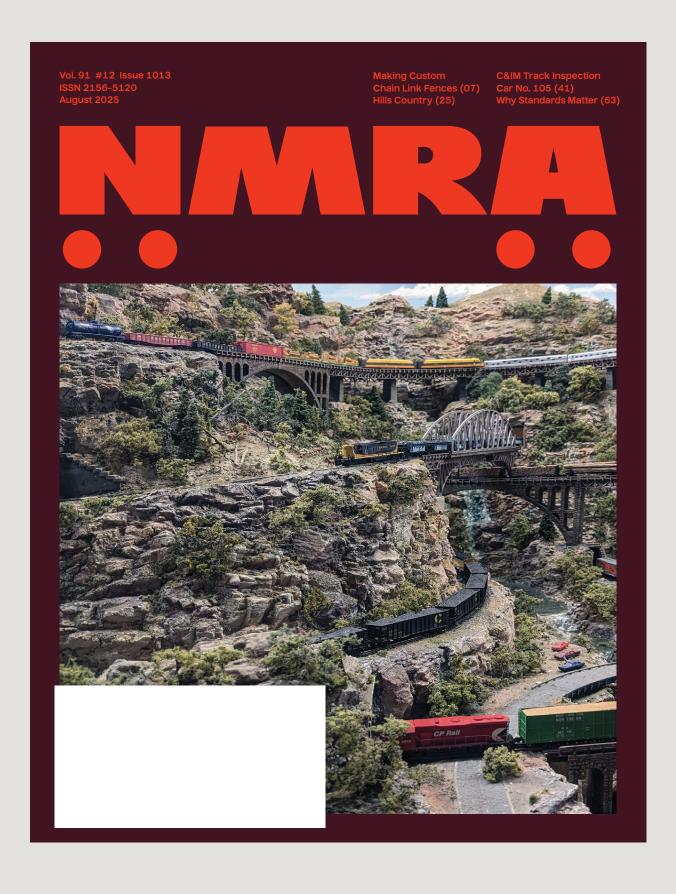
* Information Not Submitte

On the Cover: Turn the clock back to the summer of 1952 on the West Virginia Northern railroad. Although the railroad's management has placed their first order for diesels, their well-maintained fleet of steam locomotives still gets the job done. This publicity photograph will accompany an article praising these great locomotives in

Photography and HO Scale locomotives by Greg Komar; HO Scale modeling by Gall Allen Komar, MMR[®] Tampa, Florida 4.2 NMRA Graphic Standards

35

NMRA Magazine Cover



NMRA Graphic Standards 36 4.2 NMRA

NMRA Magazine

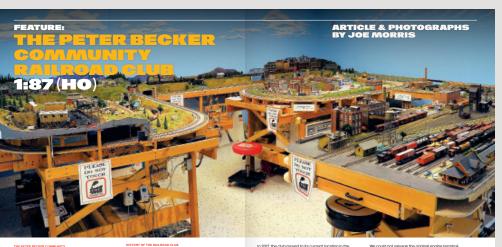














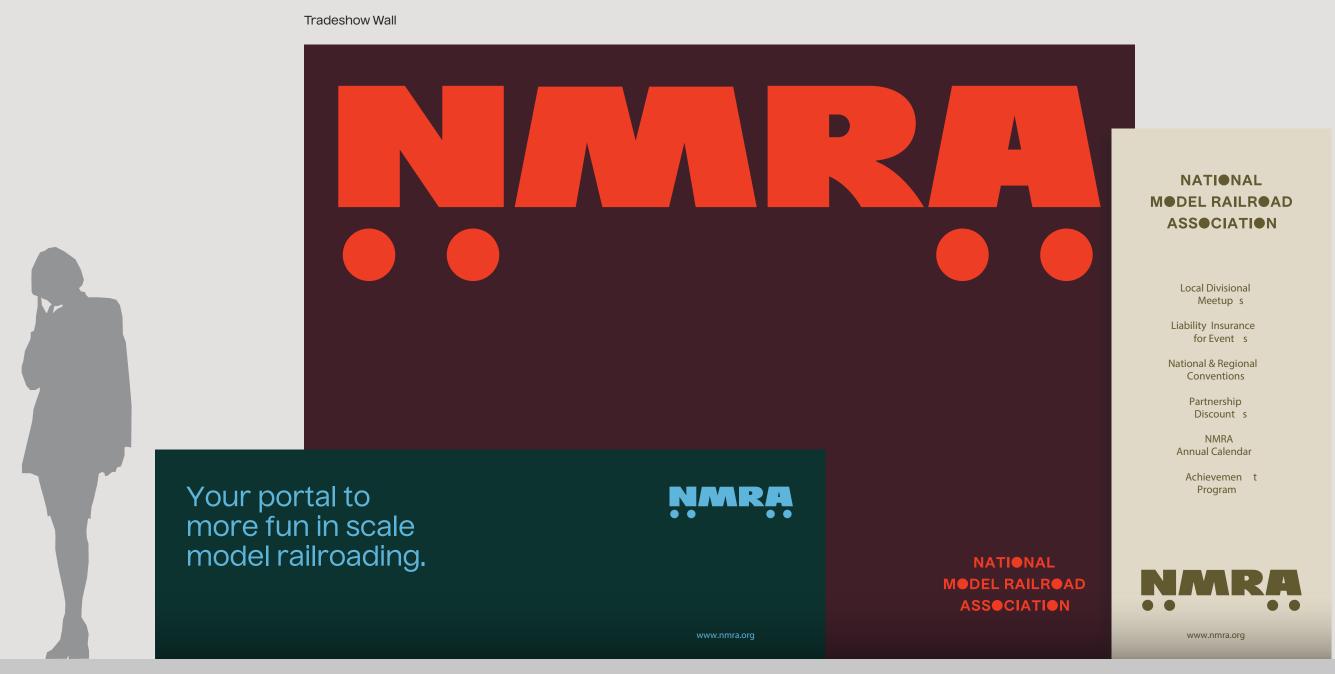




mmr: #**791**

4.2 NMRA Graphic Standards 37

Tradeshow Collateral Overview



Tradeshow Tablecloth Tradeshow Pull-up Banner

5. FILE FORMATS

FILE FORMATS NMRA Graphic Standards

Sending the correct file format to an outside company or vendor is key in maintaining quality and brand integrity. Each file type has a specific use and application.

Vector Art ••••

Vector art has unlimited resolution at any scale and should be used by default for your brand in almost all applications. These file formats may appear as .ai, .eps, .dwg, or .pdf if correctly exported by the artist. Vector-based files can infinitely scale and are best for high-resolution applications. Provide vector art to vendors such as other designers, printers, sign fabricators, publications, and embroiderers, for example.

tif ••••

If a rasterized file must be sent, use a TIFF (Tagged Image File Format) at 350 to 250 dpi at 100% of the final scale. TIFF is primarily designed for raster data interchange, 4-color printing of photographic images. Provide this to magazines or professional printers for images or if they cannot accept vector art of the logo. 72 ppi is appropriate for web and screen applications of the brand.

.gif/png

A GIF (Graphic Interchange Format) image employs lossless data compression so that the file size of an image may be reduced without degrading the visual quality, provided the image can be rendered with only 256 colors. A comparable format with fewer technical restrictions is the PNG (Portable Network Graphic). Always use a PNG when dealing with transparencies.

.jpg

JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) is a standard method of compression for photographic images, and as such should not be used or supplied to anyone for replication of the brand, but rather for web images only. In general, this compressed RGB, 72 ppi format should never be used for printing as it lacks the proper color spectrum for a CMYK printer to reproduce color correctly and often is tendered at too low of a resolution.

39

NMRA Graphic Standards

40

ARCHIVE
The NMRA identity system was designed in October 2025.

The design team for this identity project was led by Dale Wallain with support from Tom Ahn, and Grady Bell.

HELP

Should you have any problems with the file formats, graphic standards, or questions about exceptions to these rules, please contact FÖDA.

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