

Developed by Stephen Seidensticker

This RP applies only to knuckle couplers on large scale (#1 to Fn3) rolling stock running on #1 (45mm) gauge track.

Coupler Height

Couplers should be mounted at the height specified in Standard S-2:

- For narrow gauge rolling stock, use the Fn3 scale height (1.125"/28.5 mm).
- For standard gauge rolling stock, use the #1 scale height (1.063"/27 mm).

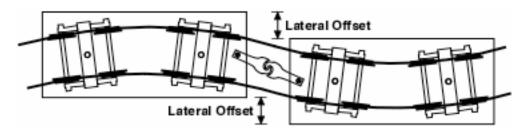
Coupling

Rolling stock should couple when pushed together with minimal force on straight track when the knuckle of one or both couplers is open. *Note: Kadee and Kadee-like couplers are excepted because those knuckles are spring loaded in the closed position. They automatically open when pushed on by the knuckle of the other coupler.*

The force needed to couple should not exceed 8 oz. This recommendation assumes that springs, latches, and other mechanisms are lubricated and "broken in."

Coupler Swing

Couplers should swing from side to side far enough to allow at least a half inch of lateral offset as defined in the following figure to negotiate moderate reverse curves.



Binding/Tight Coupling

Couplers should not mate so tightly that they cause derailments or pull other cars over if one car topples.

Mating Contours

New coupler designs should have contours that mate with the following sets of current couplers.

- Couplers intended for standard gauge models should have contours that mate with current AMS32 and Kadee 820 series couplers.
- Couplers intended for narrow gauge models should have contours that mate with each of
 the current couplers in the following set -- AMS20, AMS29, Aristo-Craft (truck mount),
 Aristo-Craft Kuppler (body mount), Bachmann Spectrum, Delton, Kadee 820 series,
 Kadee 830 series, Kadee 900 series, LGB, and MTH couplers.