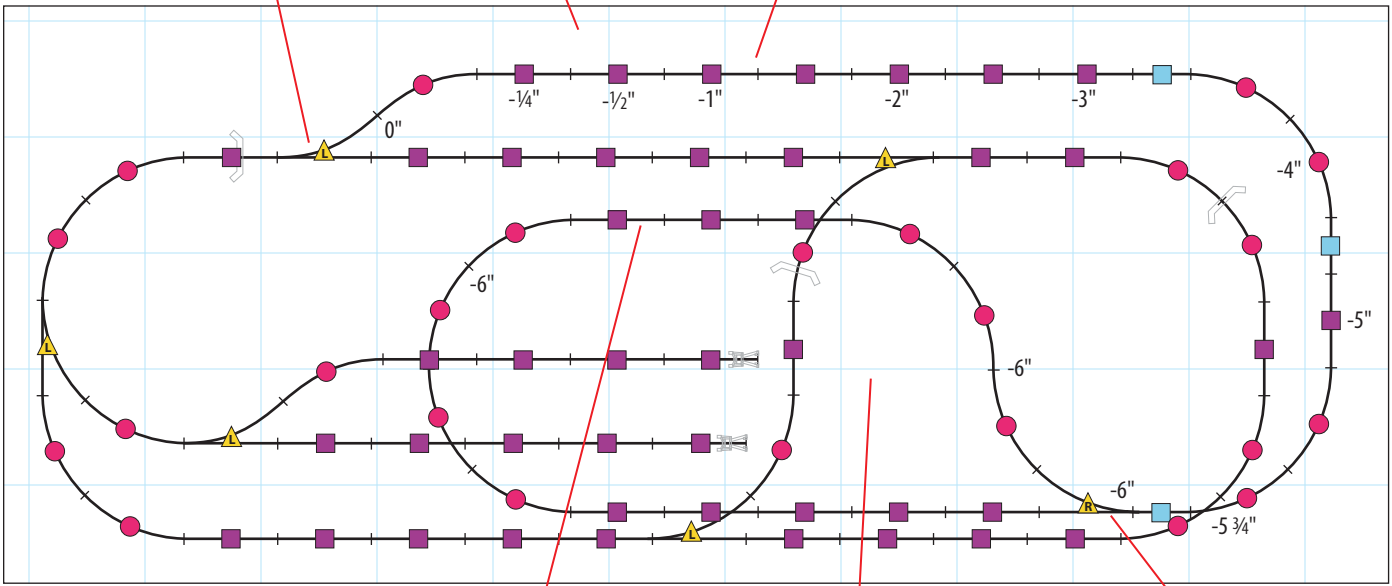
This plan is an update of an amazing Lionel display from 1950. Operated normally, it has a loop for continuous running, a reverse loop, and two sidings for storing cars or spotting accessories. But this layout also harbors a secret. Follow the numbered steps to uncover the clever trick

Step 1: Switch hidden inside tunnel entrance branches off and begins to descend beneath the layout

Sloping hillside provides rural scenery and conceals some of the track

Step 2: Track descends at a rate of ½ inch every 10 inches



Step 4: Train can stop on reverse loop or climb the grade and emerge unexpectedly from the same tunnel portal

Open space for town or city scene

Step 3: Switch leads into hidden reverse loop