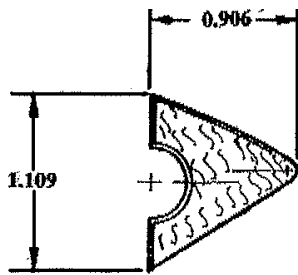




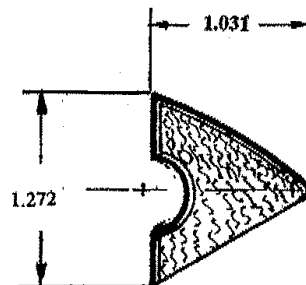
Cushion Rail Information



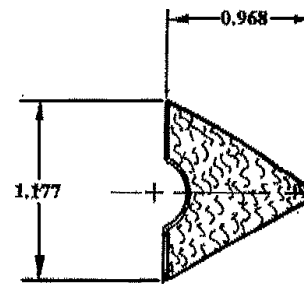
Valley-Dynamo has used three different profiles of cushion rail rubber: U-23, K-55 and the current spec – K-66. When changing your rail sets it is critical that the profile is consistent. Valley switched from U-23 to K-55 in 1989 and from K-55 to K-66 in 1999.



U-23—prior to 1989



K-55—1989-1999

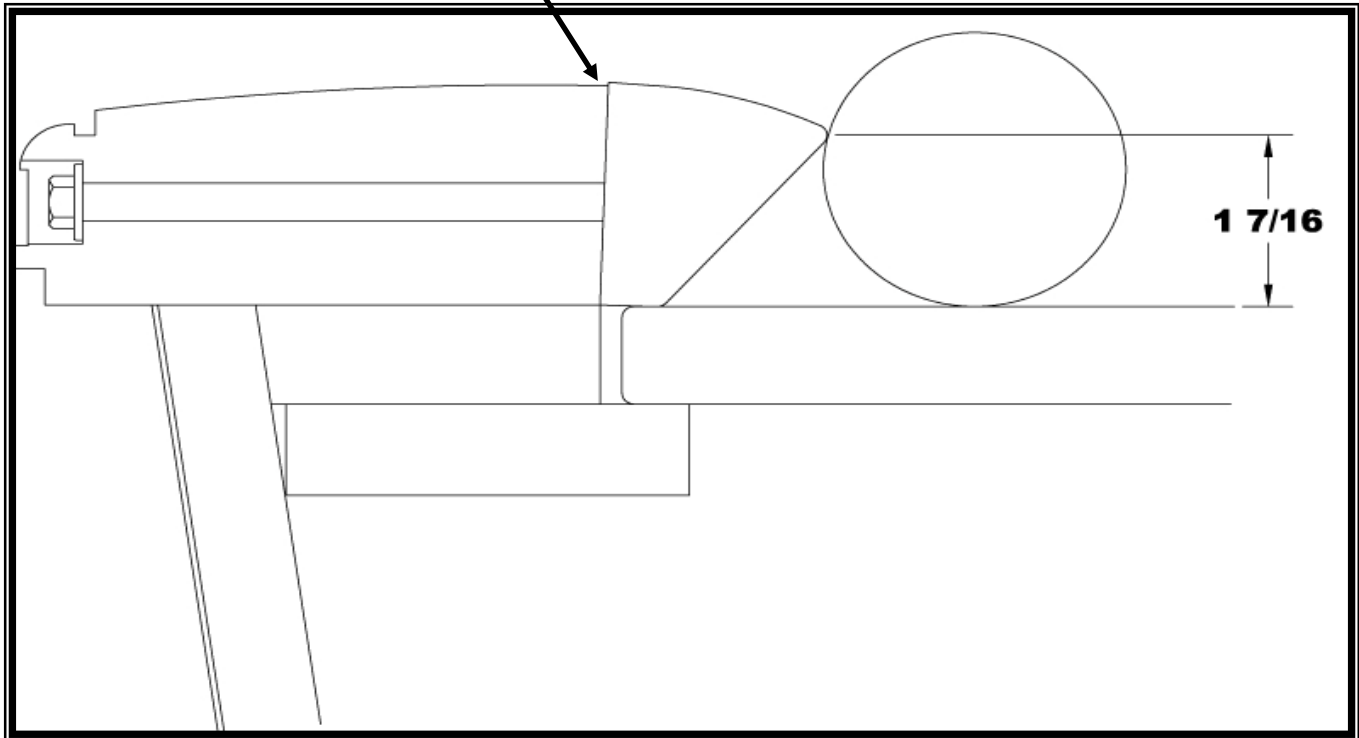


K-66—current use

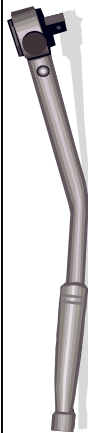
All rail rubber is date coded. Valley also began stamping the profile and date on the wood rail in 2002 to make it easier for Operators to keep sets matched. Playing with mismatched rails is like hitting the Basketball court with one Air Jordan and one Converse All-Star. Someone watching may or may not notice, but if you're the one playing, you will notice... big-time!

WHAT REALLY IS THE PROPER CUSHION RAIL HEIGHT? – A frequently-asked-question if ever there was one. BCA Specifications are 60% - 64% of the height of the object ball, or more simply measured: 1 7/16" above the bed of the table. Many people align the cushion rail even with the top rail laminate—which should put the rails at the bottom-end of the specification. Valley-Dynamo sets rails at the top-end of the specification from the factory. This allows an operator to use unbacked bed cloth on the slate but still keeps the nose of the cushion within specifications and above the top rail laminate. In our years of experience, a higher setting keeps balls from "jumping" off of the table just as easy as the lower setting. (Flying pool balls are usually not appreciated in your local tavern). If you prefer to increase the speed or bounce of your rails, set them lower... at your own risk.

... BUT THEY STILL LOOK A LITTLE HIGH TO ME: Sometimes, the cushions may be as much as 1/16" higher than the rail laminate. Not a problem. Rail height is measured from the slate surface up. If you set the cushions so they are flush with the rail laminate and ignore the crucial measurement from the slate surface, you increase the chance of balls bouncing over the cushions— and onto your players!

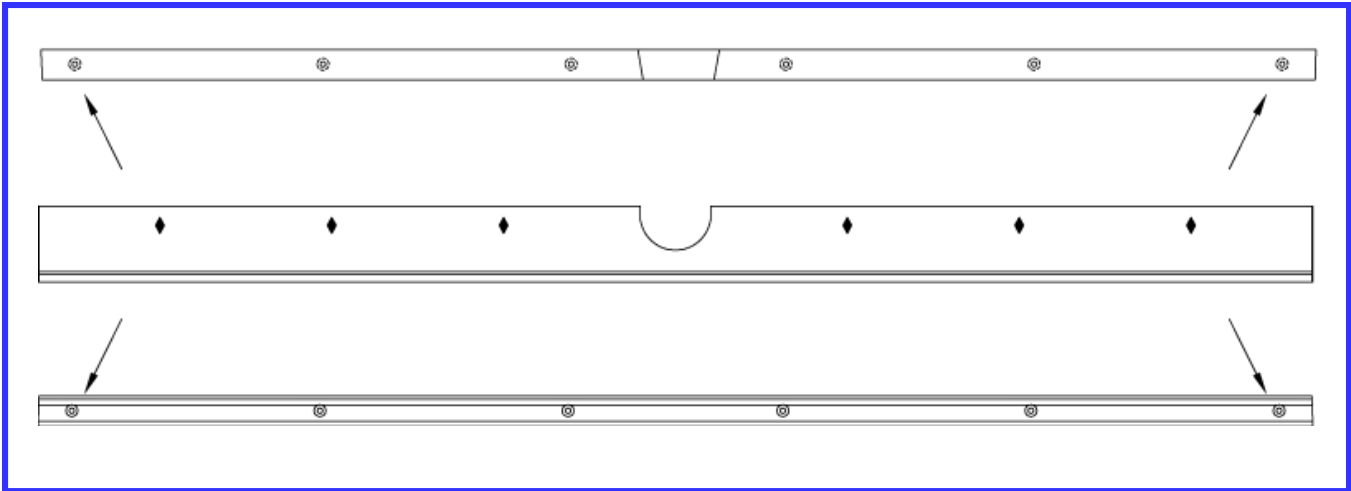


HOW TIGHT IS NOT TIGHT ENOUGH? Players' complaints about "dead rails" may be easily solved with simple tightening of the rail bolts. We are frequently asked how tight the rails should be. Experience has found that **70 inch-pounds** of torque provides the optimum tightness for cushion rails. This setting assures the rails can stay set at the recommended height and maintain the expected rebound properties (although proper mounting is a bigger factor in play quality than tightening the rail bolts to specifications). **To avoid cross-threading your rail bolts, MAKE SURE YOU START THE BOLTS BEFORE FULLY TIGHTENING to torque specs.** Cross-threaded bolts are not a covered warranty failure.



Also, check your rail height as shown in the drawing above. Rails mounted too high can also result in dead action. Finally, rails that may seem dead could have experienced separation in the glue bond attaching the rail and wood. Strip the rubber away from the wood, clean the old glue residue from both surfaces, and re-glue to solve the problem. The cushion rails on a table in heavy use for more than 18 months will begin to lose their bounce. Consider restoring the table's play with a new set of Genuine Valley-Dynamo rails—they are available pre-covered, or uncovered (most sizes) so you may use your choice of cloth.

INSTALLING REPLACEMENT RAILS ON OLDER-MODEL VALLEY TABLES— The current Valley rails will only fit tables using rail bolts to attach the rails (beginning with the model 510 series: from late 1969-present). If the rails are attached with wood screws, the best option will be to have the rubber replaced on the current rails, and have them covered in new felt. If your Valley table is of 1970-1995 vintage, your table will require this minor modification for the current-model rails to fit.



Drill the end mounting holes on the side rail using a $\frac{3}{8}$ " diameter drill bit. From the cushion side, drill no deeper than $1 \frac{3}{64}$ ". This will allow just enough movement of the rail bolt so it can be angled to attach to the current-model cushion rails.

