

Curved Track

Track is often bent to follow the cabin house curve or boom radius. Sometimes track is bent vertically, ends up, to relieve tension on the sail's leech as the traveler car moves off the boat's centerline.

To perform smoothly and carry the correct load, the traveler car's length must suit track radius. Each traveler car page has a chart which shows the minimum radius on which each car will ride. If the load requires a long car, but the radius will be too tight, consider using two short cars joined by a coupler.

Minor bends can often be made when the track is installed. If the track requires more bend, Harken® can provide horizontal, vertical or compound curves to specification for a modest charge. If the bend is continuous, add 2 to 4 inches (50 to 100 mm) to each end because track cannot be bent to its ends. Standard Harken® Mini-Maxi and Maxi traveler cars cannot ride on vertical bends with a radius under 50 ft (15.25 m).



1. Vertical Bend: Ends Down

This bend is used for mainsheet travelers mounted over the cabin house. The curve matches the crown of the cabin house, and allows the track to clear the companionway hatch, but minimizes the height of the track risers.

2. Vertical Bend: Ends Up

Some boats use this bend to relieve leech tension when the traveler car moves off centerline. Ends-up bends are also used for staysails. Tracks angled forward to face the clew of the sail mount on risers.

3. Horizontal Bend

Horizontal bends allow the traveler to follow the radius of the boom as it swings across the boat. The track stays flat and the ends curve to the boat's bow or stern. Sometimes horizontal bends are used for boom vang and occasionally for staysails, especially those with booms.

4. Compound Bend

Compound bends are a combination of a vertical and horizontal bend. An example is when the track curves in the horizontal plane to follow the radius of the boom, but mounts to a deck that has a slight crown.

Track	Simple bend		Compound bends	
	Part No.	Major bend Part No.	Simple Part No.	Major Part No.
373/374/2707/2709/2720/2721/2725/2751	274	275	276	286
1602/1616/1617	1527	1528	1529	1581
1618	1530	1531	1532	1582
3154/3155/3159/3162	789	790	791	576
3156/1701/1706/1848	792	793	794	577
660/661	795	795	795	795

Simple Bend—Track length of 2 m (6'6³/₄") or less **and** chord depth less than 200 mm (8").
Major Bend—Track length of 2.1 m (6'10¹/₁₆") or greater **or** chord depth of 200 mm (8") or greater.
Compound Bend—Bend in both horizontal and vertical planes.
Compound Simple Bend—Both bends are simple bends.
Compound Major Bend—One or both bends are major bends.

Ordering Information

To order curved traveler track, please specify the following information:

Boat Model _____

Track Part Number _____

Bend Part Number _____

Chord Length _____

Chord Depth: Horizontal _____ or Radius: Horizontal _____

Chord Depth: Vertical _____ or Radius: Vertical _____

Check One:

Vertical Bend: Ends Down

Vertical Bend: Ends Up

Horizontal Bend: Ends Forward or Aft

Compound Bend:
Horizontal and Vertical (ends down)

Compound Bend:
Horizontal and Vertical (ends up)

Harken® does not cut track to length