

VALLEY-DYNAMO FAQ GUIDE TO OLDER DYNAMO POOL TABLES MARCH 2012 UPDATE

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A NOTE TO THE USER – thank you for taking the time to review this page. We have gone to great lengths and gathered the experience and wisdom of many longtime Valley-Dynamo employees through the years to provide this resource. Some folks have a tendency to call or write immediately, without looking, without checking. You are truly a concerned individual who is eager to learn, and we hope the past two years of refining this document in response to additional customer questions (this is the 22nd revision) will result in time well spent for you. THANKS.

As we get comfortable in the new site future revisions will Hyperlink to the appropriate locations. We appreciate your patience as we get moved into our new home and learn where everything is located.

BEFORE CONTACTING VALLEY-DYNAMO we installed a new Spam/E-mail filter. If you send an e-mail without a title or an unsolicited e-mail with an attachment, or copy a lot of people on your note, it may not get through. Always title your e-mail, e-mail only the most appropriate party, and contact us first prior to sending large attachments such as photos. If you looked here and still could not find the answer you seek, [click on this link to contact us](#)

“I HAVE AN OLD VALLEY-DYNAMO POOL TABLE...” – Halt. Stop. Before going any further, there is no such thing. Valley and Dynamo tables are separate products. Since Valley and Dynamo merged we’ve tried to share some components, but these tables were designed separately by competitors. Before you contact our Technical Support department or your distributor, determine for certain whether your table is a Valley or Dynamo. Does the corner casting say Dynamo?

HOW OLD IS MY DYNAMO TABLE? Dynamo Serial numbers were not as well-documented as Valley. As a result, we cannot pinpoint the exact age of a Dynamo table. The good news is that Dynamo Pool tables have changed less over the years, and parts availability will not be a big issue.

The Model Number of your Dynamo table may help us pinpoint the age. If you find a nine-digit number starting with 0202 is most likely your model number.

JUST HOW BIG OF AN ISSUE IS PARTS AVAILABILITY

For older Dynamo tables, the problem areas will be the Weighted Cue Ball Separator and parts for the metal coin door. Otherwise, most current parts should still fit a Dynamo pool table, but they may not be in the same colors.



If your coin door looks like the photo to the left with the rounded surround and no plastic frame, replacement parts are no longer available.

Coin doors like that to the right are the current style, and parts are available.



BUT COULDN'T YOU CHECK TO MAKE SURE YOU DON'T HAVE A ____ STILL AVAILABLE? In the many years since some of these model and color changes, if we haven't completely combed our stock and plundered every sample table we had, we have also moved—discarding a lot of long-discontinued pieces-- several times through the years (twice since 2005). We don't mean to be brutal about it, but some folks get pretty ticked off that we no longer stock parts for coin doors not used in production for more than 30 years. They will argue that you can still buy parts for a Ford Truck from

the 1960s, but the total number of Dynamo pool tables built over the past 30 years is probably close to the total number of trucks Ford builds every year.

WHAT SIZE IS MY TABLE? There are different sizes. Here is how we sort them out:

What we call an 8 foot table has a slate measuring 47 ½" x 91 ½"

This includes Dynamo models 47 and 48

What we call a 7 foot table has a slate measuring 43" x 83"

This includes Dynamo models 37 and 38

What we call a 6 ½ foot table has a slate measuring 40 ¼" x 77 ½"

This includes Dynamo models 27 and 28

What we call a 6 foot table has a slate measuring 39" x 75"

This includes Dynamo Models 17 and 18

We do not currently manufacture tables in this size. We stock Cushion Rails that fit the Dynamo Model 17 and 18, but practically nothing else specific to that size.

IMPORTANT: avoid inconvenience, returns, restock fees and additional shipments; be absolutely sure of your table's size before looking for parts. Don't just say "it's a bar table." Not all bars are the same size, and bar tables are different sizes too. Ask if you are not sure.

HOW DOES SIZE MATTER WITH REGARD TO PARTS: These items will all be the same size regardless of your table's size:

- [Coin Box Enclosure](#)
- [Ball Flap](#)
- [Magnetic Separator](#)
- [Corners](#)
- Legs and [levelers](#)
- Coin Door, [Ball View Door](#), [Clean Out Door](#)

These items will differ according to table size:

- [Cushion Rails](#)
- Slate and Center Chutes
- Top Rails
- [Side and End Trim](#)

HOW MUCH IS MY TABLE WORTH? Company policy forbids us from appraising tables, and will offer no suggestions for how much to charge or your table's value. It would be much like calling Sony Headquarters to find out how much you should ask for your old big screen.

The best way to determine your table's value would be the supply, demand and condition of used pool tables in your area and/or a personal inspection by a local Distributor or Operator.

COULD MY TABLE BE RARE AND VALUABLE ENOUGH TO RESTORE TO NEW CONDITION? We have sold many thousands of tables over the years. From a

collectibles standpoint, a 100% restored vintage Valley or Dynamo pool table is not a “winning lottery ticket.” If you have a table you want to restore, don’t worry about getting it to accurate factory-new condition (and keep in mind, parts availability for older tables may be a problem). Have fun with your project and get it into a condition to where you can enjoy looking at it, playing on it, and bragging to your friends how hard you worked on it.

I HAVE AN OLD DYNAMO TABLE IN PRETTY GOOD SHAPE, WOULD YOU WANT TO BUY IT BACK FROM ME FOR DISPLAY IN YOUR SHOWROOM? No thanks, we simply don’t have the space.

CAN I ADAPT PARTS FROM THE CURRENT VALLEY GREAT 8 OR DYNAMO PRO PLUS TO USE THE BILL-ACCEPTOR TO WORK ON MY DYNAMO DBA TABLE FROM THE EARLY 1990’S? No, only parts shared with current production, non-DBA tables will still be available.

CAN I USE THE [ZD-X UPGRADE KIT](#) OFFERED ON YOUR WEBSITE ON MY DYNAMO PRO PLUS? Yes, this kit will replace the PCB, harnessing, battery and charger and allow you to have all the additional options, program copying, league dues, reset button and battery protection advantages of the Panther ZD-X software (also found on our [DYNAMO SEDONA DBA](#) table).

WILL PARTS FOR CURRENT VALLEY BUMPER POOL TABLES FIT MY DYNAMO BUMPER POOL TABLE? It actually came as a surprise to some longtime employees with Dynamo before the merger that Dynamo made a Bumper Pool table at all—until we found some old photos. Valley Bumper Pool cushions will not fit, but with all tables, Bumper Pool cushion rails can be removed, freshened with new rubber and recovered by nearly any pool table service professional.

I WANT TO MOVE MY TABLE, HOW DO I TAKE IT APART? Be careful: **POOL TABLES ARE VERY HEAVY**. Always overestimate how many people you will need to move your table. Many of our distributors can offer assistance in moving tables. They may provide the service, or be able to refer you to an experienced and capable mover.

The legs on our tables are removable, and should be removed during the process. Also, the one-piece slate alone is close to half your table’s weight and very likely to be damaged if it comes loose during the move. You should remove it and move it separately. (first remove the metal trim around the sides of the table, then the bolts holding the cushion rails and the slate should lift out relatively easily, more detailed instructions are posted on this site). Disassembling a coin operated table any further is very risky, and your table is unlikely to ever be the same—if you can reassemble it afterwards at all.

WHAT KIND OF CUE BALL DO I NEED? Dynamo tables built prior to 1993 will use a weighted (typically orange dot) cue ball. Some cue balls will have marker dots on them to help with shot practice but *may not be weighted*. A common Postal scale should be sensitive enough to detect the weight difference between a weighted cue ball and the

object balls. Dynamo tables built since 1995 will use a magnetic cue ball. Dynamo tables built between 1993 and 1995 could use either; check our [Dynamo Pool Breakdown](#) and [Photo](#) pages to see which separator best resembles yours.

We stocked a weighted cue ball in our WebStore but finally depleted our inventory in August 2011 – 16 years since Dynamo last made a table using that ball.

We use the [Valley® Cougar® Cue Ball](#) by Aramith in new tables. It is a 2¼ -inch perfectly balanced magnetic cue ball.

IS IT POSSIBLE TO CHANGE MY POOL TABLE FROM A WEIGHTED TO MAGNETIC CUE BALL SEPARATOR? While some creative individuals have ordered the [COMPLETE DYNAMO SEPARATOR ASSEMBLY](#) and adapted it for use in an older table, there is no official procedure for this, no refunds are offered if you give up mid-process, and we have no instructions available. Remember, a table with a weighted separator is at least 16 years old at this point. Perhaps it's time for a new table?

COULD YOU SEND A PARTS BREAKDOWN SPECIFICALLY FOR MY TABLE? The best [Dynamo Pool Parts Breakdown](#) we have is posted, and was updated for 2010. It will not cover the old metal coin door models, but practically everything shown is available.

BUT WHERE ARE THE PRICES? Current pricing can be found in the Webstore.

HOW CAN I GET THE PERSONALIZED ATTENTION NEEDED TO DO A COMPLETE RESTORATION OF A TABLE? Although our Parts and Tech departments are knowledgeable and can provide a great deal of assistance, sometime you need someone local or close by who can look at things first hand, or that you may need to buy a lot of parts from piecemeal. [Contact us](#) and we will gladly refer you to a Distributor who can provide assistance to you.

WHAT LAMINATE COLORS ARE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE? Our tables have come in a very wide variety of wood shades over the years but we only currently stock parts in the laminate colors shown on the [Dynamo Pool Parts Breakdown](#) and [Dynamo Pool Parts Photos](#) guides.

If you want to restore a table in a different color, or get a laminate made to match what is currently on your table, we suggest contacting a cabinet refinisher. They normally have a vast selection of possible laminates to choose from.

We do not stock sheets of laminate for Dynamo tables.

HOW DO I REPLACE THE WOOD LAMINATES? If you are not sure, best to consult with someone experienced with woodworking or search the web for woodworking tips to find a method that works for you. What we do at the factory for a new table is quite different from the steps needed to remove and replace the laminate on a fully-assembled table.

COULD I GET A KEY FOR MY OLD COIN DOOR? Not from Valley-Dynamo. For the owners' security, coin doors are randomly keyed and there is no "universal" key. To replace the lock, almost any 7/8" barrel lock ought to work on your coin door, almost all parts suppliers in the vending/game industry have them readily available for sale, and [we sell replacement locks in our Webstore](#).

SOME REALLY OLD COIN MECHANISMS LOOK LIKE THIS PHOTO, CAN I STILL GET SOMETHING LIKE IT?

Monarch Coin produces an "old look" coin chute, called the Model 444. You don't have the price flexibility of a modern push chute, but you get the old-style look.



HOW CAN I CHANGE MY COIN-OP TABLE TO FREE PLAY? On more recent tables with vertical coin slots, there is a fairly simple process to change out the coin slots with "blanks" so you simply use the existing coin chute. An illustrated guide on how to do this is posted on the site.

Another option on any table may be to disable the Ball Flap by removing it entirely, or rigging it to stay in the up position. This way, the balls will simply roll through the trap without stopping and into the collection box. It is no more difficult than putting blanks into the push chute, but [E-mail Valley Dynamo Tech Support](#) for the procedure, to make sure it is done correctly.

It is tempting to jerry-rig the table so you can simply reach in and trip the trap to release the ball without using the push chute. If you remove any pieces, try to save them. There should be plenty of storage space available in the cavity of the table.

COULD I GET A KEY FOR MY BALL VIEW DOOR OR CLEAN OUT DOOR? These keys are more readily available—**SO LONG AS NO PRIOR OPERATOR CHANGED THE LOCKS** (*Operators frequently change the locks to keep shady characters from buying factory-issue keys for the factory-issue locks and playing unlimited free games on their tables*). Please try not to get too irritated with us for not knowing exactly what lock is on your table or not carrying a key for the lock. We have no control over what lock an owner, operator, or location chooses to install in their table at some point between when it left our facility and when you got it.

Dynamo tables MAY use a #106, 2255 or 1155 lock – only the [#106 locks and key](#) are still available. Locks and keys can be purchased from your parts distributor, locks are available in the Webstore, and none are that expensive. They will almost certainly cost less than calling a Locksmith to make a key for your table.

SHOULD I REPLACE MY CUSHION RAILS? For commercial locations we recommend replacing rails every other year. Rails used on a home table see less usage—unless you keep that table seriously busy-- but the rubber will begin to dry out and crack after 10 years. Unless the previous owner knows for sure, assume the rails on a newly-

acquired old table probably need replacement, and then you will know exactly how old they are.

WILL NEW RAILS REALLY FIT MY OLD TABLE? Dynamo rails should fit older tables, no problem. Even though your table is a Dynamo, it's a good idea to review our Valley Cushion Rail Service Guide as it contains specific mounting specifications. Improper cushion rail height can have a huge effect on your table's playability.

WHAT IS THE TORQUE SPEC FOR RAILS? We tighten rails to **65 inch-pounds**, but for consistent quality play it is far more important that rails are properly aligned.

I'VE ONLY GOT ONE DEAD RAIL; WHY CAN'T I JUST BUY ONE REPLACEMENT? For several reasons, all good:

- Mixing old and new rails on a table is almost certain to result in inconsistent play.
- Rails come in different profiles and rubber configurations which will have different play characteristics even if they are the same age.
- Replace just one, and you are likely to have a different dead rail a few months later and have to go through the whole process again.
- The dye lot of a single rail may be just enough from the others to be obvious.
- Left side, right side, and end rails are all different. Practically every time someone tries to get "just one", it ends up being wrong.

This is not a conspiracy to force you to buy rails by the set, not more than why shoe stores only sell shoes in pairs. They will match, they'll look like they match, and you'll know the age of all six rails on your table.

WHAT SHOULD I KNOW WHEN ORDERING CUSHION RAILS? Be sure you know for certain...

- The size of the table
- If your table is a Valley or Dynamo (the rails are not interchangeable)
- If you want them uncovered, or pre-covered in Tournament Green Mercury Ultra felt.

The parts breakdowns located under Dynamo Pool and the Quick Guide to Rail sets on site will list part numbers for all available rail sets. Covered rail sets with K-66 profile rubber are available for all Dynamo table sizes except 9-foot, but uncovered Dynamo rails are only available for 6½-foot, 7-foot and 8-foot tables.

JUST TO BE CLEAR, WHAT CUSHION RAILS ARE NO LONGER AVAILABLE?

- ◆ Rails for any 9-foot tables, Valley or Dynamo
- ◆ Uncovered rails for Dynamo Model 17/18 tables

[YOU CAN ORDER DYNAMO CUSHION RAILS FROM THE VALLEY-DYNAMO WEBSTORE AT THIS LINK](#)

ABOUT BRUNSWICK POOL TABLES: Valley Dynamo was a division of Brunswick and has marketed a Bill Acceptor-operated pool table called the Brunswick Metro Coin. Brunswick commercial tables (other than the Metro Coin) and home model tables are

engineered, designed and built separately from Valley-Dynamo products and the parts were never designed to be interchangeable. For service on your Brunswick Pool table, contact **800-336-8764** to find a Brunswick dealer.

DO YOU HAVE INFORMATION OR PARTS FOR AN OLD POOL TABLE MADE BY ----- ?
We receive a lot of questions from customers who have located an old coin-operated table by a manufacturer they cannot locate, or has been out of business for some time. Sometimes full-line parts dealers refer those customers to us. We only stock parts known to work in Valley or Dynamo products and though someone may cleverly be able to adapt our parts for use elsewhere, we make no guarantees. We have no service information, documentation or parts for competing products.