



presents

# The amateur and rookie guide to buying cushion rails



An angel cries whenever someone says the words “I need a set of rails for my table.” This is the same as saying “I need to buy a set of tires for my car.” More information and thought will always be needed to get the CORRECT part to you the first time.



## 1: Valley or Dynamo

Valley and Dynamo developed their tables independently with no idea they'd later be one big happy family. You can make one work on the other in an Apollo 13 “we'll make the square filter work in place of the round one” way but **save the trouble—right part first time!!!**

Valley

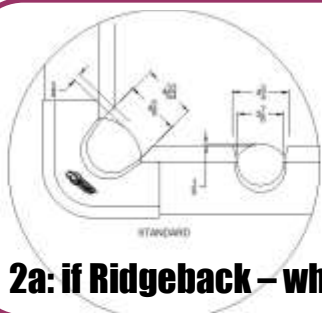
## 1a: If Valley—how old?

Current 5-bolt model Valley cushions will fit 5-bolt and 3-bolt tables going back to around 1970, but NOT tables so old the cushions are held in with wood screws. We've not built cushions for 1960s-and-older tables since 1986. You need a specialist for tails on tables over 50 years old.



## 2: OEM or Ridgeback?

Valley-Dynamo acquired Ridgeback rails in early 2023 and we can offer rails that suit the player looking for either the Original Equipment experience, or the play characteristics Ridgeback offers. Ridgeback rails generally cost more, but are more readily available. Go to [RidgeBackRails.com](https://RidgeBackRails.com) for more information



## 2a: if Ridgeback – what pockets?

Ridgeback offers a number of pocket options described in detail as [RidgeBackRails.com](https://RidgeBackRails.com). If you simply want the “original equipment” experience the STANDARD pockets are for you. The PROFESSIONAL and LEAGUE Ridgeback options offer tighter pockets, thicker wood and so forth. Ridgeback also offers “classic” 3-bolt rail for those not wishing to make the minor mod so current rails fit.



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**3: Size matters!!**

The Valley-Dynamo parts site attempts to list ONLY those cushion rails we have in stock for immediate shipment. Sizes not available to ship now—not available! Measurements are provided on every page AND we post a handy size chart of the Valley and Dynamo FAQ pages. So ORDERING A CUSHION SET BECAUSE IT'S LISTED IS LIKE GRABBING ANY RANDOM TIRE AND HOPING IT FITS. Cushions come in a long box that's not cheap to ship. If you order the wrong size of cushion, you can send it back for a refund less a 50% restocking fee (we have to inspect and rebox them) AND no refund on shipping charges.

**Save the trouble : right part first time**



**4 Connelly Rail set?**

A trick question. There is no easily attached "Rail set" for a Connelly table and we've never sold such a thing. Connelly rubber is attached directly to the top rails, trimmed and covered. Any pool table service pro can do this for you.



**5: Covered or Uncovered?**

In times of good inventories, we offer Valley rail sets covered in Championship Green or Burgundy Valley Teflon Ultra cloth, and Dynamo rails covered in Championship Green Mercury Ultra cloth.

For customer wanting other cloths or colors—we offer uncovered cushion rail sets.

We do not stock Simonis 860. You aren't as amateur as you think if you want Simonis 860



**6: Can I just get one?**

No. For the same reason you can't (and shouldn't) buy just one shoe. Now the one "Bad" one is replaced with one "Brand new" one and you still have an inconsistent action problem. You should always replace all six cushions at once.