



**ROCKLER®**  
WOODWORKING AND HARDWARE

Create with Confidence™

## Ceiling Track Installation Instructions

Effective December 2018



Review full manual instructions prior to use for important safety information.  
Always check [Rockler.com](http://Rockler.com) to confirm that you are using the most recent manual version for your product.

## GENERAL SAFETY WARNINGS

This product is designed only for specific applications as defined in the instructions and should not be modified or used for any manner not described in these instructions. Use only recommended accessories. Before using the Ceiling Track: **READ, UNDERSTAND** and **FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS AND SAFETY WARNINGS. KEEP THESE INSTRUCTIONS READILY AVAILABLE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.**

- > Always confirm that you are using the most recent version of the Instructions and safety warnings for your product (see the Instructions link on the product page at Rockler.com).
- > Before using another tool with this product, always read, understand and follow the instructions and safety warnings in the owner's manual for that tool. If you do not have the owner's manual, obtain one from the tool's manufacturer before using it with this product.
- > Before using any chemical with this product, always read, understand and follow all safety warnings and guidelines in the manufacturer's Safety Data Sheet (SDS; formerly called "MSDS"), especially regarding:
  - How to safely use the chemical, including potential hazards and recommended first aid measures;
  - Personal safety equipment required to safely use the chemical (e.g. gloves, eye protection, mask/respirator, etc.);
  - Proper and safe handling, storage and disposal of the chemical.
- > Before using this product, review and verify that all tools to be used with it have safety equipment installed and are in proper working order as defined by the tool's owner's manual.
- > Do not use this product until you have read and are confident you understand:
  - Product Specific Safety Warnings (p. 3);
  - Choosing the Mounting Location (pp. 4 - 5);
  - Mounting the Track Along a Single Joist (p. 5);
  - Mounting the Track Across Multiple Joists (pp. 6-7);
  - Installing Accessory Components (p. 7).
- > The user assumes all risk and responsibility for the proper and safe use of this product and for ensuring product suitability for the intended application.
- > It is the sole responsibility of the purchaser of this product to ensure that any anyone you allow to use this product reads and complies with all instructions and safety precautions outlined in this manual prior to use.
- > Follow all standard shop safety practices, including:
  - Keep children and bystanders away from the tool operating area;
  - Do **NOT** use power tools in explosive environments, or in the presence of flammable liquids, fumes or dust;
  - **TURN OFF AND UNPLUG** all power tools **BEFORE** making any adjustments or changing accessories;
  - Remain alert and use good judgment. Do not use this product if you are in any way impaired by medications, alcohol, drugs or fatigue;
  - Keep your work area well lit and clean;
  - Dress appropriately. Secure loose clothing, remove all jewelry and tie up long hair before using this product;
  - **ALWAYS** wear safety glasses, hearing protection and respiratory protection that complies with NIOSH/OSHA/ANSI safety standards;
  - Use dust collection tools and dust face masks to reduce exposure to dust;
  - Use safety equipment such as featherboards, push sticks and push blocks, etc., when appropriate;
  - Maintain proper footing at all times and do not overreach;
  - Do **NOT** force woodworking tools.
- > These warnings and instructions do **NOT** represent the total of all information available regarding tool safety, use and technique. Always seek out opportunities to learn more and improve your skills and knowledge.

**⚠ WARNING:** Drilling, sawing, sanding or machining wood products can expose you to wood dust, a substance known of the State of California to cause cancer. Avoid inhaling wood dust or use a dust mask or other safeguards for personal protection. For more information go to [www.P65Warnings.ca.gov/wood](http://www.P65Warnings.ca.gov/wood).

### **⚠ DANGER**

Danger indicates a hazardous situation that, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.

### **⚠ WARNING**

Warning indicates a hazardous situation that, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.

### **⚠ CAUTION**

Caution indicates a hazardous situation that, if not avoided, may result in minor or moderate injury or property damage.

### **NOTICE**

Notice indicates important or helpful information and/or user tips.

## PRODUCT SPECIFIC SAFETY WARNINGS

### WARNING

- > To avoid the risk of serious injury, do **NOT** allow children to hang from or use the Ceiling Track System.
- > Do **NOT** climb on or allow anyone to hang from the Ceiling Track System.
- > Do **NOT** overload the ceiling track system. The maximum weight limit is 60 lbs. per 4' section of Ceiling Track.
- > Maximum weight limit for each hook and trolley is 20 lbs.
- > When using multiple sections of track in sequence and moving accessories (and the items hanging from them) from one track to another, do **NOT** allow the total weight of all items to exceed the 60 lbs. maximum weight capacity of the track. The use of Ceiling Track Stop(s) (58879, sold separately) is required in order to avoid the accidental overloading of a track.
- > Failure to install the track system correctly could lead to the Track or equipment falling, potentially resulting in serious injury.
- > Each section of ceiling track must be secured using all four 1/4" x 3" Lag Screws and Washers driven into wooden ceiling joists or into a 2x4 wooden cleat securely attached to wooden ceiling joists.
- > The Ceiling Track System must be attached to solid, structurally sound wooden joist material that meets local building codes. It should not be mounted to joists that have wood rot (dry rot, wet rot), termite/other pest damage or significant sections of material cut out.
- > Do **NOT** use wall anchors or drywall anchors to mount to the ceiling.
- > Do **NOT** install against ceilings with metal joists or to brick or masonry.
- > Do **NOT** use an impact driver to drive fasteners; the added torque of an impact driver increases the risk of stripping the pilot holes and weakening connections. Do not overtighten screws.
- > Do **NOT** attempt to use any hanging accessories on the Ceiling Track without Ceiling Track Stops (58879, sold separately) secured at both ends. Without the stops, items hung from the track system could slide out of the track and fall unexpectedly, potentially causing injury.
- > Make sure hooks are fully threaded into the trolleys before hanging anything on them.

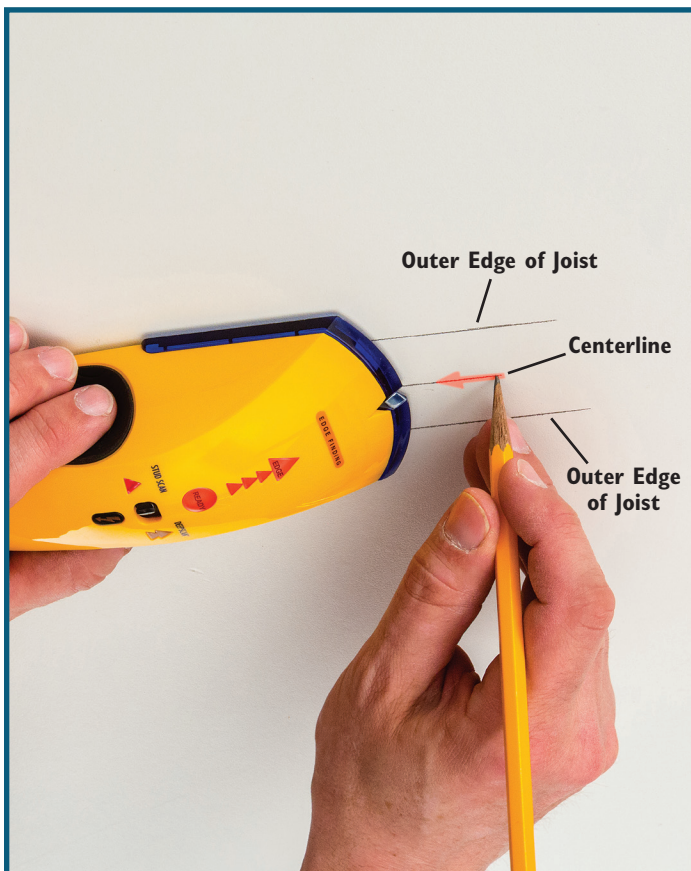
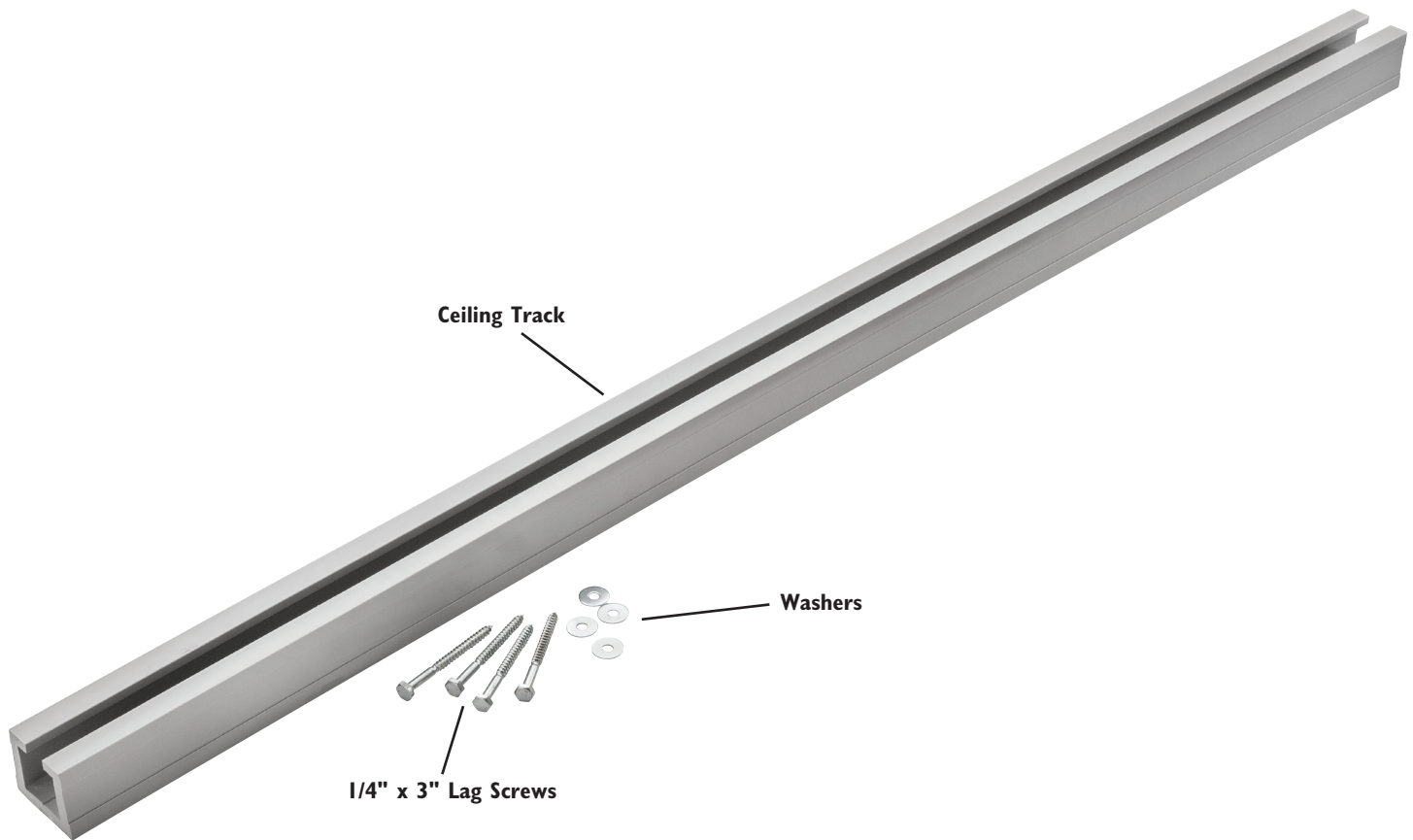


Fig. 1

## ⚠ WARNING

### DO NOT EXCEED WEIGHT LIMIT

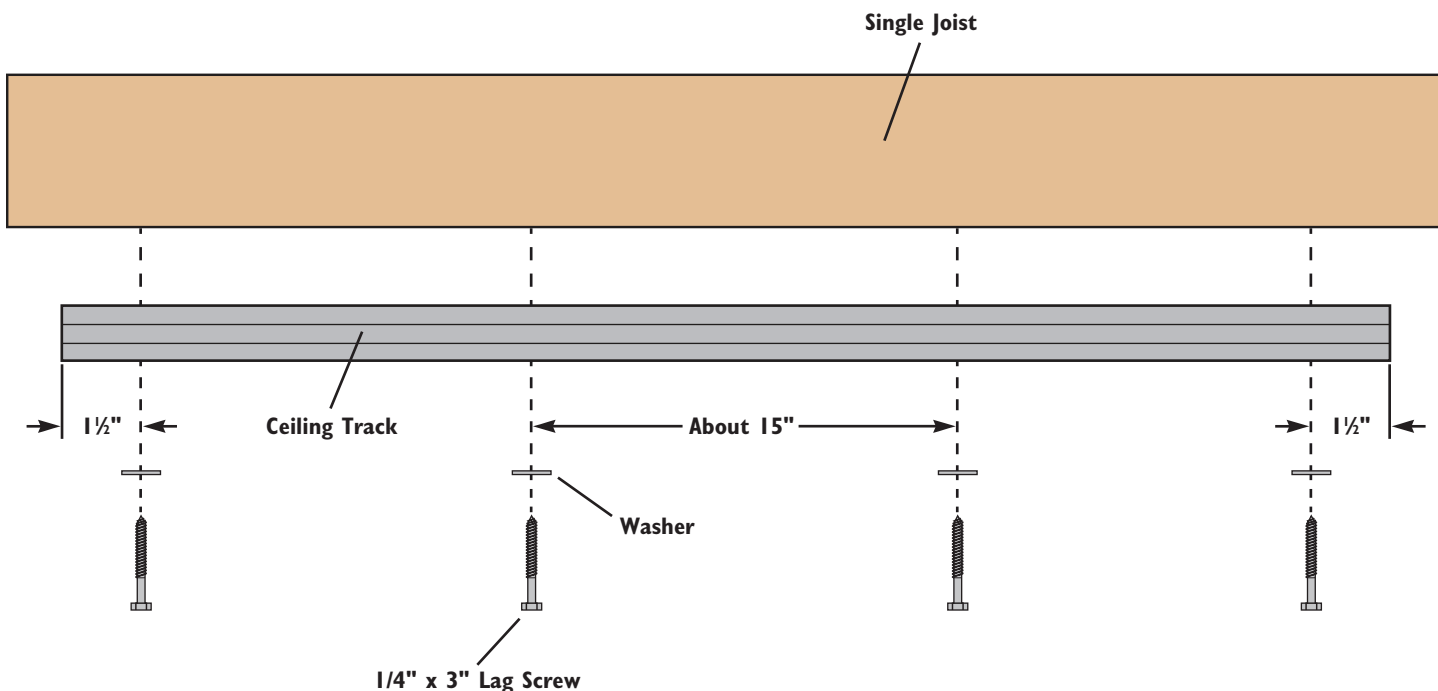
> 60 lbs. maximum for each 4' section of Ceiling Track.

### Choosing a Mounting Location

You will get the greatest benefit from the Ceiling Track System if you mount it above the area where you work most often. Be sure to consider the size of items you plan to hang from the Ceiling Track as well as any potential obstructions in the path those of items as they move along the track. Make sure there will be adequate clearance from the wall and other equipment in your space so hanging items can move freely.

Because each section of Ceiling Track must be secured to wooden ceiling joists or to a 2x4 wooden cleat securely attached to wooden ceiling joists, you need to know where the joists are in your desired mounting area. In an open-joist ceiling, you can see them. In a finished ceiling, where the joists have been covered with drywall or other sheathing, you will need to locate and mark them in the desired mounting area. You also will need to determine the direction in which they run, because this affects how you will mount the Ceiling Track.

The easiest way to locate and mark joists in a finished ceiling is to use a stud finder. As you locate the joists in your desired mounting area, **be sure to mark both edges and the centerline of each joist** Fig. 1. Be aware that, in garages, joists



### Mounting Along a Single Joist Side View

sometimes are spaced 24" on center (rather than 16") or at other intervals and that joists might not all run in the same direction. Take your time identifying and marking the joists to be sure you are certain of their locations. If you have any doubts that you have located the joists properly, seek professional installation assistance.

In general, there are two basic scenarios for mounting your Ceiling Track System: along a single joist and across multiple joists. The mounting process for these scenarios is largely the same whether mounting to an open-joist ceiling or a finished. Just remember, it is crucial that you accurately locate and mark the ceiling joist locations (including centerlines) when mounting to a finished ceiling.

### Mounting the Track Along a Single Joist

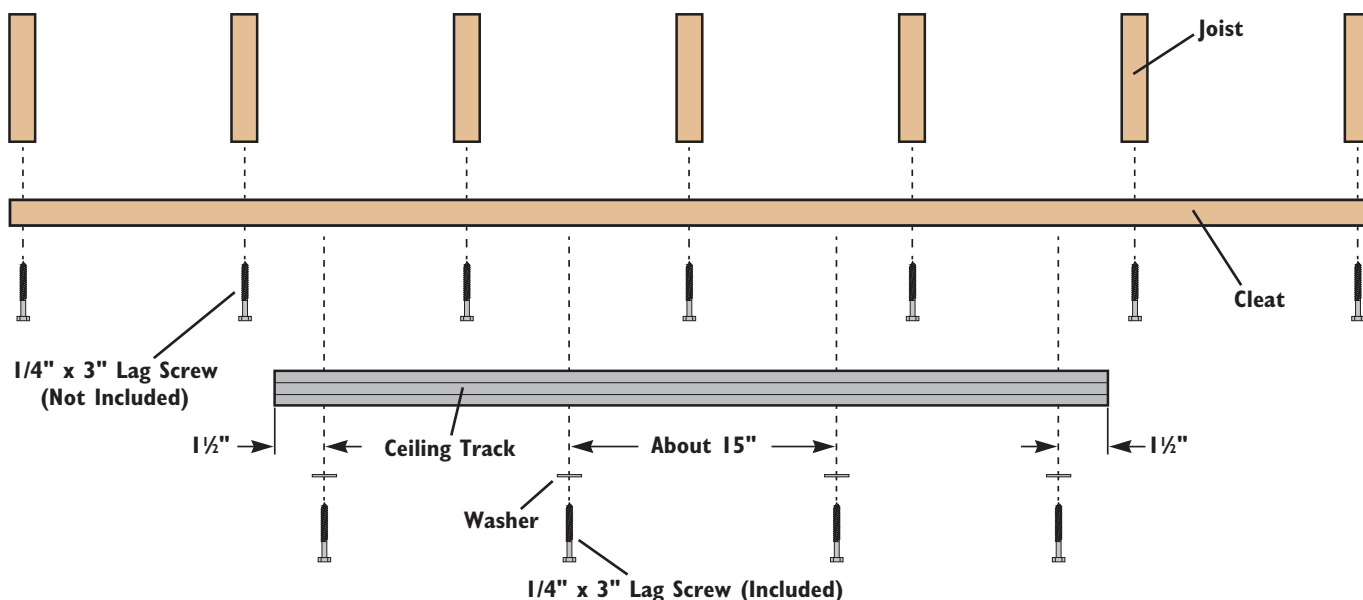
#### **⚠ WARNING**

- > Each section of Ceiling Track must be secured using all four included 1/4" x 3" Lag Screws and Washers driven into a wooden ceiling joist. Failure to do so could result in the track falling, potentially resulting in serious injury.
- > Do **NOT** use wall anchors or drywall anchors to mount the track to the ceiling.
- > Do **NOT** install track against ceilings with metal joists or to brick or masonry.
- > Do **NOT** use an impact driver to drive fasteners; the added torque of an impact driver increases the risk of stripping the pilot holes and weakening connections. Do not overtighten screws.

#### **NOTICE**

If you want more than 4' of length capacity, additional sections of Ceiling Track are available for purchase. Simply install the tracks end-to-end using four Lag Screws and four Washers into wooden joists for each 4' section of track. Ceiling Track sections can be cut to shorter lengths as needed. Shorter track sections require mounting at least two Lag Screws (one at each end), with additional Lag Screws required for every 16" of track length.

1. You should have marked the edges and center of the wooden ceiling joist in **Choosing the Mounting Location** (pp. 4-5). If you have not done so, review the section and mark the joist location now. Use a long straightedge to mark the centerline of the joist along the full length of the mounting location.
2. With the Ceiling Track on a work surface, mark four locations for mounting holes in the V-groove along its length. Two of the locations should be in about 1½" from the ends, with the other two spaced evenly between them (about 15" apart). The V-groove will ensure the marks are centered on the width of the track.
3. Use a 5/16" twist drill bit to drill pilot holes through the Ceiling Track at the locations you just marked.
4. Working with a helper, if necessary, hold the Ceiling Track up to the ceiling at the joist location, centering the pilot holes in the track on the centerline you marked on the ceiling or joist. Use the pilot holes to mark the drilling locations.
5. Drill 5/32" diameter x 2" deep pilot holes through the ceiling (if applicable) and into the joist.
6. Attach the Track to the joist using all four included 1/4" x 3" Lag Screws and all four Washers. Skip to **Installing Accessory Components** section (p. 7).



Mounting Across Multiple Joists Side View

## Mounting the Track Across Multiple Joists

### ⚠ WARNING

- > When installing the Ceiling Track is to be installed across multiple wooden ceiling joists, a 2x4 wooden cleat must first be mounted to the wooden joists.
- > The Ceiling Track **MUST NOT** project beyond the ends of the cleat.
- > The 2x4 wooden cleat **MUST** be longer than the Ceiling Track – and long enough that both ends of the cleat can be bolted to ceiling joists.
- > The 2x4 wooden cleat must be securely attached to all wooden joists it spans, but in no case to fewer than a minimum of three wooden ceiling joists for each section of 4' track. The cleat must be installed to the joists using a minimum of three 1/4" x 3" Lag Screws and Washers.
- > Each section of Ceiling Track must be secured using all four 1/4" x 3" Lag Screws and Washers driven into the wooden cleat. Failure to do so could result in the track falling, potentially resulting in serious injury.
- > Do **NOT** use wall anchors or drywall anchors to mount the cleat to the ceiling.
- > Do **NOT** install track or cleat against ceilings with metal joists or to brick or masonry.
- > Do **NOT** use an impact driver to drive fasteners; the added torque of an impact driver increases the risk of stripping the pilot holes and weakening connections. Do not overtighten screws.

### NOTICE

If you want more than 4' of length capacity, additional sections of Ceiling Track are available for purchase. Make sure to first install a cleat that's long enough to support the full run of Track and attach to joists at both ends and to each joist the cleat crosses. Then simply install the Tracks end-to-end using four Lag Screws and four Washers for each section of track. Ceiling Track sections can be cut to shorter lengths as needed. A minimum of one Lag Screw is required for every 16" of track length; track sections 16" or shorter require two mounting Lag Screws (one at each end).

1. You should have marked the edges and centerlines of the wooden ceiling joists at the desired location in **Choosing the Mounting Location (pp. 4-5)**. If you have not done so, review the section and mark all joist locations now. Take measurements at the desired mounting location to determine how long the 2x4 wooden cleat will need to be.
2. Measure the spacing of every ceiling joist the track will cross and transfer the joist locations (including centerline) onto the cleat to determine the location of all pilot holes and counterbores needed to accept 1/4" x 3" Lag Screws and Washers (not included). Lag bolts must be installed at every joist the cleat crosses and both ends of the cleat.
3. At the center of each joist location on the cleat, use a 1" Forstner bit to drill counterbores of sufficient depth to accommodate a Washer and the head of the Lag Screw.
4. Drill a 5/16" through hole centered in each counterbore.
5. Working with a helper, if necessary, hold the cleat to the ceiling at the desired mounting location and align the pilot holes with the joist centerlines. Use the pilot holes in the cleat to mark the drilling locations. Make sure the marks are centered on the joists.

6. Drill 5/32" diameter x 2" deep pilot holes through the ceiling (if applicable) and into the joists at the spots you just marked.
7. Use 1/4" x 3" Lag Screws and Washers (not included) to securely mount the cleat to each ceiling joist that the cleat crosses.
8. With the Ceiling Track on a work surface, mark four locations for mounting holes in the V-groove along its length. Two of the locations should be about 1½" in from the ends, with the other two spaced evenly between them (about 15" apart). The V-groove will ensure the marks are centered on the width of the track, but be sure to take into account where the Ceiling Track will be mounted on the cleat so you can offset the mounting holes, if necessary, to avoid the Lag Screws used to mount the cleat.
9. Use a 5/16" twist drill bit to drill pilot holes through the Ceiling Track at the locations you just marked.
10. Working with a helper, if necessary, hold the Ceiling Track in place and use the pilot holes in the Track to mark the drilling locations on the bottom of the cleat. Make sure the marks are centered on the width of the cleat.
11. Drill 5/32" diameter pilot holes into the cleat.
12. Attach the Track to the cleat with all four included 1/4" x 3" Lag Screws and all four Washers. Skip to **Installing Accessory Components** section (next section).

## Installing Accessory Components

### ⚠ WARNING

- > To avoid the risk of serious injury, do NOT allow children to hang from or use the Ceiling Track System.
- > Do **NOT** climb on or allow anyone to hang from the Ceiling Track System.
- > Do **NOT** overload the Ceiling Track System. The maximum weight limit is 60 lbs. per 4' section of Ceiling Track.
- > Maximum weight limit for each hook is 20 lbs.
- > Do **NOT** attempt to use any hanging accessories on the Ceiling Track without Ceiling Track Stops (58879, sold separately) secured at both ends. Without the stops, items hung from the track system could slide out of the track and fall unexpectedly, potentially causing injury.
- > Make sure hooks are fully threaded into the trolleys before hanging anything on them.
- > When using multiple sections of track in sequence and moving accessories (and the items hanging from them) from one track to another, do **NOT** allow the total weight of all items to exceed the 60 lbs. maximum weight capacity of the track. The use of Ceiling Track Stop(s) (58879, sold separately) is required in order to avoid the accidental overloading of a track.



Fig. 2

1. Assemble the Ceiling Track Stops as shown in Fig. 2.
2. Slide a Ceiling Track Stop (58879, sold separately) onto the Ceiling Track at one end so the locking nut is accessible from underneath. Use a 1/2" socket or wrench to tighten the locking nut.
3. Slide desired components – Locking Trolleys (52414, sold separately) and/or Non-Locking Trolleys (54170, sold separately) – into the Ceiling Track. Add other accessories – the Ring Hook (50644, sold separately), the 2½" J-Hook (57333, sold separately) and the 4" J-Hook (52443, sold separately) – by fully threading them into the stems of the trolleys.
4. Slide a Ceiling Track Stop onto the other end of the Ceiling Track and use a 1/2" socket or wrench to tighten the locking nut.

Check Rockler.com for updates. If you have further questions, please contact our Technical Support Department at 1-800-260-9663 or [support@rockler.com](mailto:support@rockler.com)

