The Theme Park Glossary

# **Glossary**

* **ACE** - *American Coaster Enthusiasts* - The biggest roller coaster club in the United States.
* **ECC** - *European Coaster Club* - The biggest roller coaster club in Europe.
* **ERT** - *Exclusive Ride Time* - When the park has a certain ride open for a specific group of people (usually an enthusiast group or event) outside of usual park hours. Sometimes, parks will open a ride before stated park opening time for season pass holders.
* **MCBR** - *Mid Course Brake Run* - The brakes midway through a coaster. Used to increase the number of trains a coaster can run, which improves capacity. Designed so the train can come to a full stop in case of an emergency and still make it back to the station under its own power. Different from *Trim Brakes*.
* **SBNO** - *Standing But Not Operating* - When a ride is standing but not operating for whatever reason. This could be due to neglect, abandonment, or because the park has future plans requiring extensive downtime of a ride.
  + **LIM** - *Linear Induction Motor* - A type of launch system used by some coasters.
  + **LSM** - *Linear Synchronous Motor* - A type of launch system used by some coasters.
* **POV** - *Point of View* - A video showing a first-person view of the ride.
* **GP** - *General Public* - People who are not coaster enthusiasts. Frequently used in a derogatory way by enthusiasts.
* **Stacking** - When a slow crew (or sometimes the slow *general public*) prevents a train from dispatching on time. This causes the other trains on the course to stack behind them on the brakes, which generally hurts capacity. Ideally, a train should be able to dispatch in the time it takes another train to traverse the course, but this rarely happens. Some amount of stacking is inevitable, but excessive stacking is a problem.
* **Trim Brakes/Trims** - Brakes throughout the course that scrub speed from the train. This is typically done to reduce maintenance costs or to keep G-forces at a certain level on a specific element of a coaster. Different from the *MCBR*.
* **Block** - Used to describe a section of track on the course of a roller coaster. Blocks are separated by brakes, lifts, stations, or other devices that enable a train to be stopped. Most coasters are designed to operate with only one train moving in each block at any time.
  + **Mega** - Generally a coaster over 100 feet tall.
  + **Hyper** - Generally a coaster over 200 feet tall.
  + **Giga** - Generally a coaster over 300 feet tall.
  + **Strata** - Generally a coaster over 400 feet tall.
  + **Exa** - Generally a coaster over 600 feet tall.
* **Theming** - Decorative and immersive design elements added to a ride or area of a park to create a specific atmosphere or story.
* **Rollback** - When a launched coaster fails to crest the top of its hill and rolls backward to the launch area. Often considered a rare and exciting event by enthusiasts.
  + **Rattle** - A term used to describe a rough or shaky ride experience, often caused by track wear or poor maintenance.
  + **Roughness -** An uncomfortable or shaky ride experience caused by uneven track design or aging components.
  + **Head Banging -** When riders' heads hit the restraints due to rough transitions or poorly designed elements.
* **Inversion** - Any point in a coaster’s layout where riders are turned upside down.
* **Pre-Lift/Pre-Drop** - The section of track before the lift hill or launch section. Often features minor elements to build anticipation.
* **Headchoppe**r - A design feature where an object (such as a support beam or track) appears to come very close to riders’ heads, creating a thrilling near-miss sensation.
  + **Airtime** - The sensation of weightlessness or negative G-forces experienced when riders are lifted out of their seats.
  + **Floater Airtime** - A gentle, sustained feeling of weightlessness.
  + **Ejector Airtime** - A more intense, sudden feeling of being launched out of your seat.
* **Valley** - When a coaster train fails to complete its circuit and comes to a stop in a low point of the track. Requires evacuation or mechanical assistance to remove.
  + **Drop Track -** A track section that suddenly drops vertically.
  + **Elevator Lift -** A vertical lift mechanism that raises trains straight up.
  + **Tilt Track -** A track section that tilts to reposition the train for the next segment.
  + **Switch Track -** A track that moves or rotates to allow trains to change paths.
  + **Launch Track -** A section of track that accelerates trains rapidly, replacing traditional lift hills.
  + **Turntable -** A rotating platform that changes a train’s direction or orientation.
  + **Rollback -** A controlled backward descent on a launch coaster when it fails to clear the hill.
  + **Flying Launch -** A launch system integrated with inversions or banked turns.
  + **Spiral Lift -** A spiral track used to elevate trains to the start of a ride.
* **Credit** - A term used by enthusiasts to count a ride as part of their "coaster count." A single ride on a coaster qualifies as a credit.
* **Clone** - A coaster that is a copy of another design. Often found in multiple parks around the world.
* **Wheel Seat** - A seat located directly over the wheels of a train. Typically provides a rougher ride compared to other seats.
  + **Restraint** A device that secures riders, like lap bars, over-the-shoulder restraints, or harnesses.  
     **Example:** *banshee* (kings island, usa)
  + **Lap Bar** A safety bar that secures riders across their lap, common on coasters with minimal inversions.
  + **OTSR** - *Over The Shoulder Restraints* - Restraints that come over your head to keep you secured in a coaster.

# **Manufactures**

| **Name** | **Acronyms** | **RCDB** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Arrow Dynamics | Arrow | <https://rcdb.com/6835.htm> |
| Bolliger & Mabillard | B&M | <https://rcdb.com/6831.htm> |
| Custom Coasters International | CCI | <https://rcdb.com/6868.htm> |
| Chance Rides | Chance | <https://rcdb.com/6887.htm> |
| Dinn Corporation | Dinn | <https://rcdb.com/6842.htm> |
| Great Coasters International | GCI | <https://rcdb.com/6860.htm> |
| Gerstlauer |  | <https://rcdb.com/6948.htm> |
| The Gravity Group | GG | <https://rcdb.com/7345.htm> |
| Intamin |  | <https://rcdb.com/6837.htm> |
| Mack Rides GmbH & Co KG | Mack | <https://rcdb.com/6856.htm> |
| Maurer |  | <https://rcdb.com/6905.htm> |
| Morgan |  | <https://rcdb.com/6847.htm> |
| Pax |  | <https://rcdb.com/6971.htm> |
| Pinfari |  | <https://rcdb.com/6862.htm> |
| Premier Rides | Premier | <https://rcdb.com/6848.htm> |
| Philadelphia Toboggan Coasters | PTC | <https://rcdb.com/6841.htm> |
| Roller Coaster Corporation of America | RCCA | <https://rcdb.com/6918.htm> |
| Rocky Mountain Construction | RMC | <https://rcdb.com/10583.htm> |
| S&S Worldwide | S&S | <https://rcdb.com/6930.htm> |
| Schwarzkopf |  | <https://rcdb.com/6844.htm> |
| Togo | Shit | <https://rcdb.com/6849.htm> |
| Vekoma |  | <https://rcdb.com/6836.htm> |
| Zamperla |  | <https://rcdb.com/6892.htm> |
| Zierer |  | <https://rcdb.com/6861.htm> |

# **Types**

| **Type** | **Definition** | **RCDB Examples** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Air Launched Coaster/Compressed Air Coaster | Coasters that use compressed air to launch trains at high speed. | <https://rcdb.com/21252.htm> |
| Alpine Coasters/Mountain Coasters | Gravity-driven coasters that run down mountainsides, with rider-controlled braking. | <https://rcdb.com/19307.htm> |
| Bobsled Coaster | Coasters with trough-like tracks that let cars glide freely, mimicking bobsled motion. | <https://rcdb.com/11874.htm>  <https://rcdb.com/12300.htm> |
| Boomerang Coasters | Shuttle coasters that travel forward and backward through the same elements. | <https://rcdb.com/8191.htm>  <https://rcdb.com/12836.htm>  <https://rcdb.com/8207.htm> |
| Catapult Launch Coasters | Coasters that use mechanical force to quickly launch trains to top speed. | <https://rcdb.com/12167.htm>  <https://rcdb.com/8194.htm> |
| Corkscrew/Multi-Looper Coasters | Coasters featuring multiple inversions. | <https://rcdb.com/8301.htm>  <https://rcdb.com/8115.htm> |
| Dive Coasters | Coasters with vertical drops, often with a pause before plunging. | <https://rcdb.com/6803.htm> |
| Floorless Coasters | Coasters with no floors on the trains, leaving riders' legs dangling. | <https://rcdb.com/6713.htm> |
| Flying Coasters | Coasters that position riders face-down, simulating a flying experience. | <https://rcdb.com/6805.htm>  <https://rcdb.com/8108.htm>  <https://rcdb.com/18167.htm> |
| 4th Dimension Coasters/4D Coasters | Coasters with seats that rotate independently of the train’s motion. | <https://rcdb.com/8302.htm>  <https://rcdb.com/16870.htm> |
| Half Pipe Coasters | U-shaped coasters where spinning cars shuttle back and forth. | <https://rcdb.com/8114.htm> |
| Hydraulic Launch Coasters/Accelerator Coaster | Coasters that use hydraulics to rapidly accelerate trains. | <https://rcdb.com/8377.htm> |
| Inverted Coasters | Coasters with trains suspended below the track, leaving riders' feet dangling. | <https://rcdb.com/6717.htm>  <https://rcdb.com/8106.htm>  <https://rcdb.com/8393.htm>  https://rcdb.com/12370.htm |
| LIM | Coasters that use Linear Induction Motors for electromagnetic launches. | https://rcdb.com/8384.htm |
| LSM | Coasters powered by Linear Synchronous Motors for smooth launches. | <https://rcdb.com/12753.htm>  <https://rcdb.com/17221.htm>  <https://rcdb.com/12375.htm> |
| Mine Train Coasters | Coasters themed like old mining trains, often with multiple lift hills. | <https://rcdb.com/8129.htm> |
| Möbius Loop Coasters | A single continuous track operating as two mirrored sides for racing. |  |
| Multi-Looping Coasters | Coasters with several inversions, like loops and corkscrews. |  |
| Out and Back Coasters | Coasters with a straight path out and a parallel return, emphasizing airtime. |  |
| Pre-Fab Coaster | Coasters with factory-built track sections for smoother rides. | <https://rcdb.com/8381.htm> |
| Racing/Dueling Coasters | Coasters with two trains that race or interact along separate tracks. |  |
| Side Friction Coasters | Early coasters without upstop wheels, relying on friction to stay on track. | <https://rcdb.com/g.htm?id=106> |
| Sitdown Coasters | Traditional coasters where riders sit upright in trains. | <https://rcdb.com/8315.htm> |
| Spinning Coasters | Coasters with freely spinning cars, adding unpredictability to the ride. | <https://rcdb.com/15431.htm>  <https://rcdb.com/10818.htm>  <https://rcdb.com/14546.htm>  <https://rcdb.com/20001.htm> |
| Standup Coasters | Coasters where riders stand upright, secured by specialized restraints. | <https://rcdb.com/8309.htm>  <https://rcdb.com/21205.htm> |
| Suspended Coasters | Coasters with swinging cars suspended below the track. | https://rcdb.com/8300.htm |
| Terrain Coasters | Coasters that use the natural landscape as part of their layout. |  |
| Twister Coasters | Coasters with compact, twisted layouts focused on sharp transitions. |  |
| Water Coasters | Coasters that combine roller coaster elements with water ride features. | <https://rcdb.com/11871.htm>  <https://rcdb.com/13567.htm>  https://rcdb.com/11943.htm |
| Wild Mouse | Coasters with sharp, unbanked turns and small drops in a compact layout. | <https://rcdb.com/8138.htm>  <https://rcdb.com/15061.htm>  <https://rcdb.com/8239.htm> |
| Wing Coasters | Coasters with seats extending outward from either side of the track, leaving nothing above or below riders. | <https://rcdb.com/9896.htm> |

# **Parks**

*This list does not contain every park in existence, its just features the popular ones.*

| **Name** | **Chain** | **Acronym** | **Location** | **RCDB** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| California's Great America | Six Flags | CGA | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4541.htm> |
| Canada's Wonderland | Six Flags | CW | Canada | <https://rcdb.com/4539.htm> |
| Carowinds | Six Flags | CWIN | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4542.htm> |
| Cedar Point | Six Flags | CP | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4529.htm> |
| Dorney Park | Six Flags | DP | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4588.htm> |
| Frontier City | Six Flags | FC | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4559.htm> |
| Kings Dominion | Six Flags | KD | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4544.htm> |
| Kings Island | Six Flags | KI | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4540.htm> |
| Knotts Berry Farm | Six Flags | KBF | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4546.htm> |
| Michigan's Adventure | Six Flags | MA | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4578.htm> |
| Valleyfair | Six Flags | VF | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4552.htm> |
| Worlds of Fun | Six Flags | WOF | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4533.htm> |
| Six Flags America | Six Flags | SFA | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4558.htm> |
| Six Flags Darien Lake | Six Flags | SFDL | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4581.htm> |
| Six Flags Discovery Kingdom | Six Flags | SFDK | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4711.htm> |
| Six Flags Fiesta Texas | Six Flags | SFFT | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4538.htm> |
| Six Flags Great Adventure | Six Flags | SFGAV | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4534.htm> |
| Six Flags Great America | Six Flags | SFGA | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4530.htm> |
| Six Flags Great Escape | Six Flags | SFGE | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4596.htm> |
| Six Flags Magic Mountain | Six Flags | SFMM | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4532.htm> |
| Six Flags Mexico | Six Flags | SFM | Mexico | <https://rcdb.com/4629.htm> |
| Six Flags New England | Six Flags | SFME | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4565.htm> |
| Six Flags Over Georgia | Six Flags | SFOG | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4535.htm> |
| Six Flags Over Texas | Six Flags | SFOT | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4531.htm> |
| Six Flags St. Louis | Six Flags | SFL | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4536.htm> |
| Busch Gardens Tampa Bay | United Parks | BGT | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4543.htm> |
| Busch Gardens Williamsburg | United Parks | BGW | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4548.htm> |
| SeaWorld Orlando | United Parks | SWO | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4746.htm> |
| SeaWorld San Antonio | United Parks | SWSA | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4601.htm> |
| SeaWorld San Diego | United Parks | SWSD | USA | <https://rcdb.com/5320.htm> |
| SeaWorld Yas Island, Abu Dhabi | United Parks | SWD | UAE | <https://rcdb.com/19054.htm> |
| Sesame Place | United Parks | SP | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4710.htm> |
| Sesame Place | United Parks | SP | USA | <https://rcdb.com/17798.htm> |
| Universal Studios Florida | Universal | USF | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4736.htm> |
| Universal Studios Islands of Adventure | Universal | IOA | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4734.htm> |
| Universal Studios Epic Universe | Universal | EPU | USA | <https://rcdb.com/17569.htm> |
| Universal Studios Hollywood | Universal | USH | USA | <https://rcdb.com/5265.htm> |
| Universal Studios Japan | Universal | USJ | USA | <https://rcdb.com/5492.htm> |
| Universal Studios Singapore | Universal | USS | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4859.htm> |
| Disney California Adventure Park | Disney | Disney AP | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4783.htm> |
| Disneyland | Disney | DL | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4571.htm> |
| Disneyland Paris | Disney | DL Paris | France | <https://rcdb.com/4864.htm> |
| Disneyland Paris - Studios | Disney | DLP Studios | France | <https://rcdb.com/5054.htm> |
| Hong Kong Disneyland | Disney | HK Disney | China | <https://rcdb.com/5279.htm> |
| Shanghai Disneyland | Disney |  | China | <https://rcdb.com/6556.htm> |
| Tokyo Disneyland | Disney |  | Japan | <https://rcdb.com/4959.htm> |
| Tokyo DisneySea | Disney |  | Japan | <https://rcdb.com/5073.htm> |
| Walt Disney World - Animal Kingdom | Disney | WDW AK | USA | <https://rcdb.com/5109.htm> |
| Walt Disney World - Hollywood Studios | Disney | WDW HS | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4735.htm> |
| Walt Disney World - Epcot | Disney | WDW Epcot | USA | <https://rcdb.com/15503.htm> |
| Walt Disney World - Magic Kingdom | Disney | WDW MK | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4597.htm> |
| Alton Towers | Merlin | AT | UK | <https://rcdb.com/4796.htm> |
| Chessington World of Adventures | Merlin | CWOA | UK | <https://rcdb.com/4798.htm> |
| Gardaland | Merlin | GL | Italy | <https://rcdb.com/4866.htm> |
| Heide Park Resort | Merlin |  | Germany | <https://rcdb.com/4874.htm> |
| Thorpe Park | Merlin | TP | UK | <https://rcdb.com/4814.htm> |
| Peppa Pig Park | Merlin | PP Park | Germany | <https://rcdb.com/21039.htm> |
| Peppa Pig Theme Park | Merlin | PP Park | USA | <https://rcdb.com/14026.htm> |
| Peppa Pig Theme Park | Merlin | PP Park | USA | <https://rcdb.com/19144.htm> |
| Legoland Billund | Merlin | LGB Billund | Denmark | <https://rcdb.com/4903.htm> |
| Legoland California | Merlin | LG California | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4733.htm> |
| Legoland Deutschland | Merlin | LG Germany | Germany | <https://rcdb.com/5059.htm> |
| Legoland Dubai | Merlin | LG Dubai | UAE | <https://rcdb.com/13462.htm> |
| Legoland Florida | Merlin | LG Florida | USA | <https://rcdb.com/5589.htm> |
| Legoland Japan | Merlin | LG Japan | Japan | <https://rcdb.com/13644.htm> |
| Legoland Korea | Merlin | LG Korea | South Korea | <https://rcdb.com/12557.htm> |
| Legoland Malaysia | Merlin | LG Malaysia | Malaysia | <https://rcdb.com/9575.htm> |
| Legoland New York | Merlin | LG New York | USA | <https://rcdb.com/14429.htm> |
| Legoland Shanghai | Merlin | LG Shanghai | China | <https://rcdb.com/19273.htm> |
| Legoland Sichuan | Merlin | LG Sichuan | China | <https://rcdb.com/17817.htm> |
| Legoland Windsor | Merlin | LG UK | UK | <https://rcdb.com/4813.htm> |
| Blackpool Pleasure Beach |  | BPB | UK | <https://rcdb.com/4795.htm> |
| Europa Park |  | EP | Germany | <https://rcdb.com/4870.htm> |
| Six Flags New Orleans | Six Flags | SFNO | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4747.htm> |
| Six Flags AstroWorld | Six Flags | SFAW | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4537.htm> |
| Warner Bros. Movie World |  | WBMW Australia | Australia | https://rcdb.com/4934.htm |
| Dreamworld |  | DW Australia | Australia | https://rcdb.com/4938.htm |
| Sea World |  | SW Australia | Australia | https://rcdb.com/4942.htm |
| Hersheypark |  | Hershey | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4545.htm> |
| Dollywood | Herschend | DW | USA | https://rcdb.com/4593.htm |
| Kentucky Kingdom | Herschend | KK | USA | <https://rcdb.com/4563.htm> |
| Silver Dollar City | Herschend | SDC | USA | https://rcdb.com/4579.htm |

**Park Chains:**

* **Six Flags** - SF - <https://rcdb.com/12488.htm>
* **United Parks** - UP - <https://rcdb.com/12499.htm>
* **Universal** - <https://rcdb.com/12511.htm>
* **Disney** - <https://rcdb.com/12510.htm>
* **Merlin** - <https://rcdb.com/12491.htm>
* **Herschend Family Entertainment** - <https://rcdb.com/12524.htm>

# **Links**

* **RCDB** - <https://rcdb.com/>
* **Captain Coaster** - <https://captaincoaster.com/>
* **r/CoasterCoolStuff** - <https://reddit.com/r/CoasterCoolStuff/>
* **Coasterpedia** - <https://coasterpedia.net/>

# **Info**

* **Last Updated:** *Sat 25 Jan 2025, 21:19*
* **Created by:** [Coaster Cool Stuff](https://www.youtube.com/@I_am_Addicted_2_RollerCoasters)