The Future of the Bowtie Connector

Posted by jackattack - 2006/08/09 16:12

The original Fantasy MasterMaze line introduced us to the innovation of the bowtie connector. The Cavern sets use bowties as well.

But Den of Evil, Cavernous Rivers, Cavernous Lakes, and the new Medieval Building Set do NOT use bowtie connectors. (After all, each of those sets has such a distinctive floor pattern (or material) that bowties would stand out glaringly, and ruin the look of each set.) Although DoE and MBS are the same size as Fantasy pieces, they don't get connectors.

So what do people think about bowties? How badly are they needed to keep Fantasy and Cavern pieces in place/alignment? Do we want to keep them, or would we like to see them phased out? Would eliminating them require major redesigns (new sculpts, masters, and molds) that make changing bowtie lines too expensive to consider?

I'm not lobbying either way, I'm just curious.

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The Future of the Bowtie Connector

Posted by jkratzer - 2006/08/09 17:50

IF your setup is done on fabric (tablecloth, carpet, felted gaming drape, etc.) then as long as the felt on the bottom of the pieces is intact, the bowties are superfluous. If you game on a slick surface of any kind, or if your felt has gone the way of the dodo, then the bowties are important - but NOT critical.

I say, Pitch 'em.

See ya!

Jim

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The Future of the Bowtie Connector

Posted by zoroaster100 - 2006/08/09 19:19

I'd definitely like to see them disappear from future sets.

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The Future of the Bowtie Connector

Posted by Wereweasel - 2006/08/09 19:46

Same here.

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The Future of the Bowtie Connector
Posted by Dante - 2006/08/09 22:13

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I used them twice when I first got my first Room and Passages set years ago. The first time they didn't really help much since I already had the pieces laid out on an old army blanket (which gave quite good traction to the pieces). The second time was when I setup a layout on a card table at a con. They worked o.k. to hold pieces together but things still slid around because of the players bumping the table and being careless.

Now I use my old army blanket eveyrtime I setup a layout. Never had a problem since. I'd vote for getting rid of the pieces.

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The Future of the Bowtie Connector
Posted by THOTH - 2006/08/10 20:40

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Sometimes I use bowtie connectors for pieces that are at the edge of the table Less chance of getting knocked off etc)...otherwise I pretty much do not use them...they are a great concept...but difficult to deal with in large setups.

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The Future of the Bowtie Connector
Posted by WillOH - 2006/08/11 05:14

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Alright Jim, time for you to make a "bow tie" golem... Waste not :)

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The Future of the Bowtie Connector
Posted by jkratzer - 2006/08/11 05:45

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Hey Will -

Should he be in a Tux, or just coat and tie?
SMIRK!!!

See ya!

Jim

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The Future of the Bowtie Connector

Posted by maulhelm - 2006/08/11 11:07

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Hello there all,

I'm new to this whole on-line MSG board thing so I hope I'm doing this right ...

Now about the bow tie connecters.

I say get rid of them! I have never used them and I have never had any probems with myset ups moving around. I usally put down a 4'X6' piece of felt and this keeps everything in place nicely. Even without the felt the DF peices stay put pretty well. I ended up with so many little bags of bow ties that I started to throw them away!

Anyway thats my thought for what its worth.

Nice job on the new sets by the way. I have the CR&W was going to get the lake set but then I saw the MBS ... Looks like I'll be doing some MORE overtime. You guys are killing me.

Keep up the good work.

Maulhelm

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The Future of the Bowtie Connector

Posted by RabidFox* - 2006/08/11 12:08

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I have always used the bowties whether or not I had my felt mat down or not.
They simply finish the visual image.

Now, will they continue in any of the new sets?
I do not think so; too many people seem to find no use for them.
So if y'all want to get rid of yours, just send them my way.
I use them!

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The Future of the Bowtie Connector

Posted by jkratzer - 2006/08/11 21:51

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RF*;

I'll be using mine until I get the slots filled and painted over. THEN you can come pick up the leftovers.

One way, or another, I WILL get your tired dogs traipsing back to Baltimore!

See ya!

Jim

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The Future of the Bowtie Connector
Posted by RabidFox* - 2006/08/11 23:58

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RF*;

I'll be using mine until I get the slots filled and painted over. THEN you can come pick up the leftovers.

One way, or another, I WILL get your tired dogs traipsing back to Baltimore!

See ya!

Jim
"Tired dogs" is right tonight!
I used a sat connection about ten hours ago to tie in to my Net access to read and post earlier today and boy, am I glad I did not leave all of the forum posts to just tonight.
I just got back in earlier this evening from some field exercises and I am really feeling the realization that I am not as young as I once was and as the young bucks I was dealing with are.
I can still keep up with them, but it requires a great deal more effort on my part than they are putting out.
It is still funny when they realize I can still keep up and drub on them at the same time.

As to getting back to Baltimore, I would not mind the return transfer.
My time back there in the mid-to-late '90s was pleasant and fruitful.
Plus, my wife's best friend lives in Arbutus so she would not mind being back; at least she would not after the year it takes her to acclimate to the humidity had passed.
I just do not see my return to Meade, Belvior or any other area post anytime soon.
Sorry.

I will take you up on you bow-ties; never can have enough.
We will have to see how the transfer will be made.
In person would be great; I will have to see if there is any business that can get me back there later this year or early next.

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The Future of the Bowtie Connector
Posted by FritsK - 2007/08/11 04:45

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Just to chime in: let them go the way of the dodo. We use a cloth covered table anyway.

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The Future of the Bowtie Connector
Posted by TheDungeonDelver - 2007/08/12 09:10

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Just to chime in: let them go the way of the dodo. We use a cloth covered table anyway.

I like them; they make moving sets on a smooth tabletop easier, so there.

(Man this thread scared me; I didn't look at the date and when I saw that post from...a certain sombody...I got worried...!)

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The Future of the Bowtie Connector
Posted by Myrthe - 2007/08/12 13:28

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(Man this thread scared me; I didn't look at the date and when I saw that post from...a certain sombody...I got worried...!)
I did the same thing !!! And the little girl voice in my adult male head was saying "Heee's Baaa-aaaackkkkk !!!!!" ;)

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The Future of the Bowtie Connector
Posted by FritsK - 2007/08/12 14:37

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Sorry about that. I just though I'd add my opinion to the appropriate thread.

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The Future of the Bowtie Connector
Posted by jackattack - 2007/08/12 19:40

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NP either way, FritsK.

If a subject hasn't been touched on for a long time, there is no reason not to revive it in a new thread. Not only is it possible that people who joined the forum after the last post might not have had a chance to chime in, it is also possible that those who did weigh in might have new thoughts on the matter.

tDD makes a good point about it being easier to move a set-up with bow-ties in place, but you can get the same ease of movement by setting up on a piece of fabric or a large sheet of paper or cardboard.

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The Future of the Bowtie Connector
Posted by jkratzer - 2007/08/13 06:36

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(Man this thread scared me; I didn't look at the date and when I saw that post from...a certain sombody...I got worried...!)
I did the same thing !!! And the little girl voice in my adult male head was saying "Heee's Baaa-aaaackkkkk !!!!!" ;)

Relax, guys;

Said individual told me by e-mail that even if he were allowed back, he wouldn't be. And, except for his preoccupation with a couple of other individuals on the forum whom he had problems with, he really wasn't that bad a guy. It's been a while since I've heard from him, but he was always okay with me - of course, I'VE been known to be somewhat . . . INFLAMMATORY . . . at times.

And I'm not worried about mentioning the person, as long as not by name, because Jeff knows that, as a former LEO, I try to be a peacekeeper.

As far as bowties are concerned, since I've started building my setups on lexan panel levels, I don't miss the bowties at all; the felted bottoms pretty much keep everything steady as long as the world doesn't tip over! We even had some serious 'table-quakes' at Shore Leave and didn't lose anything - not even any slippages (which surprised the heck outta ME!).

See ya!

Jim

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The Future of the Bowtie Connector
Posted by Myrthe - 2007/08/13 09:35

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Oh, I am relaxed ... and just making a joke.

But I will say that these boards have been a much more pleasant place to visit without all the soapbox pontificating and baiting.

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The Future of the Bowtie Connector
Posted by Ghenghis Ska - 2007/08/13 10:05

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Now now, lets keep comments about *Encephalitic Lyssavirus afflicted Vulpes* to a minimum please.

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The Future of the Bowtie Connector
Posted by Myrthe - 2007/08/13 13:38

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Great moniker, GS !!

And I agree ... let "slumbering Vulpes" lie ;)

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