

## 10 QUESTIONS TO ASK

# 10 QUESTIONS TO ASK BEFORE YOU BUY TRAINING TABLES

Training rooms, conference rooms, and multipurpose spaces demand furniture that can be rearranged quickly, stored compactly, and reset between sessions without damaging either the tables or the staff doing the resetting. Training tables look simple — they're not. These 10 questions cover the specs that separate functional, durable training furniture from the kind that creates daily frustration.

### 1. Flip-top or fixed — which is right for my space?

Flip-top training tables have a surface that folds vertically against the base, allowing the table to be rolled on its casters and stored in a significantly smaller footprint. Fixed training tables have non-folding surfaces and are moved as full units. If your training room is also used for other functions (town halls, testing, social events), flip-top is almost always the right choice — a room full of flip-top tables can be cleared in under 10 minutes. If the room is dedicated to training-only use, fixed tables are more stable and typically less expensive.

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### 2. What is the folded storage depth of a flip-top table?

A flip-top training table in folded position typically occupies 6"–8" of depth depending on caster diameter and base width. Twenty tables nested together require approximately 5–6 feet of depth and 8–10 feet of width for storage. Confirm the folded depth before purchasing and measure your storage space — table storage is frequently unaccounted for in initial room planning.

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### 3. Does the table have ganging hardware, and how many points does it use?

Ganging hardware connects adjacent tables to prevent drift during use — without it, classroom-layout tables shift apart as participants move. Commercial training tables use clip- or hook-type ganging with typically 2 connection points per side. Confirm the hardware is included (not a paid add-on), that it connects and disconnects without tools, and that it leaves no visible edge damage when removed.

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### 4. What caster size and type does the table use?

Caster diameter directly affects how easily a loaded table moves over carpet. A 2" caster will bind or require significant force on medium-pile carpet; a 3" caster moves far more freely. Commercial training tables should use 3" twin-wheel casters (two wheels per caster assembly) for smooth mobility. Confirm whether casters are lockable — at least two locking casters per table are required to prevent movement during use. Soft-rubber or polyurethane casters are preferred over hard plastic to plan for floor finish damage.

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### 5. What is the weight capacity of the table surface?

A minimum surface load rating of 200 lbs. uniformly distributed is the commercial standard. Lower-rated tables (under 150 lbs.) will deflect visibly under a typical laptop-plus-accessories load and risk damaging the flip mechanism if the lock engages while the table is overloaded.

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## 6. What is the surface material, and is it laminate grade appropriate for training use?

Training room surfaces endure direct writing, equipment dragging, and repeated chemical cleaning. HPL rated for commercial use is the correct surface — look for a minimum 0.028"–0.039" wear layer bonded to a 5/8"+ particleboard substrate. Thinner TFL surfaces will show writing indentation, edge wear, and chemical damage within the first year of active training room use.

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## 7. Can these tables nest or stack with each other, and what is the nesting ratio?

Nesting (rolling folded tables front-to-back for storage) is distinct from ganging (connecting tables during use). Most commercial flip-top tables nest at 15–25 tables per 24" of floor depth — meaning a 24"-deep storage alcove holds 15–25 tables. Confirm the nesting ratio for your specific model; it varies significantly between manufacturers and directly determines how much storage space you need.

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## 8. What are the overall dimensions of the table surface?

Training tables are sold in standard widths of 18", 24", and 30" and lengths of 48", 60", and 72". The most common commercial training table is 24" x 60" — providing adequate surface per participant without occupying excessive room depth. A 24"-deep table allows a laptop, notepad, and drink without crowding; 18" is cramped for anything beyond pencil-and-paper instruction. Confirm the surface dimensions align with your planned seating density — allow a minimum of 24" of table width per participant in any layout.

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## 9. What is the frame construction, and how does it affect long-term durability?

Training table frames should use steel tubing with a minimum 1.5"–2" diameter for primary leg members. The flip mechanism should be rated to at least 20,000 open/close cycles — roughly 100 flips per week for four years, a realistic training room usage volume. Ask for the cycle rating specifically; the flip mechanism is the most stress-prone component in the table's lifecycle.

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## 10. Are glides available as an alternative to casters, and when should I choose them?

Glides are static floor pads that replace casters for tables staying in one position. If your training room uses a fixed layout and tables move only quarterly, glides eliminate daily roll risk and provide marginally better stability than casters under load. Confirm a glide base option is available for the model you're considering — not all training table lines offer both base types.

For our full Training Table Buyer's Guide, including room layout templates and ganging configuration diagrams, visit [FindOfficeFurniture.com](https://FindOfficeFurniture.com) or call 888-719-4960 to speak with a specialist.

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