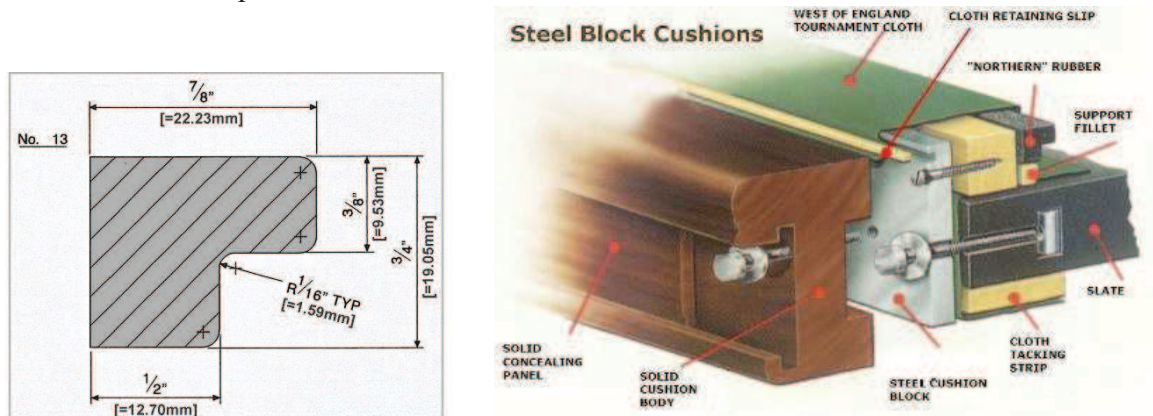


## Eight Ball Table ‘Construction’

Before you buy your pool table, you have to know exactly what it is that you are buying. Here are the parts of a eight ball table that every pool table shopper has to familiarise themselves with before they buy.

**Cloth** - This part is sometimes erroneously called a "billiard felt," even though technically speaking it isn't felted at all. This is the cloth that the ball actually rolls across. In order to get the best performance from this material it has to be smooth and consistent. While the most popular colour for this cloth is classic green, it can come in just about any colour you can imagine in order to match the decor of your game room.

**Rails** – Cushion Rails are the rubber rails that run all along inside the billiard table that allow you to do bank shots. These always have billiard cloth installed over them. Eight Ball Cushion Rubber has "profiles" known as: L77.



**Slate** - Most eight ball tables are slated. That is, they have a layer of slate that has been sanded smooth right underneath the billiard cloth. The reason slate is chosen is because of how perfectly even you can make it. This allows for a nice even roll all over the table. Slate come in either three pieces, which have to be put together when you get the table, or one solid piece on a 7 x 3.6 table.

**Legs** - Your eight ball table is going to have to stand on something, and that's where the legs come in. Legs on eight ball tables can be divided into two main categories: antique and modern. Antique legs are simple in design and often made of hard wood. Modern legs are made of carved wood and are designed to look more classic. The style of these legs can range from square, round to tapered and beyond.

**Pockets** - This is where the balls drop into. In most tables, these are just leather mesh bags, but on kiddie tables they can be made of plastic. Some eight ball tables have these parts covered by a strip of leather, but other times they are just left exposed.

**Ball Return** - Other pool tables don't actually have pockets that drop into leather bags, but rather they are all collected into compartment on one side of the pool table. This is what you see on all bar or pay tables. However, there is a nice selection of this style of pool tables that you can get for the home that have this bar style feature.