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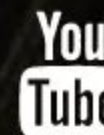
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JANUARY 2025





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Welcome to the first issue of RC Car Action for 2025! We're kicking off the new year at full throttle with a high-speed off-road theme that celebrates the thrill of go-fast RC machines. Whether you're tearing up the track, conquering dirt trails, or just unleashing raw speed in your backyard, this issue is packed with everything you need to fuel your need for speed.

This month we take a deep dive into the latest off-road innovations, starting with the new Traxxas Jato 4X4 line of buggies. The ultra-powerful Jato 4X4 VXL is built to dominate the track, while its BL-2s sibling offers affordability without sacrificing fun. If you're looking for a buggy that can handle it all, these are must-haves for 2025.

We're also hands-on with Tamiya's all-new Hornet Evo, a modern evolution of the classic Hornet that's been on wishlists for years. With front dampers finally in the mix and a host of other upgrades, this buggy is ready to turn heads and tackle terrain with confidence. For die-hard RC racers, we explore the Tekno EB48 2.2 buggy and learn why it's a standout performer straight out of the box.

If large-scale monster trucks are your thing, you'll enjoy reading about JConcepts' modified Arrma 1/8-scale Kraton 4X4 8S BLX EXB Brushless Monster Truck. See how we found out first-hand that it's as big in personality as it is in performance.

And moving beyond vehicles, we've got tips for track-day carry setups to streamline your day out with your RCs, as well as a spotlight on the Hidden Pioneers program, which is inspiring the next generation of engineers through RC innovation. Here's to a year filled with RC excitement. Let's make 2025 unforgettable—one high-speed adventure at a time!

Remember, we love seeing what you're up to with your RC vehicles. If you've got a build you're proud of, don't hesitate to submit it to our Readers Rides section—it's easier than ever with our online form at [RCCarAction.com](http://RCCarAction.com).

Until next time,  
Jerry Tsai  
Editorial Director

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# GEARBOX

*New and noteworthy items*



## 1. Reefs RC - 1.9 "BLADE" Aluminum Beadlock Wheels

Reefs RC introduces the 1.9 "BLADE" machined aluminum beadlock wheels. Featuring adjustable offset, portal-friendly design, narrow width for better performance, and quick tire changes with only six screws, these wheels are engineered to deliver precision and style. Sold in pairs with machined hubs, anodized rings, and stainless hardware, they let you fine-tune your truck's look and width effortlessly. Includes hubs.

*P/N: # REEFS205*

*MSRP: \$69.99 / pair*

*URL: reefsrc.com*

## 2. Reefs RC- Crux Crawler Tires

Introducing Reefs RC high-performance 1/10-scale rock crawling tires. Whether you are out for a comp or running on a scale trail, you'll have a tire that works hard and looks good doing it. These Crux tires are come in 4.75x1.75 R1.9 sizing.

*URL: reefsrc.com*



## 3. MIP - CVD Kit for Associated RC10T

The Associated RC10T has returned, reigniting enthusiasm for this iconic platform. MIP introduces the CVD Kit, replacing traditional driveshafts with precision-engineered Constant Velocity Drive joints for superior power transfer, traction, and durability. Elevate your RC10T's performance with this modern upgrade, blending classic racing with cutting-edge technology for seasoned pros and new racers alike.

*P/N: 24120*

*MSRP: \$40*

*URL: miponline.com*



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# READERS RIDES

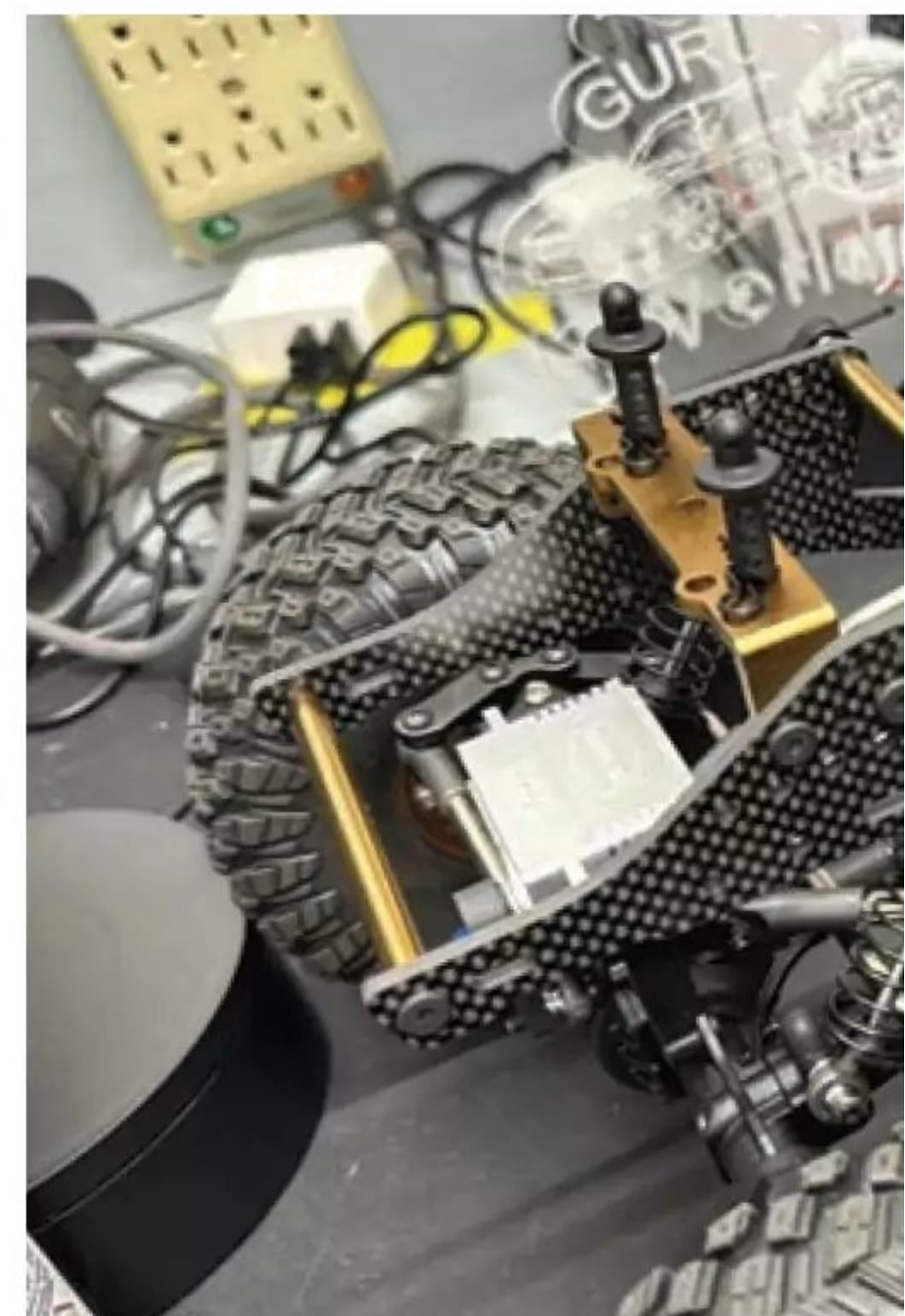
## A NEW WAY TO SUBMIT YOUR RIDE!

We now have an easy new way to submit your Readers Rides to RC Car Action online. Just go to [Rccaraction.com/readers-ride-entry-form/](http://Rccaraction.com/readers-ride-entry-form/) to fill in your vehicle's info and upload your pix directly to us! As a bonus, it will generate a shareable link that you can send to your friends or share on social media to show off your ride to everyone!

## RICHARD SAXTON TRIBUTE

ERIC LAWSON « MOUNT AIRY, NC

Eric Lawson of GURU's World on YouTube built this incredible Richard Saxton Tribute Element Comp Fox, honoring a legend in RC. Based on the Team Associated Element Enduro Comp Fox chassis with a ZUUL FJ45-styled truck body, the build features a Holmes Hobbies Revolver 2040kV motor paired with a Castle Creations Mamba X ESC. Powered by a Reedy WolfPack Mini 1400mAh 3S battery, it runs Vanquish KMC Impact wheels wrapped in Pro-Line Aztek Predator compound tires. Painted by Greg Cummings of GURU's World, the vibrant livery replicates Richard Saxton's 1997 RC10GT scheme. With a Reefs RAW800LP servo and Factory Team Element Comp Fox shocks, this crawler excels on any terrain. A beautiful tribute and a high-performing rig—amazing work, Eric!







#### BUILD HIGHLIGHTS

- Chassis: Team Associated Element Enduro Comp Fox
- Body: Team Associated ZUUL (FJ45 styled truck)
- Motor: Holmes Hobbies Revolver 2040kV
- Speed Control: Castle Creations Mamba X
- Battery: Reedy WolfPack Mini 1400mAh 3S
- Wheels & Tires: Vanquish KMC Impact KM445 1.9s,
- Pro-Line Aztek in Predator compound 1.9s
- Shocks: Factory Team Element Comp Fox
- Axles: Element RC
- Paint: Parma Faskolor and Createx, paint by GURU's World (Greg Cummings)
- Radio System: Spektrum DX6 Rugged with SR215 2-channel receiver
- Other Options: Reefs RAW800LP servo

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**WIN A PRO-LINE PRIZE PACK!**



The special "P-L" logo marks the Readers Ride of the Month. If you see it on your vehicle, you win a Pro-Line prize pack that includes a T-shirt, cap, and Pro-Line body.

To submit your vehicle, email your high-resolution JPEG images and a description to [readersrides@airage.com](mailto:readersrides@airage.com). Readers Rides is also on Facebook! Visit [facebook.com/rccaraction](https://www.facebook.com/rccaraction) and post your ride; we'll message you if we want to feature it here in the mag.





## ***WAY PAST MIDNIGHT PUMPKIN***

JON JAMES « UNITED KINGDOM

Jon has created an incredible custom road-biased truck—"Way Past Midnight Pumpkin"—built on a Tamiya M-06 chassis and sporting a modified Tamiya Midnight Pumpkin body.

Jon, inspired by a previous build he regretted selling, set out to create a lowrider with stance, wide wheels, and fat tires. Using Tamiya split-rim touring car wheels, he 3D-printed custom baskets to achieve the perfect offset

and track. Extensive body modifications, including widened and repositioned arches, a deleted roll bar, and seamless integration of details resulted in a sleek, clean aesthetic. Finished in Tamiya lacquer gloss black with clear red and a pearl clear coat, the paintwork offers a subtle candy effect. With custom details like a painted bed and chromed accents, this build is definitely a showstopper.

Stunning job, Jon!





#### BUILD HIGHLIGHTS

- Chassis: Tamiya M-06
- Body: Tamiya Midnight Pumpkin
- Motor: Tamiya Sport Tuned
- Speed Control: Hobbywing Quicrun 1050
- Wheels & Tires: Custom 3D-printed baskets to fit 2-piece wide Tamiya outer barrels, wide-offset rear, narrow-offset front, Tamiya 25mm wide touring car tires stretched to fit
- Shocks: Yeah Racing
- Axles: Yeah Racing
- Paint: Tamiya lacquer gloss black with clear red over and pearl clear coat
- Other Options: GPM scale motor, full Yeah Racing alloy chassis upgrade kit, Tamiya carbon damper mounts





## ***BARBIE GASSER***

SCOTT LEMPert « COMMERCE TWP, MI

Scott has transformed a Barbie Corvette into a stunning custom build aptly named Barbie Gasser. Built on a scratch-made tube frame, this 1956 Corvette drag car features a 21T Kyosho Rampage motor paired with a Kyosho ESC, all powered by a tucked 800mAh 2S Powerhobby battery. The Tropical Glitz Cosmic Gold base coat, topped with Duplicolor Metalcast Red and clear coat, gives the car its

dazzling Candy Apple Red finish. The interior has been modified to include seat belts, a 3D-printed steering wheel, air shifter, and tachometer. With 3D-printed fender well headers, a big-block Chevy engine, and a Hampton supercharger, it's as detailed as it is striking.

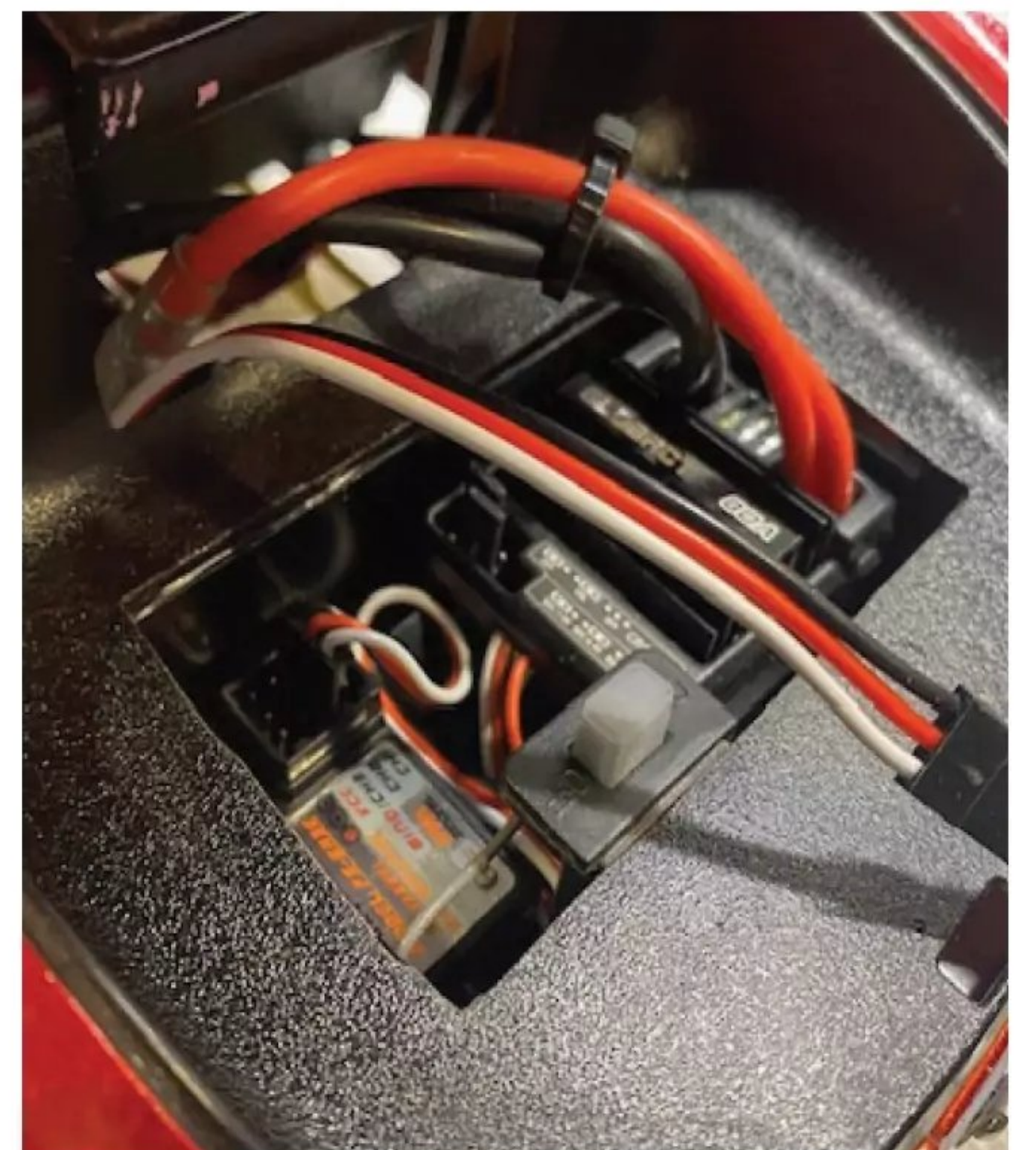
Scott even dropped the trunk bed to hide electronics and added a custom 3D-printed Christmas tree. Thanks for sharing, Scott!





### BUILD HIGHLIGHTS

- Chassis: Scratch-built tube frame
- Body: Barbie 1956 Corvette
- Motor: Kyosho Rampage 21T motor
- Speed Control: Kyosho
- Battery: Powerhobby 2S 800 mAh
- Wheels & Tires: 3D-printed fronts with cut-n-shut on road tires, narrowed to fit wheels. Rears are Traxxas street rod rears with centers painted to match fronts.
- Shocks: 1/14-scale semi shocks
- Axles: Tamiya front semi axle, Tamiya rear axle for back axle
- Paint: Tropical Glitz Cosmic Gold base coat, Duplicolor Metalcast red top coat, Duplicolor 1K clear
- Radio System: Flysky GT3 and receiver
- Other Options: Seat belts, dash updated, drilled for back mounted gauge set, 3D-printed steering wheel, air shifter, switches. Moon tank and tach, hand-made parachute and roll bar. Big-block Chevy with Hampton supercharger and Scott injector hat, fender well headers also 3D-printed. Mild body work, decals removed, front bumper removed, mounting holes filled. Trunk modified for electronics.







## LA PULGA

TREY FRENCH « SALEM, OR

Trey has built a stunning custom mini crawler named “La Pulga” that combines performance, style, and creativity. Based on a custom Mofo RC low center of gravity chassis and an Axial SCX24 Chevy C10 body, this 1/24-scale truck features a Mofo RC 4100 brushless motor paired with a Furitek Lizard Pro ESC. Injora 57×22 Rock Crawler tires mounted on aluminum beadlock wheels provide exceptional grip, while Injora 43mm Double Barrel shocks and

Meus Racing aluminum axles ensure stability. The custom Spaz Stix Candy Orange and Rootbeer paint job, accented with gold details and Axial C10 decals, channels a retro 1960s vibe. Highlights include OGRC multi-color halo headlights, custom magnetic body mounts, and a bulletproof transmission. This flashy, fast, and capable crawler is a true masterpiece—awesome build, Trey!





#### BUILD HIGHLIGHTS

- Chassis: Mofo RC LCG
- Body: Axial SCX24 Chevy C10
- Motor: Mofo RC 4100 brushless
- Speed Control: Furitek Lizard Pro
- Battery: 2S LiPo
- Wheels & Tires: Injora 57×22 Rock Crawler tires, aluminum beadlock wheels, and Crazy Crawler tire foam
- Shocks: Injora aluminum 43mm Double Barrel
- Axles: Meus Racing aluminum front and rear
- Paint: Spaz Stix Candy Orange, Candy Rootbeer, clear coat. Testors paint and a metallic gold Sharpie paint pen
- Graphics: Axial C10 decals cut out and trimmed, custom designed and painted body
- Lighting: OGRC Multi-Color Halo headlights, red LED taillights
- Radio System: 3-channel Spektrum SLT-3 with SLR3000 receiver
- Other Options: Axial C10 grille and bumpers, Injora front and rear 2/12T overdrive gears, aluminum high-clearance links, aluminum steering links, aluminum skid plate, steel driveshafts and bearing kit. Custom magnetic body mounts, custom mounts for the ESC and receiver, Mofos RC bulletproof transmission, and an EMAX servo.



# HORNET EVO

## 1/10 SCALE R/C HIGH PERFORMANCE OFF ROAD CAR

ITEM 58742 **2WD** **ASSEMBLY KIT** R/C system, battery pack and charger sold separately.



This R/C model assembly kit is an updated version of The Hornet, the original of which was first released in 1984. It largely keeps the original bathtub frame and pairs it with 4-wheel independent double wishbone suspension and oil dampers, while the sealed rear gearbox gives excellent off-road dust proofing with a built-in 3-bevel differential gear for smooth cornering. Three-piece assembly wheels are paired with front ribbed and rear high-grip spike tires, and a lightweight and durable polycarbonate body can be decorated with the included stickers, which have been freshened up on the occasion of The Hornet's 40th birthday.

### Smooth 4-Wheel Double Wishbone Suspension

Hornet EVO. uses a lightweight, superbly balanced chassis based around a slim ABS plastic bathtub with the R/C equipment atop the inline battery pack in the lower center; its 4-wheel independent double wishbone suspension uses upper I arms and lower H arms front and rear, with CVA oil dampers making for smooth motion. Turnbuckle upper arms ensure that you can adjust the camber to meet your needs. The motor is mounted in the rear along with a sealed gearbox, and dog bone design drive shafts give an extra layer of reliability, with full ball bearings ensuring efficient drive.

### Specifications

- Length: 430mm, width: 230mm, height: 135mm - Wheelbase: 251mm - Weight (not including R/C equipment and battery pack): 1,075g - Rear-wheel drive - 4-wheel double wishbone suspension with CVA oil dampers - Tire width/diameter: 21/73mm (front), 49/86mm (rear) - Type 540 motor - Gear ratio = 9.28:1 (with kit 17T pinion) - Full ball bearings - ESC included for export.





This model inherits that timeless Hornet single-seater buggy form



R/C equipment and battery pack are stowed in the sturdy bathtub frame.



The front double wishbone suspension has turnbuckle upper arms for camber adjustment, and CVA oil dampers that give a great ride.



Two types of wheel hub are in the box, letting you attach various types of Hop-Up Option wheels and tires.



Like the front suspension, the rear also employs CVA oil dampers and upper turnbuckle arms. Dog bone type drive shafts are used.



Upgraded flame logos give the Hornet a fresh twist, and the number 40 refers to the fortieth anniversary of this R/C legend. A driver figure is also included.



Front three-piece wheels are paired with ribbed tires. The rear also uses three-piece wheels, but with grippy spike tires.



The slim ABS plastic bathtub frame has the battery mounted low, and accessible from the stopper-fixed battery hatch.

## The rest of the team

### COMICAL HORNET 1/10 SCALE RADIO CONTROL CAR

ITEM 58666 L:356 mm **2WD** **ASSEMBLY KIT**  
R/C system, battery pack and charger sold separately.



### THE HORNET 1/10 SCALE R/C HIGH PERFORMANCE OFF ROAD RACER

ITEM 58336-A L:400mm **2WD** **ASSEMBLY KIT**  
R/C system, battery pack and charger sold separately.





# TWO OF





# A KIND



## AT A GLANCE



**TYPE**  
Off-Road



**DRIVETRAIN**  
4WD



**POWER**  
Electric



**BUILD**  
RTR



**PRICE**  
\$529.95 (VXL)  
\$349.95 (BL-2s)

## TRAXXAS JATO 4X4 OFFERS HIGH-SPEED OFF-ROAD BUGGY PERFORMANCE IN TWO POTENT VARIATIONS

Text by Jerry Tsai  
Images courtesy of Traxxas

Traxxas has further solidified its reputation as a leader in the RC world with the release of its Jato 4X4 lineup, featuring the Jato 4X4 VXL and Jato 4X4 BL-2s. We first laid our eyes on these two buggies at the 2024 SEMA show and were excited about them from the get-go.

These off-road buggies are designed to deliver maximum fun, exceptional performance, and the durability Traxxas is known for. Whether you're chasing track dominance or just looking for high-speed thrills, the Jato 4X4 series offers something for every driver.





The Jato 4X4 VXL's low, wide stance ensures sharp handling with ideal weight distribution. XX-long GTR shocks maximize traction, while an optional sway bar kit enhances cornering and track performance.

## *JATO 4X4 VXL*

The Jato 4X4 VXL is the crown jewel of the lineup, designed for drivers who crave speed and performance. Equipped with the Velineon brushless system, this buggy reaches staggering speeds of 60+ mph with a 4S LiPo battery.

The combination of the Velineon 540XL motor—the same motor you'll find in the Maxx—and the VXL-4s ESC delivers unparalleled torque and acceleration, making it the perfect choice for competitive track racing or wide-open off-road runs. A torque-biasing center drive is equipped to help handle all the power.

The VXL features 3" dished wheels with 4.5" S1 Response Pro tires, offering incredible traction, control, and durability with a 17mm hub design for enhanced grip and strength.





This buggy's engineering isn't just about power—it's about control. The four-wheel independent suspension with high-performance XX-long aluminum GTR shocks ensures smooth handling on uneven terrain, while the low center of gravity (LCG) chassis keeps the buggy stable even during high-speed cornering.

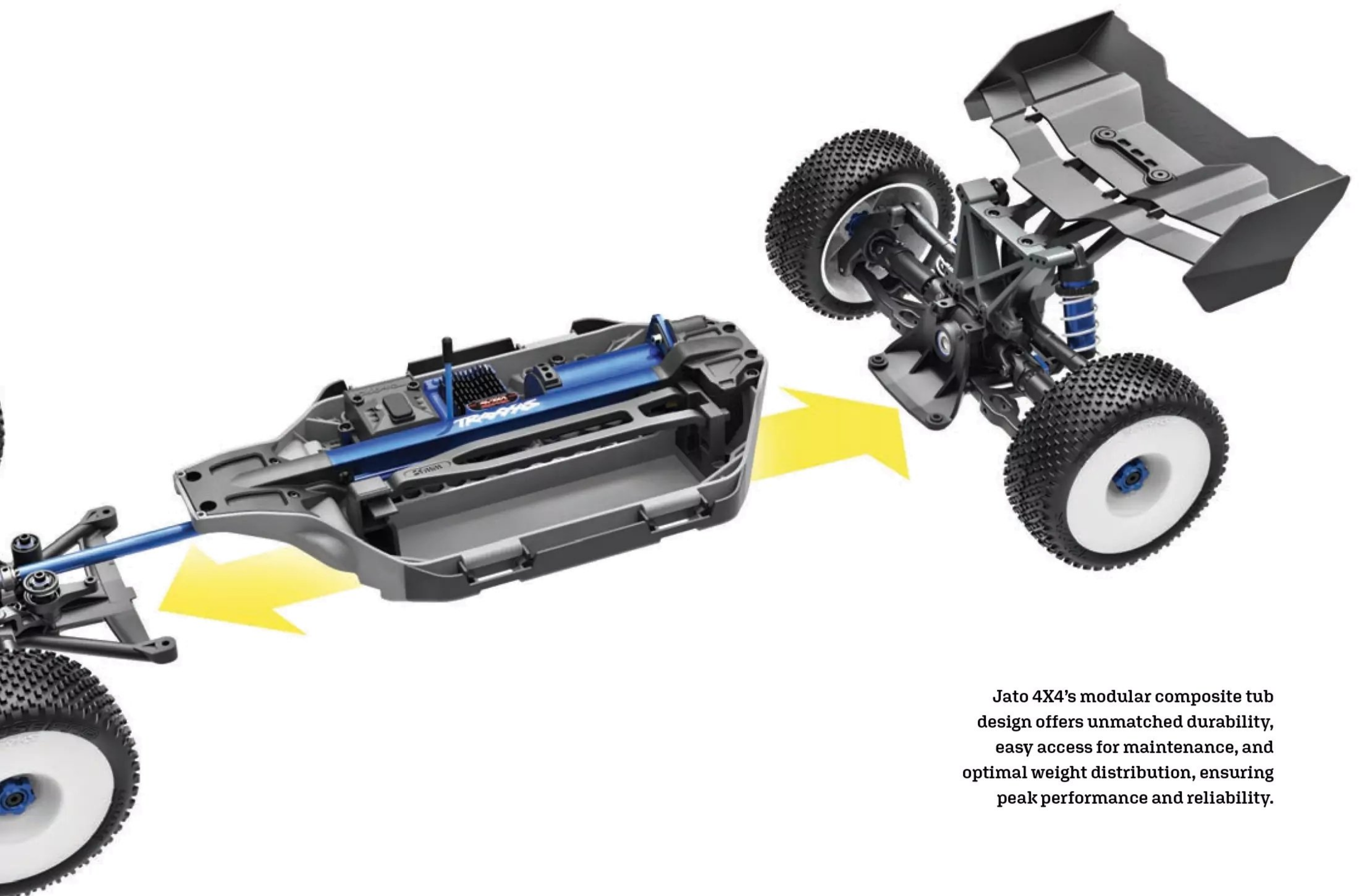
The clipless body mounting system makes maintenance a breeze, allowing you to remove the body quickly and securely for repairs or battery changes. This buggy comes equipped with Traxxas' extreme heavy-duty upgrade

kit pre-installed, which means it comes with a reinforced driveline and suspension that helps handle the massive power of the VXL system as well as high-speed impacts.

### JATO 4X4 BL-2S

The Jato 4X4 BL-2s offers the perfect balance of performance and affordability. Powered by a brushless BL-2s 3300kV motor and BL-2s ESC, this buggy delivers impressive speeds right out of the box. Although it can take a up to an 8-cell NiMH battery, feeding it with a 2S LiPo battery unleashes even more power and torque, adding to the driving excitement.

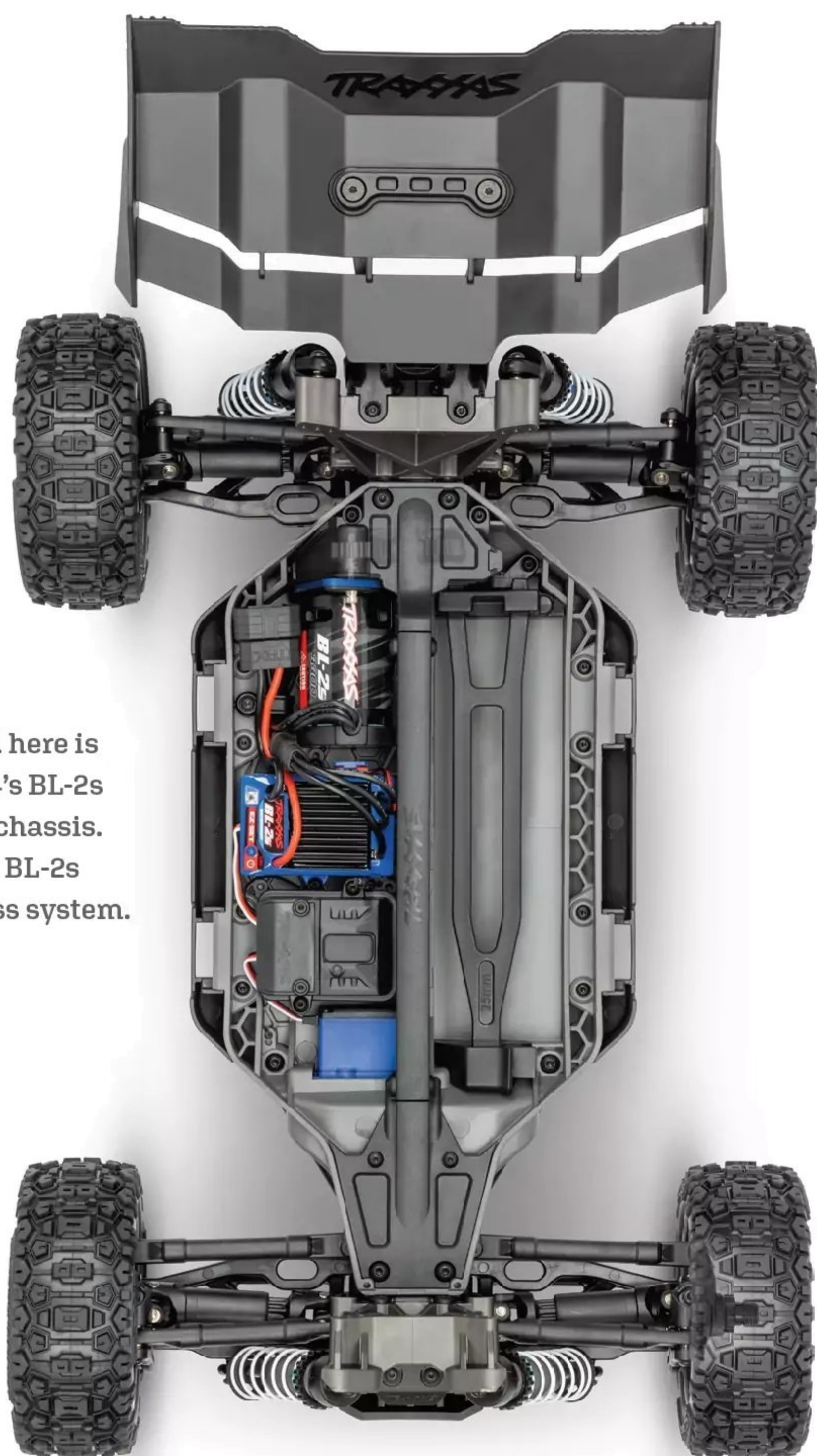
The powerful Jato 4X4 VXL features a Velineon 540XL motor, VXL-4s speed control, and 4S LiPo power, propelling it up to 60+ mph.



Jato 4X4's modular composite tub design offers unmatched durability, easy access for maintenance, and optimal weight distribution, ensuring peak performance and reliability.



Jato 4X4 VXL's clipless body and Sledge wing deliver high-speed stability, quick battery access, and rugged protection, combining aerodynamic efficiency with secure latches for ultimate performance on any terrain.



Pictured here is Jato 4X4's BL-2s version chassis. Note the BL-2s brushless system.

While the BL-2s is more budget-friendly, it doesn't skimp on quality or features. Built on the same rugged chassis as the VXL, it boasts the same independent suspension, sealed differentials, and clipless body mounting system. This means it can handle the rigors of off-road racing and bashing with ease and provides durability and versatility for drivers of all skill levels. It should be noted that the BL-2s version does come with polymer-bodied shocks as opposed to the VXL's aluminum units.

The waterproof electronics make the BL-2s as versatile as its high-powered sibling, ensuring it performs on various terrains. It's an ideal choice for newcomers to the RC

hobby or experienced drivers looking for a reliable and fun buggy without breaking the bank.

### ENGINEERED FOR MAXIMUM FUN

Both Jato 4X4 models feature modular construction, making repairs and maintenance simple. The sealed differentials ensure reliable performance and protect against debris, while the rugged drivetrain is designed to withstand the demands of high-speed off-road driving.

Traxxas has equipped the Jato 4X4 series with its new Sledgehammer buggy tires, which deliver exceptional grip on any surface. Whether you're navigating loose





dirt, gravel, or packed clay, these tires ensure the buggy stays planted, allowing you to focus on mastering the track or trail.

The pre-installed 2.4GHz TQi radio system of the VXL and TQ radio of the BL-2s provide precise control and interference-free operation. For tech-savvy drivers, the TQi system is compatible with the Traxxas Link app, enabling fine-tuning of settings such as throttle sensitivity, steering rates, and more.

### **CUSTOMIZABLE PERFORMANCE**

One of the standout features of the Jato 4X4 lineup is its potential for customization. Both models are compatible with Traxxas' extensive range of aftermarket parts, allowing you to upgrade





Factory-installed Extreme Heavy Duty components equip Jato 4X4 BL-2s with unmatched strength, including a reinforced chassis, HD shock towers, and Maxx-Duty driveshafts for ultimate durability and power transfer.

The BL-2s brushless system boosts speed by 60% with faster acceleration, improved efficiency, and cooling for all-day performance. Its durable, maintenance-free 3300kV motor ensures endless fun and reliability.



and personalize your buggy to match your driving style. Whether you want to enhance performance with new shocks or give your buggy a fresh look with a custom body, the possibilities are endless.

### CHOOSE YOUR JATO

The Jato 4X4 VXL is built for drivers who want the best of the best. Its powerful brushless motor and premium features make it a top choice for those who demand exceptional performance. Whether

you're competing on the track or pushing boundaries on the trails, the VXL delivers the power and precision needed to dominate.

For hobbyists seeking a high-quality buggy at an affordable price, the Jato 4X4 BL-2s is an excellent choice. With its dependable BL-2s motor, robust design, and upgrade potential, it offers endless fun and reliability, making it perfect for newcomers and seasoned drivers alike.





Jato 4X4 BL-2s features 3" buggy wheels and Sledgehammer tires with open-block treads, ensuring superior stability, control, and clog-free traction across any terrain for unstoppable performance.

## TRAXXAS JATO 4X4

P/N: 90386-4 (VXL) / 90154-4 (BL-2s)  
Price: \$529.95 (VXL) / \$349.95 (BL-2s)  
URL: [traxxas.com](https://traxxas.com)



## FINAL WORD

The Traxxas Jato 4X4 series is a testament to the brand's commitment to innovation, quality, and fun. Both the VXL and BL-2s models deliver exceptional off-road performance, rugged durability, and user-friendly features, making them each a standout option. Whether you're chasing lap times on the track or enjoying high-speed adventures with friends, the Jato 4X4 lineup has you covered.



# HORNET EVOLUTION



## AT A GLANCE



**TYPE**  
Off-Road



**SCALE**  
1/10



**DRIVETRAIN**  
2WD



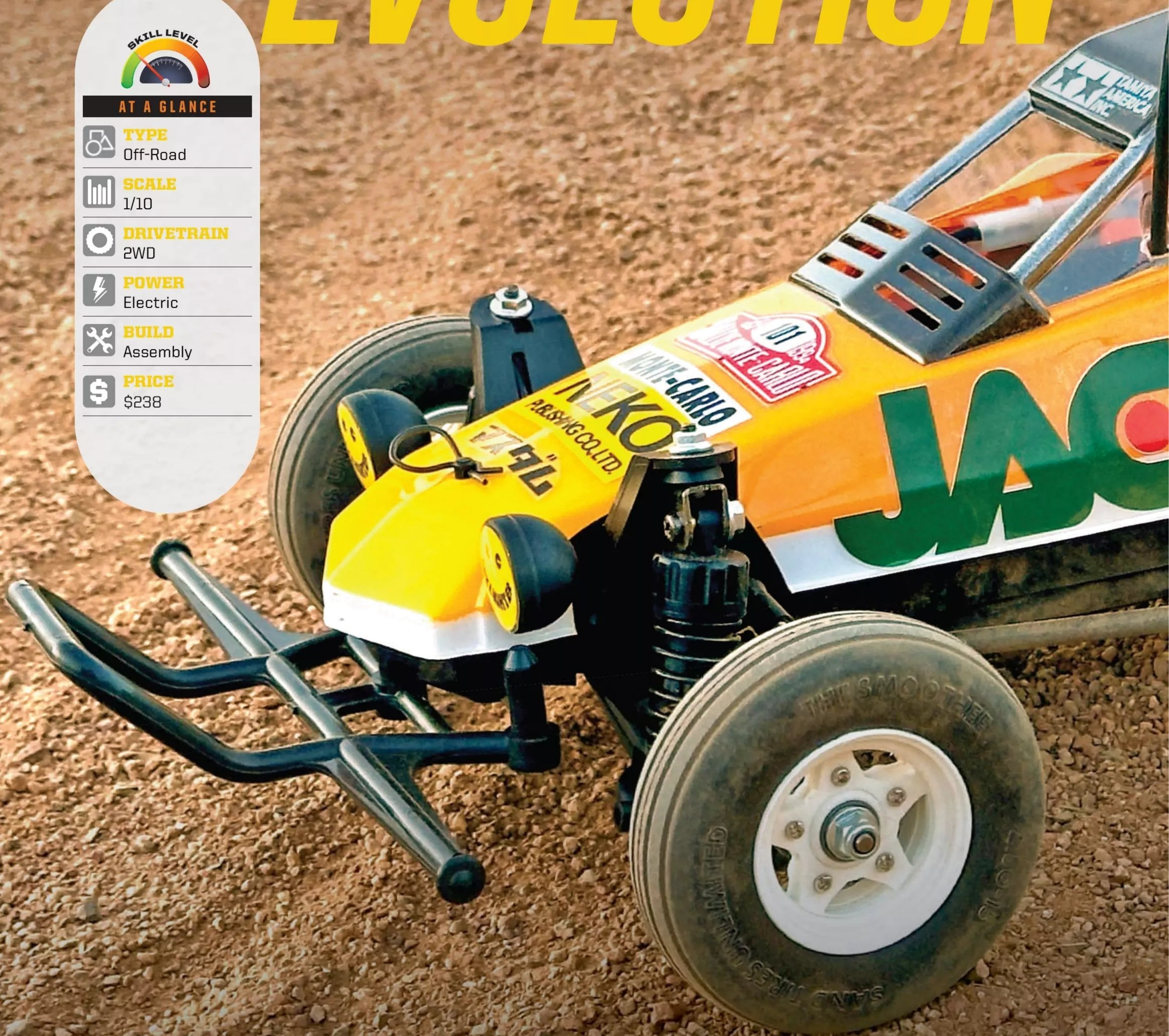
**POWER**  
Electric



**BUILD**  
Assembly



**PRICE**  
\$238







## ***TAMIYA CELEBRATES 40 YEARS BY EVOLVING AN OFF-ROAD LEGEND***

Text & Images by Jerry Tsai

The year 2024 marked a milestone for Tamiya enthusiasts: the 40th anniversary of the legendary Hornet off-road buggy. First released in 1984, the Hornet quickly became an icon in the RC world, loved for its simplicity, performance, and charm.

To commemorate this significant anniversary, Tamiya has unveiled the Hornet Evo, a modernized take on the classic kit that

promises to delight both newcomers and seasoned hobbyists alike.

This updated buggy builds on the original's foundation while introducing much-needed upgrades to bring it into the modern era of RC. For those of us at RC Car Action, the Hornet holds a special place in our hearts, and the Evo rekindles that nostalgia while enhancing the driving experience.



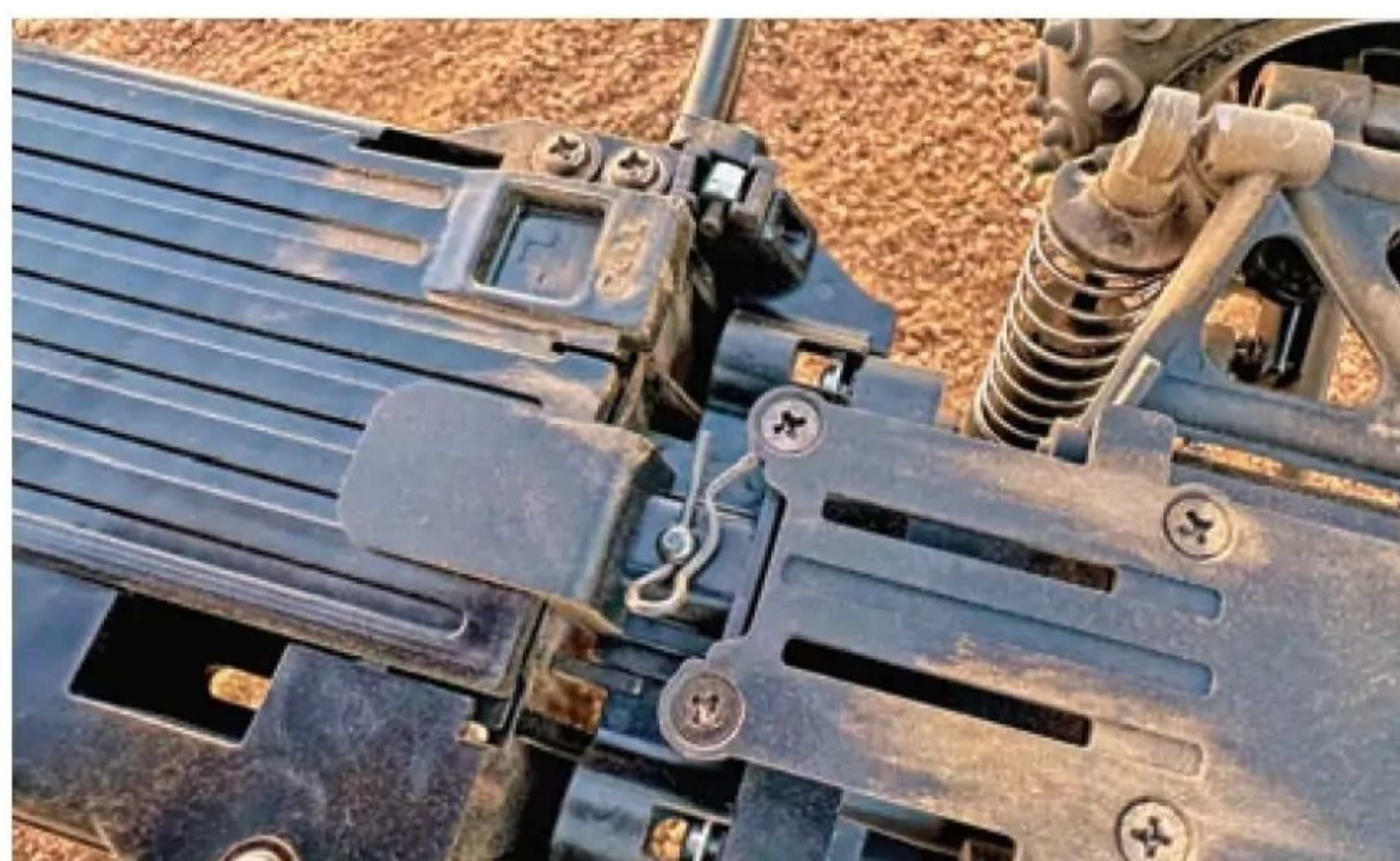


The Hornet Evo takes the thrill further with an upgraded suspension, delivering even more fun and excitement while maintaining the exhilarating drive its predecessor is loved for.

## REVITALIZED FOR THE MODERN ERA

At first glance, the Hornet Evo retains the unmistakable silhouette of its predecessor. The bathtub chassis is carried over from the original design, but Tamiya has reworked key components to improve performance and reliability.

One of the most notable upgrades is the addition of a four-wheel independent double-wishbone suspension system. Gone is the dated rear swing-axle



The Hornet Evo now features an upgraded, secure battery compartment, keeping the battery in place even after rough landings.

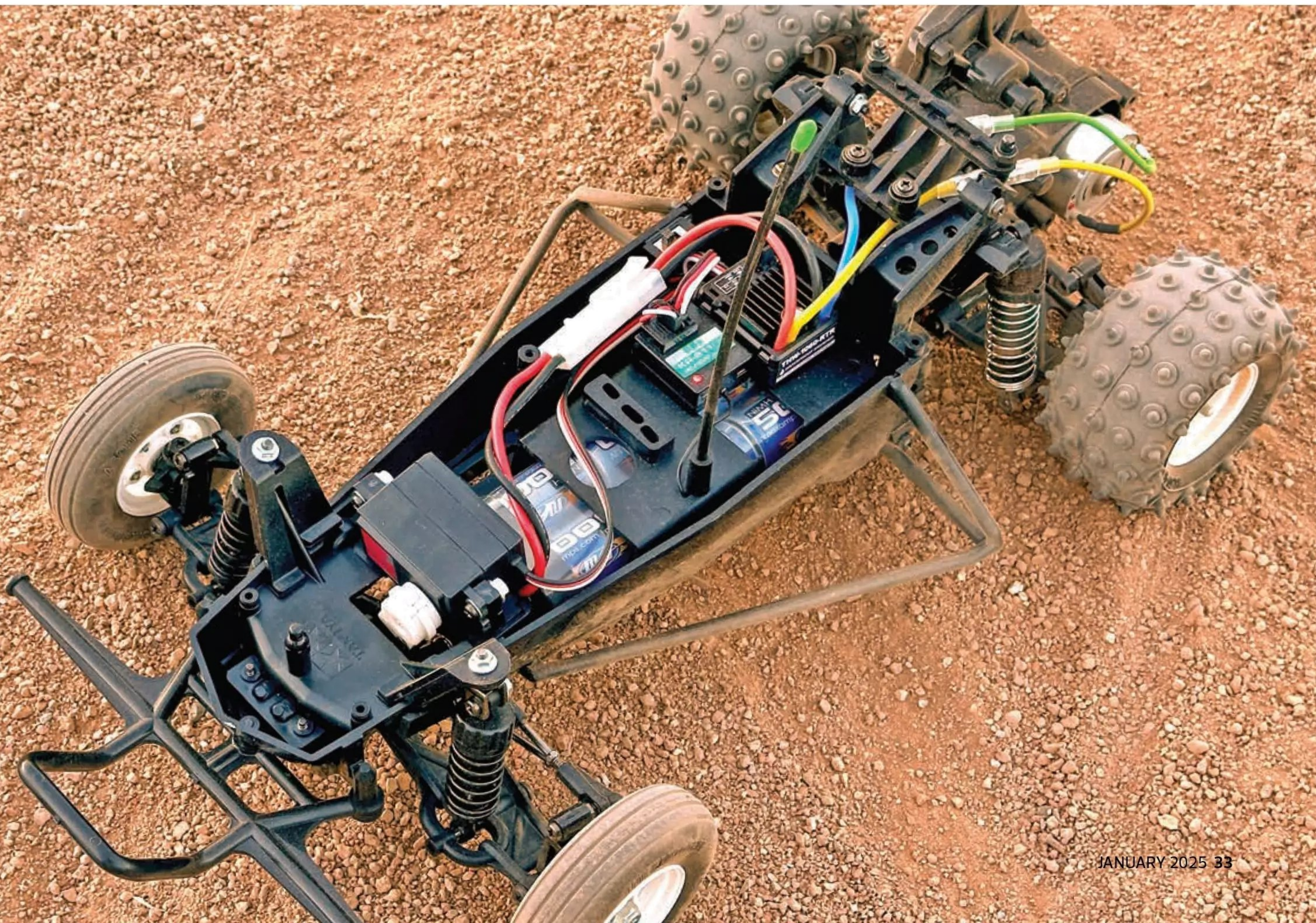
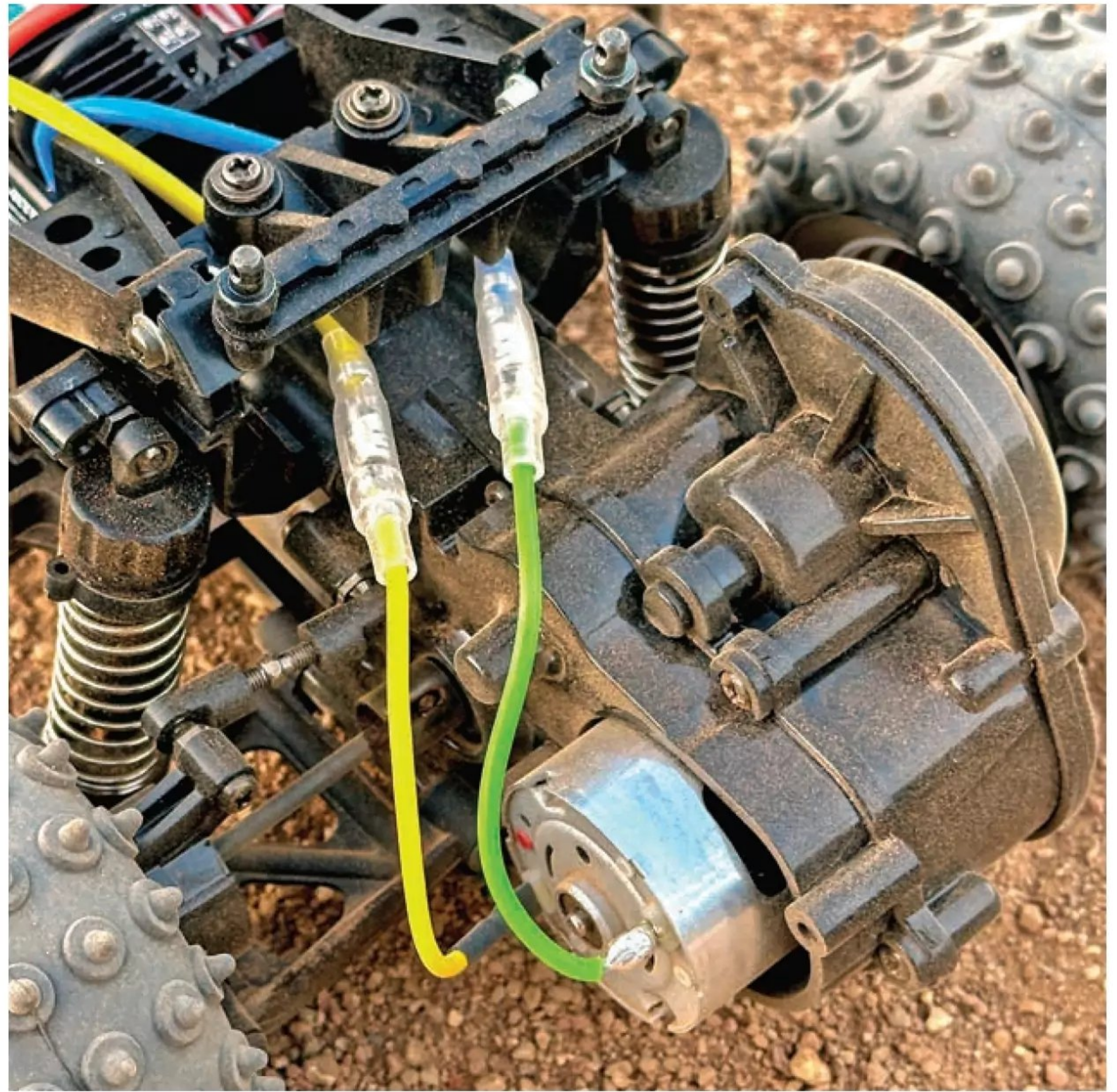
"ONE OF THE MOST NOTABLE UPGRADES IS THE ADDITION OF A FOUR-WHEEL INDEPENDENT DOUBLE-WISHBONE SUSPENSION SYSTEM."



Built for performance, the Hornet Evo boasts a fully redesigned rear end with a new gearbox, oil-filled CVA dampers, and dog bone-style axles for improved handling and durability.

setup, and it's replaced by modern oil-filled dampers for smoother handling and better off-road performance. This change significantly enhances the buggy's control and makes it far more stable on rough terrain.

Another major improvement is the sealed rear gearbox, which keeps out dirt and debris during off-road runs. Inside the gearbox, a three-bevel differential gear ensures smoother cornering, a welcome feature that modern drivers will appreciate. To reduce friction and extend the buggy's lifespan, Tamiya has also included a full set of ball bearings—a feature that was absent in the original kit.





## ATTENTION TO DETAIL

While the Hornet Evo introduces a host of upgrades, it still preserves the classic charm of the original. The three-piece assembly wheels and the front ribbed and rear high-grip spike tires remain unchanged, staying true to the Hornet's retro aesthetics.

The lightweight polycarbonate body features a bold black, orange, and yellow color scheme that is complemented by classic, yet re-imagined, Hornet graphic decals. For our build, we opted for a custom paint job using Tamiya paints and added decals from Mass/Dam and Mr. Hop-Up. The result is a modern take on a nostalgic classic, blending the old with the new in a way that's uniquely Tamiya.

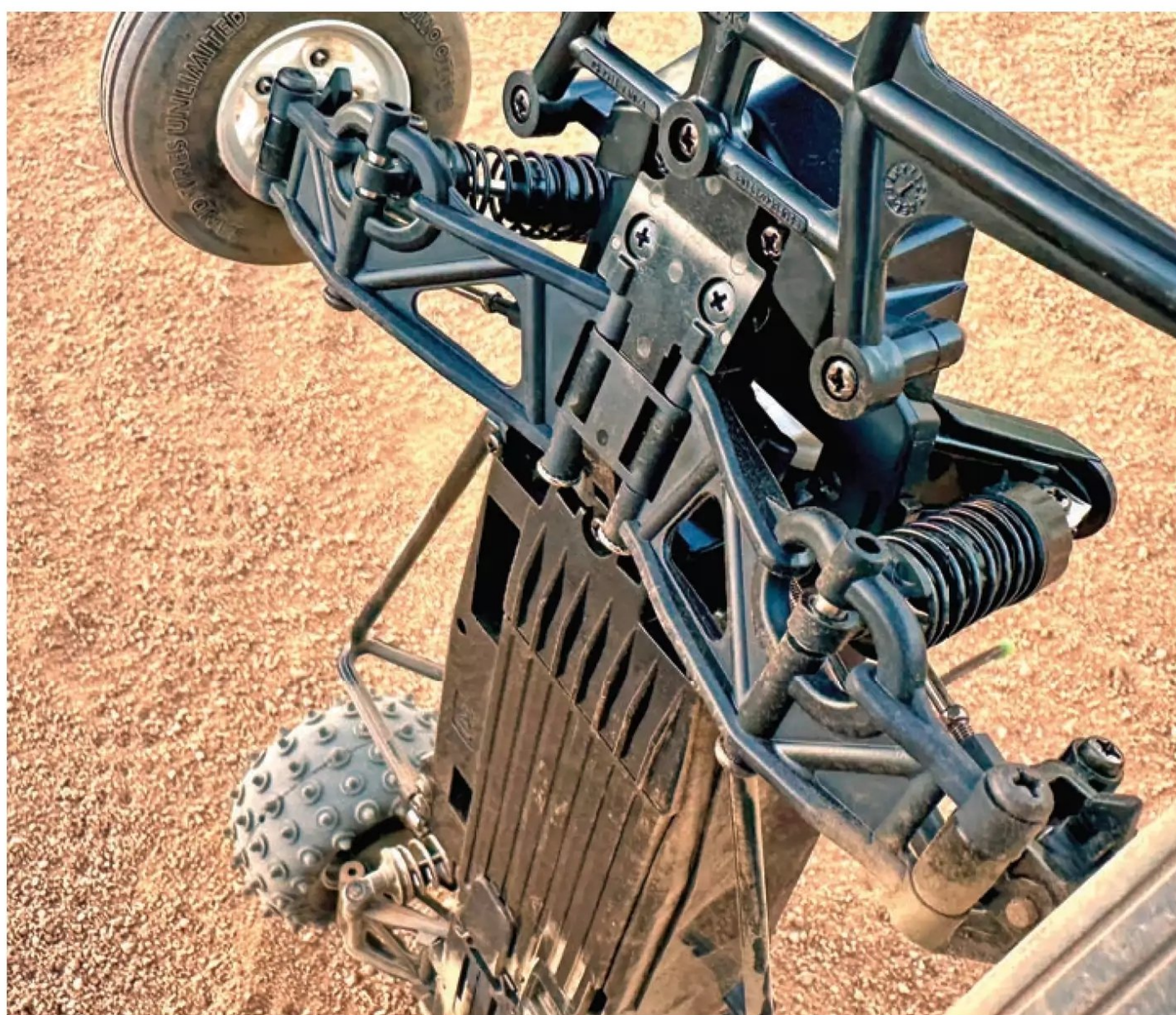
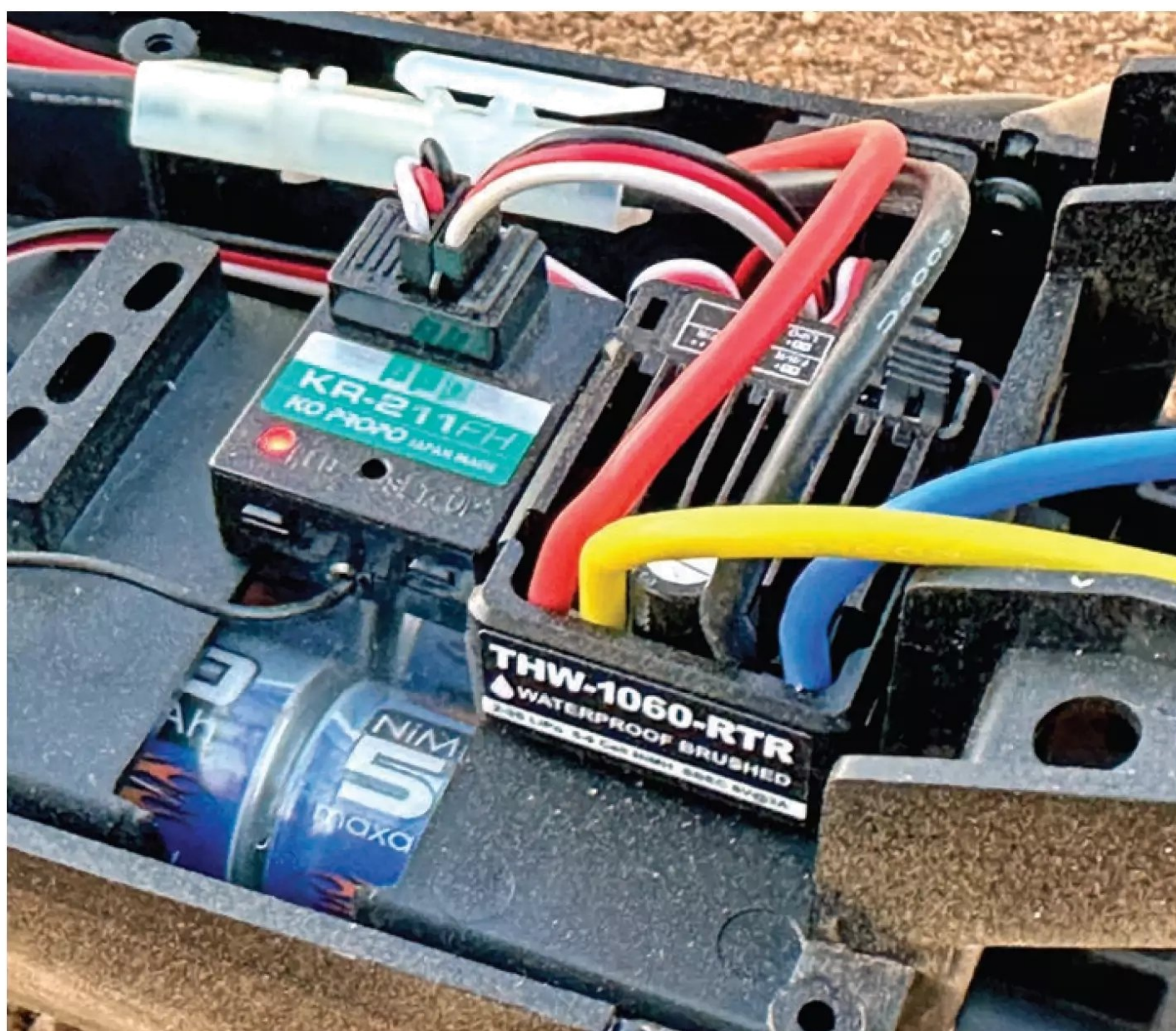
## IMPROVED USABILITY

Tamiya didn't stop at performance upgrades; they also addressed long-standing issues with the original design. One of the most welcome changes is the locking latch for the battery door, a much-needed improvement over the original's often-frustrating clip system. This new feature ensures that the battery stays secure during spirited runs, providing peace of mind for drivers who want to push the Evo to its limits.

## A DAY AT THE PARK

To test the Hornet Evo, we

Our setup featured the included brushed silver can motor combined with the kit's reliable HobbyWing THW 1060 Brushed Motor ESC for smooth, consistent performance.



The Hornet Evo's all-new front end features redesigned suspension arms and CVA dampers, delivering enhanced handling and precision for an upgraded driving experience.



The Hornet Evo retains the classic body but is trimmed differently to accommodate the new suspension components and gearbox.



Staying true to the Hornet's legacy, the tires bring a slippery thrill at speed, adding a playful touch of unpredictability to every drive.

took it to a local park and ran it through its paces. Our setup included the included brushed silver can motor paired with the kit's HobbyWing THW 1060 Brushed Motor ESC. We added a KO Propo steering servo, a receiver, and a 6-cell 7.2V MaxAmps 5,000 NiMH battery to power the buggy.

The Evo proved to be a blast to drive right out of the gate. While it won't set any speed records, the silver can motor delivered plenty of punch for fun runs on dirt paths

and grassy fields. The improved suspension made a noticeable difference, absorbing bumps and jumps with ease. Cornering was smoother than that of the original thanks to the differential gearbox and upgraded dampers.

The tires, true to the Hornet's legacy, were slippery at speed, adding an element of playful unpredictability to the driving experience. For seasoned enthusiasts, this trait is part of the Hornet's charm and it reminds us of the simpler days of RC.





## THE HORNET'S LEGACY

SINCE ITS DEBUT IN 1984, THE TAMIYA HORNET HAS BECOME ONE OF THE MOST ICONIC RC VEHICLES IN THE HISTORY OF THE HOBBY. THE ORIGINAL KIT CAPTURED THE HEARTS OF HOBBYISTS WITH ITS LIGHTWEIGHT DESIGN, RUGGED DURABILITY, AND SIMPLE ASSEMBLY, MAKING IT A FAVORITE FOR BOTH BEGINNERS AND SEASONED RC ENTHUSIASTS.

IN 2005 TAMIYA RE-ISSUED THE HORNET, BRINGING THE BELOVED BUGGY TO A NEW GENERATION OF HOBBYISTS. THE RE-ISSUE STAYED TRUE TO THE ORIGINAL DESIGN WHILE OFFERING SLIGHT UPDATES TO ACCOMMODATE MODERN RC TECHNOLOGY.

THE HORNET'S CULTURAL IMPACT EXTENDED BEYOND THE TRACK WITH SPECIAL EDITION RELEASES, INCLUDING THE BOLD JUN WATANABE EDITION IN 2012, WHICH FEATURED A STRIKING POLKA-DOT DESIGN, AND THE HIGH-FASHION SUPREME HORNET, A 2018 COLLABORATION WITH THE STREETWEAR BRAND THAT BECAME A COLLECTOR'S ITEM OVERNIGHT.

THE HORNET'S DNA ALSO INSPIRED SPIN-OFF MODELS LIKE THE WHIMSICAL COMICAL HORNET, A PLAYFUL TAKE ON THE CLASSIC DESIGN, AND THE MINI 4WD HORNET JR., WHICH BROUGHT THE BUGGY INTO THE WORLD OF SLOT-LESS RACING.

FROM ITS ORIGINS AS A GROUNDBREAKING OFF-ROAD BUGGY TO ITS ROLE AS A CULTURAL ICON, THE TAMIYA HORNET'S LEGACY CONTINUES TO INSPIRE HOBBYISTS AND COLLECTORS WORLDWIDE.





Forty years of evolution! The iconic original Hornet meets the modern Hornet Evo, showcasing timeless design and modernized upgrades side by side—a true celebration of four decades of Tamiya RC.



#### TAMIYA HORNET EVO

P/N: 58742  
Price: \$238  
URL: [tamiyausa.com](https://tamiyausa.com)

### NOSTALGIA MEETS MODERN PERFORMANCE

The Tamiya Hornet Evo is a brilliant homage to one of the most iconic RC buggies of all time. By blending the original's retro appeal with modern upgrades, Tamiya has created a kit that feels both familiar and fresh.

The Evo isn't just a nostalgia trip—it's a capable buggy in its own right. The improved suspension, sealed gearbox, and ball bearings make it a joy to drive, while the attention to detail in its design ensures that it stays true to its roots.

### FINAL WORD

For those who grew up with the Hornet, the Evo is a must-have. And for new hobbyists it's a fantastic introduction to the world of RC. Whether you're reliving old memories or creating new ones, the Hornet Evo delivers the perfect blend of fun, performance, and timeless Tamiya charm.



# ***HIDDEN PIONEERS***

***INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION  
THROUGH STEM & AUTOMOTIVE EDUCATION***

Text by Jerry Tsai

Images courtesy of Bill Montgomery







## EMPOWERING THROUGH EDUCATION

Hidden Pioneers operates with a simple but powerful goal: to bring STEM lab classes back to high schools across the United States. By providing resources, materials, and expertise, the organization is creating opportunities for students to explore career paths in automotive technology, engineering, and beyond.

Their programs emphasize the importance of understanding and using modern tools like digital multimeters and scan tools, which are critical for working on today's

advanced vehicle systems, including batteries and computers.

Since its inception in 2004, Hidden Pioneers has reached countless students throughout Southern California. Their strategy is straightforward but impactful: Bring exciting displays, cutting-edge vehicles, and inspiring speakers directly to school campuses. These interactive experiences not only spark curiosity but also leave a lasting impression on students, motivating them to dream bigger and aim higher.



Featured on the EVLC Podcast, Bill Montgomery from Hidden Pioneers talks about his mission to educate and inspire the next generation through STEM and electric vehicles.





Bootsy and Patti Collins' Ford Mustang in Cincinnati, Ohio.

## A NETWORK OF SUPPORT

The success of Hidden Pioneers is built on a strong foundation of partnerships with organizations and companies that share their vision. Supporters like the National Hot Rod Association (NHRA), NASA, Hot Wheels, Hillbank Performance, SkillsUSA, SEMA, Optimist International, FIATM Group, Columbia Memorial Space Center, DuPont Registry Magazine, and Ad Astra Magazine contribute resources, materials, and expertise. Together, they help Hidden Pioneers create immersive experiences for both students and teachers.

One notable partner, Prime Motivation, has been integral to the program's growth and outreach. Through the Prime Motivation High School Tour, Hidden Pioneers has been able to expand its reach, hosting expos and workshops that connect youth with career opportunities in technology and the automotive industry. These events combine live demonstrations, hands-on activities, and educational seminars to showcase potential career paths, making the possibilities feel both exciting and attainable.

## MAKING AN IMPACT

Hidden Pioneers and Prime Motivation understand the challenges faced by disconnected youth—students who may feel disengaged from traditional educational paths. By creating fun, interactive, and inspirational programs, they are bridging the gap between education and employment. Their methodology emphasizes exposure to diverse career opportunities, helping students envision a brighter future for themselves.

For example, a recent event at Baldwin Park High School featured vehicles like the Scion tC and xB, courtesy of Prime Motivation. Students explored these state-of-the-art cars, interacted with experts, and gained insights into the automotive industry's cutting-edge technologies. The excitement on campus was palpable and showcased how Hidden Pioneers transforms ordinary school days into extraordinary learning experiences.



Hot Wheels Designer Bryan Benedict and Hidden Pioneers' very own Kriss FM.



## GLOBAL DIVERSITY FUNDRAISER & BEYOND

The work of Hidden Pioneers extends far beyond individual school visits. On February 21-22, 2025, the organization will host its 5th Annual Global Diversity Transportation & Technology Fundraiser. This event aims to raise awareness and gather support for their mission, bringing together sponsors, partners, and advocates to expand their reach nationwide.

The fundraiser is not just a celebration of their accomplishments but also a call to action. With the rapid advancements in technology and the growing demand for skilled professionals, there has never been a more critical time to invest in youth education. Hidden Pioneers is committed to equipping students with the knowledge and tools they need to succeed, ensuring a brighter future for all.

A glimpse of the incredible individuals leading the charge in educating and inspiring America's youth, with Hidden Pioneers at the helm in Southern California.



## JOIN THE MOVEMENT

As Hidden Pioneers looks to the future, their message is clear: Now is the time to act. By supporting their mission, individuals and organizations can help create a generation of innovators and problem-solvers ready to tackle the challenges of tomorrow.

For more information on Hidden Pioneers, Prime Motivation, and how you can get involved, visit their Linktree: <https://linktr.ee/hiddenpioneers>. Together, we can empower the youth, inspire change, and make a lasting impact—today and tomorrow.



# TEKNO

## ***NATIONALS TITLE WINNER OUT OF THE BOX***

Text & Images by Joel Navarro

It's been 12 years since Tekno introduced the EB48 platform. Just like a fine wine, the EB48 only got better with time, evolving into the newest iteration: the EB48 2.2. Filled with big and small changes, the 2.2 makes fine-tuned adjustments to enhance overall performance.

The suspension gets updated with new split-design shock towers and smoother shock internals, with the drivetrain being

revamped with revised -2 bulkhead, rear hubs, and front spindles.

The 2.2 has already has a great start, scoring a National Title this year with factory driver Ryan Maifield behind the wheel, and it has secured multiple podium finishes in many of the United States' premier 1/8 races. Let's hit the track and put the EB48 2.2 through its paces!



# TB482.2



#### AT A GLANCE



**TYPE**  
Off-Road



**SCALE**  
1/8



**DRIVETRAIN**  
4WD



**POWER**  
Electric



**BUILD**  
KIT



**PRICE**  
\$699





### *DROP THAT DRIVETRAIN*

Tekno went a little further than just small revisions when it comes to the EB48 2.2. In an effort to improve handling and stability, one of the biggest changes is the 2mm drop in the drivetrain.

Starting with the visually noticeable 2mm drop in the bulkheads, lowering the front and rear differentials, the rest of the drivetrain also received a 2mm drop that includes the steering spindles along with the rear hubs.

The EB48 2.2 builds on 12 years of refinement, combining cutting-edge updates and durability for National Title-winning performance right out of the box.







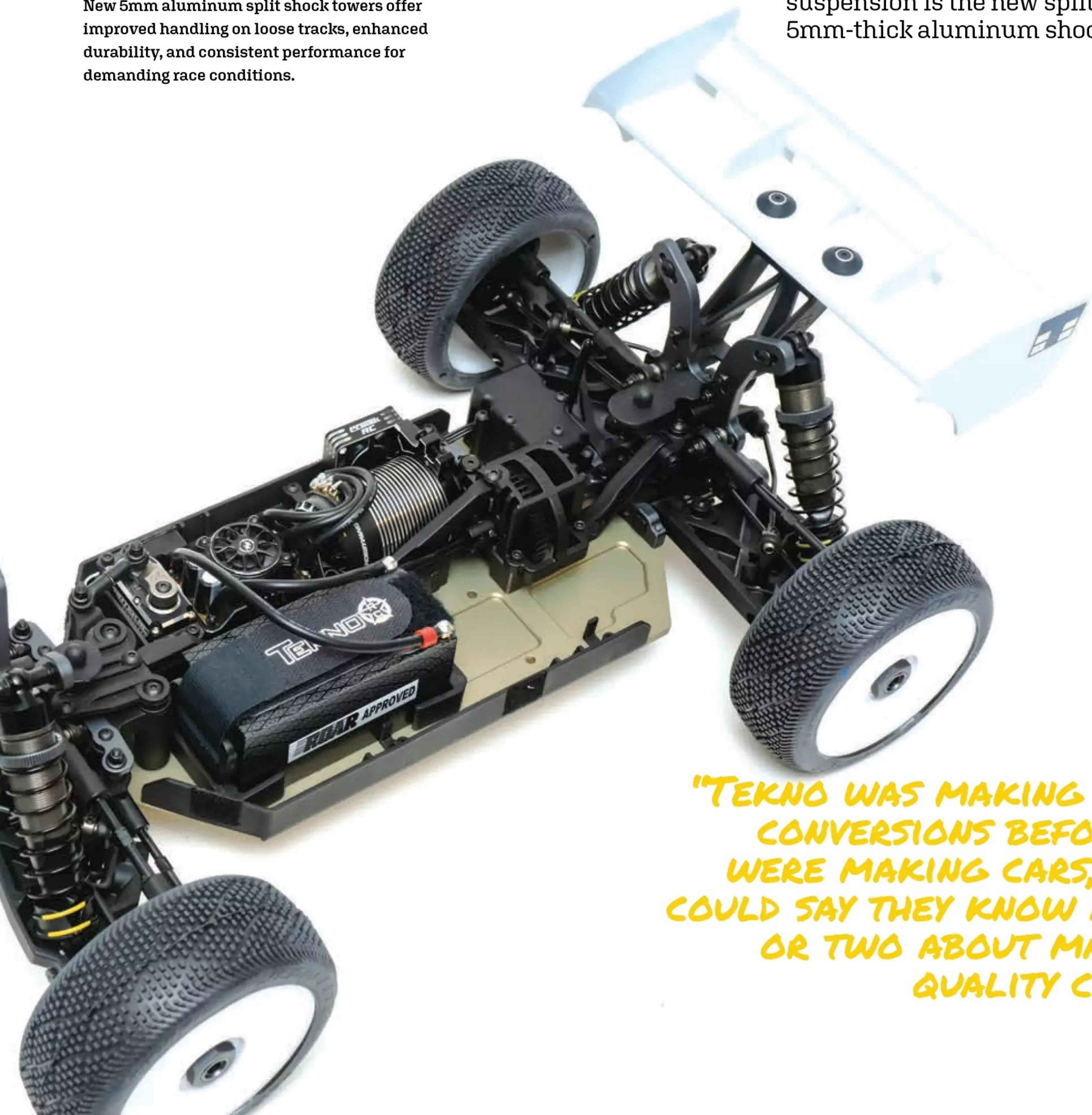
New 5mm aluminum split shock towers offer improved handling on loose tracks, enhanced durability, and consistent performance for demanding race conditions.

The rear hubs themselves now include two option holes that allow you to position them down 2mm or up 2mm. Lastly, the rear driveshaft pivot points have changed with a shorter 93.5mm bone and longer axle, moving the pivot point back toward the arm.

### **SPLIT SHOCK TOWER DESIGN**

In the suspension department, you'll find updated suspension arms that now have a longer metal sleeve in the inner pivot point that not only adds more meat on the arm for durability, but also ultra-smooth, bind-free action. Just like the front arms already had, the rear arms now have clearance for the dog bone that accommodates the 2mm drivetrain drop.

The most obvious visual change in the suspension is the new split-design, 5mm-thick aluminum shock towers.



**"TEKNO WAS MAKING CHASSIS CONVERSIONS BEFORE THEY WERE MAKING CARS, SO YOU COULD SAY THEY KNOW A THING OR TWO ABOUT MAKING A QUALITY CHASSIS."**



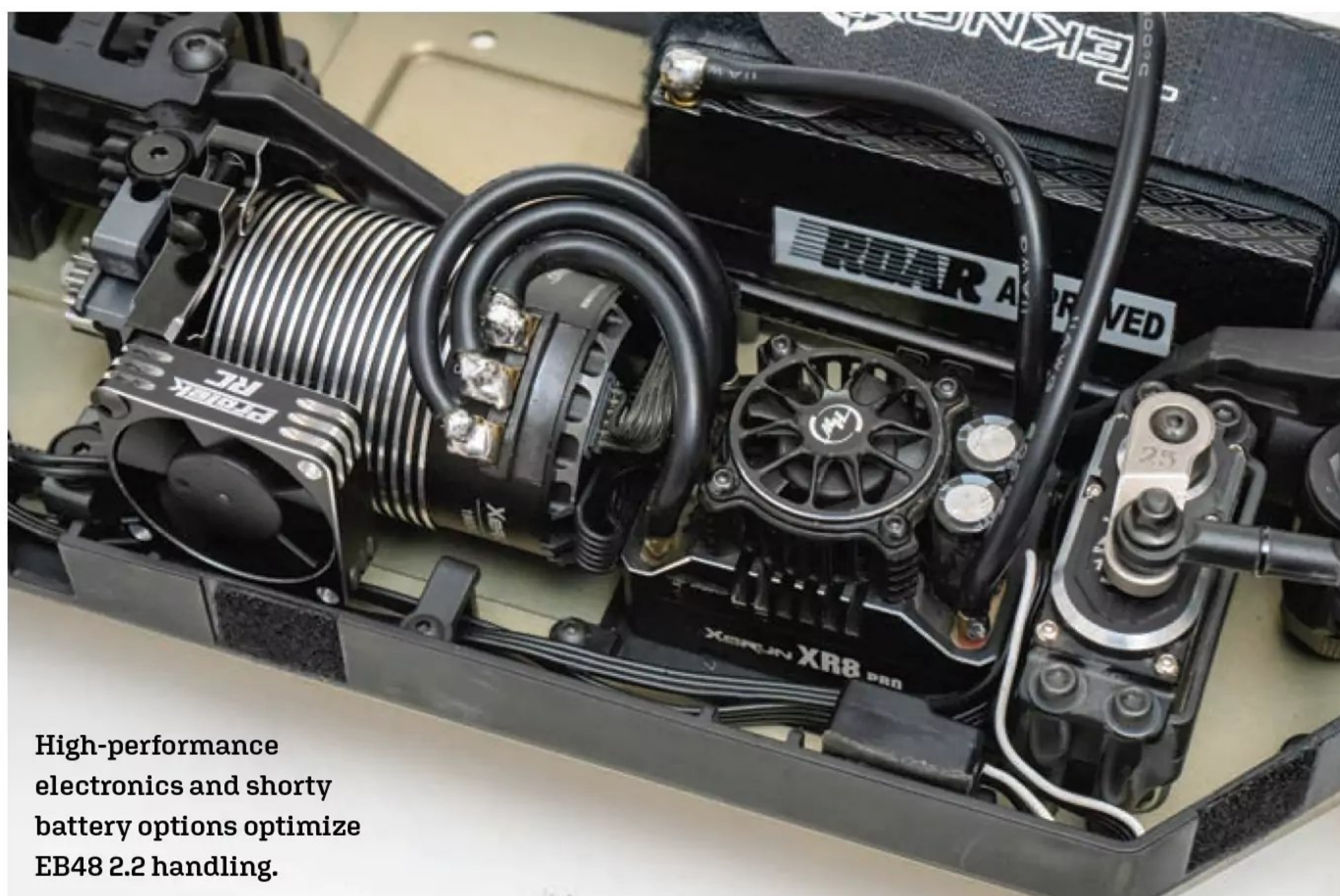
By allowing more flex, these new towers will offer better handling on loose and bumpy tracks. To add durability, the shock stand-offs now use a 4mm screw that keeps the shock position put for consistent handling. Inside the shock itself, redesigned molded shock guides and pistons have been installed for better handling under load.

Another change you'll find in the suspension is that the front aluminum spindles have been changed from the 18 degrees in the 2.1 buggy to 21 degrees in the 2.2. The sway bar system has also received an update, with plastic bushings to adjust the dead band. Use more dead band on looser tracks and a tighter dead band on higher-grip tracks.

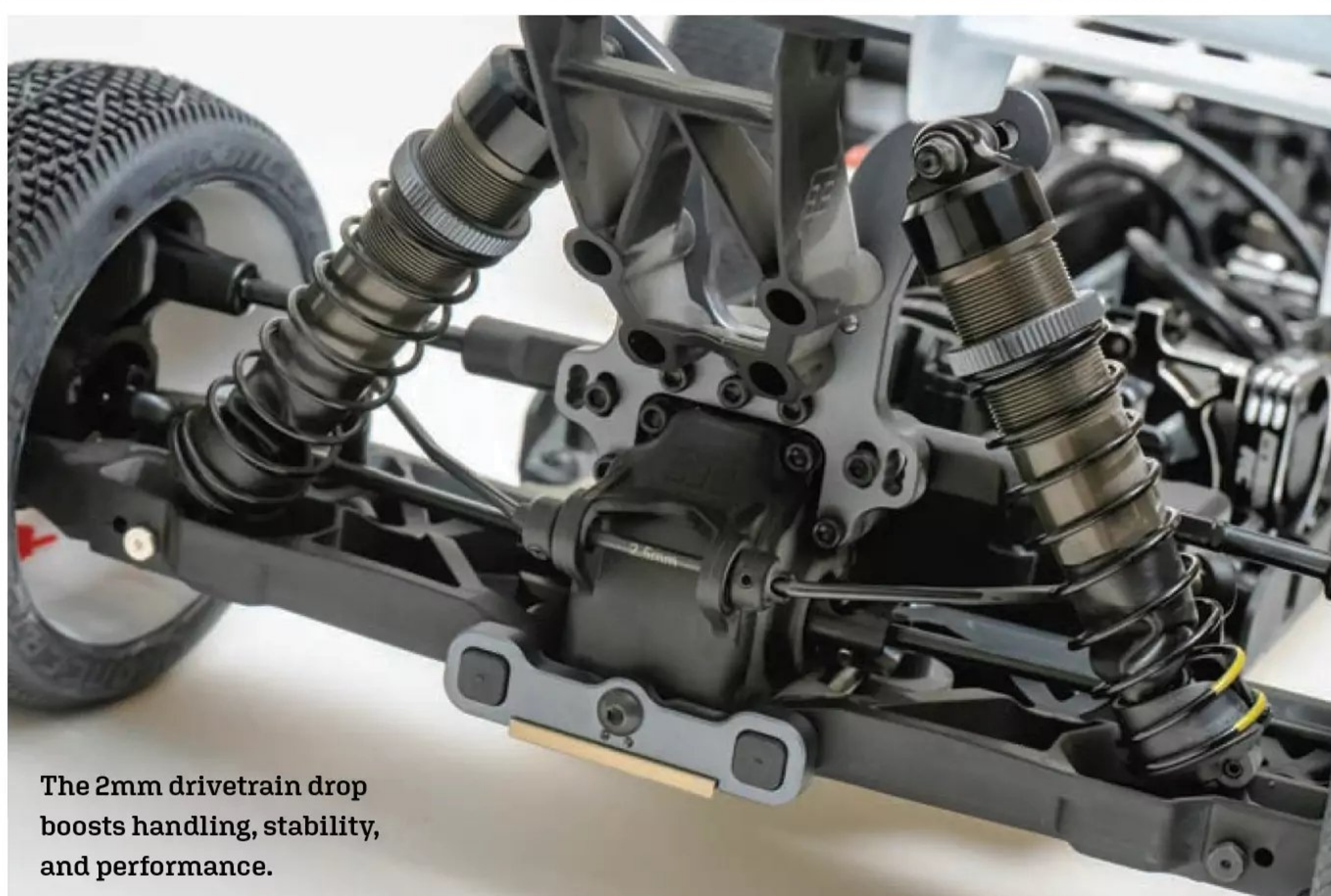
## 7075 ALUMINUM CHASSIS

If you don't remember that far back, Tekno was making chassis conversions before they were making cars, so you could say that Tekno knows a thing or two about making a quality chassis. Constructed of 4mm-thick 7075 aluminum, the 2.2's chassis is carried over from the previous iteration of the EB48.

Milled out for lightness, the chassis allows the speed controller and motor to recess lower into the chassis for enhanced handling. The bay on the chassis allows the use of a full-size or shorty battery. If you opt to use a shorty-style battery, you can position it fore or aft to change the weight bias to give you more or less steering. Steering geometry has changed on the 2.2 with a new Ackerman plate and redesigned carbon-fiber spindle plates.



High-performance electronics and shorty battery options optimize EB48 2.2 handling.



The 2mm drivetrain drop boosts handling, stability, and performance.



Precision steering delivers responsive control for confident cornering and handling.



The EB48 2.2 excels in jumps, corners, and straights, delivering confident handling and consistent lap times across varying track conditions.



## TEST GEAR

Racing 1/8 scale is super-tough on electronics! Channeling the high power of a 4-cell LiPo pack through an equally powerful 4-pole motor takes its toll, especially on a hot day. Hobbywing produces world championship-winning electronics, and I started with installing one of their ESCs and motors.

Hobbywing sells these as combos, and I decided to go with the Xerun XR8 Pro G3 speed controller and the Xerun 1900kV G3 1/8-scale Sensored Brushless Motor. To help tune this power package, Hobbywing also sent us the Multifunction LCD Bluetooth Program Box PRO.

Handling steering duties, I went with the ProTek RC 170TBL “Black Label” High Torque Brushless Servo. Its max 650 oz-in of torque is more than enough to handle any situation. To power everything, I chose the ProTek 6400mAh 4S 130C HV Shorty LiPo Battery.

## BEHIND THE WHEEL

Having run the EB48 2.1 for over a year, I had a direct comparison reference when running the 2.2. The first testing stop was The Dirt Raceway in Perris, California. This track is where the Nitro Challenge is held, and it was built and is owned by Joey “Dirt” Christensen, who is known worldwide for his awesome track builds. The layout on my test

day was no exception.

Filled with slow technical sections that lead to fast sweepers with big booter jumps that send you sky-high, this track was ready to put the EB48 2.2 through its paces. With everything charged up, I decided to start the first run with the shorty battery in the forward position. Running the box-stock setup, I set the ride height at 26mm up front and 28mm in the rear, and set the camber at 2.5mm on all four corners.

The first thing I noticed in the first couple of laps was how edgy steering was going into corners, which was mostly tires breaking in. Having run this layout before, I knew it well and was able to put the 2.2's lap times in the ballpark with my previous fast laps running the 2.1. The only change I made on the second run was shifting the battery to the rear position. It was a subtle change, but it made the 2.2 easier to drive fast. With a bit of understeer and confidence-inspiring handling, I was able to shave a couple seconds off my lap times.

When it came down to jumping, the 2.2 was a flying ace, responding precisely to my throttle and brake inputs when I needed to bring the nose up or down. The updated suspension did an extremely good job on the rough surface and soaked up bumps beautifully while keeping the JConcepts rubber to the ground.





Tackling corners was an easy task, with a nicely predictable turn-in as the 2.2 carried a ton of mid-corner speed. When it came time to apply power coming out of a corner, the rear end squared up nicely to allow for a quick getaway. Overall, the EB48 2.2 was easy to drive fast, pushing you to drive closer to the edge while allowing you to lay down consistent lap times.

Having tested on a large 1/8-scale track at the dirt, my second testing stop brought me to Hot Rod Hobbies for the

last round of the JBRL 1/8th Series. Geared to normally run 1/10-scale cars, this smaller track was a real challenge for larger 1/8-scale vehicles. With the tighter turns in mind, my first move was to relocate the Protek shorty battery to the forward position to add steering using weight bias alone.

On the track the 2.2 was almost perfect, rotating beautifully around most turns. Wanting a more aggressive turn-in but not mess around any more than I needed to on car setup, I

decided to use the Hobbywing Programmer Box Pro to dial in 5% of drag brake into the XR8 Pro speed control.

The change made an immediate difference on the track, allowing me to dive in hard into corners and to feel like I could place and shape my turn how I wanted for speed or passing. Throughout testing, the EB48 2.2 performed exceptionally well. As I could feel every adjustment I made on the track, finding the optimal setup was achieved quickly.





The EB48 2.2 stands out in the crowded 1/8th buggy market, blending innovation, durability, and performance for racers of all skill levels.

## FINAL WORD

Tekno has come a long way from making upgrade chassis for other cars, and all that experience, along with the previous versions of the EB48, has culminated in the EB48 2.2. The updated stock setup is a winner right out of the box and puts the 2.2 solidly within range of laying down fast laps on the track with very little tweaks from its driver.

In case you do experience any mishaps,

## TEKNO EB48 2.2 KIT VEHICLE SPECS

P/N: TKR9005  
Street Price: \$699

URL: [teknorc.com](http://teknorc.com)

Height (as tested): 5.3 in. (134mm)

Length (as tested): 18.9 in. (482mm)

Width (as tested): 12.3 in. (313mm)

Wheelbase (as tested): 13.0 in. (331mm)

Weight : 7 lbs., 15 oz (3605g)

Scale: 1/8

Chassis: 7075 aluminum

Shocks: 16mm large-bore aluminum, adjustable, oil-filled

Suspension: Independent front and rear

Front & Rear Differentials: Fluid-filled, steel bevels

Center Differential: Fluid-filled, plastic spur

Front & Rear Driveshafts: Steel universals

Center Driveshafts: Rear steel universal/front aluminum

Bearings: Rubber-shielded ball

## ADDITIONAL PARTS (NOT INCLUDED)

Hobbywing Xerun XR8 Pro G3 1/8 Competition ESC (P/N HWA38020432)

Hobbywing Xerun G3 1/8 Scale Sensored Brushless Motor (1900kV) (P/N HWA38020432)

Hobbywing Multifunction LCD Bluetooth Program Box PRO (G3) (P/N HWA30502002)

ProTek RC 4S 130C HV Shorty LiPo Battery (15.2V/6400mAh) (P/N PTK-5131-22)

ProTek RC 170TBL "Black Label" High Torque

Tekno vehicles are famous for their durability. The 2.2 easily survived a handful of testing days and some big crashes. No matter what track you take it to, you can feel confident that this car will get you up to speed with very little effort. With a flooded market of 1/8-scale buggies, the EB48 2.2 is something different that stands out from the competition and deserves your consideration when you're choosing your next racing rig.



# TEST BENCH

**RC PRODUCTS TESTED & EVALUATED**

Text by James York

Images by Mike Wiene



## PRO-LINE TIRES FOR 1/6-SCALE TRUCKS

Pro-Line Racing has long been a trusted name for high-quality RC tires, and their lineup for 1/6-scale trucks, like the Arrma Kraton 8S and Traxxas X-Maxx, is no exception. After all, when you're putting down monster power with a heavy truck, you'll need plenty of grip no matter what terrain

you're running it on.

To put their tires to the test, we mounted four different models on the Kraton 8S and evaluated them on their respective terrains. Here's how the Menace HP Belted, Dumont Sand/Snow, Badlands MX57, and Masher X HP Belted tires performed.





### Pro-Line Menace HP Belted: High-Speed Precision

- Terrain Tested: Asphalt and hard-packed dirt
- Key Features: Belted construction, low-profile tread, long wear

Designed for high-speed runs, the Menace HP Belted tires are perfect for on-road and hard-packed dirt surfaces. Their belted construction prevents tire expansion at high RPM, providing a stable ride and precise control.

On asphalt, the Menace HP Belted tires offered incredible grip, allowing the Kraton 8S to accelerate hard without losing traction. Cornering was precise,

with minimal sliding even at higher speeds. On hard-packed dirt, the low-profile tread provided consistent performance, though they struggled slightly with loose dirt where deeper treads would perform better.

#### Our Verdict:

Ideal for speed enthusiasts looking for precision on-road or on firm, compact terrain.

### Dumont Sand/Snow: Built for Extreme Conditions

- Terrain Tested: Sand dunes and light snow
- Key Features: Paddle-style tread, lightweight design

The Dumont Sand/Snow tires transformed the Kraton 8S into an off-road powerhouse on soft surfaces. The aggressive paddle-style tread dug deep into sand, allowing the truck to glide effortlessly over dunes. Acceleration was impressive, and the tires delivered stable handling even during sharp turns.

In light snow, the

Dumonts performed equally well, maintaining excellent traction while carving through powder. However, these tires are highly specialized, so performance on harder surfaces is not their forte.

#### Our Verdict:

A must-have for soft-surface adventurers tackling sand dunes or snowy terrain.







**Badlands MX57: All-Terrain Aggression**

- Terrain Tested: Loose dirt, mud, grass
- Key Features: Aggressive motocross-style tread, versatile performance

The Badlands MX57 tires brought an unmatched level of aggression to the Kraton 8S on loose and mixed terrains. Their motocross-inspired tread pattern provided excellent bite in loose dirt and mud, allowing the truck to claw its way through challenging terrain without bogging down.

On grass, the Badlands delivered impressive grip and acceleration, with

stable handling even at full throttle. They shed mud effectively, keeping their performance consistent in messy conditions. These tires are versatile but shine brightest in off-road environments.

**Our Verdict:**

The ultimate all-terrain option for drivers who love tackling unpredictable trails.



**Masher X HP Belted: Traction Meets Durability**

- Terrain Tested: Mixed dirt and gravel, rocky trails
- Key Features: Belted construction, large knobby tread

The Masher X HP Belted tires combine the best of aggressive off-road performance and high-speed stability. The belted design ensures minimal ballooning even at top speeds, while the large knobby tread delivers exceptional grip on dirt, gravel, and rocky trails.

The Mashers excelled on mixed dirt and gravel, providing stable handling and strong braking performance. On rocky

trails they absorbed impacts well, offering confidence-inspiring traction while keeping the Kraton 8S planted. These tires strike a balance between durability and versatility, making them a strong choice for varied off-road adventures.

**Our Verdict:**

A robust all-rounder for drivers tackling a mix of challenging terrains.



**FINAL WORD**

Each of these Pro-Line tires excelled in its respective category, proving that the right tire makes all the difference in performance. With this lineup, Pro-Line Racing ensures that no matter where you drive, your 1/6-scale RC truck will perform at its peak.



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# TRACK DAY

1. Husky  
Connect 22" Cantilever Portable  
Tool Box  
[homedepot.com](http://homedepot.com)
2. Bittydesign  
Car Stand 1/8 Buggy & Truggy  
[bittydesign.net](http://bittydesign.net)  
[amainhobbies.com](http://amainhobbies.com)
3. UY Chan  
Upgraded Original TS100 Digital  
Soldering Iron  
[amazon.com](http://amazon.com)
4. Turnigy Reaktor  
20A Charger  
[hobbyking.com](http://hobbyking.com)
5. Losi  
Camber Gauge  
[losi.com](http://losi.com)
6. 110% Racing  
Ride Height Gauge  
[race110.com](http://race110.com)
7. HUDY  
Bearing Check Tool  
[hudy.net](http://hudy.net)  
[amainhobbies.com](http://amainhobbies.com)
8. Donathen Racing Products  
Custom Charge Leads  
[donathenrc.com](http://donathenrc.com)





# CARRY

Text & Images by Jerry Tsai

It's always interesting to see what tools and other gear that fellow hobbyists use at the track or at home. In Track Day Carry (TDC), we check out select items that a racer carries to the track. Perhaps you will notice some of the same items that you depend on, or perhaps you'll see some new-to-you items that will pique your interest. Let's take a look.



9



10



13



14



15



16



11



12



17



18

9. JConcepts  
Rubber Parts Tray  
[jconcepts.net](http://jconcepts.net)

10. DE Racing  
1/10 Offroad Setup System  
[amainhobbies.com](http://amainhobbies.com)

11. Bosch  
12V Max 3/8-in. Drill/Driver  
[boschtools.com](http://boschtools.com)

12. MIP  
Speed Tip Hex Drivers  
(2mm & 2.5mm)  
[miponline.com](http://miponline.com)

13. SOTO  
Pocket Torch  
[sotooutdoors.com](http://sotooutdoors.com)

14. Crescent  
4-in. Needle Nose Pliers  
[homedepot.com](http://homedepot.com)

15. Igarashi  
IPS Plastic Jaw Pliers  
(IP-165)  
[amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

16. Liquid Wrench  
Penetrating Oil  
[liquidwrench.com](http://liquidwrench.com)

17. JConcepts  
Combo Thumb Wrench  
[jconcepts.net](http://jconcepts.net)

18. MIP  
Hex & Nut Drivers  
[miponline.com](http://miponline.com)



# BASHER



1. Pro-Line Racing  
Track Bag with Tool Holder  
[prolineracing.com](http://prolineracing.com)
2. Team Losi Racing  
22 5.0 DC Race Kit 1/10 2WD  
Buggy  
[tlracing.com](http://tlracing.com)
3. Pro-Line Racing  
Axis Light Weight Clear Body for  
TLR 22 5.0  
(Custom-painted by Matt Brase of  
MR Painting)  
[prolineracing.com](http://prolineracing.com)
4. Futaba  
7PXR  
[futabausa.com](http://futabausa.com)
5. ProTek RC  
"TruTorque" Team Tool Bag  
[amainhobbies.com](http://amainhobbies.com)
6. O.S.Speed  
10-Piece Driver Set  
[os-engines.co.jp](http://os-engines.co.jp)
7. ProTek RC  
8mm Nut Driver  
[amainhobbies.com](http://amainhobbies.com)



# CARRY

Track Day Carry is all about what RC enthusiasts bring with them when they are out for a day of fun. Depending on what the day's objective is—say, a touring car race versus day-bashing with your monster truck—one's TDC could differ wildly. If you like taking virtually every tool you have in your tool chest to the track or park with you, for that just-in-case moment, you'll find this setup keeps one prepared for any problem that may surface.



8. Team Losi Racing  
17mm Magnetic Wheel  
Wrench  
tlracing.com

9. Traxxas  
Body Reamer  
(Aluminum Handle)  
traxxas.com

10. MIP Tools  
miponline.com

11. Team Losi Racing  
Turnbuckle Wrench  
tlracing.com

12. ProTek RC  
"TruTorque" Shock Shaft  
Pliers  
amainhobbies.com

13. Tamiya  
Mini 4WD  
[+]Screwdriver Pro  
tamiyausa.com

14. Traxxas  
Scissors, Curved Tip  
traxxas.com

15. Bead Buddy  
Multi Strand Wire Cutter  
beadbuddy.com

16. MaxAmps  
Shorty LiPo 2S 4750 7.4V  
Battery Pack  
maxamps.com

17. MYCharge  
HubPlus  
mycharge.com



# PROTECTED

1. Pelican  
1606 with Foam  
[pelican.com](http://pelican.com)

2. MaxAmps  
5450mAh 7.4V LiPo  
[maxamps.com](http://maxamps.com)

3. Tamiya  
Neo Fighter Buggy  
SKU: #58587  
[tamiyausa.com](http://tamiyausa.com)

4. Tamiya  
RC Tool Set  
SKU: #74085  
[tamiyausa.com](http://tamiyausa.com)

5. Pro-Line Racing  
Hoosier Angle Block  
2.2" Rear Tires  
SKU: 8274  
[prolineracing.com](http://prolineracing.com)

1

2

3

5

4



# CARRY

Getting to the track in one piece with all your gear can be quite an accomplishment unto itself, especially if you are travelling far from home or even flying to a race or trail event. In this TDC, we get a look into an RC-outfitted protective hard case, the Pelican 1606. It keeps all of our RC gear safe and makes our traveling life much easier.



6. Pro-Line Racing  
Hoosier Super Chain Link  
2.2" Front Tires  
SKU: 8275  
[prolineracing.com](http://prolineracing.com)

7. Benchmade  
8551BK Mediator  
[benchmade.com](http://benchmade.com)

8. KO Propo  
EX-II 2.4GHz FHSS Radio  
System  
[amainhobbies.com](http://amainhobbies.com)

9. Black Fabrica  
Textured Matte Carbon  
Radio Wrap  
[blackfabrica.com](http://blackfabrica.com)

10. Misc. Parts Box



# *UPFITTED* *TO*





# BASH

## *ENHANCE YOUR ARRMA KRATON 6S WITH JCONCEPTS UPGRADES*



Text by Jerry Tsai

Images courtesy of JConcepts

The Arrma Kraton 6S BLX is a high-performance 1/8-scale RC monster truck built to withstand extreme bashing and deliver exceptional power. Designed for non-stop fun, this 4WD monster truck is equipped with a 2050kV brushless motor that's capable of pushing it to speeds over 60 mph when paired with a 6S LiPo battery.

With its EXB (Extreme Bash) chassis design, durable steel drivetrain components, and robust suspension, the Kraton is built to conquer any terrain. But even the best monster truck can be enhanced, and that's where renowned aftermarket RC upgrade company JConcepts steps in.





A fully JConcepts-equipped Kraton combines durability, enhanced handling, and improved aesthetics for any track or bash session.

### *UPFITTED TO BASH*

JConcepts offers a line of high-performance upgrades specifically designed for the Arrma Kraton 6S. These parts enhance durability, handling, and aesthetics, ensuring your Kraton not only looks incredible but also performs at its peak.

While there's no doubt that the Kraton 6S BLX is already great out of the box, we'll never turn down adding upgrades to any RC vehicle that we put through the ringer. To elevate Kraton's capabilities even further,

Aluminum suspension mounts ensure the Kraton's suspension geometry remains consistent even under extreme stress.





JConcepts offers a range of precision-engineered upgrades that can improve its every aspect.

### **FINNISHER ARMA KRATON BLX BODY**

The Finnisher body by JConcepts provides a fresh, aggressive look for the Kraton 6S. Designed with aerodynamics in mind, the body improves airflow while maintaining the rugged durability required for extreme bashing. Its sleek contours not only enhance performance but also give your Kraton a custom, race-inspired appearance.

The JConcepts Finnisher body transforms the Kraton 6S with sleek, aerodynamic contours for improved airflow, extreme durability, and a bold, race-inspired look that's perfect for intense bashing sessions.

### **ALUMINUM FRONT SHOCK TOWERS**

The aluminum front and rear shock towers by JConcepts enhance the strength and stability of your Kraton's suspension system. Designed as a direct replacement for the stock parts, these shock towers are crafted from high-quality aluminum and anodized for a sleek finish. They offer superior support for the front suspension, ensuring consistent performance under the stress of jumps, landings, and high-speed maneuvers. The towers' durability and



JConcepts aluminum shock towers upgrade Kraton's suspension with enhanced strength and stability, ensuring consistent performance during jumps, landings, and high-speed maneuvers, all with a sleek anodized finish.





precision engineering make these a critical upgrade for serious Kraton enthusiasts.

### ALUMINUM CHASSIS BRACES

JConcepts' aluminum chassis braces, available for both the front and rear, are essential upgrades for the Arrma Kraton 6S BLX. These precision-machined components replace the stock plastic braces to provide increased rigidity and structural integrity. Constructed from high-grade aluminum and anodized in black, they help minimize chassis flex during high-speed runs and absorb impacts from hard landings. Together, these braces ensure improved durability and handling and make them a must-have for extreme bashing or competitive use.

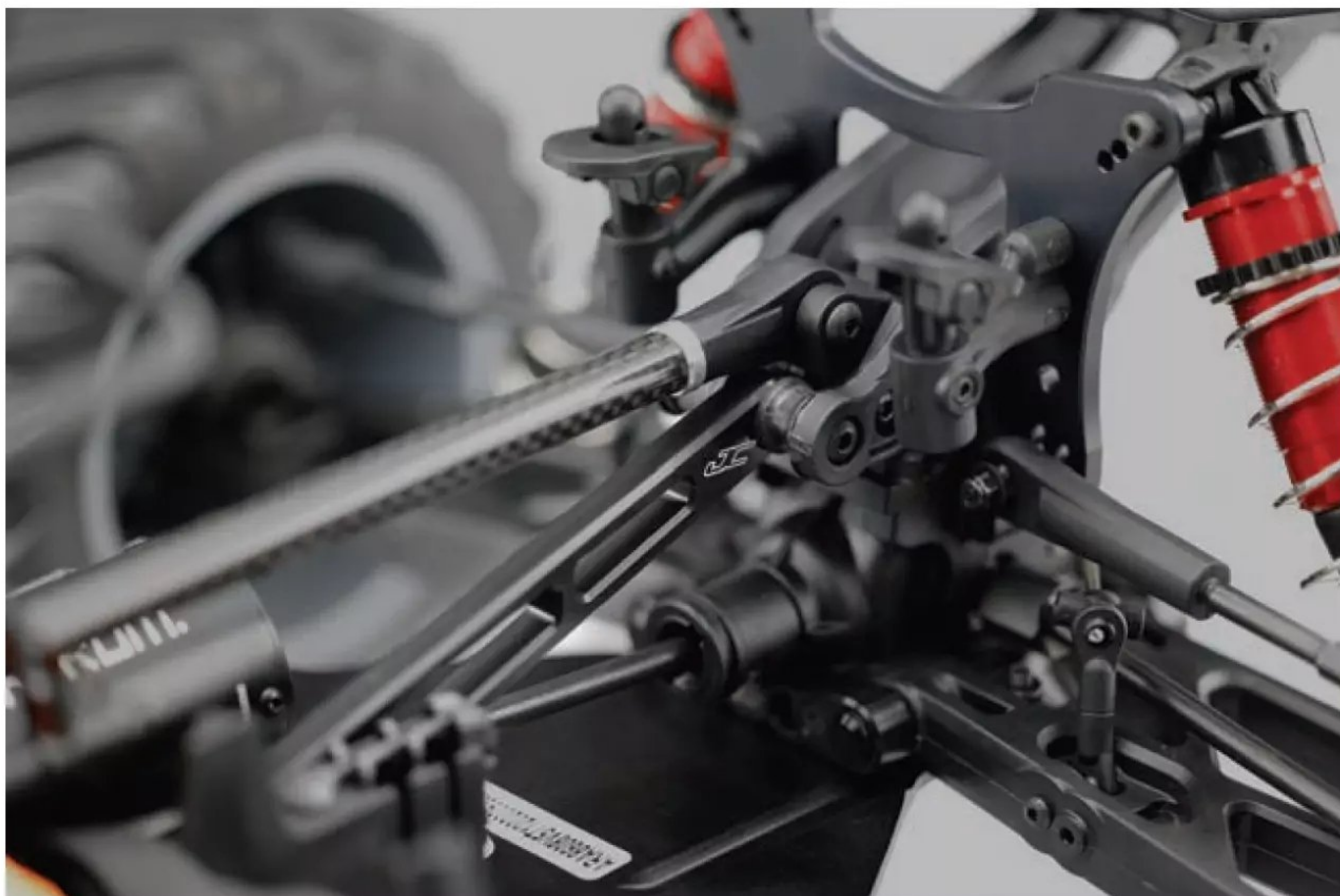
### ALUMINUM SUSPENSION MOUNTS

The aluminum suspension mounts are available for various positions on the Kraton's chassis, including FF (front-front), FR (front-rear), RF (rear-front), and RR (rear-rear) configurations. These mounts replace the stock plastic parts with precision-machined aluminum, offering superior strength and reducing flex. This upgrade ensures your suspension geometry remains consistent even under extreme stress.

### CARBON TUBE CHASSIS BRACE

For improved rigidity and chassis stability, the carbon tube chassis brace is another essential upgrade. This lightweight yet incredibly strong component reduces chassis flex, ensuring your Kraton maintains control during high-speed runs and harsh impacts. Its sleek carbon fiber design also adds a premium touch to your vehicle.

JConcepts aluminum chassis braces boost the Arrma Kraton 6S BLX with enhanced rigidity, durability, and handling, perfect for extreme bashing or competitive performance.



JConcepts aluminum suspension mounts strengthen Kraton's chassis, replacing plastic parts to reduce flex and keep suspension geometry consistent under stress.



The JConcepts carbon tube chassis brace enhances Kraton's stability and rigidity, reducing flex for precise control during high-speed runs and impacts.





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### WHY UPGRADE WITH JCONCEPTS

JConcepts upgrades for the Arrma Kraton 6S are engineered for performance and are built to last. Each part is crafted with high precision, providing improved durability, better handling, and a standout look. Whether you're racing or bashing, these upgrades can help your Kraton withstand the demands of intense RC action.

### FINAL WORD

With JConcepts' line of upgrades, the Arrma Kraton 6S BLX becomes an even more capable and durable machine. From enhancing suspension performance to adding a sleek custom body, these parts are essential for any Kraton enthusiast looking to take their RC experience to the next level.

### Sources

*JConcepts*  
jconcepts.net

*Arrma*  
arrma-rc.com arrma-rc.com





**Sixty Three**

**1:10 BRUSHED 2WD**  
**1963 IMPALA HOPPING LOWRIDER**



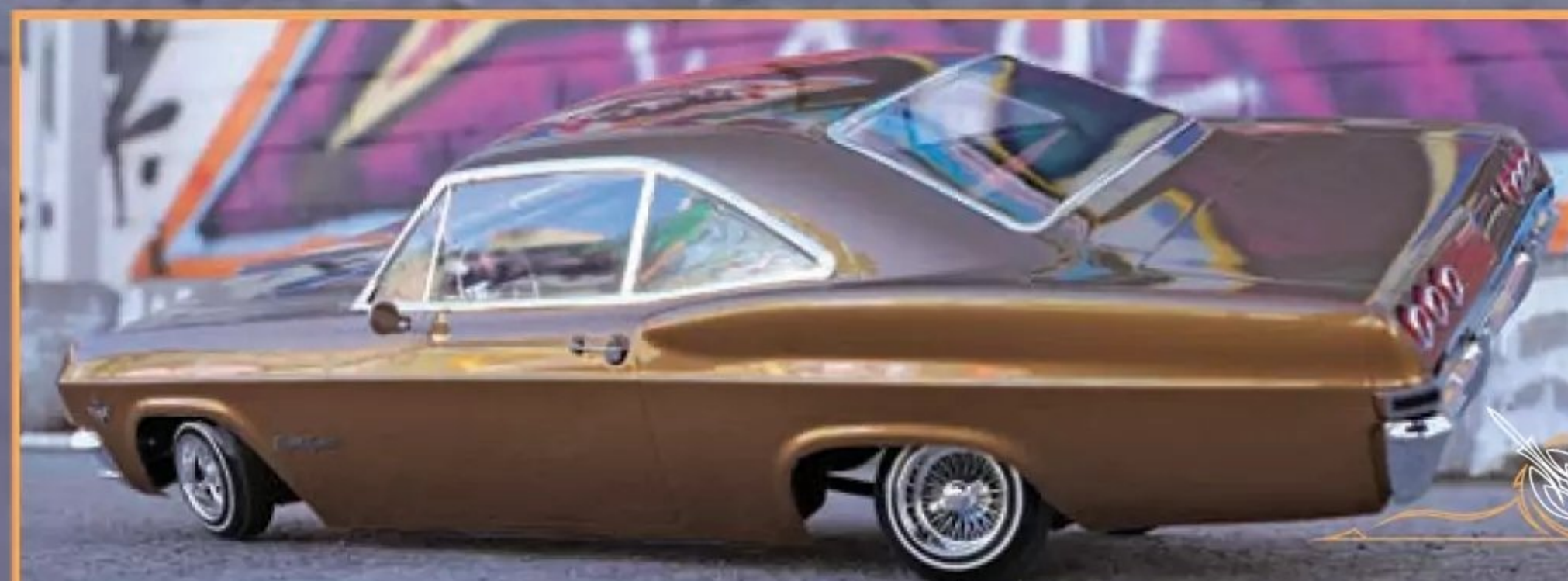
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SLEDGEHAMMER<sup>®</sup> TIRES

Side by side  
size comparison of Mini Maxx<sup>®</sup>,  
Maxx<sup>®</sup> and X-Maxx<sup>®</sup>



# TRAXXAS