

# EACH KIT INCLUDES

Pro-Line standard 12mm hex wheels & tires (except Factory Team kits). Aluminum motor mount with a built-in heatsink. Carbide ball Stealth differentials.

Adjustable caster, camber, toe-in, anti-squat, kickup. Several tie-rod mounting positions. Foam bumper. TC3 decal sheet. Rear bumper.

# RTR TC3

Shocks: VCS Macro shock.

Tires and Wheels: Pro-Line V-Rage tires and Axis wheels.

Front & Rear Axles: Composite MIP CVD's.

Turnbuckles: Associated steel turnbuckles

Pre-painted Protoform Stratus, with choice of two color schemes.

Also includes: Precision stainless-steel rubber-sealed ball bearings.

# RACER KIT

Shocks: VCS Macro shock.

Tires and Wheels: Pro-Line V-Rage tires and Axis wheels.

Front & Rear Axles: Composite MIP CVD's.

Turnbuckles: Associated steel turnbuckles

Choice of six unpainted Protoform bodies, with decals.

Also includes: Precision stainless-steel rubber-sealed ball bearings.



Shocks: Blue anodized aluminum-body VCS Macro shocks.

Tires and Wheels: Pro-Line V-Rage tires and Axis wheels.

Front & Rear Axles: Blueanodized alloy MIP CVD's.

Turnbuckles: Factory Blue titanium turnbuckles.

Also includes: Precision stainless steel PTFE/rubber-sealed ball bearings.



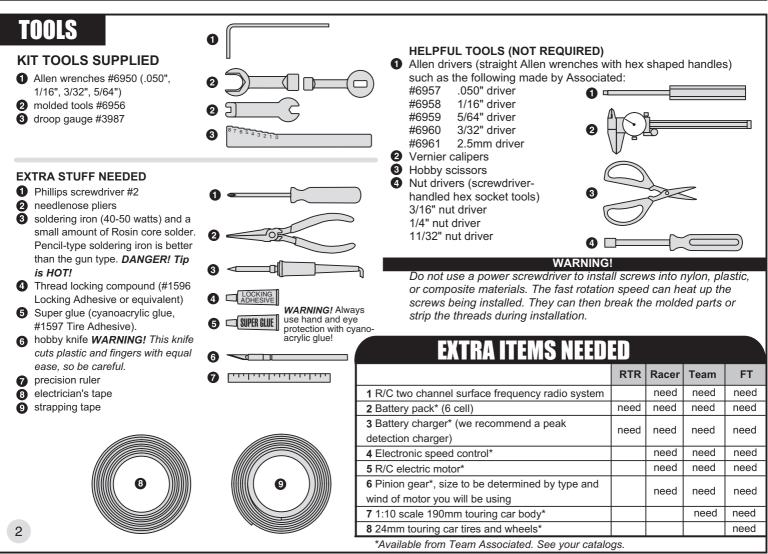
Shocks: Blue anodized aluminum threaded shock bodies, VCS Macro shocks.

Front & Rear Axles: Blue-anodized alloy MIP CVD's.

Turnbuckles: Factory Blue titanium turnbuckles.

Also includes: Precision Teflon-sealed ball bearings. Droop gauge. Anti-roll bar. Factory Team blue aluminum & graphite parts including: Counterfeit transponder mount. Radial clip-on heatsink. Graphite chassis. Unobtainium shock shafts. Blue aluminum screws.

#### The RTR TC3 uses the RACER KIT portions of this manual.



# **REACHING US**

**CUSTOMER SUPPORT** (714) 850-9342 Fax (714) 850-1744 http://www.rc10.com/help http://www.rc10.com/kits



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# **BEFORE BUILDING**

#### OPEN THE BAGS IN ORDER

The assembly is arranged so that you will open and finish that bag before you go on to the next bag. **Sometimes you will have parts remaining at the end of a bag. These will become part of the next bag.** Some bags may have a large amount of small parts. To make it easier to find the parts, we recommend using a partitioned paper plate for spreading out the parts so they will be easier to find.

#### MANUAL FORMAT

The following explains the format of these instructions. *The beginning of each section indicates:* 

1 Which bag to open ("BAG A") and which steps you'll be using those parts for ("FOR STEPS 1-3").

**2** Which parts you will use for those steps. Remove only the parts shown. **"1:1"** indicates an actual size drawing; place your part on top and compare it so it does not get confused with a similar part.

**3** Which tools you should have handy for that section.

**4** In some drawings, the word **"REAR"** with an arrow indicates which direction is the rear of the car to help keep you oriented.

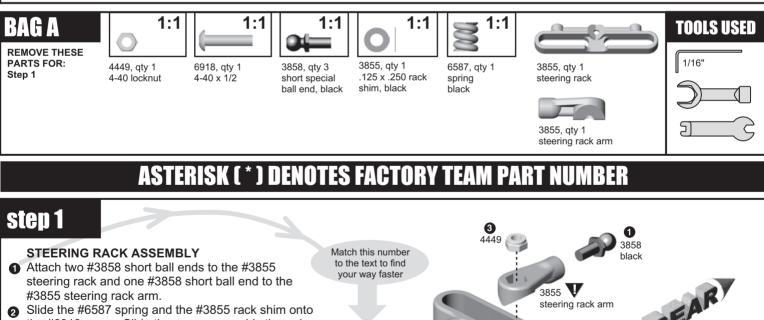
**5** The instructions in each step are ordered in the order you complete them, so read the words AND follow the pictures. The numbers in circles are also in the drawing to help you locate them faster.

**6** When we refer to left and right sides of the car, we are referring to the driver's point of view inside the car.

7 Occasionally you will see an upside-down triangle next to a part.  $\mathbf{V}$  This indicates that more information is given about the part next to the matching triangle near the text.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL SHEETS

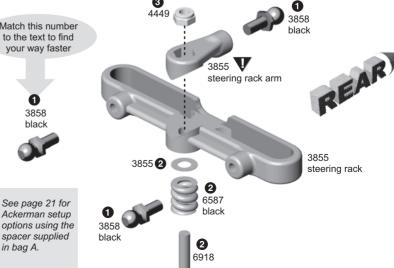
We are constantly developing new parts to improve our kits. These changes, if any, will be noted in supplementary sheets located in a parts bag or inside the kit box. Check the kit box before you start and each bag as it is opened. When a supplement is found, attach it to the appropriate section of the manual.

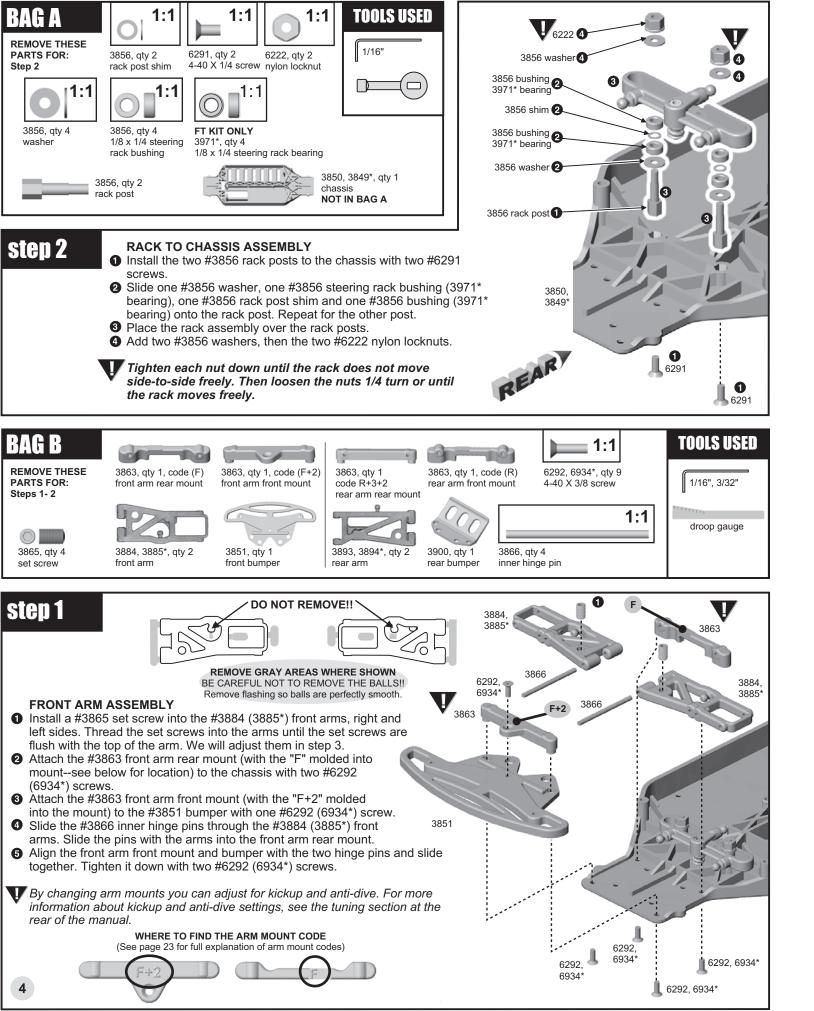


- Slide the #6587 spring and the #3855 rack shim onto the #6918 screw. Slide the screw assembly through the bottom of the steering rack.
- **3** Attach the #3855 rack arm to the rack with a #4449 locknut.
- **4** Tighten down the spring until the screw is flush with the top of the nut.

Make sure the rack arm is facing the rear when assembled on the rack: The ball end on the rack arm and the ball ends on the rack should be pointing in opposite directions.

See page Ackerma options u sacer su spacer su in bag A.





#### ✓ DO NOT REMOVE!!



REMOVE GRAY AREAS WHERE SHOWN BE CAREFUL NOT TO REMOVE THE BALLS!! Remove flashing so balls are perfectly smooth.

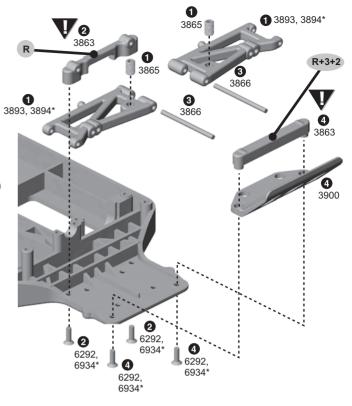
#### REAR ARM ASSEMBLY

- Install a #3865 10-32 set screw into the #3893 (3894\*) rear arms, right and left until the set screws are flush with the top of the arms. We will adjust them in step 3.
- Attach the #3863 rear arm front mount (with the "R" molded into mount--see below for location) to the chassis with two #6292 (6934\*) screws.
- Slide the #3866 inner hinge pins through the #3893 (3894\*) rear arms. Slide the pins with the arms into the #3863 rear arm front mount.
- Place the #3863 rear arm rear mount (with the "R+3+2" molded into the mount) on the #3900 rear bumper. Align the rear arm mount and bumper with the two hinge pins and slide together. Tighten it down with two #6292 (6934\*) screws.

By changing arm mounts you can adjust toe-in and anti-squat. For more information about the rear toe-in and anti-squat settings, see the tuning section at the rear of the manual.

WHERE TO FIND THE ARM MOUNT CODE (See page 23 for full explanation of arm mount codes)





8 7

6 5

3 2

**REAR ARM SETTING** 

0

5

3 4

FRONT ARM SETTING

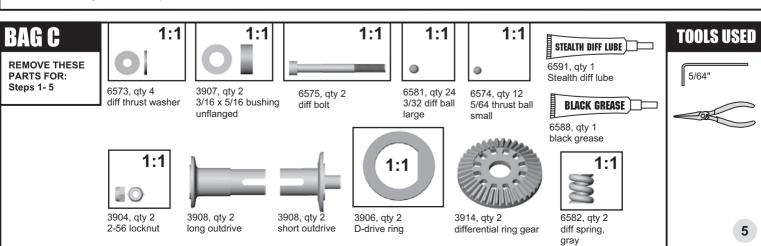
### step 3

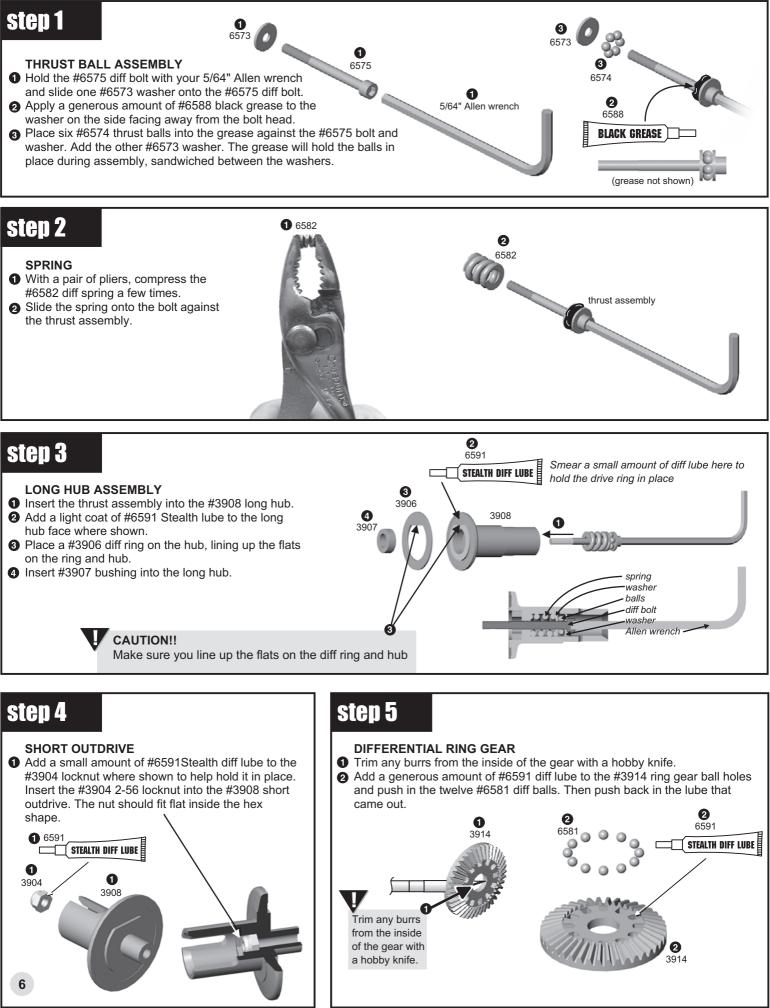
#### SETTING DROOP

- Place the supplied #3987 droop gauge on a flat surface on its edge as shown. Rest the bottom of the chassis on the gauge as shown, making sure the screws are not resting on the gauge.
- 2 Slide the gauge out so the front arm rests on step 6.
- With your 3/32" Allen wrench, adjust the set screw so the outer part of the arm just touches the step. Adjust both front arms.
- Slide the gauge to the rear arms and repeat, but the rear arms will rest on step 4.

**NOTE:** 1/8 turn equals 1/2 step in change. 1/4 turn equals 1 step change.

**RACER'S TIP:** By using a ball end 3/32" driver it is easier to adjust the droop set screws.





REMOVE THESE PARTS FOR: Steps 6-8



FACTORY TEAM ONLY 6903\*, qty 4 3/8 x 5/8 bearing bushing, unflanged

Teflon sealed, unflanged



rubber sealed, unflanged

3976, qty 4

3/8 x 5/8 bearing



diff cover

outdrive shim



3906, qty 2

D-drive ring

**TOOLS USED** 5//64"

step 6 O Smear a small 6591 STEALTH DIFF LUBE amount of diff lube here to hold the SHORT HUB ASSEMBLY drive ring in place 0 • Add a light coat of #6591 Stealth lube to the #3908 short hub face. 3906 3908 Place a #3906 diff ring on the hub, lining up the flats on the ring and 3 3914 hub. 3907 3 Insert one #3907 bushing onto the short hub. 4 A Push the #3908 short hub assembly into the back side of the liff ring gear assembly differential ring gear assembly. CAUTION!! Make sure you line up the flats on the diff ring and hub

# step 7

#### DIFF ASSEMBLY

Insert the long hub assembly into the short hub assembly, making sure you line up the bolt in the hub and the bolt threads into the #3904 locknut.

#### CHECK ALIGNMENT OF THE HUBS

3907, qty 2

3/16 x 5/16

- 2 Tighten the diff with your 5/64" Allen wrench, but not completely.
- Screw in the diff bolt a few turns then stop to rotate the diff hubs in opposite directions. Then screw in the bolt some more. Follow this procedure to check proper alignment of the parts. The following note clarfies this.

#### READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY.

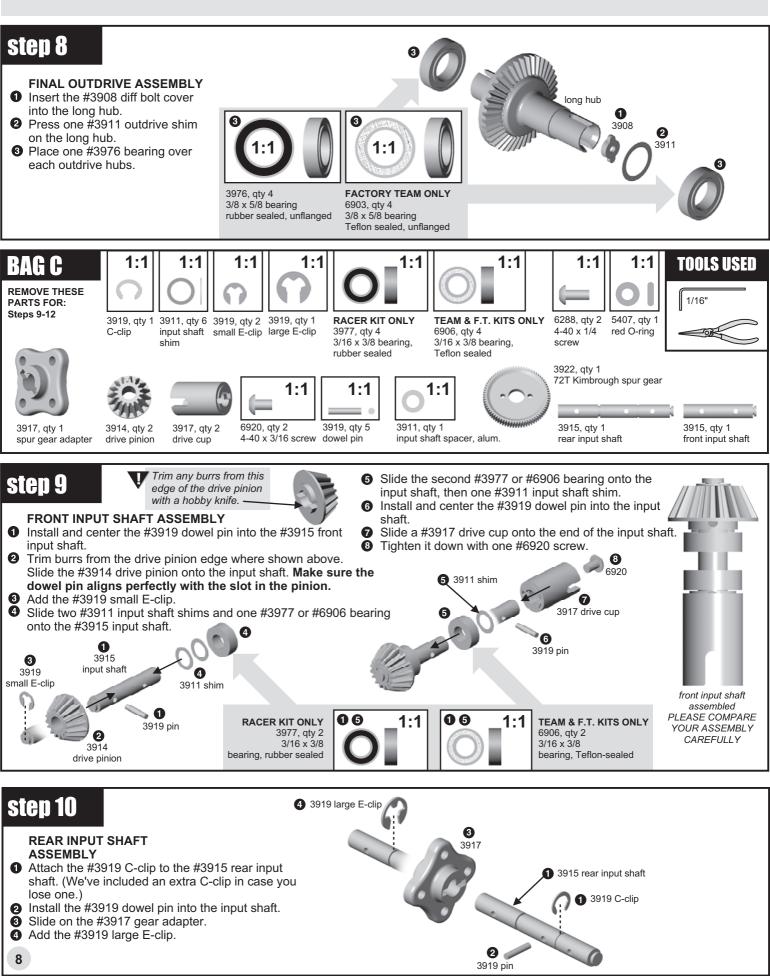
As you tighten the diff bolt, pay close attention to the feeling when the spring is fully compressed. Do not overtighten the bolt. When you feel the spring fully compressed, loosen the diff bolt 1/2 turn. No more, no less. After you have driven the car for one pack, recheck the diff adjustment as above so that when you feel the spring fully compressed, loosen the diff bolt 1/2 turn. Never adjust the diff any other way.

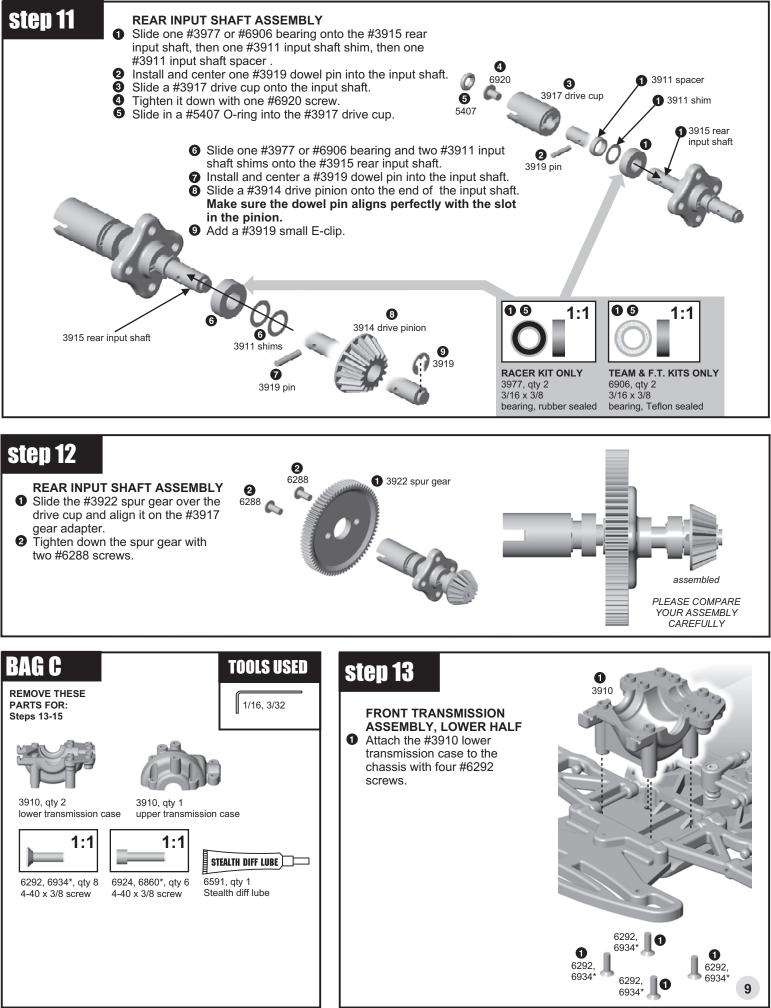
Now assemble the second diff the same way. 4

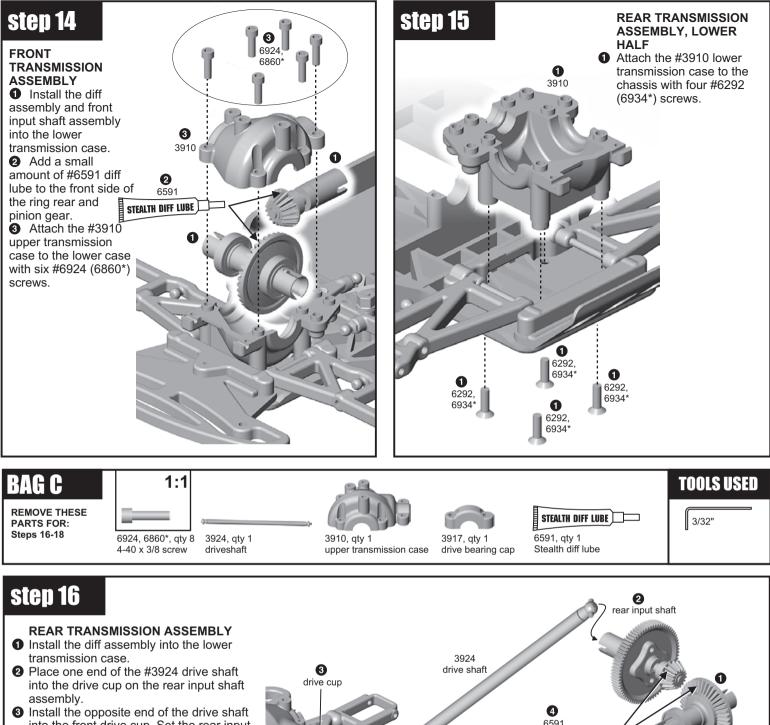
> Rotate the hubs in opposite directions several times in between screwing in the diff bolt.



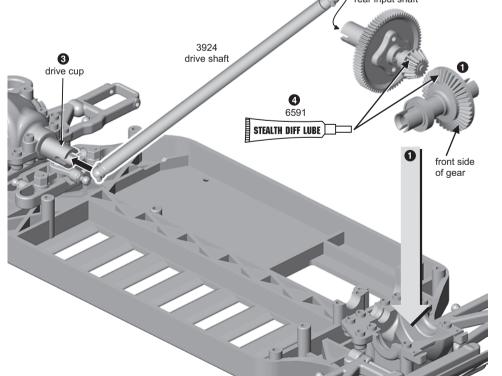
### IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO USE THE EXACT AMOUNT OF SHIMS SUGGESTED IN THESE STEPS.

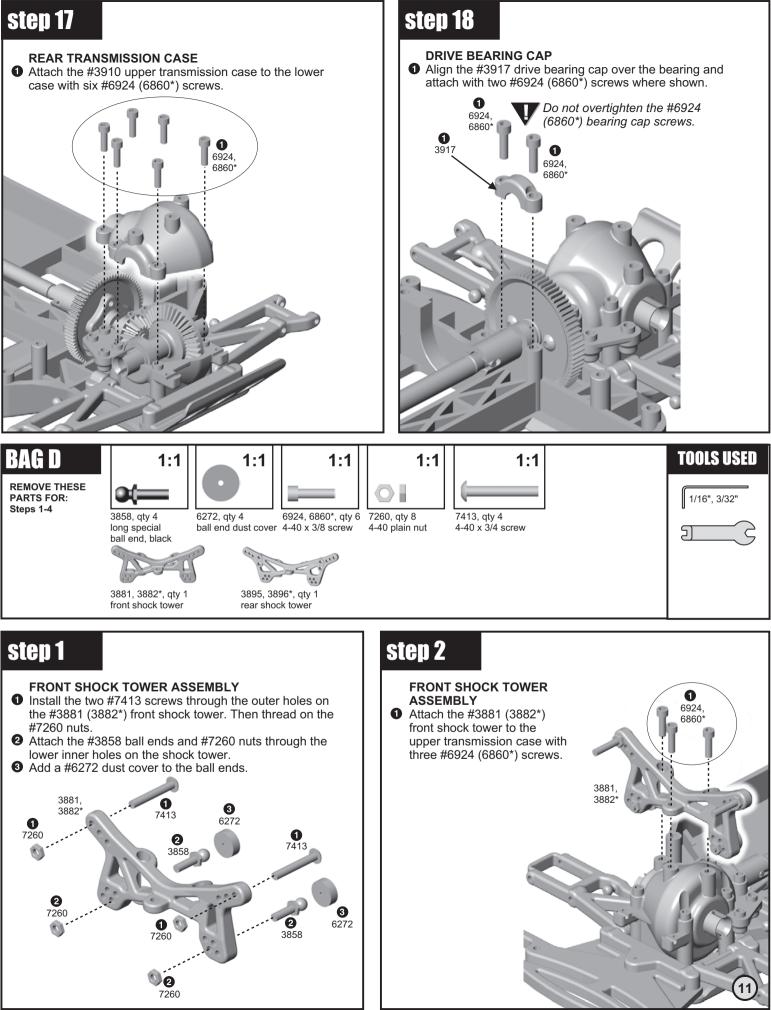


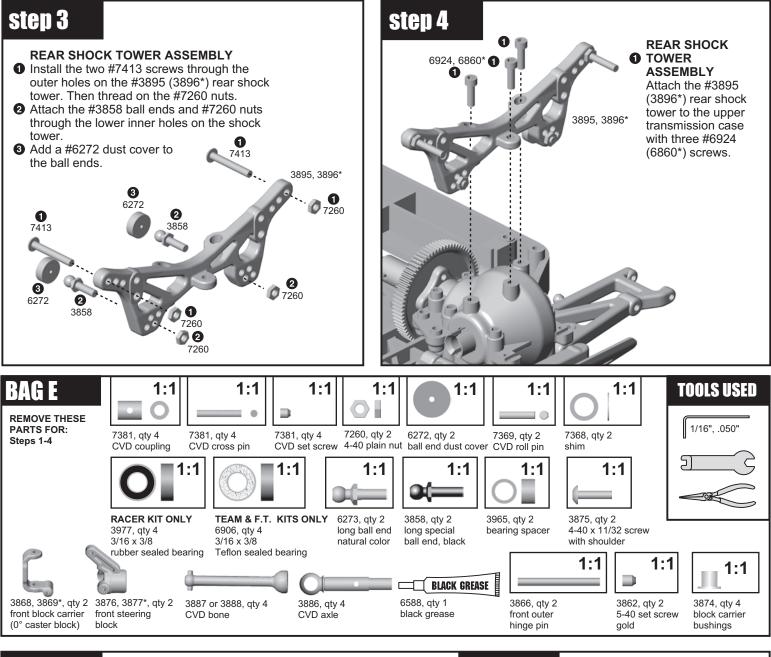




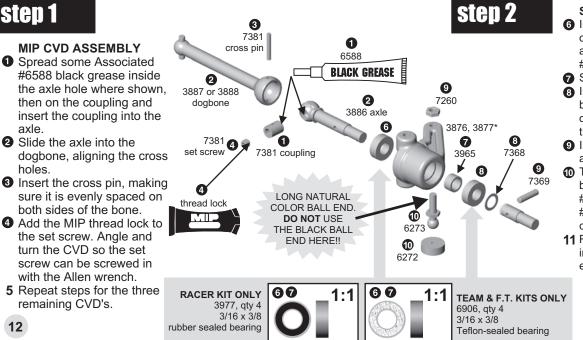
- Install the opposite end of the drive shaft into the front drive cup. Set the rear input shaft into place.
- Add a small amount of #6591 diff lube to the front side of the ring gear and pinion





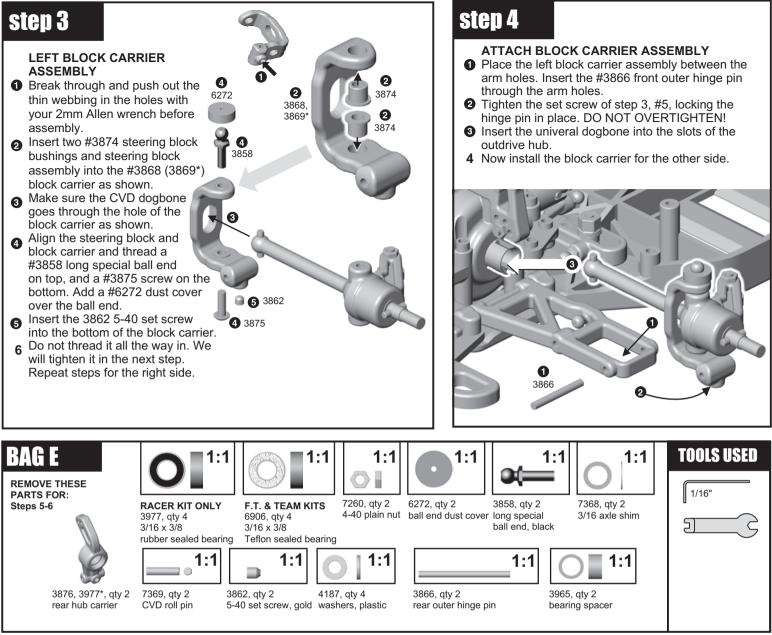






- STEERING BLOCK ASSEMBLY 6 Install one #3977 or #6906 bearing on the axle. Slide the axle assembly into the back of the #3876 (3877\*) steering block. Slide in a #3965 bearing spacer.
- 8 Install the second #3977 or #6906 bearing into the steering block and on the axle, followed by one #7368 thin spacer.
- Insert the #7369 roll pin into the axle.
- Thread the natural color #6273 ball end into the bottom of the #3876 steering block and add the #7260 plain nut. Add a #6272 dust cover over ball the end.
- 11 Repeat steps for the right side, installing the steering block ball end in the opposite way:



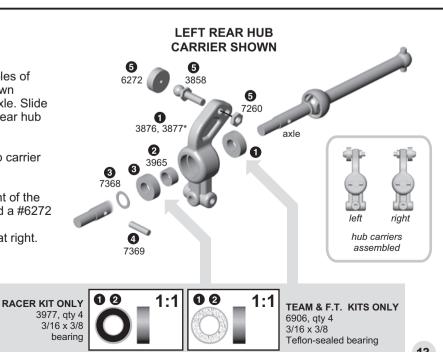


#### REAR HUB CARRIER ASSEMBLY

- Break through and push out the thin webbing in the holes of both hub carriers with your 2mm Allen wrench (as shown above). Install one #3977 or #6906 bearing onto the axle. Slide the axle assembly into the back of the #3876 (3877\*) rear hub carrier.
- 2 Slide in the #3965 bearing spacer.
- Install the second #3977 or #6906 bearing into the hub carrier and onto the axle followed by one #7368 axle shim.
- Insert the #7369 roll pin into the axle.
- Thread on the #3858 long special ball end into the front of the hub carrier as shown and add the #7260 plain nut. Add a #6272 dust cover over the ball end.
- 6 Repeat steps for the right side. See assembly picture at right.

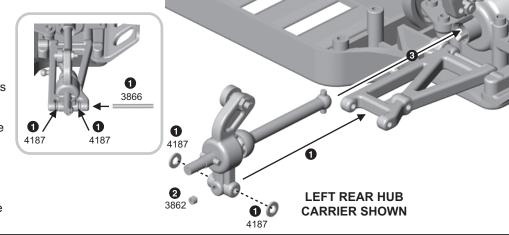


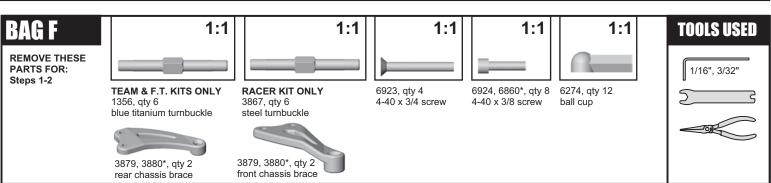
Break through and push out the thin webbing in the holes with your 2mm Allen wrench before assembly.



#### ATTACH REAR HUB CARRIER ASSEMBLY

- Place the left hub carrier between the arm holes as shown and add two #4187 spacers where shown. Insert the #3866 rear outer hinge pin through the arm and hub carrier. Thread in the #3862 5-40 set screw into the
- hub carrier. Tighten down the set screw, locking the hinge pin in place. DO NOT OVERTIGHTEN!
- Insert the universal dogbone into the slots of the outdrive hub.
- 4 Now install the hub carrier assembly for the right side.

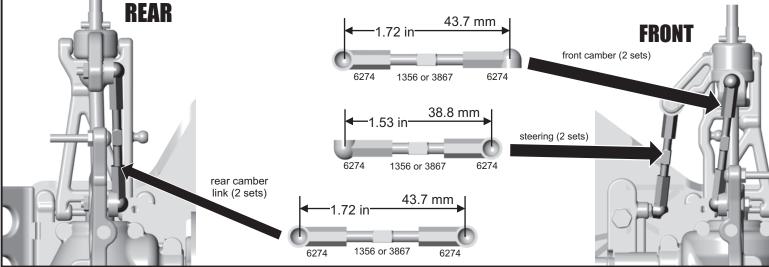


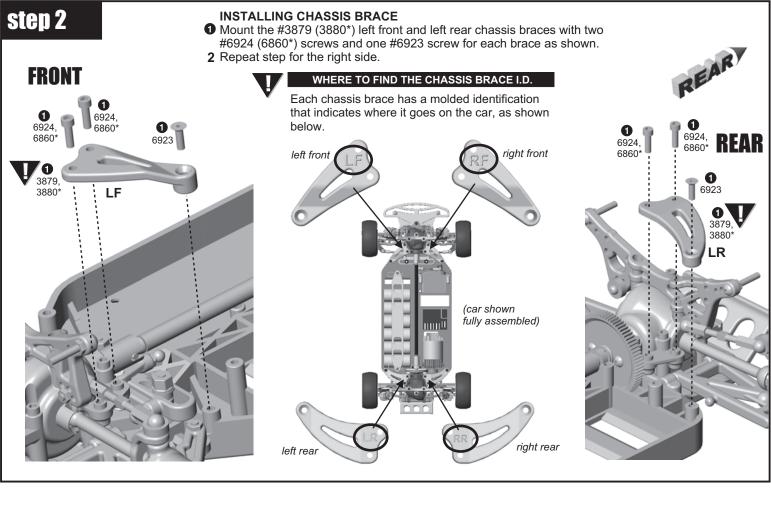


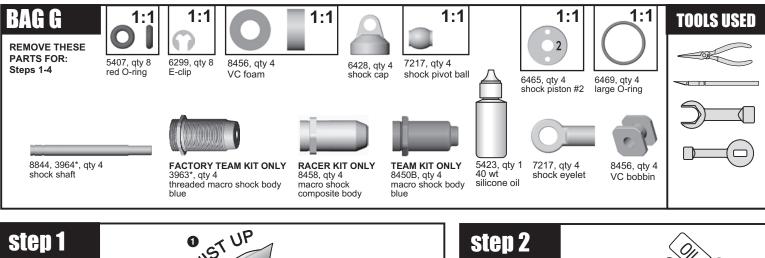
# step 1

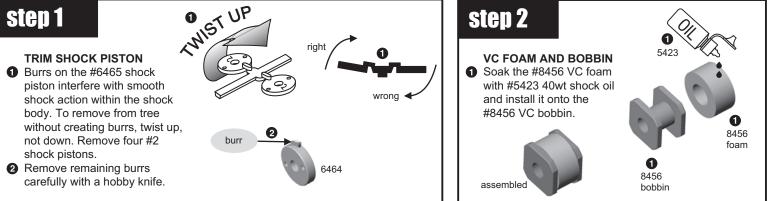
#### TURNBUCKLE ASSEMBLY

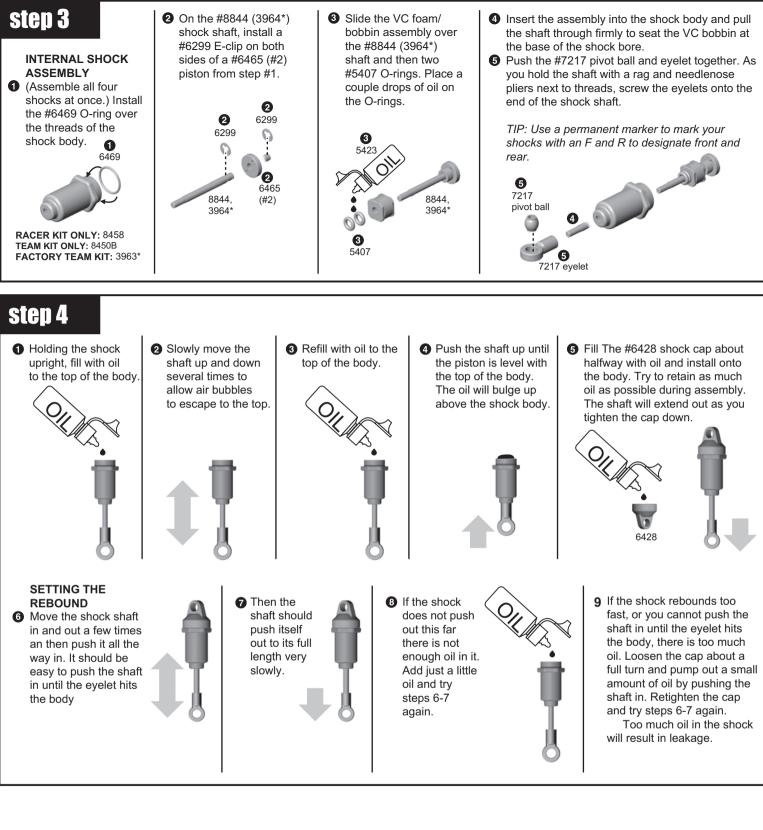
- 1 Twist the #6274 ball cups onto the #1356 blue titanium turnbuckle or #3867 steel turnbuckle until you get the dimension shown for each part. Assemble all six turnbuckles.
- 2 Snap all six turnbuckles into place where shown, making sure that all the universal bones are in the slots of the outdrive hubs.













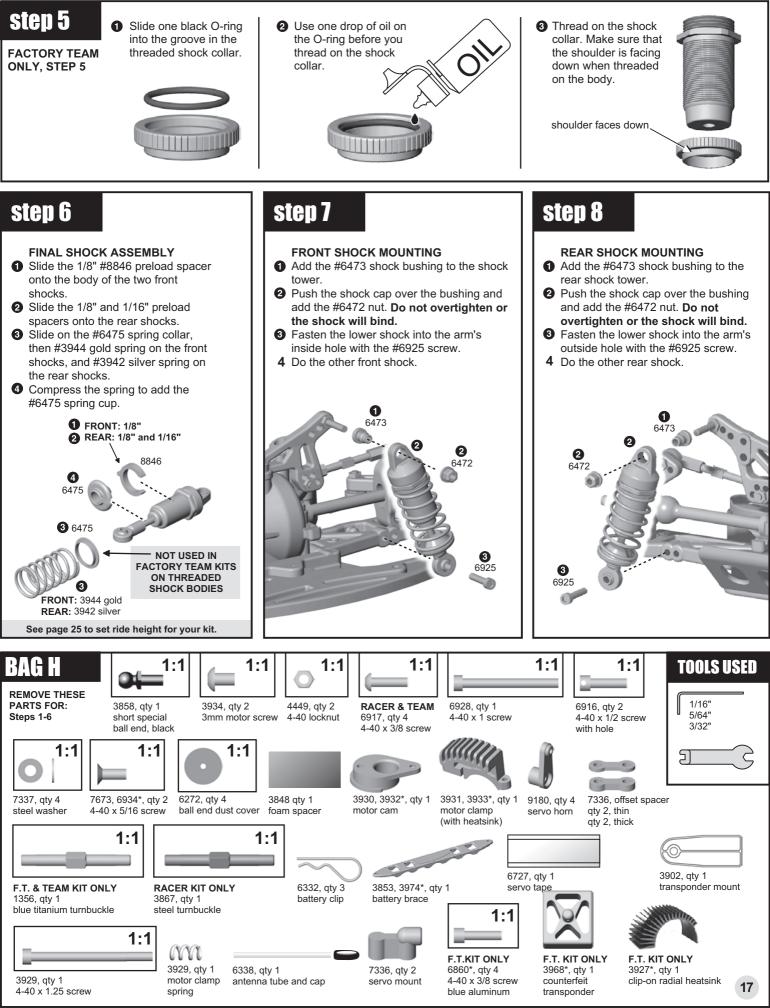
collar O-ring

shock collar

spring cup

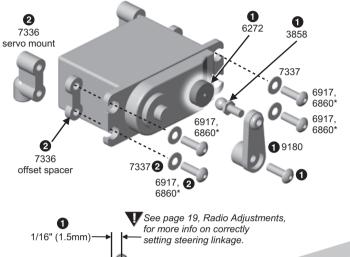
spring collar

shock bushing



### ADD MOUNTS TO THE SERVO

- Find the appropriate #9180 servo horn for your servo from the chart at right. Install the #3858 ball end into the servo horn. Add the #6272 dust cover. Remove the servo horn from your servo and replace it with the #9180 horn that you selected, then fasten with the stock mounting screw that came with your servo in the position shown below. DO NOT POINT IT STRAIGHT UP! See drawing for correct dimension.
- Find the appropriate #7336 offset spacer for your servo from the chart at right. Attach the spacer, if any, in between the #7336 mount and the servo with the #7337 washers and #6917 (6860\*) screws.



trim edges

0

7673,<del>\*</del> 6934\*

between

so servo

will fit

| SERVO TYPE   | SPACER       | SERVO ARM |
|--|--------------|-----------|
| Airtronics<br>94102  | no spacer    | А         |
| <b>Airtronics</b><br>94155, 94156, 94157, 94158, 94257,<br>94258, 94737, 94738, 94741, 94452             | thick spacer | A 🌒       |
| <b>Futaba V</b><br>S3003, S9404, S9402, S9303, S3401,<br>S9101, S9202                                    | no spacer    | F 🍶       |
| Hitec<br>S-300, HS-303, HS-525BB, HS-545BB,<br>HS-422, HS-425, HS-605BB,<br>HS-615MG, HS-925MG, HS-945MG | no spacer    | н 🧃       |
| JR Z8450, Z8550,<br>NES-4721, NES-4735, Z4750  | no s         | pacer 🥑 J |
| <b>JR</b><br>Z250, Z550, Z2750   | thin spacer  | J 🌒       |
| <b>KO V</b><br>PS-1012 FET, PS-2000 FET,<br>PS-2001 FET, PS-2004 FET,<br>PS-2015 FET                     | no spacer    | J 🥼       |

On Futaba servo S3003 and on all KO servos you will need to trim a off the sides of the servo ears. We have not tested any servos that were released after mid-1999.

## step 2

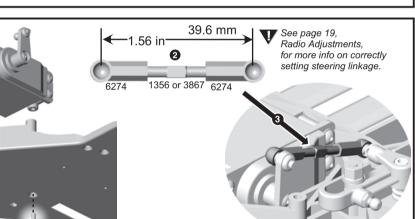
trim edges

so servo

will fit

#### MOUNT THE SERVO

- Mount the servo to the chassis with two #7673 (6934\*) screws.
- Wist #6274 ball cups onto #1356 blue turnbuckle or #3867 steel turnbuckle until you get the dimension shown.
- Use needle-nose pliers to attach the link to the ball ends.

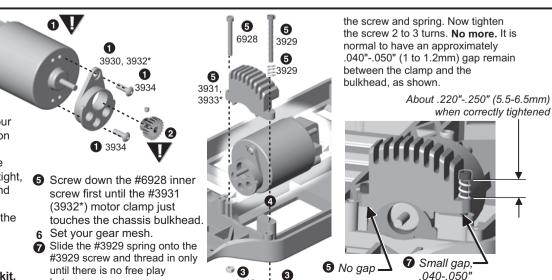


## step 3

INSTALL YOUR MOTOR

- Attach the #3930 (3932\*) motor cam to the optional motor with two #3934 button head motor screws.
- Install the optional pinion gear of your choice. (Refer to the gearing chart on page 19.)
- Install the two #4449 locknuts to the underside of the chassis. These fit tight, so be sure to put them in straight and all the way in.
- Slide the motor and cam down into the groove of the chassis.

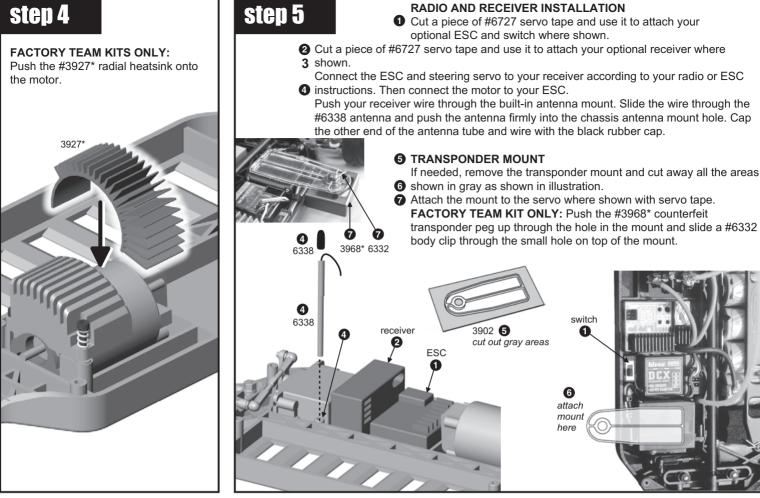
#### Motor not included in kit. Pinion gear not included in kit.

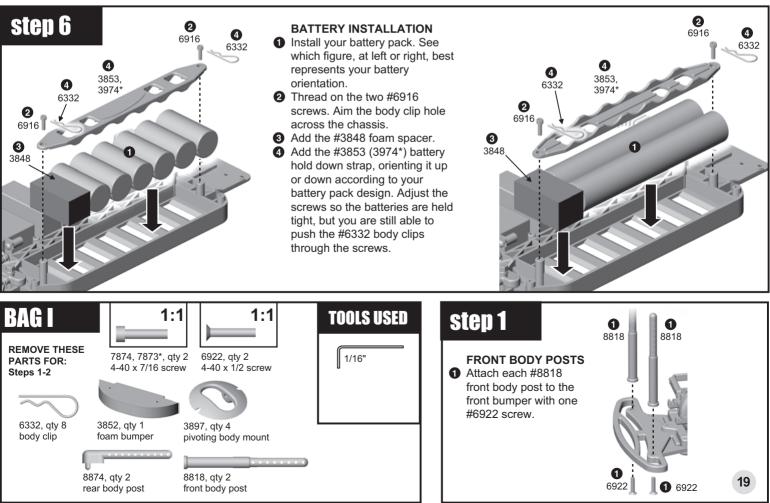


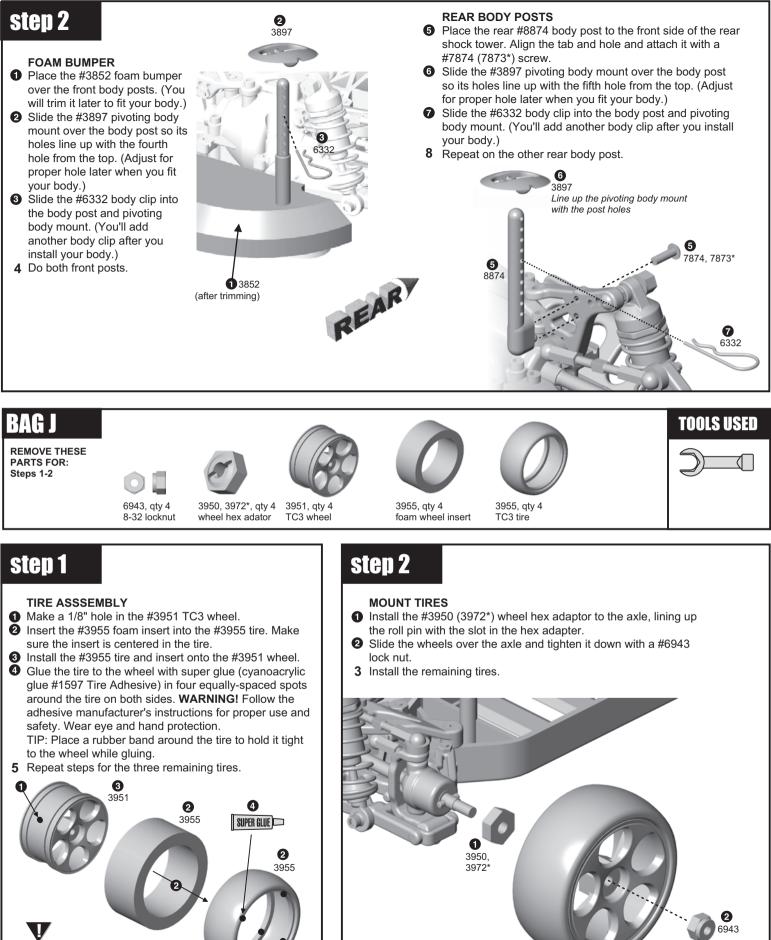
🖕 4449

(1-1.2mm)

4449







Wheels and tires are not included in Factory Team kits.



# **FACTORY TEAM KIT ONLY**

| TO |  | 112 | 13 | Ш |
|----|--|-----|----|---|
|    |  |     |    |   |

**REMOVE THESE** PARTS FOR: Steps 1-4



8828\*, qty 4 5/16" set screw anti-roll bar

3960\*, gty 2 8830\*, aty 4 pivot

6951\*, gty 4 set screw screw

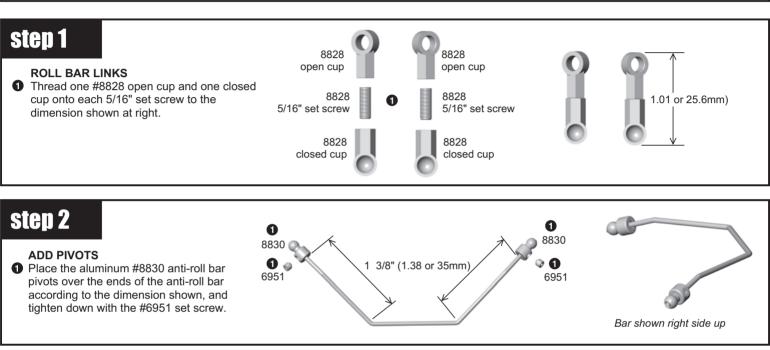
9146\*, qty 4

WHAT ARE ANTI-ROLL BARS?

Anti-roll bars (also known as sway bars) are used to stabilize a car from excessive chassis roll (which occurs when your car leans outward through the turns by centrifugal force). Anti-roll bars are generally used on smooth, high traction track conditions. If the conditions are very bumpy, then anti-roll bars are probably not necessary.

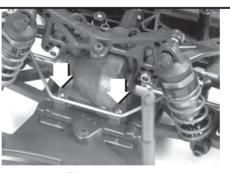
#### WHEN ARE ANTI-ROLL BARS NEEDED?

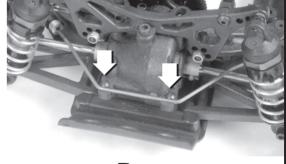
If you are driving on a high traction surface and your car wants to oversteer, then use the bar on the front only. This will decrease the front chassis roll and decrease steering through the corner. This has the feeling of increasing rear traction. If your car is understeering, then try the anti-roll bar kit on the rear only. The rear anti-roll bar will decrease rear traction. This has the feeling of increasing steering.



# step 3

Place the anti-roll bar into the grooves of the lower transmission case and secure using two #9146 2-56 x 3/16" screws. Do not overtighten; the roll bar should move up and down freely.





Front

Rear

# step 4

- 1 Attach the open cup side of the linkages to the antiroll bar.
- Make sure your car is ready to run without the 0 body installed.
- Drop your car from about 2" high onto a flat 3 surface.
- Without moving the suspension, adjust the link 4 so it aligns with the balls exactly, then snap it onto the balls with your needle nose pliers. This ensures that the anti-roll bar is not under tension when your vehicle is at ride height.





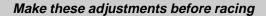


### **FINAL ADJUSTMENTS**

#### **FINISHING THE BODY**

Before you start to mask and paint the inside of your TC3's body, wash it out with soap and water to remove any mold release residue or dirt that may show up in your paint.

1. Mark the body post holes and rear wheel cutout



with a marker on the outside of the body. 2. Each body comes with pre-cut self-adhesive win-

dow masks for your convenience.

**3.** Be sure to use a paint that is specifically formulated to adhere to Lexan. Spray several thin coats (instead of one thick coat) to avoid runs. If possible,

spray your darker colors first.

**4.** After painting, trim the wheel wells with curved scissors or a sharp hobby knife.

 Trim out the rear wing and mount it to the body with the supplied 4-40 button head screws and nylon nuts.
Finish by applying decals.



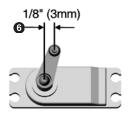
#### RADIO ADJUSTMENTS

Use the following steps to make the final adjustments on your car.

- 1. Turn the transmitter on.
- 2. Make sure the motor is disconnected.
- 3. Connect your battery pack.
- 4. Turn the power switch on.

Move the steering control on the transmitter to the right and left. Do the wheels move in the correct direction? If not, you must reverse the steering servo direction on your transmitter (see radio manual.)
Look at the servo horn mounted on the servo. It should lean toward the centerline of the chassis about

should lean toward the centerline of the chassis a 1/8" (3mm).



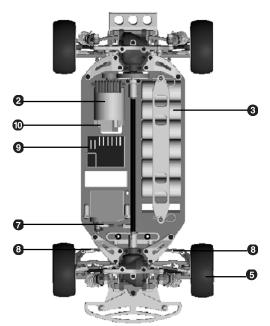
 Adjust the servo turnbuckle so that the steering rack arm is EXACTLY in the center of the car.
Using the two steering turnbuckles, adjust the front wheels so they are pointed straight ahead.

9. Adjust the ESC (electronic speed control) according to the speed control manufacturer's instructions. Note: Some manufacturers have the motor connected during adjustment and some do not. Now turn the power switch off.

**10.** Connect the motor. Place your car on a block or car stand so that all four wheels cannot touch any-thing. Turn the power switch on again. Check the ESC and steering settings you have made and then turn the power switch back off.

10. Remember this! The transmitter is always the FIRST TO BE TURNED ON and THE LAST TURNED OFF.

CONGRATULATIONS! YOUR CAR IS NOW READY TO RUN!



### MOTOR GEARING

To get the most from your motor, proper gearing is important. The gear ratios listed in the chart are recommended starting gear ratios. Ratios can vary from track to track, but you should not change the pinion size more than one tooth from the recommended ratio.

**CAUTION!** Increasing the pinion size by more than one tooth can damage your motor from excess heat.

### MAINTENANCE

#### CHECK FOR FIT

You should periodically check all the moving parts: front and rear end, suspension arms, steering blocks, steering linkage, shocks, and so on. If any of these should get dirty or bind then your car's performance will suffer.

#### **MOTOR MAINTENANCE**

Between runs, inspect the brushes to ensure they are moving freely in the brush holder. This is done by

|                        |        |      | FINAL       | OVERALL |  |
|------------------------|--------|------|-------------|---------|--|
| MOTOR                  | PINION | SPUR | DRIVE RATIO | RATIO   |  |
| 24° ROAR stock motor   | 28     | 72   | 2.5:1       | 6.43    |  |
| 36° stock motor        | 26     | 72   | 2.5:1       | 6.92    |  |
| 16 turn modified motor | 26     | 72   | 2.5:1       | 6.92    |  |
| 15 turn modified motor | 25     | 72   | 2.5:1       | 7.2     |  |
| 14 turn modified motor | 24     | 72   | 2.5:1       | 7.5     |  |
| 13 turn modified motor | 23     | 72   | 2.5:1       | 7.83    |  |
| 12 turn modified motor | 22     | 72   | 2.5:1       | 8.18    |  |
| 11 turn modified motor | 21     | 72   | 2.5:1       | 8.57    |  |
| 10 turn modified motor | 20     | 72   | 2.5:1       | 9.00    |  |
| 9 turn modified motor  | 19     | 72   | 2.5:1       | 9.47    |  |

Follow these steps to keep your car in shape for racing

carefully removing the spring and sliding the brush in and out of the holder. If there is any resistance or rough spots, remove the brush and carefully wipe the brush clean. This will clean off any buildup and lubricate the brush so it slides smoothly in the brush holder.

After every 3 to 5 runs, remove the brushes from the holders and inspect the tips for wear and/or burning. If there is a noticeable amount of wear, replace the brush with a new pair. If the tip is a burnt blue color, then the lubricant in the brush has been burned away and new brushes should be installed. After every other battery charge you should carefully clean the motor. One recommended method is to spray motor cleaner directly on the brush and commutator area. Run the motor for approximately 15 seconds. Disconnect the motor and spray it again, making sure the runoff is clear and clean. If the runoff is still dirty, repeat the spraying action until clean. After completing the cleaning, apply a small amount of lightweight oil to each bushing or bearing for lubrication. Be careful not to apply too much oil, for this will pick up dirt and contaminate the commutator and brushes.



### DIFFERENTIAL MAINTENANCE

You should rebuild the differentials when the action gets somewhat "gritty" feeling. Usually cleaning the diff parts and applying new lube per the instructions will bring it back to new condition again. The standard 3/32" carbide balls rarely need replacing. Normally, as the parts seat, the diff will get smoother.

If the diff still feels gritty after carefully cleaning and re-lubing the diff parts, the thrust balls, thrust washers, and drive rings should be checked and possibly replaced.

### **TUNING & SETUP TIPS**

Your car is one of the most tunable on road cars on the market. This section will try to explain the parts and adjustments you can use to tune your car for different track conditions.

**CASTER** describes the angle of the kingpin from vertical when looked at from the side of the car. Positive caster means the kingpin leans rearward at the top. Negative caster should never be used.

**KICKUP** refers to the angle at which the front suspension is mounted in relation to horizontal when looked from the side of the car. Kickup is adjusted by changing the suspension arm mounts, which have molded codes to help you tell them apart. The two front arm mount combinations are as follows:

#### RECOMMENDED ARM MOUNT/BLOCK CARRIER COMBINATIONS

| FOR THIS SETUP:      | USE THESE PARTS: |     |               |
|----------------------|------------------|-----|---------------|
|                      | Arm Mounts       |     | Block Carrier |
|                      |                  | B   | G             |
| 2° kickup, 2° caster | F                | F+2 | 0°            |
| 2° kickup, 4° caster | F                | F+2 | 2°            |
| 0° kickup, 0° caster | F                | F-0 | 0°            |
| 0° kickup, 2° caster | F                | F-0 | 2°            |
| 0° kickup, 4° caster | F                | F-0 | 4°            |

part #

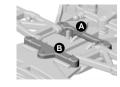
#3863 (std)

#3863 (std)

#3864 (optional)

#### **ARM MOUNT PART NUMBERS**

| code<br>F | effect     |
|-----------|------------|
| F+2       | +2° kickup |
| F-0       | 0° kickup  |



The parts will normally wear out in the following order:

- 1. #6575 5/64" diff thrust balls (qty 6).
- 2. #6573 diff thrust washers (2).
- 3. #3906 D-drive rings (2).

Refer to the differential section to correctly assemble the diff.

#### These tips prepare your car for maximum performance

Positive caster means the kingpin leans rearward at the top.



Associated makes block carriers for the TC3 with 0° (kit standard), 2°, and 4° of caster. Increasing caster in the TC3 (with 2° or 4° block carriers) will give your car more steering entering corners but less steering exiting corners. It will also be more stable in bumpy conditions.

**Note:** When figuring total caster in your car, add the amount in the block carrier to the amount of kickup. Example: 2° of kickup (kit standard) and 0° block carrier equals total of 2° of caster.

EFFECTS OF ARM MOUNT/BLOCK CARRIER

COMBINATIONS

A

The kit setting of **2° kickup** will work best in most conditions, especially in bumpy conditions.

FRONT

**0° kickup** will have a more aggressive steering feeling but will not absorb bumps as well as 2°.

#### **G** BLOCK CARRIER PART NUMBERS

effect 0° caster 2° caster 4° caster part # #3868 (std) #3870 (optional) #3872 (optional)



F+2

ß

### FRONT TOE-IN AND TOE-OUT is

adjusted by turning the steering turnbuckles. Toe-in will make your car easier to drive by improving stability during acceleration. Toe-out will increase steering when entering corners but will be slightly more difficult to drive. We suggest using 0° to 1° toe-out on the TC3.



Toe-in: Easier to drive. Improves stability during acceleration.



Toe-out: Harder to drive. Increases steering entering corners.

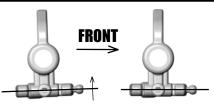
**REAR ANTI-SQUAT** describes the angle at which the rear suspension is mounted in relation to horizontal when looked at from the side of the car. The TC3 comes standard with 2° of rear anti-squat. This provides good rear traction. Installing the #3864 (R3+0) rear arm mount reduces anti-squat to 0° and will reduce rear traction. However, it will improve acceleration in bumpy conditions and increase steering slightly.

| REAR ARM | MOUNT | INFORMATION |
|----------|-------|-------------|
| effect   |       | part #      |

| code |  |
|------|--|
|      |  |

| R     |                           |
|-------|---------------------------|
| R+3+2 | 3° toe-in & 2° anti-squat |
| R+3+0 | 3° toe-in & 0° anti-squat |
| R+2+0 | 2° toe-in & 0° anti-squat |
| R+2+2 | 2° toe-in & 2° anti-squat |





2° of anti-squat is kit standard. 0° anti-squat will reduce rear traction, but improve steering slightly.

### REAR TOE-IN is adjusted by changing the rear

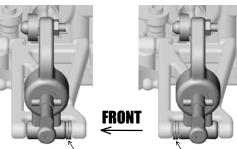
arm mounts. The TC3 comes standard with 3° of toein on each side. This setting should work best in any condition. However, if less toe-in is desired, install the #3864 (R+2+2) or #3864 (R+2+0) rear arm mounts. These mounts have 2° of toe-in and will decrease rear traction and add steering. (See rear antisquat details above for more info on the mounts.)

### WHEELBASE ADJUSTMENT can be

made to the TC3 by moving the two #4187 1/32" plastic spacers on the outer rear hinge pins (next to the hub carrier).

Moving the spacers to the front of the hub carrier will lengthen the wheelbase and decrease rear traction.

Moving the spacers to the rear of the hub carrier will shorten the wheelbase and increase rear traction.

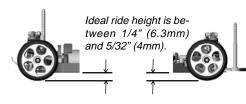


Spacers to rear shorten your wheelbase. Spacers to front lengthen your wheelbase.

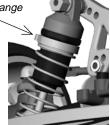
**RIDE HEIGHT** describes the height of the chassis in relation to the surface it is sitting on. This adjustment must be made with the chassis ready-to-run but with no body. The #8846 shock preload spacers are used for raising and lowering the ride height.

We suggest starting with about 1/4" (6.0mm) clearance between the chassis and ground. Try using a slightly lower right height for high traction conditions such as carpet racing. Do not use a ride height lower than 5/32" (4mm).

For more tips on setting ride height, see next page.

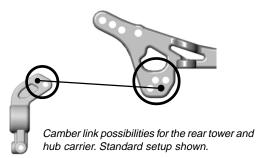


Adjust preload spacers to change your ride height.



### CAMBER LINK LOCATIONS on the

TC3 have been thoroughly tested to find the best all around positions. We suggest using the standard setting for all conditions. However, if you must make adjustments, the following guidelines should help you: The longer or higher the link, the more traction and less stability. The shorter or lower the link, the less traction and greater stability.



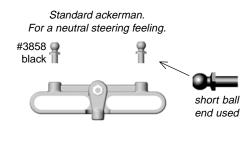


Camber link possibilities for the front tower. Standard setup shown.

**ACKERMAN** is a term describing the effect of the inside front wheel turning tighter than the outside front wheel. The standard setup works best in most conditions and is preferred by most of our Team drivers.

By adding two .100" (2.5mm) spacers and the longer #3858 ball ends to the steering rack, a more aggressive steering feeling can be achieved. This is because there will be less ackerman.

**CAMBER** describes the angle the wheels ride relative to the ground when looked at from the front or back. Negative camber means that the tire leans inward at the top. Positive camber means just the opposite, and should not be used.



Optional ackerman. For a more aggressive steering feeling. #3858 black #3855

We suggest using 2° of negative camber to start with. For tips on setting camber, see next page.

Negative camber means that the tire leans inward at the top. Change camber by turning the camber link.

#### SETTING CAMBER

Setting camber is one of the tuning options that the TC3 offers. To set the camber we recommend using a camber gauge, 3x5" card or just a square piece of cardboard. When adjusting camber you need to have the car ready to run with no body.

1. Set the car on a flat surface.

**2.** Take your 3x5 card and push it against the tire as shown in fig. 1.

**3.** Use your supplied molded turnbuckle wrench to adjust the camber link to  $1^{\circ}$ ,  $2^{\circ}$  or  $3^{\circ}$  by either eyeball the gap between the card and the top of the tire (fig. 2), or place a ruler across the top of the tires and measure from the card to the tire.

- (If you really want to know exact figures,
- 1° produces a .045" (1.1mm) gap,
- 2° produces a .088" (2.2mm) gap, and
- 3° produces a .130" (3.3mm) gap.
- But it's hard to measure!)

We recommend using 2° of negative camber. On high traction tracks 2° to 3° negative camber would be used, 1° to 2° would be used in low traction conditions. We don't recommend using positive camber under any circumstances.

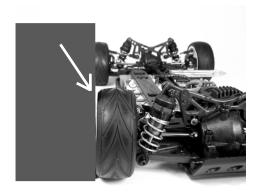


Fig. 1

Push a 3x5 card against the tire. Arrow is pointing to the negative camber gap at the top.

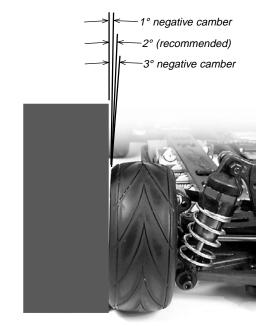


Fig. 2

Eyeball or measure the gap for camber. We recommend 2° negative camber to start with.

### SETTING RIDE HEIGHT

Setting the ride height is another adjustment of the TC3. The ride height is easily adjusted by the #8846 shock preload spacers, shown in fig. 1, used for the non-threaded shocks. The suggested preload for the TC3 is one 1/8" preload for the front shocks and one 1/8" and one 1/16" spacers for the rear shocks. (See page 17, step 6 for more about the preload spacers.) These preload spacers set the ride height at ¼" (6.0mm). The Factory Team Kit shocks are adjusted by the collar on the bodies, shown in fig. 2A. The spacing between the collars on the threaded shocks is 7/64" (2.78mm) for the front shocks (fig. 2B). The spacing for the rear shocks is 9/64" (3.58mm) (fig. 2C). This also sets the ride height at 1/4" (6.0mm).

For adjusting the ride height we recommend using Associated ride height gauge #1450 (fig. 3). The ride height gauge is stepped every ½mm and every every 1mm step is numbered.

1. When adjusting the ride height you need to have

the car ready to run with no body.

2. Set the car on a flat surface.

**3.** Slide the ride height gauge underneath the chassis, as shown in fig. 4A, until the gauge just touches the chassis. To get a measurement on the chassis and not the bumper, you might need to slide the gauge in the corner of the car as shown in fig. 4A. Check both corners of the front.

**4.** Slide the gauge underneath the back of the car. Check both corners of the rear (fig. 4B).



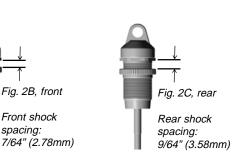
Fig. 1

Shock pre-load spacer inserted on non-threaded shock.



Fig. 2A

Adjusting collar on threaded shock.



**3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10** 

Measure your ride height quickly and easily with Associated's Ride Height Gauge #1450 (not included in kits).



Fig. 4A, front

Fig. 4B, rear

Slide your Ride Height Gauge under the chassis so you don't measure the bumper.

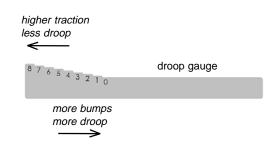
Slide your Ride Height Gauge under the chassis so you don't measure the bumper.

#### SHOCKTRAVEL can be adjusted on the TC3

to help speed up or slow down how fast the car changes direction when cornering. The TC3 standard setup is setting 6 on your droop gauge in the front and 4 on the rear. This setup will work best in almost any condition.

If your track is bumpy, you may want to add droop to your car by going to a lower droop gauge step.

If your track has very high traction, such as occurs with carpet, then you may want to take droop out of your car by going higher on the droop gauge. Too little droop will cause a loss of traction.



SHOCK SPRINGS try to keep your car level

during acceleration, deceleration, and cornering.

Stiffer springs will help your suspension respond more quickly, but because of their stiffness will not absorb bumps as well. Use stiffer springs in high traction conditions such as carpet racing.

Softer springs are best for slippery or bumpy conditions.

| #3941<br>#3942<br>#3943<br>#3944<br>#3945<br>#3946<br>#3946 | Green<br>Silver<br>Blue<br>Gold<br>Red<br>Copper | 14.5 lbs/in <i>(std rear)</i><br>17 lbs/in<br>19.5 lbs/in <i>(std front)</i><br>22 lbs/in<br>25 lbs/in | fter             |
|---|--|--|------------------|
| #3946<br>#3952<br>#3953<br>#3954                            | Copper<br>Purple<br>Yellow<br>White              | 30 lbs/in<br>35 lbs/in   | <b>V</b><br>ffer |

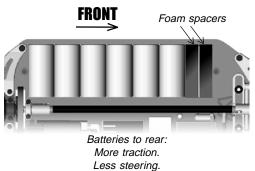
**ANTI-ROLL BARS** are used to stabilize a car from excessive chassis roll (which occurs when

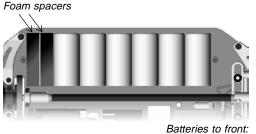
your car leans through the turns by centrifugal force). Anti-roll bars are generally used on smooth, high traction track conditions. If the conditions are very bumpy, then anti-roll bars are probably not necessary.

If you are driving on a high traction surface and your car wants to oversteer, then use the optional #3960 anti-roll bar kit on the front only. This will decrease the front chassis roll and decrease steering throughout the corner. This has the feeling of increasing rear traction. If your car is understeering, then try the optional #3960 anti-roll bar kit on the rear only. The rear antiroll bar will decrease rear chassis roll and decrease rear traction (this has the feeling of increasing steering).

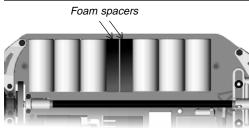


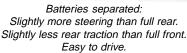
**BATTERY PLACEMENT** in the TC3 allows you to slide your batteries forward or back to change the handling characteristics of your car. There are many combinations, but here are three we suggest trying.





Less traction. More steering.





26

**TIRES & INSERTS** are two of the most influential changes you can make to your car. The TC3 comes standard with Pro-Line S-2 compound V-Rage tires. This is a good traction, long-wearing tire for all around use.

If you would like more traction, try the Pro-Line #1091 S-3 compound tires with Pro-Line tire inserts. For racing conditions, try the Pro-Line #1089S2 S-2 slicks or #1089S3 S-3 racing slicks. These optional tires are available from Pro-Line.

**SETUP SHEET** for the TC3 is included. Set up your TC3 with the standard settings at right, then deviate from them in response to your track conditions and driving style, as noted below.

#### Tips for beginners:

For best results, make only one setup change at a time, testing it before making another change. Make a copy of the setup sheet included in this manual to help keep track of your changes.

Before you make any changes to the standard settings, make sure you can get around the track without crashing. None of your setup changes will work if you cannot stay on the track.

Your goal is consistent lap times. Inconsistent lap times may indicate poor control. When you have consistent lap times, then make changes to your car.

If the change results in a faster lap, then mark the change in your setup sheet. If performance is worse, then revert back to the previous setup and try another change.

Fill out your setup sheet thoroughly when you are satisfied with it and file it away. It can be a practical guide for future track layouts and conditions you encounter.

### STANDARD SETTINGS of the TC3 are

presented below.

- 1. Front camber: -2°.
- 2. Front camber link: inside lower hole on tower.
- 3. Front block carrier: 0°.
- 4. Front toe: 0° to 1° toe-out.
- 5. Front ride height: 1/4" (6.3mm).
- 6. Kickup: +2°.
- 7. Bump steer spacers: none.
- 8. Ackerman: #3858 ball ends, no spacers.
- 9. Front anti-roll bar: none.
- 10. Rear camber: 1° to 2° negative.
- 11. Rear camber link: tower: inside lower hole. Hub
- carrier: outside hole. 12. Rear toe-in: 3°.
- 13. Rear ride height: 1/4" (6.3mm).
- 14. Rear Anti-squat: 2°.
- 15. Rear anti-roll bar: none.
- 16. Driveshafts: MIP CVD's.
- 17. Wheelbase: hub carriers centered.
- 18. Shock body: macro shock.
- 19. Shock oil: front, 40wt. Rear, 40wt.
- 20. Shock shaft: front. #8844. Rear. #8844.
- 21. Shock pistons: front, #2. Rear, #2.
- 22. Shock springs: front, Gold. Rear, Silver.
- 23. Shock limiters: front, 4. Rear, 2.
- 24. Shock mounting, front tower, outside hole.
- 25. Shock mounting, rear tower, outside hole.
- 26. Batteries: 6-cell.
- 27. Battery placement: rear.
- 28. Motor: varies.
- 29. Speed control: varies.
- 30. Radio: varies.
- 31. One way, front diff: none.
- 32. Tires, front: Pro-Line V-Rage S-2 compound.
- 33. Tires, rear: Pro-Line V-Rage S-2 compound.
- 34. Tire additive: none.
- 35. Inserts: incl. with tires.
- 36. Wheels: Pro-Line.
- 37 Spur gear: 72 (from Kimbrough)
- 38. Pinion gear: varies.
- 39. Lead weights: none.
- 40. Chassis: Composite.
- 41. Body: varies.
  - 42. Wing: varies with body.

#### **BUMPY TRACK SETTING**

#### Front Suspension:

- 1. Block carriers: 0°
- 2. Kickup: 2°
- 3. Toe-in: 0°
- 4. Toe-out: 0°
- 5. Camber: -1.5°
- 6. Ride height: 6mm
- 7. Anti-roll bar: none
- 8. Ackerman setting: std
- 9. Shock bodies: VCS
- 10. Shock piston: #2
- 11. Shock oil: 30wt
- 12. Spring: silver
- 13. Droop setting: 5
- 14. Camber link postion: std
- 15. Shock mounting: middle hole

#### **Rear Suspension:**

- 1. Toe-in: 2°
- 2. Anti-squat: 2°
- 3. Camber: -1.5°
- 4. Wheelbase: middle
- 5. Ride height: 6mm
- 6. Anti-roll bar: none
- 7. Shock bodies: VCS
- 8. Shock piston: #2
- 9. Shock oil: 25wt
- 10. Spring: green
- 11. Droop setting: 3
- 12. Camber link postion Tower: std Hub: std
- 13. Shock mounting: middle hole

#### General:

- 1. Battery postion: rear
- 2. One-way or Diff: diff
- 3. Drive shafts: alum CVD's
- 4. Body: varies
- 5. Spur: 72

#### **CARPET WITH FOAM TIRES**

#### Front Suspension:

- 1. Block carriers: 4°
- 2. Kickup: 2°
- 3. Toe-in: 0°
- 4. Toe-out: 0°
- 5. Camber: -1.5°
- 6. Ride height: 4mm
- 7. Anti-roll bar: std
- 8. Ackerman setting: std
- 9. Shock bodies: VCS
- 10. Shock piston: #2
- 11. Shock oil: 70wt
- 12. Spring: white
- 13. Droop setting: 6
- 14. Camber link postion: std
- 15. Shock mounting: middle hole
- 16. Tires: Jaco orange purple

#### Rear Suspension:

- 1. Toe-in: 3°
- 2. Anti-squat: °
- 3. Camber: -2°
- 4. Wheelbase: middle
- 5. Ride height: 4mm
- 6. Anti-roll bar: std
- 7. Shock bodies: VCS
- 8. Shock piston: #2
- 9. Shock oil: 50wt
- 10. Spring: red
- 11. Droop setting: 4
- 12. Camber link postion: Tower: upper inner hoe Hub: std
- 13. Shock mounting- middle hole
- 14. Tires: Jaco purple

#### General:

- 1. Battery postion: rear
- 2. One-way or Diff: diff
- 3. Drive shafts: alum CVD's
- 4. Body: varies
- 5. Spur: 72

### ONE-WAY FRONT DIFF (Worlds 2000)

#### Front Suspension:

- 1. Block carriers: 4°
- 2. Kickup: 2°
- 3. Toe-in: 0°
- 4. Toe-out: 0°
- 5. Camber: -2°
- 6. Ride height: 4.5mm
- 7. Anti-roll bar: std
- 8. Ackerman setting: std
- 9. Shock bodies: VCS
- 10. Shock piston: #2
- 11. Shock oil: 40wt
- 12. Spring: gold
- 13. Droop setting: 5.5
- 14. Camber link postion: upper inner hole
- 15. Shock mounting: inner hole

#### **Rear Suspension:**

- 1. Toe-in: 3°
- 2. Anti-squat: 0°
- 3. Camber: -2°

10. Spring: silver

11. Droop setting: 4

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

General:

1.

2.

3.

4.

4. Wheelbase: middle

Anti-roll bar: std

Shock piston: #2

Shock oil: 30wt

12. Camber link postion:

Hub: std

13. Shock mounting: inner hole

Battery postion: rear

Body: varies

One-way or Diff: one-way

Drive shafts: alum CVD's

Tower: upper inner hole

Ride height: 4.5mm

Shock bodies: VCS

|                       | Team Associated           |                            |                                  |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <u>C</u>              |                           | Driver:                    |                                  |
| TC3 4WD Touring Car   | 7755                      | Track/City:                |                                  |
| SETUP SHEET, 5/2002   |                           | Event:                     |                                  |
|                       |                           | FRONT SHOCKS               |                                  |
|                       | NTI-ROLL BAR: None Size:  | SHAFT Std Other:           | Used front tower                 |
|                       | Std Dother:               |                            |                                  |
|                       | Spacer:                   | LIMITERS:<br>Inside:       | 00                               |
|                       | STEER                     | Outside:                   | 000                              |
|                       |                           | DROOP GAUGE #:<br>PISTON # | Used rear tower<br>on the front  |
|                       |                           | OIL WT                     |                                  |
|                       | 3                         | SPRING                     | 0 00                             |
| REAR SUSPENSION       |                           | REAR SHOCKS                | :                                |
| ANTI-SQUAT 0° 2°      |                           | BODY Comp. Alum.           | SHOCK MOUNT &                    |
| ANTI-ROLL BAR: None   | Size:                     | SHAFT Std Other:           | CAMBER LINK<br>Fil in holes used |
| TOE-IN 3° Cother:     | CAMBER:°                  | LIMITERS:                  | 000                              |
| WHEELBASE             |                           | Inside:<br>Outside:        | 0                                |
| ADJUSTMENT            |                           | DROOP GAUGE #:             | <b>8</b>                         |
| FRONT Short           | ☐ Medium ♀ ☐ Long ♀       | PISTON #<br>OILWT          |                                  |
|                       |                           | OIL WT<br>SPRING           | 0 00                             |
| OTHER                 |                           |                            |                                  |
| FRONT TIRES:          | Compound:                 | Insert:                    | Wheel:                           |
| REAR TIRES:           | Compound:                 | Insert:                    | Wheel:                           |
| BATTERY PLACEMENT     | ck 🔲 Front 🔲 Other:       | BATTERY TYPE:              |                                  |
| CHASSIS Std Carbon F  | Fiber FRONT/REAR DRIVE SI | d One-way SPUR             | /PINIONT /T                      |
| MOTOR                 | BRUSH                     | SPRING                     |                                  |
| RADIO                 | SERVO                     | ESC                        |                                  |
| BODY                  | WING                      | Bi                         |                                  |
| TIRE ADDITIVE         | LEAD WEIGHTS              | (oz / gm) Location:        |                                  |
|                       |                           |                            |                                  |
| TRACK CONDITIONS      |                           | RACE COMMENTS              |                                  |
| SURFACE: Smooth Bumpy |                           | MAIN FINISH                | QUALIFYING. POS                  |
| TRACTION: Low Med. Hi | gh                        | NOTES:                     |                                  |
| COMPOSITION:          | Other:                    |                            |                                  |
| NOTES:                |                           | CAR COMMENTS               |                                  |
|                       |                           | NOTES:                     |                                  |
|                       |                           |                            |                                  |