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### **<u>REQUIRED READING</u>**... UNDERSTAND THIS MANUAL!

Thank You and Congratulations on purchasing the **ROCKET**! Within this kit you will find a race winning car with over 21 years worth of **CUSTOM WORKS** design and quality. In order for you to realize this race car's winning potential it is important to follow the written text along with the pictures included. The steps required to build this car are very easy, as long as you read before you build.

The instructional format for building this car is to open each bag in alphabetical order. Each bag of parts will be broken down into "Steps" thru the manual. All parts and hardware needed to complete all steps for each separate bag, will be found in each individual bag. There is no need to steal screws from other bags. In the rare event you need to look in a different bag for a certain part, it will be noted clearly in the instructions.

Considering the various dirt or clay surfaces that Dirt Oval cars are raced on today, the Outlaw has been designed to be competitive on either loose packed dirt with buggy tires or high bite clay with rubber or foam racing tires. The instructions will build the kit using the most verastale set-up Custom Works has found in testing on different types of tracks, however there are various other suspension configurations available to you that you may find more suitable for your local track. For updates and more proven set-ups login to CustomWorksRC.com.

All hardware (screws, washers, nuts, etc...) are referred to by size and type in the instructions. To help clarify which screw or nut the instruction is calling for refer to the HARDWARE REFERENCE supplement. The size of the screw or nut should match the "shadow" of the same piece very closely.

Screw ID's are: FH=Flat Head BH=Button Head SH=Socket Head SS=Set Screw

# **BUILDING TIPS:**

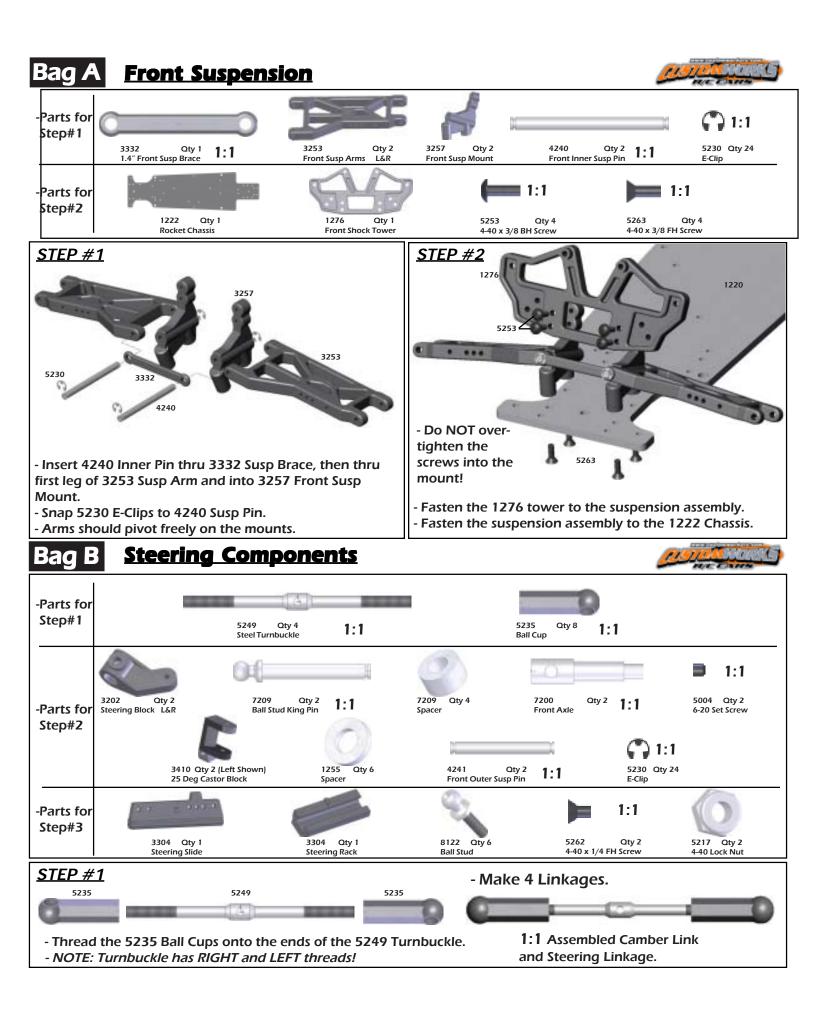
-Using some type of thread locking fluid is suggested for all parts where metal screws thread into other metal parts. We suggest using a lite setting strength thread lock for the reason you may want to take the screw out one day. Remember it only takes a very small amount to secure the screw.

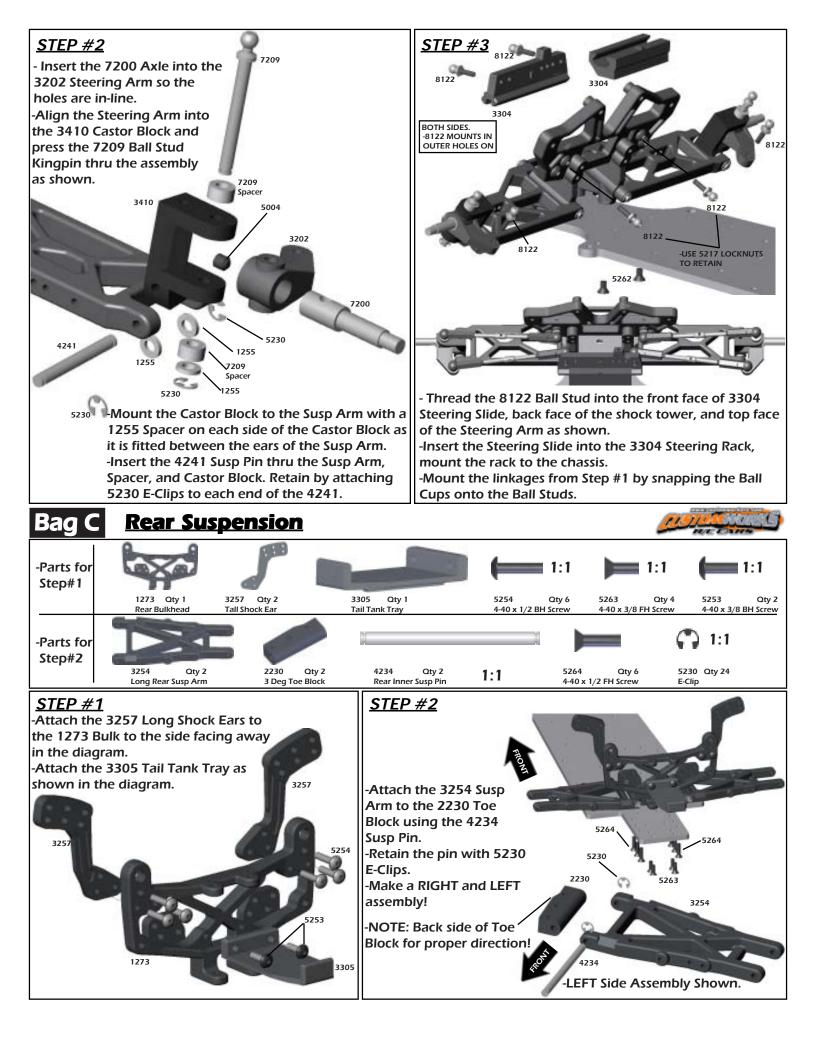
-Do **NOT** use power screwdrivers to drive screws into parts. The fast rotation speed can easily melt and strip plastic parts or cross-thread into the aluminum parts.

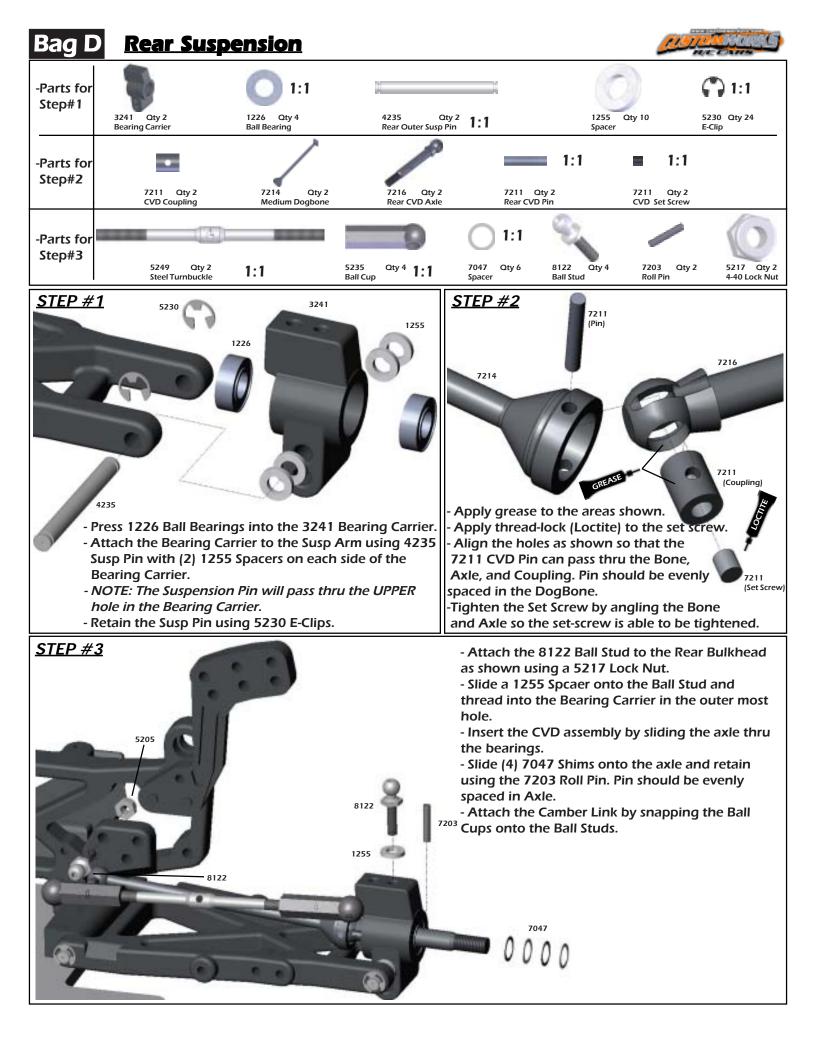
-Lightly sand the edges of graphite pieces using a medium grade sandpaper to avoid splinters. Run a thin bead of Super Glue around the edges to give pieces greater durability.

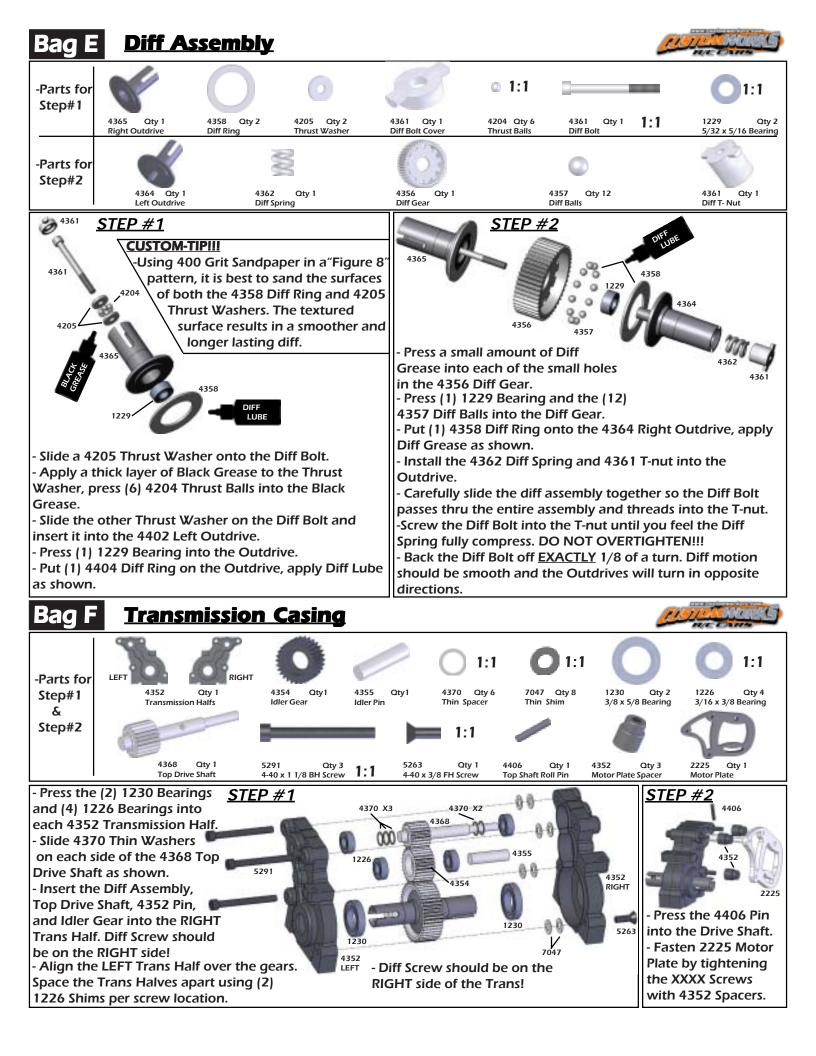
# **SUGGESTED TOOLS**

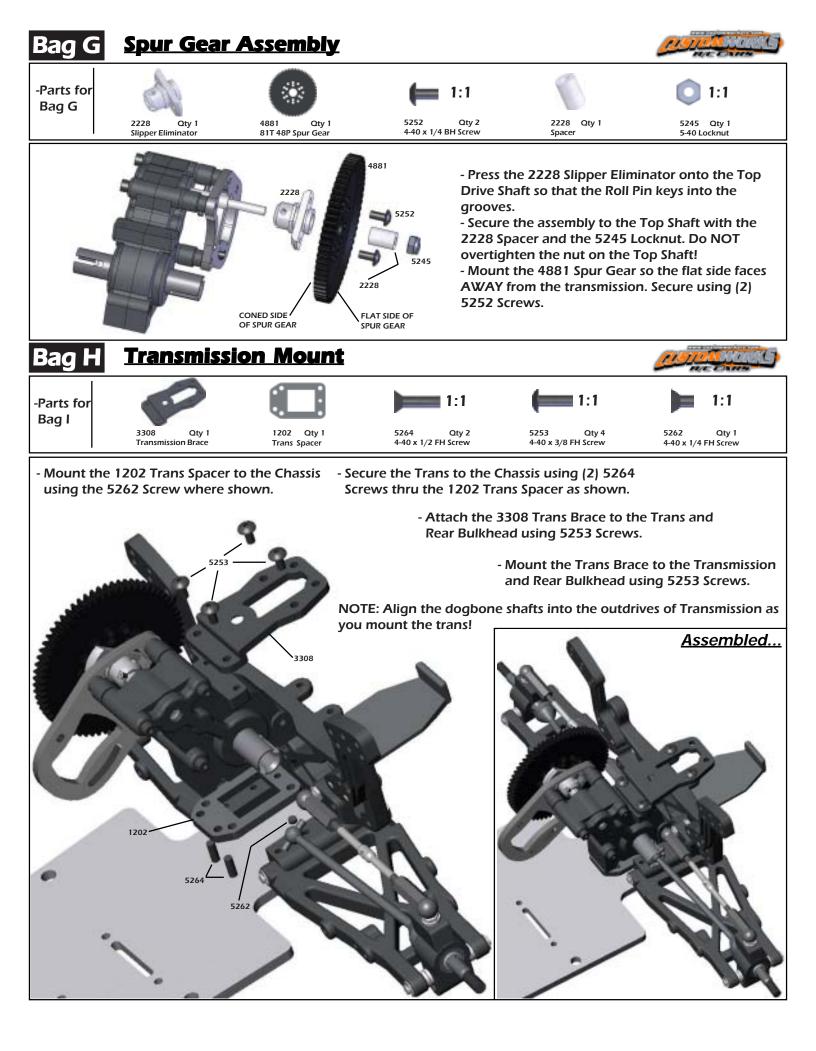
400 Grit Sandpaper Hobby Scissors Small Needle Nose Pliers Wire Cutters X-Acto Knife Phillips Head Screw Driver Blue Loctite 3/16" Wrench

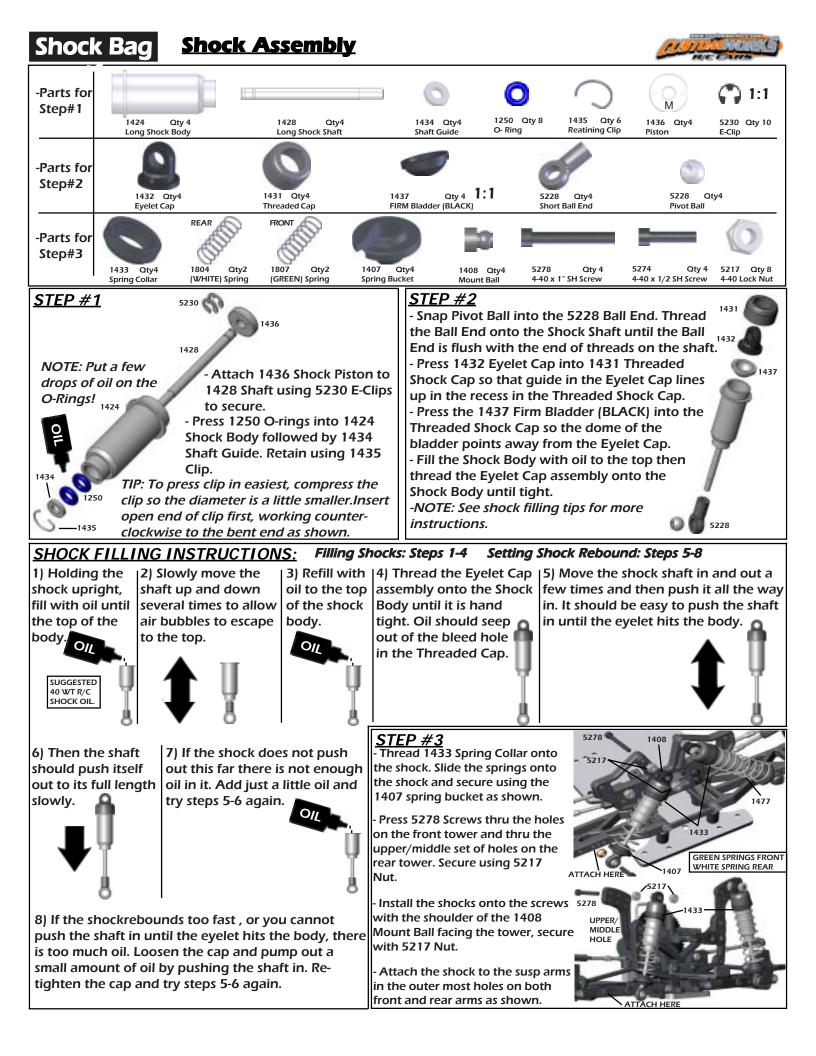


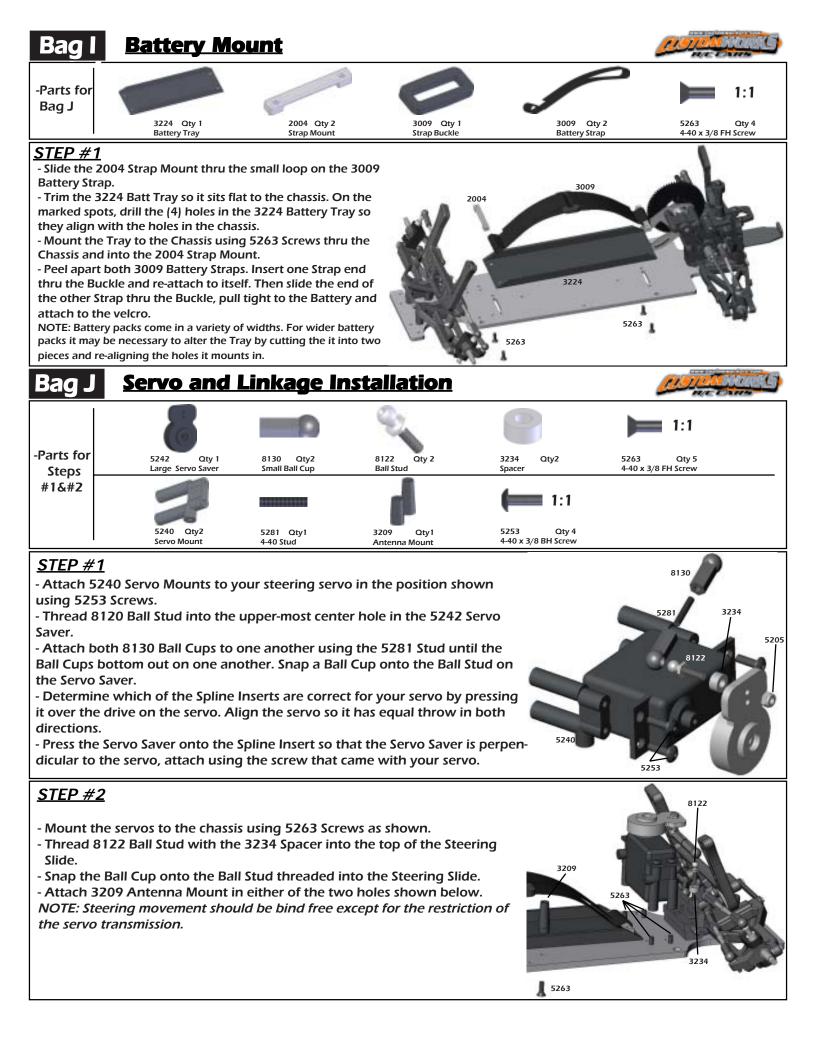














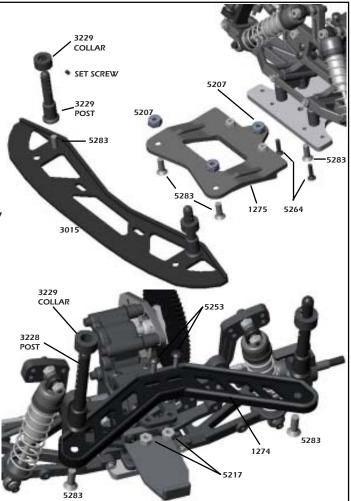
#### <u>FRONT</u>

- Slide the Post Collar onto the 3229 Short Body Post, use the Set Screw to retain the Collar.

- Mount the (2) 3229 Short Body Posts to the rearward set of holes on the 3015 Bumper using 5283 Screw.

- Attach and center the 3015 Bumper to the 1275 Front Clip using 5283 Screws and 5207 Nuts. The bumper is slotted to allow you to adjust the body position easily.

- Mount the 1275 Front Clip to the Chassis using (1) 5283 Screw and 5207 Nut along with (2) 5264 Screws and 5217 Nuts.



### <u>REAR</u>

- Mount the (2) 3228 Long Body Posts to the 1274 Rear Body Mount.

- Attach and center the 1004 to the Trans Brace using 5253 Screws and 5217 Lock Nuts. The rear mount is slotted to allow you to adjust the body position easily.

#### <u>MISC...</u>

<u>Radio Gear:</u> Best suggested to mount the speed control unit on the rear 3305 Tail Tray. Reciever can be mounted anywhere on the chassis to the right of the battery pack area.

<u>Body:</u> Suggested to use the CustomWorks #9012 Eldora Body. It is a two-piece design and will work best if you remove the front and rear window material so the air can easily reach the rear spoiler. Leaving the material in makes for a much more aggressive body usually not best for rubber tire.





NOTE: In this step you will be using a fast drying super glue type adhesive to secure the tires and wheels to each other. Be very careful with this process as the glue can tend to run very easily through the tire and may glue your finger to the tire or wheel before you know it. You must follow the directions and precautions provided by the glue manufacturer to insure a secure bond.

**STEP #1:** Using a reamer or a small drill bit make a hole in the center of each of the 4 wheels as shown in Figure 1.

**STEP #2:** Place the foam inserts into the tires with the wider inserts going in the rear tires, the narrower in the fronts. Make sure the insert is laid into the tire evenly. As shown in Figure 2 it should not be bunched up too much in any area.

**STEP #3:** Place the wheel inside of the tire and work both beads of the tire into the channels on the outside edge of the wheel. Peel back a portion of the tire from the wheel and apply an even bead of tire glue between the wheel and the tire as shown in **Figure 3.** It may be easiest to only glue one section at a time, rather the entire bead at once. Also wrapping electrical tape around the edge of the tire will help hold the tire tight to the wheel as the glue sets. Repeat this step several times working your way around the tire until it is secure.

You may repeat this process now for the remaining 3 tires BUT BE SURE TO PLACE THE FRESHLY GLUED SIDE UP until it has dried completely. Once dry it is a good idea to go back and re-seal the edges by applying another small bead of glue and letting it run around the edge of the tire at the gap between tire and wheel.

STEP #4: Place one #1226 Bearing into each side of the front wheels as shown in Figure 4.



Figure 5

Figure 6

**STEP #5:** Refer to **Figure 5** and place one 7047 shim over the front axle followed by the front wheel and then the 7220 Axle Spacer. Now secure with one 5207 Locknut, be very careful to not overtighten the nut. You want to tighten it just enough to eliminate any slop from side to side but no more. Repeat for other side of car.

**STEP #6:** Now slide one of the rear wheels onto the rear axle as shown in **Figure 6.** Be sure to index the roll pin in the axle so that it slides into the drive slot molded in the back of the wheel. Secure with a 5207 locknut. Wheel should spin freely, remove 7047 spacers from behind roll pin if necessary. Do not overtighten 5207 nut.

#### TIRE TIPS:

- The tires work best after a run or two of breaking in depending on the dirt oval track surface. Lightly scuffing the tires on asphalt (1min of gentle driving) helps break them very quickly.

- Cleaning the tires with Simple Green and a rag works very well and gives the tire a little more grip.

- Traction additives such as Paragon or Buggy Grip also help with traction but will not cure ill-handling issues. If you do not have these products, applying WD-40 to the tire can do wonders as well.

**CONGRATULATIONS!!!** You have now completed the assembly process of your new Custom Works Rocket! In the next section of this manual you will find some basic setup hints and advice. It is important to remember that all tracks and racing surfaces are different. Therefore the suggestions we give you are general in nature and should by no means be treated as the only options.

# **MAINTENANCE:**

Occasionally dirt will get into the moving and pivoting locations in your car. It is best to periodically clean your car to keep all the suspension components moving freely. Read the tips below to keep your car running at its best!

- Begin by removing the majority of the dirt using a small brush, toothbrush, or compressed air.

- Compressed air is ok to use, be mindful to not FORCE the dirt into the radio gear, transmission, bearings, or air filter. Typically these items only have dirt on them, hitting the dirt with the compressed air puts dirt *IN* these parts!

- Tires, either foam or rubber are best cleaned using water or cleaners like Simple Green (TM). Simple Green also does a great job cleaning car parts as well. Lightly spraying car parts (NOT radio components, transmission, air filter, or bearings) with Simple Green and blowing off with compressed air or wiping the parts using the paint brush is a great way to clean in a hurry.

- Another R/C friendly cleaner is WD-40 (TM). After the car is clean, very lightly spray the car components and bearings (NOT radio components, transmission, or air filter). Use your brush or compressed air to remove the extra WD-40. This will lube your bearings and leave a protective coating on the parts making it easier to remove dirt later.

- Differential Maintenance is needed when the action of the diff feels "notchy". Usually cleaning the diff parts, re-sand the thrust and diff plates with 400 paper, and lube appropriately will be all that is needed to bring back to new. Ignoring your differential will lead to handling woes and increase transmission temps, which will cause part failure.

**TUNING TIPS:** These are some general guidelines for optimizing handling performance. None of these "tips" are EVER set in stone. On any given day this manual or any chassis engineering book or guru can be proved wrong by the stop watch. A good way to approach chassis set-up is to try one change, practice it, think how the car felt different from before, and compare lap times from the stop watch.....this will never fail.

Car Pushes (understeers):	Car Is Loose (oversteers):	Car Is Erratic:
- Decrease Spoiler on Body	- Increase Spoiler Angle	- Bent Suspension Pins: Remove shocks to check
- Heavier Rear Spring	- Softer Rear Spring	free movement.
- Softer Front Spring	- Heavier Front Spring	- Bound Ball Joint: Should spin free on balls
- Use Rear Sway Bar	- Use Front Sway Bar	while mounted to the car.
- Try Softer Front Compound Tire	- Try Harder Front Compound Tire	- Bent or Loose Camber Links
- Try Harder Rear Compound Tire	- Try Softer Rear Compound Tire	- Wore out Bearings or Completely Seized
- Lower Front Ride Height	- Raise Front Ride Height	Bearings
- Raise Rear Ride Height	- Lower Rear Ride Height	- Chunked Tire: Check to see if Foam or Rubber
- Thread Shock Collar UP on	- Thread Shock Collar	Tire is still glued to wheel.
Right Front	DOWN on Right Front	- Loose Screws: Especially Chassis Screws, add
- Thread Shock Collar DOWN on	- Thread Shock Collar UP on	Blue Loctite to prevent.
Right Rear	Right Rear	- Shocks: Either Bound-up or Out of Oil. Must
- Decrease Rear Toe	- Increase Rear Toe	swivel freely on mounts.
- Decrease Castor	- Increase Castor	<ul> <li>Foreign Objects: Unlucky Dirt/Stones</li> </ul>
- Add Rear Toe Stagger or	- Decrease Rear Toe Stagger or	preventing Suspension or Steering Movement.
Increase the difference	Decrease the difference	- Blown Differential
		- Radio Problem: Bad Servo, Weak Servo Saver
		Spring, Transmitter Pot blown.

### **SET-UP GUIDELINES:**

When looking for the "perfect set-up" it is important to remember 2 things...

1) Keeping things simple is best.

2) As you are making your set-up change, the track is changing too! Ask a local racer what the track usually does from begining to end, especially day to night.

- Start your car's ride height with it equal at all four corners to start. Use the shock collars to adjust ride height by measuring the distance under the chassis when the car is sitting on a FLAT & LEVEL surface.

- Shock collars can only jack weight and adjust the car's handling when the car makes ALL 4 shocks squat when the car is set down. Use the RF shock collar to adjust how the car ENTERS the corner. Use the RR shock collar to adjust how the car exits the corner ON-POWER. Use the LF shock collar to make the car turn in less, and off the corner more.

- It is best to have a little bit of brake drag when you let off the gas, this will allow for a more controlable car in ALL conditions. Increasing how much the brake drags will make your car turn into the corner harder.

## **SET-UP GLOSSARY:**

**<u>Caster</u>**: Angle of the kingpin in relation to a vertical plane as viewed from the side of the car. Increasing the angle will make the car more stable out of the turn and down the straights and increase steering entering a turn. Decreasing the angle will make the car feel more "touchy" at high speeds and help steering while exiting the turn.

**Camber Gain:** Angle of the Camber Link relative to the Suspension Arm. Lowering the camber link on the shock tower OR raising the camber link on the castor block will INCREASE the camber angle of the tire when the suspension is compressed. Raising the camber link on the shock tower OR lowering the camber link on the castor block will DECREASE the camber angle of the tire when the suspension is compressed. There is not a "correct" set-up and once again too much of anything is generally bad. This will help change the "feel" of the car thru the turns.

**Camber Link Length:** Comparing this to the length of the Suspension Arm from each pivot point and keeping the Camber the same, making the link *shorter* will decrease traction for that corner of the car while making it *longer* will increase traction for that corner of the car. Once the camber link is equal to or greater than the Suspension Arm pivots, the gain of traction ends. Also a shorter camber link will increase camber gain and a longer decrease camber gain.

**Shock Angle:** Leaning the shock toward the car is effectively like changing to a *softer* spring. Standing the shock closer to vertical is effectively like changing to a *stiffer* spring. Try when the car is working well and when one spring change is TOO much for your set-up.

**<u>Ride Height:</u>** Check by pushing the chassis down once or twice to simulate bumps on the track. Having the front end *higher* than the rear will make the car increase rear traction especially out of the turn. Having the front end *lower* than the front will make the car increase front traction especially entering the turn. Generally its safe to start the car with the ride heights even.

**<u>Rear Toe-In:</u>** Front edge of car tires point *toward* the chassis as viewed from above the car. Increasing the angle toward the car will increase rear traction while decreasing front traction. Decreasing the angle will do the opposite. **<u>Rear Toe Stagger:</u>** Difference in the amount of Rear Toe-In among the rear tires. Typically used only on high bite tracks with MORE toe-in on the Left Rear tire than the Right so the rear of the car helps turn the car LEFT under acceleration.

**Wheelbase (Front End):** Wheelbase is the distance between the front and rear axles. Running the entire front end assembly in the forward position makes the wheelbase longer and therefore more stable on long/fast tracks with flowing turns. Running the entire front end assembly in the rear position make the wheelbase shorter and therefore more suitable for short-tracks where you are constantly turning.

**Wheelbase (Rear End):** This adjustment uses the plastic spacers on the kingpin the rear bearing carrier rides on. With the spacers in front of the carrier it will lengthen the wheelbase but will increase steering. If the spacers are behind the carrier it will shorten the wheelbase but increase rear traction. This is completely backwards from how it works for the Front End only because in the rear of the car you have the weight of the motor and the torque it creates. Shortening the wheelbase here makes more of the car hang over the rear tires and promotes more weight transfer.

**Final Drive Chart:** The chart provided below gives you the final drive of the motor to spin the axle 1 revolution. This chart is NOT just the pinion and spur, but has the transmission ratio included as well.

- To determine the final drive in your car:
- 1) Divide the Spur Gear by the Pinion Gear, which equals a "Ratio".
- 2) Multiply the "Ratio" by the "Transmission Ratio" which will equal your "Final Drive".

\*\*\*Transmission Ratio = 2.4 for this car.\*\*\*

11.70 12.15 12.75 13.20 13.95 14.40 15.00

- Gearing choice can vary greatly depending on track size, surface type, amount of traction, you motor and driving style. For starters consult your local hobby dealer or fellow racer at your local track for the ideal gear choice for your application.

17	11.01	11.44	12.00	12.42	13.13	13.55	14.12	14.68									
18	10.40	10.80	11.33	11.73	12.40	12.80	13.33	13.87	48 Pitch				e				
- 19	9.85	10.23	10.74	11.12	11.75	12.13	12.63	13.14					Spur Gear				
20	9.36	9.72	10.20	10.56	11.16	11.52	12.00	12.48	Pinion	66	68	70	72	75	78	81	84
21	8.91	9.26	9.71	10.05	10.63	10.97	11.43	11.89	12	13.20	13.60	14.00	14.40	15.00	15.60	16.20	16.80
22	8.51	8.84	9.27	9.60	10.15	10.47	10.91	11.35	13	12.18	12.55	12.92	13.29	13.85	14.40	14.95	15.51
23	8.14	8.45	8.87	9.18	9.70	10.02	10.43	10.85	14	11.31	11.66	12.00	12.34	12.86	13.37	13.89	14.40
24	7.80	8.10	8.50	8.80	9.30	9.60	10.00	10.40	15	10.56	10.88	11.20	11.52	12.00	12,48	12.96	13.44
25	7.49	7.78	8.16	8.45	8.93	9.22	9,60	9.98	16	9.90	10.20	10.50	10.80	11.25	11.70	12.15	12.60
26	7.20	7.48	7.85	8.12	8.58	8.86	9.23	9.60	17	9.32	9.60	9.88	10.16	10.59	11.01	11.44	11.86
27	6.93	7.20	7.56	7.82	8.27	8.53	8.89	9.24	18	8.80	9.07	9.33	9.60	10.00	10.40	10.80	11.20
28	6.69	6.94	7.29	7.54	7.97	8.23	8.57	8.91	19							1.1	
29	6.46	6.70	7.03	7.28	7.70	7.94	8.28	8.61		8.34	8.59	8.84	9.09	9.47	9.85	10.23	10.61
30	6.24	6.48	6.80	7.04	7.44	7.68	8.00	8.32	20	7.92	8.16	8.40	8.64	9.00	9.36	9.72	10.08
31	6.04	6.27	6.58	6.81	7.20	7.43	7.74	8.05	21	7.54	7.77	8.00	8.23	8.57	8.91	9.26	9.60
32	5.85	6.08	6.38	6.60	6.98	7.20	7.50	7.80	22	7.20	7.42	7.64	7.85	8.18	8.51	8.84	9.16
33	5.67	5.89	6.18	6.40	6.76	6.98	7.27	7.56	23	6.89	7.10	7.30	7.51	7.83	8.14	8.45	8.77
34	5.51	5.72	6.00	6.21	6.58	6.78	7.06	7.34	24	6.60	6.80	7.00	7.20	7.50	7.80	8.10	8.40
35	5.35	5.55	5.83	6.03	6.38	6.58	6.85	7.13	25	6.34	6.53	6.72	6.91	7.20	7.49	7.78	8.06
36	5.20	5.40	5.67	5.87	6.20	6.40	6.67	6.93	26	6.09	6.28	6.46	6.65	6.92	7.20	7.48	7.75
37	5.06	5.25	5.51	5.71	6.03	6.23	6.49	6.75	27	5.87	6.04	6.22	6.40	6.67	6.93		7.47
38	4.93	5.12	5.37	5.55	5.87	6.06	6.32	6.57								7.20	
39	4.80	4.98	5.23	5.42	5.72	5.91	6.15	6.40	28	5.68	5.83	6.00	6.17	6.43	6.69	6.94	7.20
40	4.68	4.86	5.10	5.28	5.58	5.76	6.00	6.24	29	5.46	5.63	5.79	5.96	6.21	6.46	6.70	6.95
41	4.57	4.74	4.98	5.15	5.44	5.62	5.85	6.09	30	5.28	5.44	5.60	5.76	6.00	6.24	6.48	6.72
42		4.63	4.86	5.03	5.31	5.49	5.71	5.94	31	5.11	5.28	5.42	5.57	5.81	6.04	6.27	6.50
	4.35	4.52	4.74	4.91	5.19	5.36	5.58	5.80	32	4.95	5.10	5.25	5.40	5.63	5.85	6.08	6.30
44 .	4.25	4.42	4.64	4.80	5.07	5.24	5.45	5.67	33	4.80	4.95	5.09	5.24	5.45	5.67	5.89	6.11
40	4.10		4.03		4.95	5.01	5.33 5.22	5.55	34	4.66	4.80	4.94	5.08	5.29	5.51	5.72	5.93
40	3.98	4.23	4.43	4.59	4.85	4.90	5.22	5.43	35	4.53	4.66	4.80	4.94	5.14	5.35	5.55	5.76
91	3.95	4,14	4.34	4.49						_				0.14	0.00	0.00	0.70
		/		7/	7	1			$a_{\mu\nu\nu}$	nna V			7	7	5		

