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

Thank You and Congratulations on purchasing the **INTIMIDATOR SE3**! Within this kit you will find a race winning car with over 25 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 Intimidator SE3 has been designed to be competitive on 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:**

-Parts are made with tight tolerance and held to the side of a "snug" fit as wear is expected over time. Try as we may, occasionally a burr may remain in a part and fit more tightly than desired. It is ok to use 400 Grit Sandpaper or a .125" drill to SLOWLY relieve a part from time to time. Suspension components should always pivot and swivel freely but not sloppily.

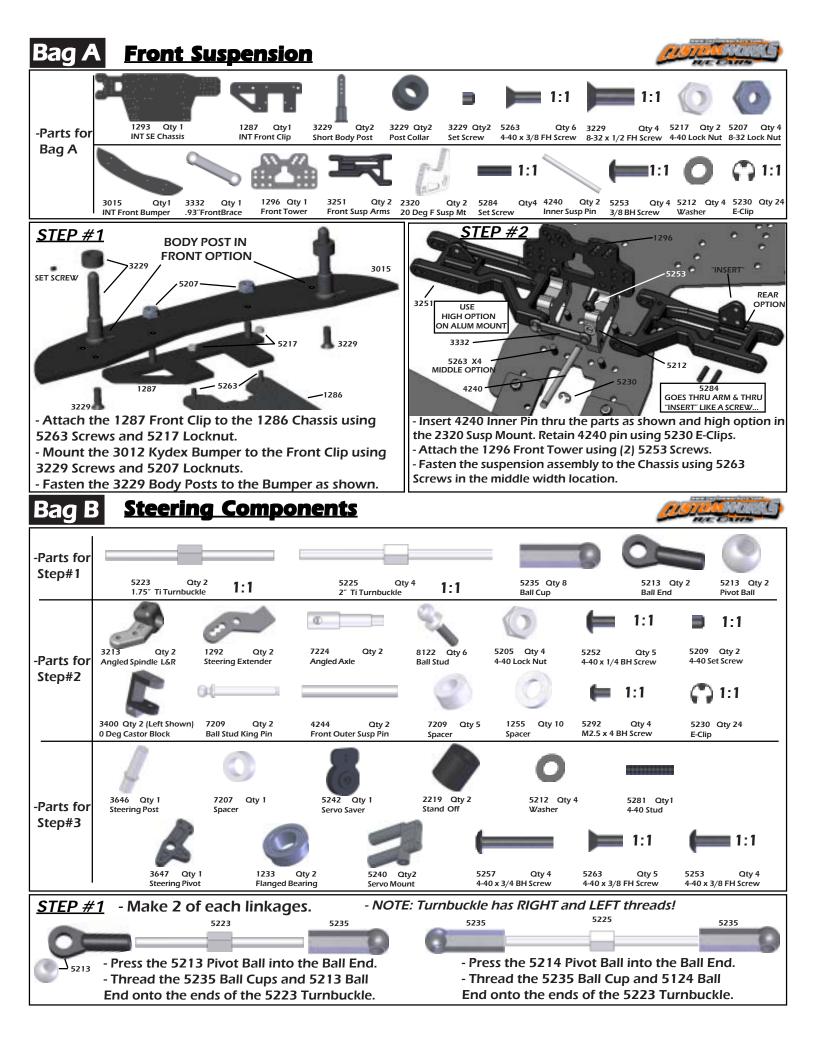
-Using some type of thread locking fluid is suggested for all parts where metal screws thread into other metal parts. We suggest using a lite setting strength thread lock for the reason you may want to take the screw out one day. Remember it only takes a very small amount to secure the screw.

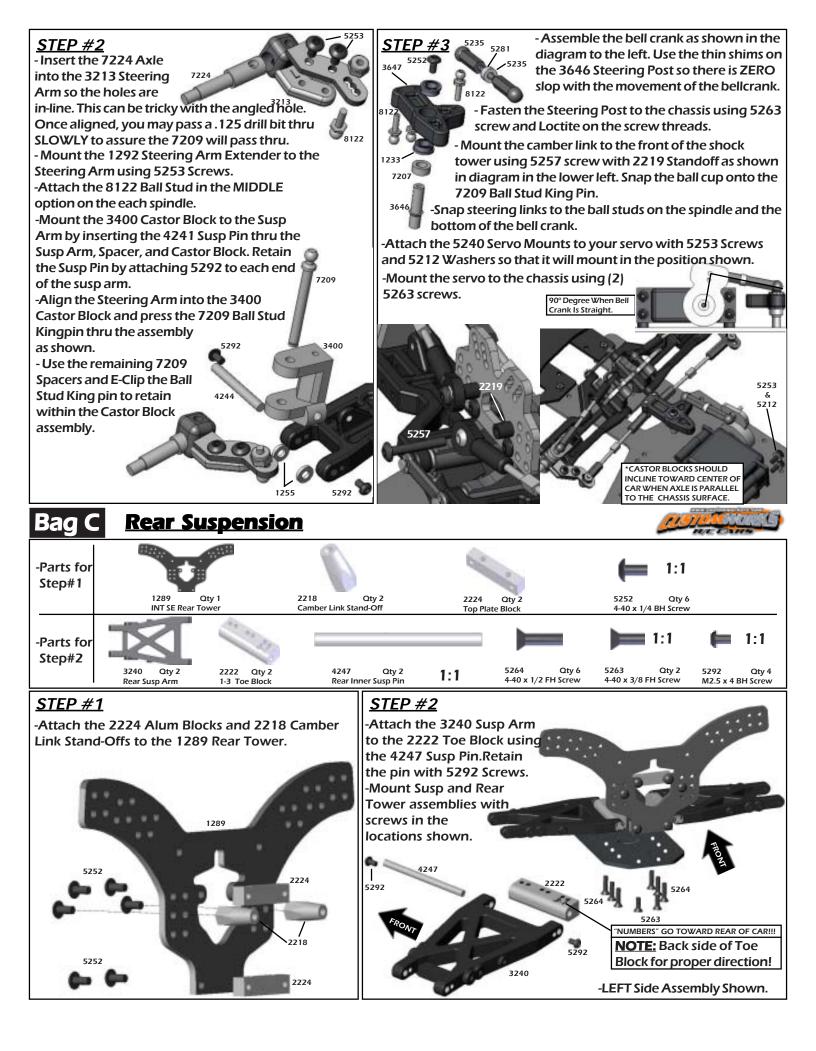
-Do **NOT** use power screwdrivers to drive screws into parts. The fast rotation speed can melt and strip plastic parts or cross-thread into the aluminum parts.

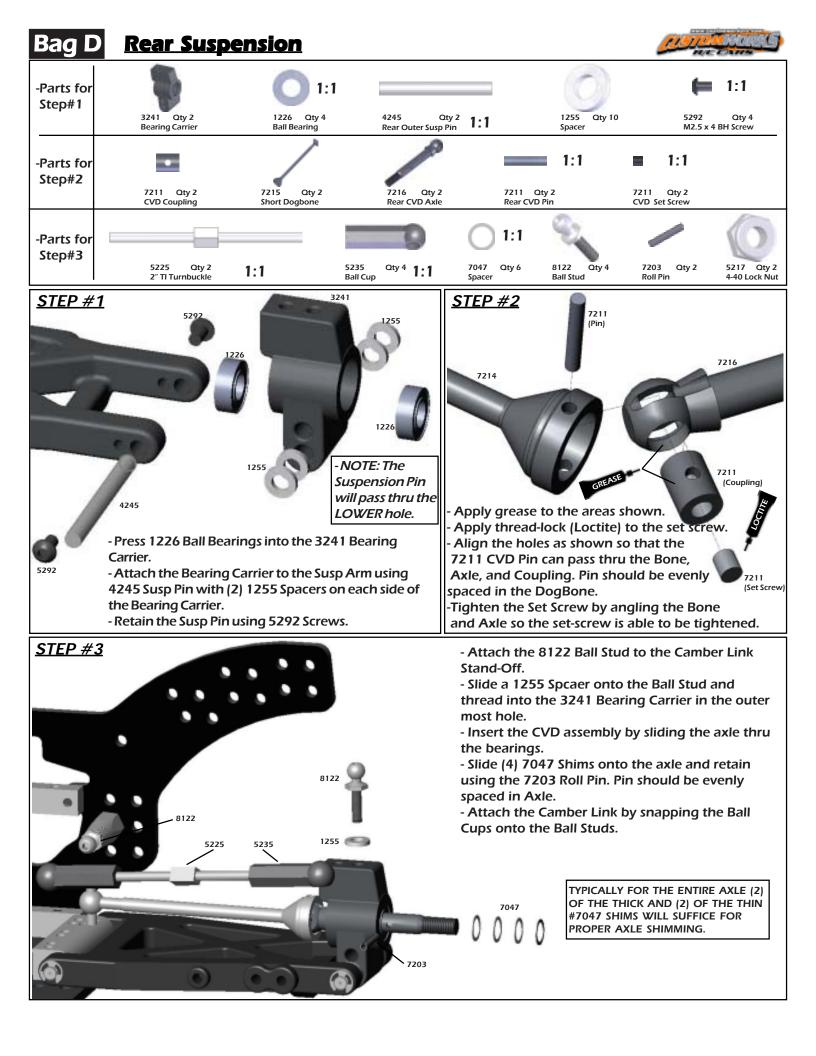
-Lightly sand the edges of graphite pieces using a medium grade sandpaper to avoid splinters. Run a thin bead of Super Glue around the edges to give pieces greater durability.

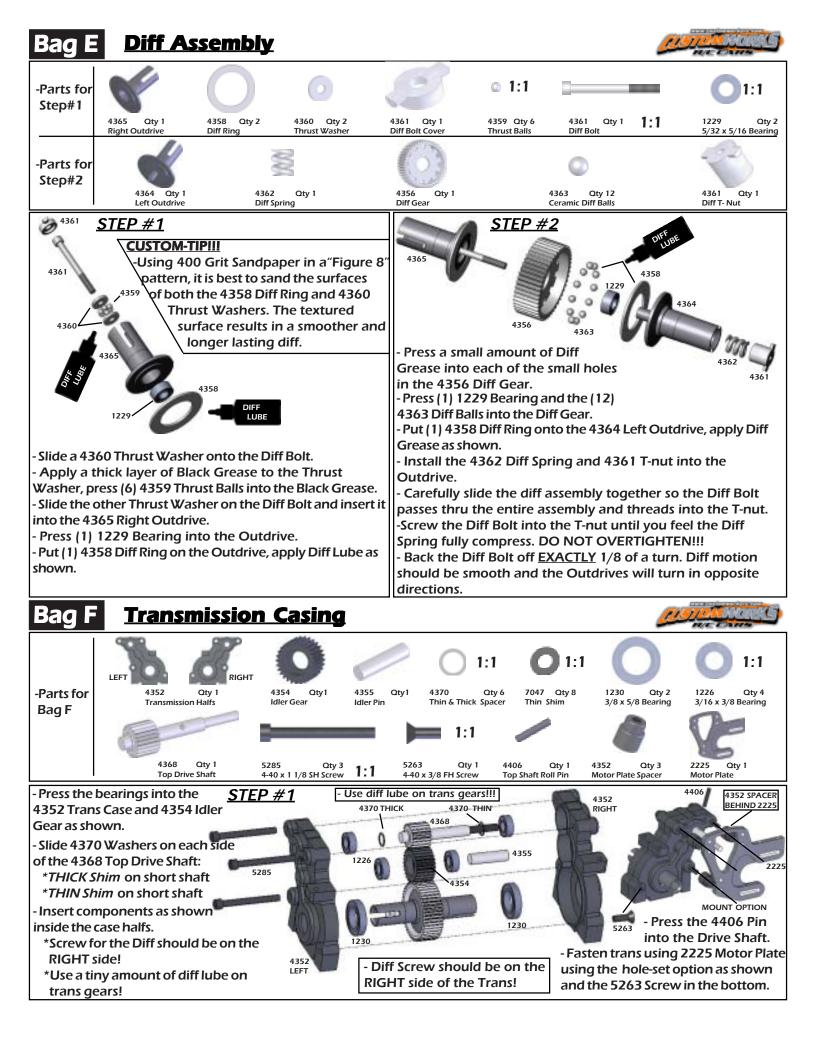
# SUGGESTED TOOLS

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

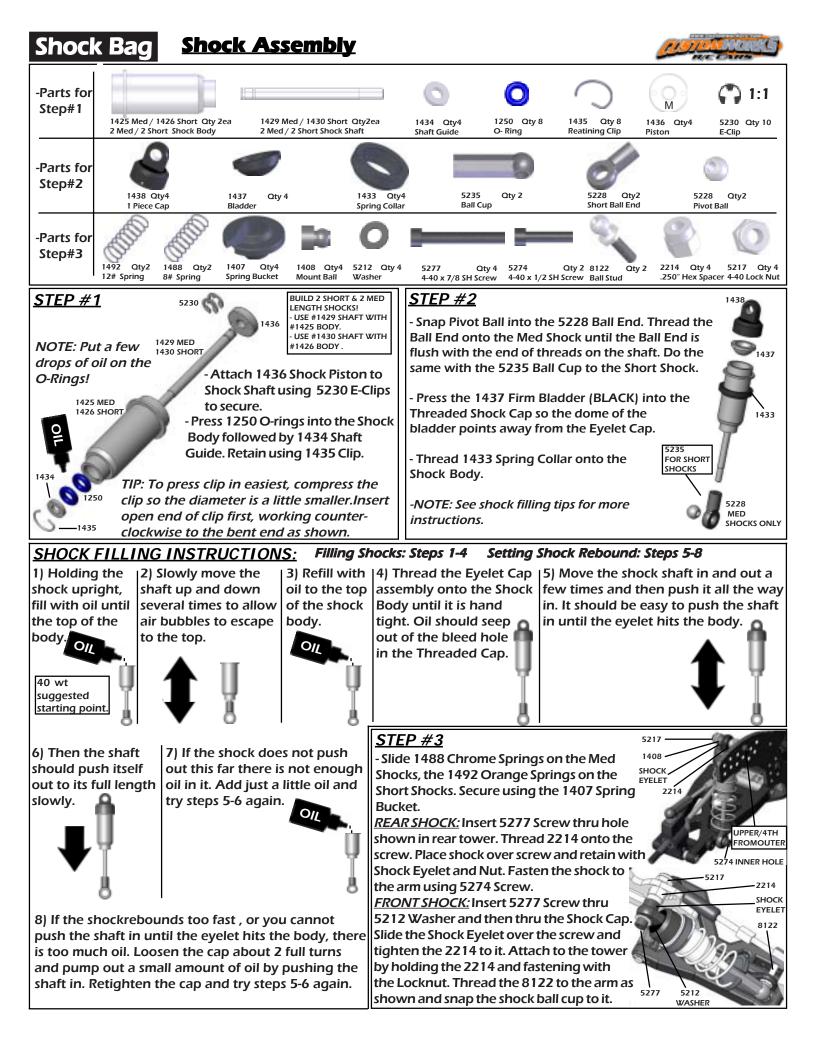


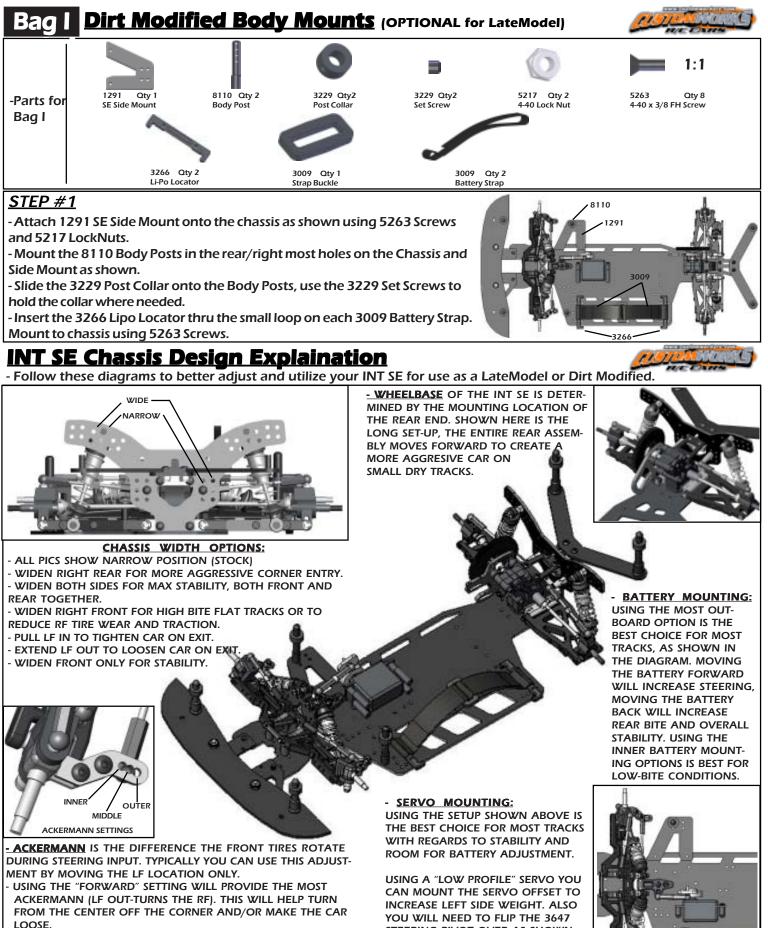






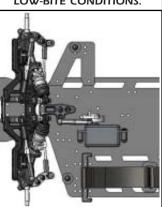
Bag G	Spur Gea	r Assembly			Mar Canas C
-Parts for Bag G	2228 Qty 1 Slipper Eliminator	4881 Qty 1 81T 48P Spur Gear	<b>ten</b> 1:1 5252 Qty 1 4-40 x 1/4 BH Screw	2228 Oty 1 Spacer	5245 Qty 1 5-40 Locknut
		2228	- Press Drive S 5252 groov - Secur 5245 overtig - Mour 2228 AWAY	Shaft so that the Ro es. re the assembly to t Spacer and the 524 ghten the nut on th nt the 4881 Spur Go	Eliminator onto the Top oll Pin keys into the the Top Shaft with the 15 Locknut. Do NOT ne Top Shaft! ear so the flat side faces ision. Secure using (2)
Bag H	<u>Transmiss</u>	sion Mount			Contraction ()
	1004 Ctt Rear Body Mou 1290 Cty 1 NT SE Trans Brace	nt Tall Body Post		3229 Set Screw         Qty 2           1:1         1           Qty 6         5262           3/8 FH Screw         440 x 1/	3229       Qty 2         8-32 x 1/2 FH Screw         1:1         Qty 1         5217       Qty 2         4 FH Screw
the 1 show - Atta Body - Slid	Ach 3228 Body Pos Mount using 3228 e Post Collar onto secure using Set Sc	the holes as t to Rear 3 Screw. the Body Post	Screw where show - Secure the Trans t 1202 Trans Space - Attach the 1290 T using 5253 Screws. - Mount the Trans E 5253 Screws.	n. o the Chassis using as shown. rans Brace to the T Brace to the Trans a ogbone shafts into	Chassis using the 5262 (2) 5264 Screws thru the Trans and Rear Bulkhead and Rear Bulkhead using the outdrives of Trans as





USING THE "REAR" ADJUSTMENT WILL REDUCE ACKERMANN AND ALLOW THE RF TO TURN THE SAME AS THE LF. THIS WILL HELP THE CAR TURN INTO THE CORNER QUICKER BUT COULD BE TIGHT OFF THE CORNER.

STEERING PIVOT OVER AS SHOWN ON THE RIGHT. THIS SETUP WORKS BEST FOR WELL PREPPED TRACKS.



**CONGRATULATIONS!!!** You have now completed the assembly process of your new Custom Works INTIMIDATOR SE3! 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 you 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 Is Loose (oversteers):	<u>Car Is Erratic:</u>
- Increase Spoiler	- Bent Suspension Pins: Remove shocks to check
- Softer Rear Spring	free movement.
- Heavier Front Spring	- Bound Ball Joint: Should spin free on balls
- Use Front Sway Bar	while mounted to the car.
- Try Harder Front Compound Tire	- Bent or Loose Camber Links
- Try Softer Rear Compound Tire	- Wore out Bearings or Completely Seized
- Raise Front Ride Height	Bearings
- Lower Rear Ride Height	- Chunked Tire: Check to see if Foam or Rubber
- Thread Shock Collar	Tire is still glued to wheel.
DOWN on Right Front	- Loose Screws: Especially Chassis Screws, add
- Thread Shock Collar UP on	Blue Loctite to prevent.
Right Rear	- Shocks: Either Bound-up or Out of Oil. Must
- Increase Rear Toe	swivel freely on mounts.
- Increase Castor	- Foreign Objects: Unlucky Dirt/Stones
- Decrease Rear Toe Stagger or	preventing Suspension or Steering Movement.
Decrease the difference	- Blown Differential
	- Radio Problem: Bad Servo, Weak Servo Saver
	Spring, Transmitter Pot blown.
	<ul> <li>Increase Spoiler</li> <li>Softer Rear Spring</li> <li>Heavier Front Spring</li> <li>Use Front Sway Bar</li> <li>Try Harder Front Compound Tire</li> <li>Try Softer Rear Compound Tire</li> <li>Raise Front Ride Height</li> <li>Lower Rear Ride Height</li> <li>Thread Shock Collar DOWN on Right Front</li> <li>Thread Shock Collar UP on Right Rear</li> <li>Increase Rear Toe</li> <li>Increase Rear Toe Stagger or</li> </ul>

### **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. 10-20% of Drag Brake is generally a good start for most speed controls.

### **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".

64 Pitch				Spur Gear				
Pinion	78	81	85	88	93	96	100	104
16	11.70	12.15	12.75	.13.20	13.95	14.40	15.00	15.60
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
- 19	9.85	10.23	10.74	11.12	11.75	12.13	12.63	13.14
20	9.36	9.72	10.20	10.56	11.16	11.52	12.00	12.48
21	8.91	9.26	9.71	10.05	10.63	10.97	11.43	11.89
22	8.51	8.84	9.27	9.60	10.15	10.47	10.91	11.35
23	8.14	8.45	8.87	9.18	9.70	10.02	10.43	10.85
24	7.80	8.10	8.50	8.80	9.30	9.60	10.00	10.40
25	7.49	7.78	8.16	8.45	8.93	9.22	9.60	9.98
26	7.20	7.48	7.85	8.12	8.58	8.86	9.23	9.60
27	6.93	7.20	7.56	7.82	8.27	8.53	8.89	9.24
28	6.69	6.94	7.29	7.54	7.97	8.23	8.57	8.91
29	6.46	6.70	7.03	7.28	7.70	7.94	8.28	8.61
30	6.24	6.48	6.80	7.04	7.44	7.68	8.00	8.32
31	6.04	6.27	6.58	6.81	7.20	7.43	7.74	8.05
32	5.85	6.08	6.38	6.60	6.98	7.20	7.50	7.80
- 33	5.67	5.89	6.18	6.40	6.76	6.98	7.27	7.56
34	5.51	5.72	6.00	6.21	6.56	6.78	7.06	7.34
35	5.35	5.55	5.83	6.03	6.38	6.58	6.86	7.13
36	5.20	5.40	5.67	5.87	6.20	6.40	6.67	6.93
37	5.06	5.25	5.51	5.71	6.03	6.23	6.49	6.75
38	4.93	5.12	5.37	5.55	5.87	6.05	6.32	6.57
39	4.80	4.98	5.23	5.42	5.72	5.91	6.15	6.40
40	4.68	4.86	5.10	5.28	5.58	5.76	6.00	6.24
41	4.57	4.74	4.98	5.15	5.44	5.62	5.85	6.09
42	4.45	4.63	4.86	5.03	5.31	5.49	5.71	5.94
43	4.35	4.52	4.74	4.91	5.19	5.36	5.58	5.80
44 .	4.25	4.42	4.64	4.80	5.07	5.24	5.45	5.67
45	4.16	4.32	4.53	4.69	4.96	5.12	5.33	5.55
46	4.07	4.23	4.43	4.59	4.85	5.01	5.22	5.43
47	3.98	4.14	4.34	4.49	4.75	4.90	5.11	5.31

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

- 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.

- CHECK OUT CUSTOMWORKSRC.COM for setup sheets and winning car set-ups!

48 Pitch	•			Spur Gear	9			
Pinion	66	68	70	72	75	78	81	84
12	13.20	13.60	14.00	14.40	15.00	15.60	16.20	16.80
13	12.18	12.55	12.92	13.29	13.85	14.40	14.95	15.51
14	11.31	11.66	12.00	12.34	12.86	13.37	13.89	14.40
15	10.56	10.88	11.20	11.52	12.00	12.48	12.95	13.44
16	9.90	10.20	10.50	10.80	11.25	11.70	12.15	12.60
17	9.32	9.60	9.88	10.16	10.59	11.01	11.44	11.86
18	8.80	9.07	9.33	9.60	10.00	10.40	10.80	11.20
19	8.34	8.59	8.84	9.09	9.47	9.85	10.23	10.61
20	7.92	8.16	8.40	8.64	9.00	9.36	9.72	10.08
21	7.54	7.77	8.00	8.23	8.57	8.91	9.26	9.60
22	7.20	7.42	7.64	7.85	8.18	8.51	8.84	9.16
23	6.89	7.10	7.30	7.51	7.83	8.14	8.45	8.77
24	6.60	6.80	7.00	7.20	7.50	7.80	8.10	8.40
25	6.34	6.53	6.72	6.91	7.20	7.49	7.78	8.06
26	6.09	6.28	6.46	6.65	6.92	7.20	7.48	7.75
27	5.87	6.04	6.22	6.40	6.67	6.93	7.20	7.47
28	5.66	5.83	6.00	6.17	6.43	6.69	6.94	7.20
29	5.46	5.63	5.79	5.96	6.21	6.46	6.70	6.95
30	5.28	5.44	5.60	5.76	6.00	6.24	6.48	6.72
31	5.11	5.28	5.42	5.57	5.81	6.04	6.27	6.50
32	4.95	5.10	5.25	5.40	5.63	5.85	6.08	6.30
33	4.80	4.95	5.09	5.24	5.45	5.67	5.89	6.11
34 -	4.65	4.80	4.94	5.08	5.29	5.51	5.72	5.93
35	4.53	4.66	4.80	4.94	5.14	5.35	5.55	5.76



