

TUNE YOUR R/C TO THE MAX: SUSPENSION, STEERING, & BATTERIES

SUPER STREET

superstreetonline.com

GUIDE TO XMODS
RC CARS



BONUS
FEATURE

ONE CRAZY RSX

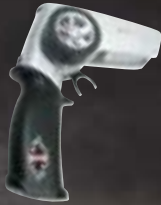
ENGINE DYNAMICS:

4 Different Types
of Speed –
Which One Will
Work Best?

UPGRADE
MAXIMUM
SPEED NOW!



Frequency:
How To Race 12
Cars at Once



TireTech:
Get Your Grip On



RADIO
CONTROLLED
MADNESS

xmodsrc.com



SUPER STREET

|| superstreetonline.com ||

++ DISCOUNTED SUBSCRIPTIONS

++ EVENT COVERAGE

++ CLASSIFIED ADS

++ MORE FEATURES

++ INSTALLATIONS

++ & MUCH MORE



HOLESHOT

THE FUN BEGINS...NOW



What you are holding in your hands is a product of genius. More than just a toy, the XMODS series of radio controlled cars is the perfect representation of what our scene is about: customization. Scaled down to bite sized proportions, you can now do these as you've already done with your own ride. Need a body kit? You don't even have to wait for these pieces to come back from the body shop. Want to go faster? Well, now it won't cost you an arm or a leg - just the arm. In fact, this is the first time that any radio controlled car has been made in this fashion, at least not in a *Super Street* kind of way.

In this mini-mag, you're going to find a few stories to guide you along as you take your XMODS out of its packaging and onto your living room floor, or wherever you plan to race these machines. As if real cars weren't enough of a challenge for us to deal with, imagine how hard it was to figure these things out. (Well, actually they aren't that hard, now that we've done it.) And just like *Super Street* Magazine, you can follow along step-by-step for each upgrade and if you're still lost at the end, then that means

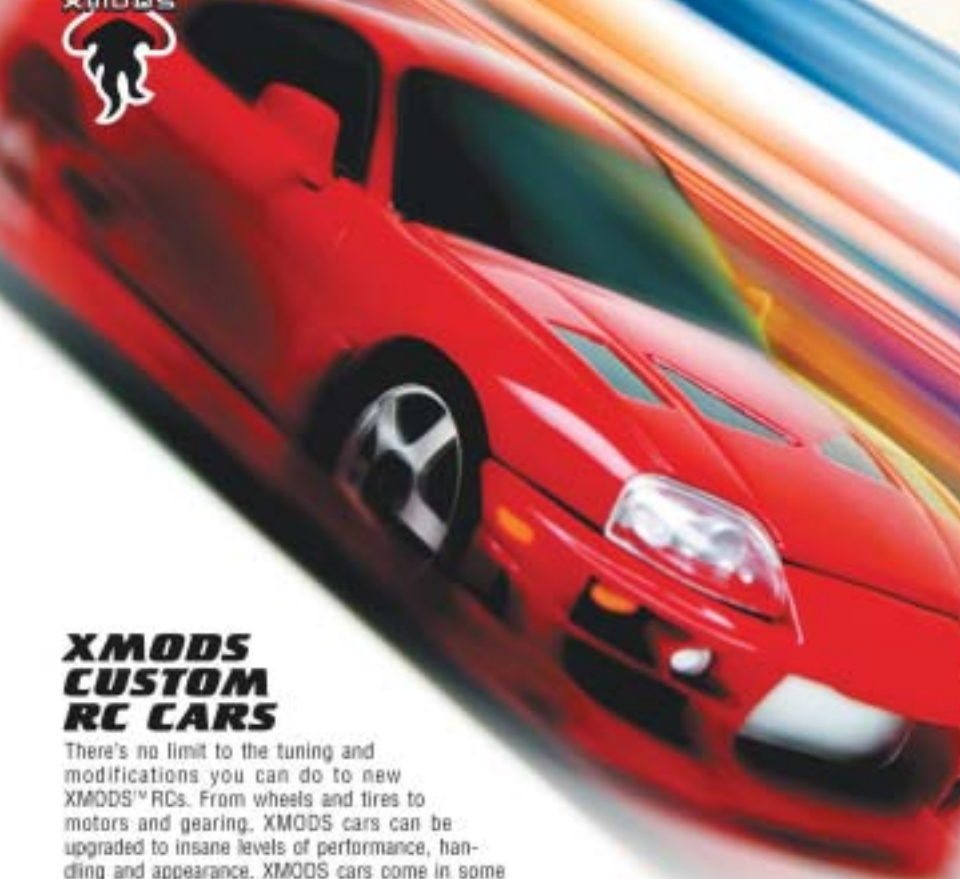
we've done our job correctly because we can never get it right!

We've also included two full sized features on the XMODS Nissan Skyline, our cover car, and an Acura RSX, both of which have been tricked out wildly and mildly, respectively. Each features every upgrade that's available from the XMODS aftermarket and can be found at your local retailer alongside the cars themselves. Whether it's the Stage 2 Motor Upgrade or a frequency adjustment with the Racing Crystals Set, it's on board. But you'll have to read on for yourself to see what's exactly on these babies.

If you find that tricking out these XMODS cars is your thing, then you'll be excited to hear that there will be plenty of opportunities to have your custom XMODS featured in an upcoming issue of *Super Street*, so get those creative juices flowing and make sure we see it!

Jonathan Wong
Senior Editor, *Super Street Magazine*
sstreet@primedia.com

MODIFIED MADNESS!



XMODS CUSTOM RC CARS

There's no limit to the tuning and modifications you can do to new XMODS™ RCs. From wheels and tires to motors and gearing, XMODS cars can be upgraded to insane levels of performance, handling and appearance. XMODS cars come in some of the wildest tuner rides available. Check out the Acura RSX and the Honda Civic. The Nissan Skyline. And the Toyota Supra. All so detailed and incredibly real, you'll think you're driving the real thing – only smaller. Get your hands on an XMODS car. And let the madness begin.



Powered by
RadioShack

CUSTOMIZABLE ACCESSORY PARTS



www.xmodsRC.com



CONTENTS

SUPER STREET'S GUIDE TO XMODS RC CARS



FEATURE SECTION



SKY'S THE LIMIT
XMODS' R34 Skyline is one of the most tunable radio controlled cars to ever hit the market. Can you handle it? **13**



RSX RATED
With the ability to pass out of shape college grads on scooters, the XMODS RSX is plenty to make you smile about. **6**

TECHNICAL

POWER UP!

Learn how to maximize the power potential of your motor because knowing is only half the battle. **19**



HOW TO CHANGE YOUR WHEELS AND TIRES

Pretty simple, really, unlike our own real life wheels and tires, which have gone flat because we don't know how to put air in them. **23**

KEEPING YOU IN SUSPENSE

Quick - what's one thing you can do to a car to make it handle better? Find the answer here and trim your fingernails. They're unsightly. **29**

ALL WHEEL DRIVIN'

Not too keen on straight-line performance? Then maybe this All Wheel Drive Upgrade is the thing for you. **33**

TUNE IN

Need total control over your XMODS car? Try the Racing Crystals Set. No, don't put them in your mouth, Einstein. In your car! In your car! **35**



LIGHT 'EM UP

If indoor driving or nighttime racing is what you're into, then you might want to consider adding the Performance Logic Lights. Two snaps up in Z formation! **36**



SHOW US WHAT YOU'VE GOT

Go from stock to shock with the XMODS Body Kit upgrade kits. Have no worries - your factory warranty will not be voided. **39**



GRAPHIC DETAILS

Everyone has a vinyl fetish and Modern Image is here to support that habit. Stay tuned for upcoming contests. **42**

TOOLS OF THE TRADE

We know, working on your XMODS car isn't quite the same with a pair of chopsticks and scotch tape. That's why you need a special set of tools and an uber-cool carrying bag. **45**



HOW TO CHARGE YOUR RC

If we could figure this one out, then you can, too. Hey, don't give us that face. We mean it. Ok, that's it - no more ice cream for you! One year! **46**

EXTRAS

SNEAK PEEK

If a Nissan Skyline and an Acura RSX aren't enough to calm your nerves, then take a look at XMODS' Toyota Supra and Honda Civic. **12**



XMODSRC.COM 5





NISSAN'S MOST FAMED PRODUCTION CAR
TAKES ON A NEW FORM

SKY'S THE LIMIT

Since its inception, the Nissan Skyline has made an everlasting impression on the automotive world with its sleek design and racing/performance heritage. Built originally by the Prince Motor Company in 1955 as a station wagon, it would transform over the years (even as Prince joined together with Nissan), developing into one of the most powerful two-door coupes that any paved surface has ever seen. It wouldn't be until 1968, where the infamous GT-R model would make its debut, which produced 160hp and was equally as dynamic as the Porsche 911 of that era. But even the earliest production Skylines wouldn't draw nearly as much attention as its latest series have, starting with the R31 edition and leading up to its ultimate flagships, the



The Bomex rear bumper sets the Skyline's body down. Way down there.

We hope this is the view that all of your competitors will see. Hello? That means you're winning.

Matched to the rear is an equally appealing front bumper from Bomex. It's the fresh maker.



When this baby hits 88mph, you're going to see some serious doo-doo.





Why can't we pull these kind of shots with our own features?



If you have the means to pick up a XMODS RC car, we highly recommend it. It is so choice.



Fully tuned and prepared for action. Sounds like the exact opposite of our cars.



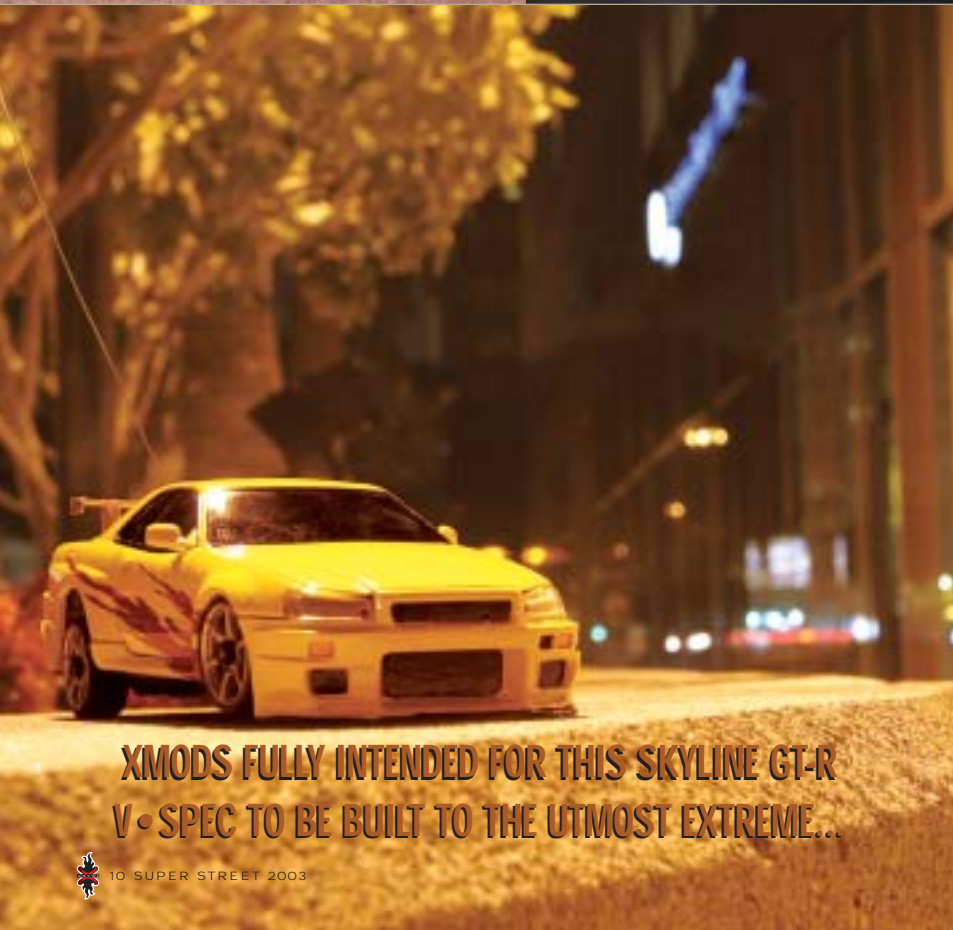
See, you could have a Skyline as cool as this. Maybe even cooler.



R32, R33, and R34. These later model, all-wheel drive Skylines introduced the world to the RB engine design - a platform that has utilized a DOHC inline-6 turbocharged configuration throughout most of its existence, with its current design existing in the R34 as the RB26DETT. Known to the performance world as a pure racing engine, the RB26DETT is a 2.6-liter DOHC inline-6, twin turbocharged monster that pushes out 280hp. If that means anything to you, then we probably don't need to tell you that it's one heck of a motor.

Unfortunately, the famed Skylines were never sold in America and have only recently popped up within the past few years as a detuned street version through importers like Motorex. Even now, the Skyline GT-R has stopped production in Japan as the 350Z platform slowly begins to take over and no matter how badly you'd want one, it'd cost you a hefty penny or two. However, you're in luck since you can now get your hands on one of these XMODS R34 Skyline GT-R V-spec radio controlled cars. A perfect replica of the real deal, the XMODS version comes straight out of the starter kit with a peppy motor, which has already been upgraded with the Stage 2 Motor Upgrade. Using a full out, Top Speed motor, with an 11-tooth fixed pinion gear, this Skyline rips once it's put to use on a straight-away or the occasional drag race. At max power, this motor tops out at 30,000 rpm and uses heat sink technology to prevent overheating. The powertrain utilizes a 3.82 gear ratio, the perfect setup for high-speed racing. When times call for the Skyline to take on road courses, the two-wheel drive configuration is changed to the All Wheel Drive Upgrade, where its limited slip differential provides the ultimate in traction, speed, and cornering, all while aiding to reduce friction within the drivetrain. The XMODS Skyline R34 GT-R V-spec is also powered





**XMODS FULLY INTENDED FOR THIS SKYLINE GT-R
V•SPEC TO BE BUILT TO THE UTMOST EXTREME...**

with the Rechargeable NiMH Battery Upgrade, and gives a consistent source of power without the spikes that alkaline is known for, not to mention a great way to save money on batteries.

The suspension has been tuned mildly with the Suspension Upgrade, and uses the stiff set of Eibach springs and metal air dampers. The tie rods have also been changed out with a 1.5-degree toe-in tie rod, a perfect setup for long straight-aways and top speed. Since this car does a fair amount of racing, it needs a set of high performance tires to stay on track, locked on target. This is achieved with the Tire Upgrade, where hard compound-tread tires, coupled with a set of Tenzo wheels have been swapped in place of the ones that come with the starter kit. Also on board to help reduce friction is the XMODS Metal Bearing Upgrade, which simply eliminates the factory nylon bushings and gives greater precision at the same time.

XMODS fully intended for this Skyline to be built to the utmost extreme, not only with speed, but with killer looks as well. Although its factory yellow hue is already quite stunning, the body has been altered with the Bomex wild body kit found in the Nissan Skyline Body Kit, which includes a front and rear bumper replacement, side skirts, and a rear wing. Its low stance and aggressive look are enough to make us wish that this was the real deal and not just a radio controlled car. This XMODS Skyline has also been retrofitted with the Command Per-

FAST FACTS

- OWNER** You!
- HOMETOWN** Shouldn't you know where you live by now?
- RIDE** XMODS Nissan Skyline GT-R V•spec RC car
- DAILY GRIND** We're not really sure if we want to know what you do.
- UNDER THE HOOD** Stage 2 Motor Upgrade, Metal Bearing Upgrade, NiMH Battery Upgrade, Racing Crystals Set
- STIFF STUFF** Suspension and Steering Upgrade: stiff suspension coils and 1.5 degree toe-in rod
- ROLLERS** Ace Alloy, Enkei, or Tenzo Wheel Upgrade, High Grip Tire Upgrade
- OUTSIDE** Bomex Wild body kit and rear wing from the Nissan Skyline body kit: custom Modern Image graphics, Command Performance Lights
- ICE** digital controller with Sparco steering wheel, upgraded frequency crystal
- EXTRAS** special carrying case, tool kit

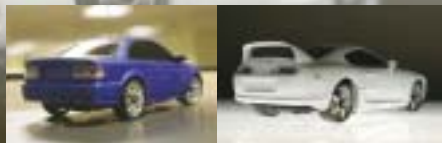
mance Lights, which is a realistic add-on piece that allows the end user to have headlights under nighttime or dark driving situations. Hit the brakes and the rear lights kick up to let others know that it's time to stop. Even the controller sees an upgrade in the form of a Sparco controller wheel, and even that features a combination of plastic and rubber for anatomical grip.

The XMODS R34 Skyline GT-R V•spec is every racing enthusiast's wet dream come to life. Although it's smaller than most people's shoes, it can carry speed faster than our entire staff can run to the bathroom after one sitting at the roach coach. The best part is that you now have one of your very own, but you'll have to build it from the ground up with parts made exclusively for and by XMODS. So what are you waiting for? Get to work and get busy tuning! 🎯





SNEAKPEEK



SEE WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS FOR XMODS

Now that you've read all about the XMODS Nissan Skyline and Acura RSX, get ready for two more cars to join the family: the Toyota Supra and Honda Civic. These cars will carry on the XMODS lineage and will allow you to customize them in the same manner as the other two. If you thought the RSX and the Skyline were pretty cool, then just wait until you get your hands on these.

Both cars will accept any XMODS upgrade sets, but the Supra will receive two custom body kits from Bomex in the Toyota Supra Body Kit. However, the Honda Civic will come with two Versus kits, as well as a Sparco controller steering wheel (included with all body kit packages). Both cars will retail at the same price as the RSX or Skyline Starter Kit. 🍀



DON'T LET ITS
SIZE FOOL YOU -

THIS RC MACHINE
PACKS PLENTY OF PUNCH

RSX-RATED!



If you consider yourself even half the radio controlled car fanatic that we hope you are, we'll already assume that you can identify nearly every chassis that's ever been released, along with every accessible part that's come out of a toy factory. You probably have a RC car controller tattooed on your left bicep and named your dog "RC". But if you were re-



With the Acura RSX Body Kit, you'll find two Versus body kits and a new hood, like the one shown.

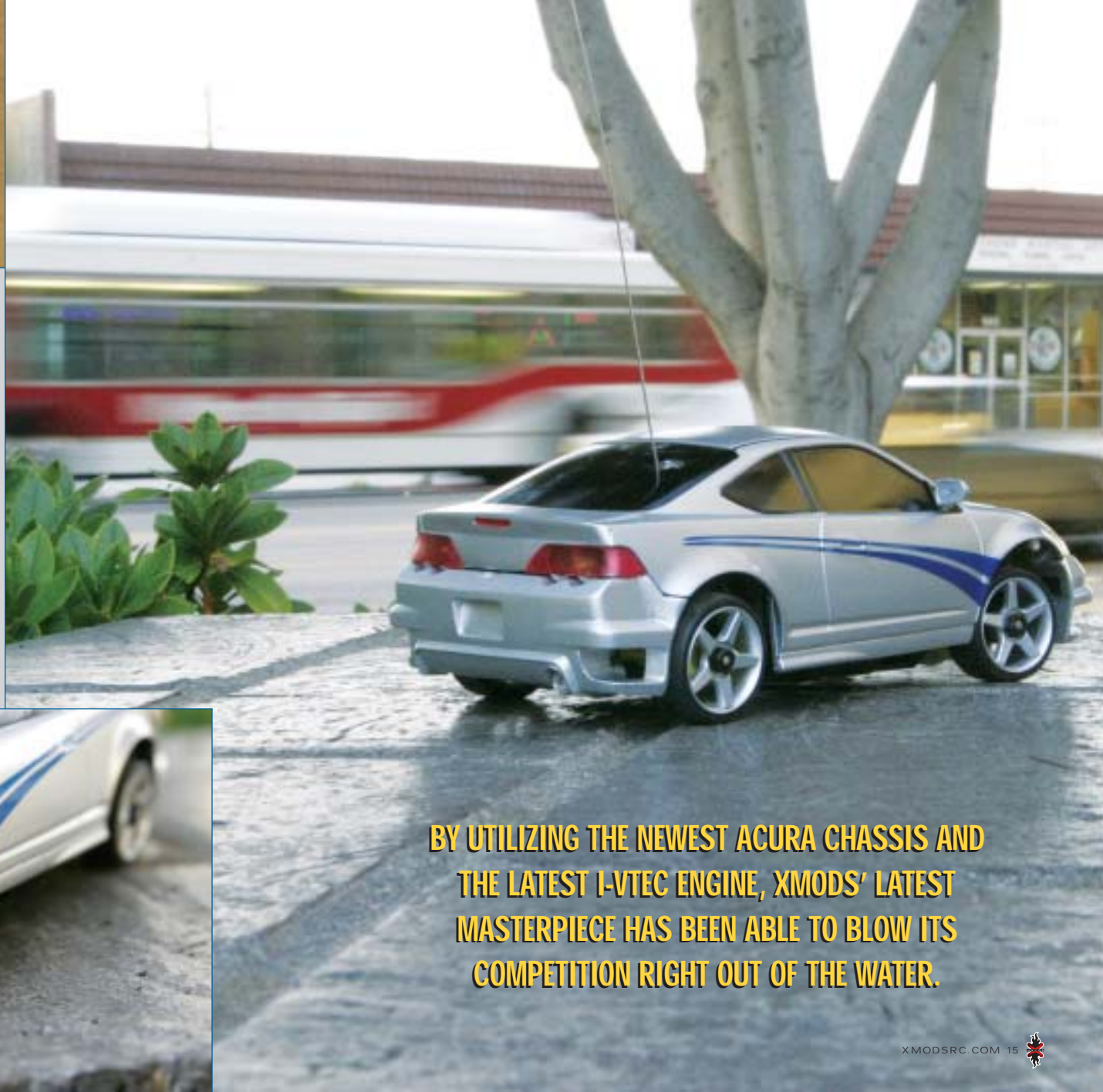




ally hardcore, you'd know that this new Super Street edition RC car is the hottest one to include in your collection. As the top magazine in the sport compact performance industry, we've joined forces with XMODS to bring you the best, most unique radio controlled cars you'll ever get your hands on. Whether you've purchased this to keep yourself occupied while you're grounded or just need an all out track-attack competitor, XMODS' brand of Super Street RC cars will be just the thing you'll need to make you the coolest kid on the block or the biggest dork in your office.

By utilizing the newest Acura chassis - the RSX - XMODS has created a masterpiece that will soon be able to blow its competition right out of the water. At the heart of the RSX is a speedkit that has

The Modern Image side graphics offset the Versus body kit perfectly.



BY UTILIZING THE NEWEST ACURA CHASSIS AND THE LATEST I-VTEC ENGINE, XMODS' LATEST MASTERPIECE HAS BEEN ABLE TO BLOW ITS COMPETITION RIGHT OUT OF THE WATER.





been built for strength, durability, and unadulterated power. Instead of the original motor it was equipped with, it has been replaced with a faster Stage 1 Motor Upgrade, consisting of custom gearing and bearings. We're not sure how fast this thing really is, but we have seen it outrun an out-of-shape college grad on a scooter.

As you can tell from the photos, the majority of the shell has been fully decked out, wilder than any Girls Gone Wild video that we watch religiously during late night television. The chassis is lightweight and since your RSX will spend most of its time racing around under your command, it must be equipped with the proper gear in order for



**WE'RE NOT SURE HOW FAST THIS
THING REALLY IS, BUT WE HAVE SEEN
IT OUTFRAN AN OUT-OF-SHAPE COLLEGE
GRAD ON A SCOOTER.**





POWERUP!

MAXIMIZE YOUR XMODS' MOTOR POTENTIAL



it to handle and grip well. The car can whip itself through corners and speed down any straightaway quickly and precisely with the soft grip rubber. The original suspension has been modified heavily with the optional Suspension and Steering Upgrade, where not only the springs were changed for stiffer units, but the steering rack has been upgraded as well. The controller has been precision tuned for optimum performance, maybe even more so that a real life automobile with the Racing Crystals Set - where the crystals have been changed out to the tune of a new frequency. With lightning quick reflexes, you can trigger your car to just about anywhere its range can take it.

- FAST FACTS**
- OWNER** You!
 - HOMETOWN** Sure beats us!
 - RIDE** XMODS '02 Acura RSX RC car
 - DAILY GRIND** What do you do anyway?
 - UNDER THE HOOD** Stage 1 Motor Upgrade, Metal Bearing Upgrade, Racing Crystals Set
 - STIFF STUFF** Suspension and Steering Upgrade
 - ROLLERS** Foam Tire and Wheel Upgrade
 - OUTSIDE** Versus mild body kit from Acura RSX Body Kit; custom Modern Image graphics, Command Performance Lights
 - EXTRAS** special carrying case, tool kit

So the simple questions remain. Does your RC car have what it takes to become the king of the hill? You definitely have the right car and the power to back it up. So go ahead, abuse it! 🚗

We know what you're thinking; we can feel it. Your new XMODS RC car - it's fast, but it could be faster. Well, no sweat. In addition to the motor that comes along with your original chassis,

you also have the option of upgrading with two different, finely tuned motors, each with specific properties that will allow your XMODS car to perform better in certain applications.



First up is the Stage 1 Motor Upgrade, which will provide you with more low-end power due to a slightly slower, yet increased torque configuration, which is a worthwhile addition for those with the all-wheel-drive upgrade and can benefit those who race their XMODS cars on tight and twisty courses. You'll be equipped with four different motor and pinion gear combinations, which will all be distinguishable by color coordination. For all you tech heads out there, the following chart breaks down the full specs on the Stage 1 kit:



STAGE 1				
Motor	RPM	Tooth	Gear Ratio	Color Combos
Drift	26,000	8	6	White
Drag	26,000	9	5.11	Red
Road Race	26,000	10	4.40	Yellow
Top Speed	26,000	11	3.82	Blue

Compared to the motor kit that comes with your XMODS car, the Stage 1 Motor Upgrade kit specs out with 26,000 rpm (on all four motors) and features a 3.82 final gear ratio. You can pick one of these kits at your local retailer at a MSRP of only \$12.99.

The Stage 2 Motor Upgrade will be a great performance upgrade for those of you who want nothing but 100-percent speed. It features less torque than the Stage 1 kit, but once you wind it up, it really takes off. Ideally, you'll want to use this for straight-aways or drag racing. Now, check out the specs on this thing:



STAGE 2				
Motor	RPM	Tooth	Gear Ratio	Color Combos
Drift	30,000	8	6	White
Drag	30,000	9	5.11	Red
Road Race	30,000	10	4.40	Yellow
Top Speed	30,000	11	3.82	Blue



Just like the Stage 1 kit, the Stage 2 Motor Upgrade will come with four motor and pinion gear combinations, but will also come with a heat sink to help dissipate heat, which can cause your motor to overheat. Using a heat sink will give you

longer running times and since it helps to let the motor run cooler, you can effectively create more power. The heat sink is relatively easy to install - simply screw it in place of the plastic piece that comes with your original motor kit.



HOW IT ALL WORKS

None of the numbers or color combinations we can give you will make any sort of sense unless you can understand how exactly all these parts work in conjunction with each other. Since the pinion gear (the gear that's attached to the motor itself; also made of brass and is less likely to break) is a fixed piece, you'll be modifying only the axle, or spur gear. Here's a quick breakdown of how the gearing works and how they best suit the type of racing it was meant for:

- Smaller spur gears: the fewer teeth there are, the more top end speed you'll experience. However, higher top speed means you'll have less low-end punch.
- Larger spur gears: the more teeth there are, the quicker your acceleration (torque) will become. You will also lose out on top end power.
- If none of those made absolutely no sense at all, congratulations - you're just like us! In the simplest of terms, think of an 18-speed bicycle: in first gear, you have to pedal fast (and hard) in



order to get somewhere. But if you change up to a higher gear, you can then pedal slower to achieve higher speeds. Still lost? We can't help you there.

For all you hardcore gear heads out there, you can log onto the XMODS website at www.xmodsRC.com, where you can find info on ordering the Metal Bearing Upgrade. This includes 14 metal ball bearing pieces that will aid in reducing friction, improve performance, allow for more endurance, tighter tolerances, and greater precision, whereas the starter kit only comes with nylon bushings. 🐝



THE LOW DOWN

MSRP: \$12.99 for Stage 1 Motor Upgrade; \$15.99 for Stage 2 Motor Upgrade

PROS: Want to go faster? Well, this is how you do it.

CONS: It takes a while to disassemble the chassis and access the motor, but it's well worth it.

INSTALL DIFFICULTY: Intermediate - Advanced

VERDICT: The motor upgrades should be the first modification that you do to your XMODS.

THE LOW DOWN

MSRP: \$19.99

PROS: Less friction, improved performance. Sounds like a, hey, wait a minute, have your parents told you about the birds and the bees yet?

CONS: Available only through the web.

INSTALL DIFFICULTY: Advanced

VERDICT: Well, you still haven't answered us - do we need to have the "talk"?



HOW TO

CHANGE YOUR WHEELS AND TIRES



Besides changing out your motor, there are other modifications and upgrades you can add to your Super Street radio-controlled car to make it perform better. One of these ways is with a wheel and tire upgrade.

Included with your original purchase are a set of standard wheels and tires, which should perform reasonably well under most circumstances and on most surfaces. Now, by upgrading those wheels and tires to any one of the optional Tire and Wheel Upgrades, you will have a higher performing car under your control in just minutes!





Built to Inspire

1-888.223.5668
www.acealloywheel.com



ALLURE • C013 17 18 19 20



FURY • C019 15 17



IMPACT • A204 16 17 18 19



ZEUS • A184 17 18



MANTA • A205 15 17 18 19



ARIUS • A218 15 17 18



POLARIS 5 • 17 18 19 20



SPYDER • A130 15 17 18 19



MATIG • A198 15 17 18

As mentioned, there are two additional tire packages to choose from - Tire Upgrade and Foam Tire and Wheel Upgrade. In the Tire Upgrade, you'll receive a set of soft slick/soft tread tires and hard slick/hard tread tires. The softer tires feature a nice all-around performing compound, which offers exceptional grip, but at the sacrifice of wearing out the quickest. The harder tread tires offer long lasting wear, but deliver the least amount of grip. Both the soft and hard compound tires are optimal for most paved surfaces. The Foam Tire Upgrade utilizes a different material to provide performance on other surfaces, for racing on carpets or well-prepared track surfaces. These are the best gripping tires for those types of surfaces.

SOFT SLICK/SOFT TREAD

WHY: Best grip; gives soft grip for easy wear
NOT: Wears out quickly
PERFORMS BEST ON: most paved surfaces

HARD SLICK/HARD TREAD

WHY: Longest wearing
NOT: Least amount of grip
PERFORMS BEST ON: most paved surfaces

FOAM GRIP

WHY: best gripping for carpet racing and/or well-prepared track surfaces
NOT: suitable only for those specific surfaces, otherwise it will slide because the compound won't give as much as rubber
PERFORMS BEST ON: carpeted floors and/or well-prepared track surfaces

INSTALLATION

1)



Begin your wheel and tire installation by removing the upper shell from the chassis. While this isn't necessary, it will make working on your car a bit easier. Do this by gently pulling back on the front wheels while pulling the front of the shell forward - it should come apart easily.

2)



Use the supplied lug nut remover to loosen the lug nut of whichever wheel you're working on. Superhuman strength is not necessary to complete this step. Just a simple twist will do.





3) After the lug nut has been unscrewed, place it off to the side. Be careful not to lose track of these pieces as they are small and easy to misplace. You can then slide the wheel off the suspension.



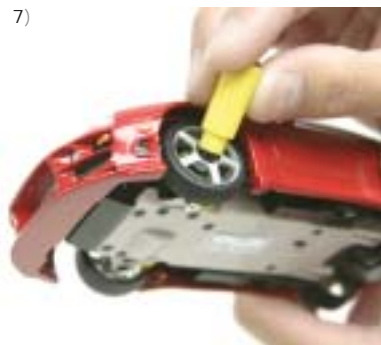
5) Presto! The hard part is out of the way. Just three more to go and you're finished!



4) The tires should slip off effortlessly and without much trouble. The soft and hard tires are made of rubber, allowing for flexibility of installation.



6) If you plan on using Foam Tires, the installation will be slightly different. You will need to use the provided adhesive strips to ensure that the foam will not slip off from the wheel since foam will slip around on a smooth surface. The foam tires are also sized differently from the other tire upgrades, so you'll have to use the wheels that come with the Foam Tire and Wheel Upgrade in order to use them.



7) After all four wheels and tires have been changed, it's time to put your car back together. Just work in the reverse order of removal. When tightening the lug nuts, there's no need to overtorque them; hand tight is fine.



8) If you removed the shell, keep in mind that it will go back together differently than how you removed it. This time, insert the front clip on the chassis back into the shell at a slight angle. 🚗



THE LOW DOWN

MSRP: \$7.99 for either Foam Tire and Wheel Upgrade or

Tire Upgrade

PROS: Improved traction and handling for various surfaces

CONS: Each tire compound is specific for the type of racing they are designed for. Do not mismatch their applications.

DIFFICULTY: Beginner

VERDICT: One of the best upgrades you can add to your RC car without breaking your bank.

Note: All wheel and tire upgrades are sold separately. Please check with your local retailer for pricing and availability.



Eibach[®] THE WILL
SPRINGS TO WIN



Photo: Peter Brock



Pro-Kit

Radical looks meet world-class performance



Sportline

Race-car attitude for the extreme enthusiast

#1 Choice of Automotive Enthusiasts Worldwide!

For your nearest dealer call: 800 507 2338
access code 1499 • eibach.com

Eibach[®]
SPRINGS
The Suspension Company.



KEEPING YOU IN SUSPENSE

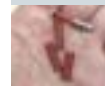
In the real world, a car's suspension is responsible for providing both comfort and keeping your wheels on the ground so that you can drive faster.

THE LOW DOWN TO STEERING AND HANDLING

But when it comes to your XMODS radio controlled car, we're going strictly for the latter and luckily for you, you'll be able to tune up and get really serious about how it can perform under various setups. Most of today's vehicles are equipped with a series of springs, shock absorbers, sway bars, and electronics, which are used to control the ride and handling characteristics, but obviously your XMODS car isn't quite as intricate. Quite simply, your XMODS car is much higher performing in comparison and uses fewer parts in doing so with only springs, dampers, and tie rods. By modifying these areas, you can set your XMODS to race on different types of courses with improved results.

SPRINGS

The XMODS Suspension and Steering Upgrade kit will come with three sets of Eibach spring packages, each with different stiffness settings:



SOFT:
allows for more controlled steering, but slower response

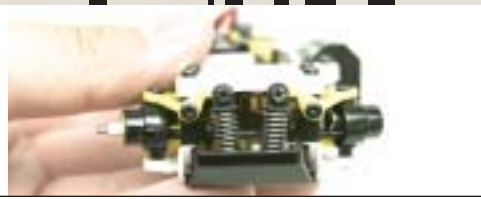
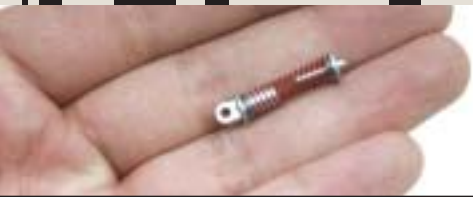


MEDIUM:
offers a fine balance between the Soft and Stiff



STIFF:
optimal for use with high speed driving; quicker steering response; decreases body roll





Of course, depending on your handling tastes, your XMODS car will react differently with different spring setups in addition to the other suspension factors, such as which tie rods you use in conjunction. By poking around on the Internet, we

found an application guide that should work well with your XMODS car in giving you various driving responses for a number of suspension settings. Naturally, these same settings would also apply in the real world.

WHAT IS OVERSTEER AND UNDERSTEER?

Knowing which settings to adjust oversteer and understeer on your XMODS won't make any sense unless you understand how exactly both those forces work. For any car, whether it's real or radio controlled, as its tires reach their traction limits, they tend to slip sideways. The angle between the tires actual path and its natural path is known as its slip angle. This lets a driver know whether the front or rear of the car is in danger of breaking free and into a skid.

When a car is oversteering, its rear end is sliding out and carries a higher slip angle than the front. This happens when the rear tires reach their traction limit quicker than the front, therefore causing the rear of the car to steer a wider path than the front and leading the car into a smaller turning radius corner.

When a car is understeering, the front tires have a higher slip angle than the rear, which will cause to go straight rather than turning. Essentially the car wants to "push", but instead the front end slides. As opposed to oversteering, the front of the car takes a wider radius curve than what the driver intended.

Both oversteer and understeer are correctable, but to a point. If a car is understeering, but no correction is made, then the result is a wider corner and the car remains stable. The smaller radius corner brought about by oversteering can cause more oversteer if it's not corrected and will ultimately spin out after the

rear wheels lose complete grip.

Supplied with the Suspension & Steering Upgrade is a set of metal-shafted dampers, which are right

away stronger than the plastic pieces that come with your starter kit. Using metal gives a smoother, more accurate response system. The metal dampers will react to surfaces much quicker and are less likely to bind, which plastic can often times do.

You'll also be equipped with a set of tie rods (basically steering racks), which will allow you to set the toe-in (camber) of your suspension and will give different degrees of cornering under racing situations. When you add more camber (higher degree tie rod), you can turn more aggressively into a corner. Depending on how aggressively you like to come into these turns will be determined by how your XMODS' camber is adjusted. If there are more turns, you're going to want more camber.



OVERSTEER AND UNDERSTEER

TOE-IN DEGREE	OPTIMAL USE
1.5 degree	straight-aways and speed (your starter kit will work best)
3 degree	a good compromise between the low and upper end tie rods
4.5 degree	better for tighter, more curvy courses

SUSPENSION SETTINGS

Part to Adjust	Increase Understeer	Increase Oversteer
Front tires	harder	softer
Rear tires	softer	harder
Front wheel camber	more positive	more negative
Front springs	stiffer	softer
Rear springs	softer	stiffer
Weight distribution	emphasis on front end	emphasis on rear end

THE LOW DOWN

SUSPENSION & STEERING UPGRADE

MSRP: \$7.99

PROS: Improved handling and more responsive while racing

CONS: These parts are small and will be tricky to install

INSTALL DIFFICULTY: Advanced

VERDICT: A great upgrade for those of you who will use their XMODS strictly for racing.

A Public Service Announcement by:



SUPER-TUNING YOUR CAR'S SUSPENSION

There's a lot more to suspension tuning than meets the eye: it's much more complicated than simply slamming your car closer to the concrete. Many amateur tuners think bolting on a set of cheap, ultra-stiff lowering springs-or, worse, cutting coils off their stock springs-is the way to give their machine the low look they want. But modifying your car's suspension without understanding what you're doing is not just dumb-it can be downright dangerous.

Which is why Eibach carefully tests and develops each and every spring, damper, anti-roll bar and wheel spacer they make, making sure it's exactly right for the vehicle application. And why Eibach has developed two different lines of lowering springs, Pro-Kit and Sportline, to deliver exactly the look and feel you want, without compromising safety and overall handling.

Pro-Kit springs are designed to lower your car 1.00 inch to 1.5 inches, improving response and overall cornering while actually improving ride quality. For most drivers, Pro-Kit is the right way to go for a street car that's driven daily.

Sportline springs lower your car between 1.75 and 2.25 inches-as far as you should ever go with a street

automobile. They deliver a radical, race-car look, and handling performance to match. And because they're from Eibach, they still retain adequate suspension travel and a reasonably comfortable ride.

Springs, however, are just one part of the handling equation. Springs hold your car up, but it's the dampers (shocks) that actually absorb energy, controlling body motion and fine-tuning ride and handling performance. Eibach Pro-Kit and Sportline springs can be used with stock dampers, but overall performance increases greatly when the springs are matched with the properly tuned Eibach Pro-Dampers.

Choosing the right anti-roll bars is also important: which is why an Eibach Anti-Roll Kit is the perfect complement to Eibach springs and Pro-Dampers. Eibach Anti-Roll Kits are designed to minimize body lean for improved steering response and cornering performance-and do it while enhancing the car's understeer/oversteer balance.

It would take a course in suspension engineering to fully explain all the fine points of high-performance suspension design. But, there's one simple, easy way to ensure that your car handles as well-and as safely-as it can. Just choose Eibach: the suspension components developed through-and inspired by-the will to win. 🏁



MODERNimage

S I G N W O R K S

CUSTOM DECALS & GRAPHICS



BODY GRAPHICS

- OVER 39 COLORS
- 185 DIFFERENT KITS
- CAN BE SCALED TO FIT ANY VEHICLE



RACE LOGOS

- HUNDREDS OF LOGOS TO CHOOSE FROM!
- WIDE VARIETY OF COLORS & SIZES



WINDSHIELD BANNERS

(race logos, crew names, etc.)
(solid windshield years also available)

HOOD DECALS

(race logos, crew names, etc.)

CLEAR PRO PAINT PROTECTION KITS

(protect against annoying rock chips)

HIGH-RES DIGITAL GRAPHICS

(almost quality without the expensive artwork price)

RACE LOGOS

(hundreds to choose from)

BODY GRAPHICS

(185 to choose from)

www.modernimage.net

Phone: 714/375-0591

17141 Palmdale Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 Fax: 714/375-0594

ALL WHEEL DRIVIN'



IMPROVE THE HANDLING OF YOUR XMODS BY ADDING POWER TO TWO MORE WHEELS



While your XMODS will certainly perform well under most driving situations with power going to the two front wheels, you have the potential to double that amount of longitudinal force that the tires apply to the ground by adding an All Wheel Drive Upgrade. Es-

entially, what the AWD upgrade does is that it improves traction, agility, and handling, all while providing you with speed and control while cornering, pulls smoothly through turns instead of pushing, and has less chatter and wheel hop than a 2WD configuration.





The only downside of using the AWD kit is that your straightaway speed will decrease, but your handling will be second to none.

The XMODS All Wheel Drive Upgrade comes with a new ball differential gear, which replaces the starter gear differential. It will make your ball bearings work more smoothly, generating less friction and making it a more efficient machine to go corner racing with. However, it will limit the slip differential. The upgrade kit also comes with XMODS gear grease to properly lubricate the drive system and will retail for \$14.99.

An all-wheel drive system uses two differentials for the front and rear wheels, as well as a transfer case. These differentials take the torque produced by the transmission and feed that energy to the drive wheels. The transfer case is responsible for splitting the power between the front and rear axles on an all-wheel drive system. One fault that lies within this technology is through its differentials, which are often open ended. While it splits the torque evenly between each of the two wheels it's connected to, if one of those wheels happens to lift off the ground or make contact with a slippery surface, then the torque that's been applied to that

wheel drops to zero - meaning no torque is transferred to it. This can be remedied with a limited-slip differential, which will make sure that torque is distributed to the drive wheels, regardless of the driving situation.

HOW EXACTLY DOES ALL WHEEL DRIVE WORK?

Before you can understand how an all wheel drive system works, you need to know the basics about torque, traction, and wheel slip. Torque is the force that your engine produces and is what gets your car "going". As your engine creates power, it's up to the transmission and its differential to take that power, split it, and transfer it to your drive wheels. Traction is the maximum amount of force that your tires can apply to the ground and vice versa. Wheel slip is what happens when either a longitudinal or lateral force is applied to the tires and exceeds the amount of traction available from it. Most two wheel drive platforms won't even break past their traction limits on dry or wet, flat pavements, but an all-wheel drive can outperform in most low-traction situations, primarily on slick or off-road conditions. A car with all-wheel drive can utilize the traction of all four wheels to pull itself around. 🚗

THE LOW DOWN

MSRP: \$14.99

PROS: Increases agility and handling by transferring power evenly through all four wheels

CONS: Decreases straightaway speed and run time

INSTALL DIFFICULTY: Advanced

VERDICT: If you're looking for all out traction, this is one of your best options.



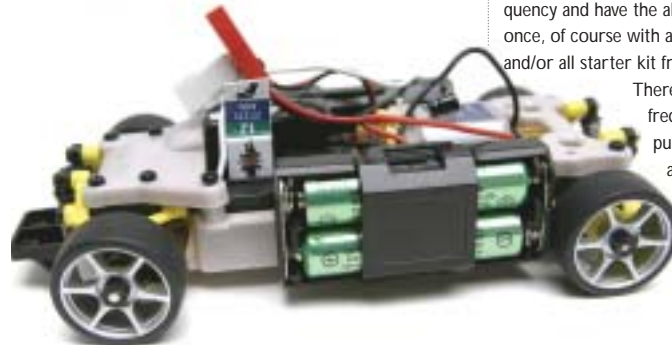
GAIN TOTAL CONTROL OF YOUR XMODS CAR, WITH PLENTY OF ROOM TO ADD MORE!

TUNE IN

After you get yourself familiarized with your XMODS radio controlled car, you'll discover plenty more about them, like what it likes to eat for breakfast or when it likes to be tucked into bed. But you'll also figure out what frequencies are and how you can use them to your advantage. For instance, your starter kit comes with a variety of 6 crystals that's tuned into a specific frequency that's

recognized by your controller and car...along with every other XMODS car that hits the shelves. That means anyone with the same starter frequencies can come along with their controller and take possession of your car, which sucks worse than your prom date flaking out on you and showing up with your best friend instead. But if you opt for the Racing Crystals Set, you can change your starter kit frequency and have the ability to race up to 12 cars at once, of course with an additional frequency set and/or all starter kit frequencies.

There will be one kit with varying frequency ranges, and can be purchased at your local retailer at only \$15.99 MSRP. The chart below will give you an idea of which frequencies will come with each corresponding kit. 🚗



RACING CRYSTALS SET SPECS

Frequency	Band	Color Codes
26.975	7	grey and brown
27.025	8	brown and red
27.075	9	red and orange
27.125	10	orange and yellow
27.175	11	yellow and green
27.225	12	green and blue

THE LOW DOWN

MSRP: \$15.99

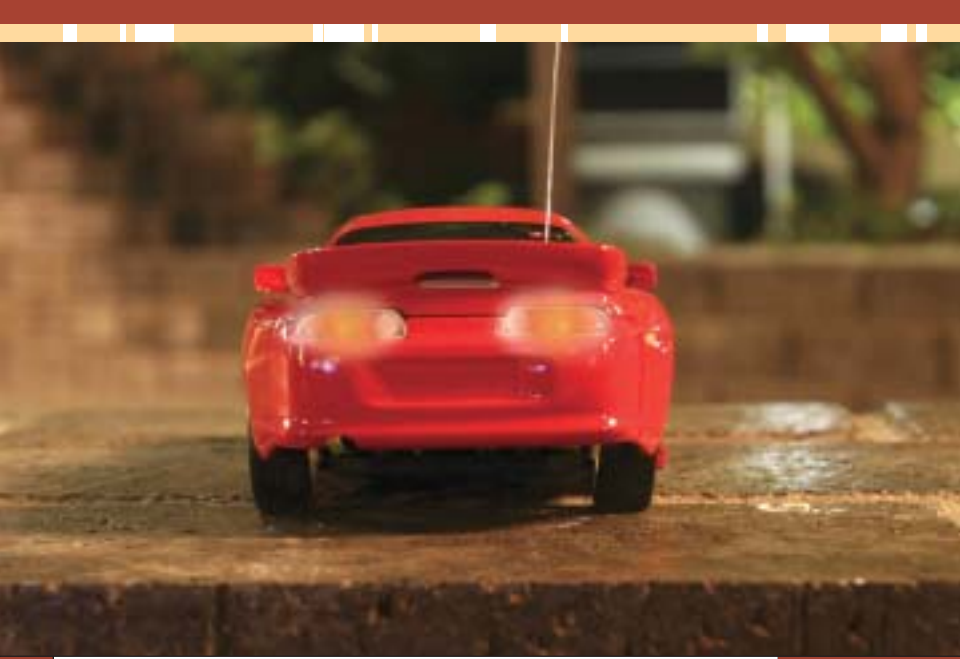
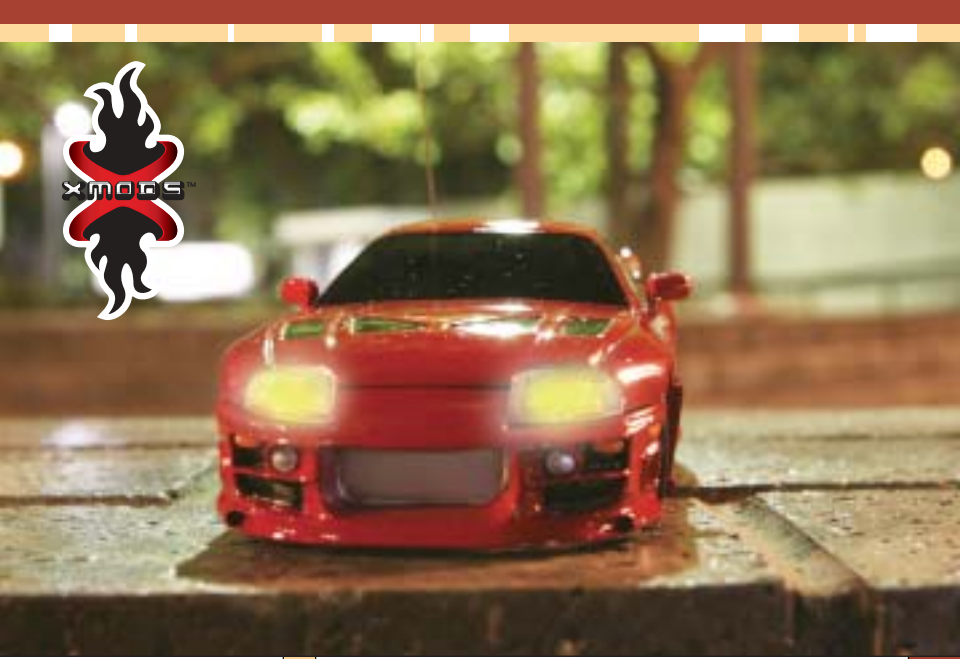
PROS: Allows you to change your XMODS frequency to race multiple cars

CONS: Let's hope your friend doesn't use the same frequencies as you

INSTALL DIFFICULTY: Beginner

VERDICT: Yellow and blue make green, but changing the frequency on your XMODS is the key to all that troubles you.





LIGHT 'EM UP

CONTRARY TO POPULAR BELIEF, THIS IS NOT AN ENDORSEMENT FOR SMOKING

You've got to hand it to the XMODS squad - not only have they succeeded in producing some of the coolest radio controlled cars known to man, but they've also done a great job in helping to make them as realistic as possible and more than just a silly toy to be found in aisle 17 of your favorite retail chain.

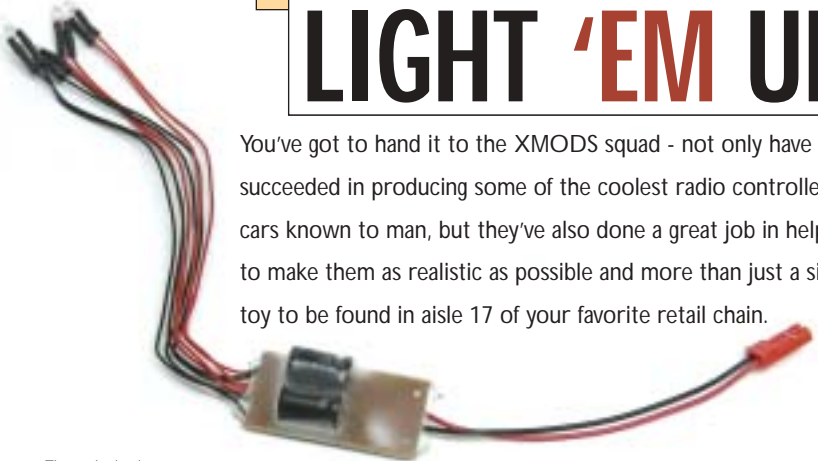
So far you've got engine, suspension, and body kit upgrades - what more could there possibly be? Well, how does a light kit sound to you? The Command Performance Lights bolts easily into place and once installed will give your XMODS a set of working headlights and taillights!

headlights will turn on; tap the brakes and the taillights light up. And when you use them for indoor racing or nighttime road courses, the lights will show up nice and bright. Not bad, eh? ☼

Essentially, there is a set of white and red LED lights of which will be set to your front and back-side accordingly. As you move the car forward, the



The Command Performance Lights are a plug and play affair.



The red wire is for your rear lights.

The black wire is for your headlights.

Any questions?



THE LOW DOWN

- MSRP: \$5.99
- PROS: Working head and taillights? Sign us up!
- CONS: A car horn would have made this thing complete.
- INSTALL DIFFICULTY: Intermediate
- VERDICT: Don't be a wuss - just get it. Your XMODS won't feel loved without one.



SUPER STREET



61% OFF the newsstand cost



SHOW

GO FROM STOCK TO SHOCK
IN MINUTES

US WHAT YOU'VE GOT

0

ne of the neatest things about your XMODS radio controlled car is the ability to change and modify its exterior in a variety of ways for the ultimate in customization. Taking styling cues from a handful of import tuning companies, each XMODS model will have an optional body kit package that will include two types of body kits, from either Bomex (Nissan Skyline and Toyota Supra) or Versus (Acura RSX and Honda Civic). Each upgrade kit will include a new aftermarket hood, a larger diameter exhaust tip (to simulate an aftermarket exhaust system), and an interchangeable Sparco steering wheel for your controller.

You will have two body kit options; one serving as a mild upgrade and the other as a wild. Both sets will include a front bumper, rear bumper, side skirts, and a rear wing. All of the mentioned parts will snap/screw into place with a small Phillips head screwdriver.

The great thing about having two body kits to



Yes.

Send me one year (12 issues) of SUPER STREET for \$22.97 - that's only \$1.91 an issue and 61% OFF the newsstand cost!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

I want to receive offers for other services/products. Yes _____ No _____

Payment enclosed

Bill me later (in U.S. only)

Mail in this form to: **SUPER STREET**
PO BOX 55402
BOULDER CO 80323-5402

Visit us at
www.superstreetonline.com

Canadian orders add \$13 per year (includes GST), all other foreign orders add \$1 per year (for surface mail postage); all payments must be in U.S. funds. Please allow for 6 to 8 weeks for delivery of first issue.

6STA5/SE

XMODSRC.COM 39





choose from is that you can mix and match parts to your liking. Don't like the aero bumper in Set 1, but like its side skirts? Or do you prefer the factory look, but with a rear wing upgrade instead? Then do it! It's up to you how you want it to look! Also included is a new hood, which ultimately serves only as a cosmetic upgrade.

Another add-on piece that isn't directly connect-



ed to your motor is the bolt-on exhaust pipe that will screw into your rear bumper. Designed merely for show, this is yet another signifying piece that will show that your XMODS is one piece of tricked out goodness.

The fun doesn't end with cosmetic upgrades to

your XMODS car. Additionally, you get to modify your controller, specifically with a miniature Sparco Extreme 2 steering wheel, which can be found in the body kits. This can be swapped out easily by unscrewing and removing the factory piece for the Sparco unit. 🇸🇮



THE LOW DOWN

MSRP: \$12.99

PROS: Sharp and aggressive styling? Yes, please!

CONS: None whatsoever.

INSTALL DIFFICULTY: Beginner, even Mom could do this one.

VERDICT: Bless XMODS, for thou createth such dopeth toys.



THE LARGEST SPORT COMPACT CAR BODY KIT MANUFACTURER IN THE WORLD



ALL NEW RSX LINE UP



NEW GRADE "A" JAPANESE QUALITY FIBERGLASS
GUARANTEED QUALITY, FITMENT, AND FINISH



THE OFFICIAL
SUPPLIER
OF
THIS MOVIE

pure

AS SEEN IN THE MOVIE
"2FAST 2FURIOUS."



WE WILL MEET OR BEAT ANY COMPETITOR'S PRICE BY 10%

- prices as low as to quote
- 98% fill rate
- no box or handling fees
- 100% no-hassle hidden fee
- you pay for the product with us and shipping cost directly to the shipping company. (bodykits only)
- DISTRIBUTOR INQUIRY WELCOME

VERSUS
MOTORSPORT

1201 W. ARTESIA BLVD. COMPTON, CA 90220
TEL 310.885.5788
FAX. 310.885.5988
INTERNET: WWW.VERSUSMOTORSPORT.COM

THINGS CAN
GET STICKY -

JUST MAKE SURE
YOU CLEAN YOUR
HANDS AFTERWARD

GRAPHIC DETAILS

One of the best things about customizing your XMODS custom RC car is that it allows you to get as creative as you want. Sure, the available upgrade kits will only let you modify up until a certain point, but that's where the Graphics and Decal Set come in handy. Designed specifically by Modern Image Graphics for XMODS, you'll be given one sheet of precut vinyl, each with logos of the top import tuning companies. In addition to that, you'll also find extra sheets of plain, uncut vinyl, so that you can create any type of design that you think will look best for your XMODS car! 🚗



THINK YOUR DESIGN IS THE BEST?

Well, then put your creative skills to the test because *Super Street Magazine* wants to see what kind of designs you can come up with. Just like our Reader's Rides section, we want photos of your XMODS with custom graphics and if we like what we see, we'll feature it! The top custom design will win a few cool prizes from XMODS, not to mention a spot in the magazine as the XMODS Ride of the Month. You can send all your submissions to:

Super Street Magazine, Attn: XMODS, 6420 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90048 or send us a high quality JPEG at: ststreet@primedia.com. Good luck!

THE LOW DOWN

MSRP: Please check with your nearest retailer

PROS: Precut vinyl for these tiny things? Awesome. Totally awesome.

CONS: If you mess up, you're SOL. Well, not really - you could just buy a new one.

INSTALL DIFFICULTY: Intermediate

VERDICT: It's a good thing Modern Image is doing us a solid. Cutting these stickers would have cut into our *American Idol* time in a big way.



WHILE YOUR XMODS CAR IS ALL YOU'LL REALLY NEED, THIS BONUS GEAR AIN'T TOO SHABBY, EITHER



TOOLS OF THE TRADE

As you might have guessed, working on these XMODS cars isn't quite as easy as brain surgery, but it does require a handful of specialty tools that may not be readily available. To alleviate this situation, XMODS offers a Tool Set to be sold at all retailers, which includes the following tools: lug nut wrench, tweezers, and extra wheel nuts and screws, just in case you happen to lose a couple of those. It will be packaged into a nice carrying case and is a worthwhile purchase for those of you who are just getting started with these type of radio controlled cars.



Another XMODS accessory piece that might appeal to you is the Carrying Case, which will allow you to fit your XMODS car, the Tool Set, and all the Playboys you've been trying to hide from Mom and Dad. It's well designed and can be used for a number of purposes, although it's best suited to protecting your XMODS gear while on the go. There are a number of pockets that will take NiMH batteries or a cellphone. In fact, while walking home from school, we got jumped for ours. ☘

THE LOW DOWN

MSRP: \$12.99 for tools and \$29.99 for the carrying bag

PROS: Have you ever tried to work on these things without the proper tools? Well, trust us - it isn't fun.

CONS: A tad bit pricey, but nothing a couple of skipped lunches won't handle.

VERDICT: While the Tool Set and Carrying Case are certainly not necessary, they will make your life a whole lot simpler.





WHAT?

YOU THOUGHT THESE THINGS WOULD RUN FOREVER?

RECHARGE

These XMODS are highly addictive. You may stop using the Internet, lose contact with your friends, or lose your job over them. But the real fun doesn't last forever, much like a Lakers champi-

onship series. Sure, you could keep popping in a fresh supply of AAA batteries every so often and run up a small bill that could have been used to pay off, oh say, your student loan or a house payment. Or you could just invest in the Rechargeable NiMH Battery Upgrade and save yourself a whole lot of time, not to mention using better technology found in NiMH than in alkaline.



THE LOW DOWN

MSRP: \$24.99

PROS: rechargeable NiMH technology that will outperform alkaline; includes 8 batteries

CONS: none really

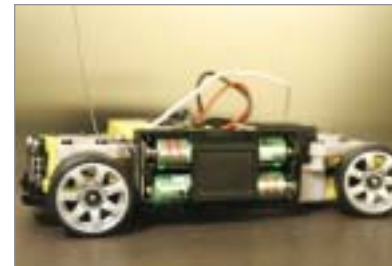
INSTALL DIFFICULTY: Beginner

VERDICT: This is a no brainer. But if you really like spending money on non-rechargeable batteries, then be our guest suck!

charger, plug it into the wall, and in just under two hours, they'll be fully charged and ready to use again.

The charger itself is pretty trick. The two end caps pull back to reveal a battery tray on each side, where you'll slide the batteries in as the diagram on the charger shows. Take the charger and plug it into the wall. It's that simple to put new life into your NiMH batteries. ♣

You see, with the XMODS Rechargeable NiMH Battery Upgrade, you'll be using a set of rechargeable (duh!) batteries that will even perform better than alkaline under certain racing situations, offering more power where it's needed. When they're drained, simply put them into the supplied



BRING IT.



***THE XMODS RACING TOUR
IS HEADED FOR YOUR
NEIGHBORHOOD.***



Powered by
RadioShack.

XMODS™ custom RC cars can be modified from wild to wicked. And now we're giving you the chance to prove your XMODS car is the baddest one around. Our racing tour is a heads-up, no-holds-barred racing competition designed to test the performance of XMODS cars and their drivers. Think you've got what it takes? Watch for details. In the meantime, start practicing. www.xmodsRC.com.