

# Flying Point Pizzaz

## KIT REVIEW

Reviewed by Andy Carter

Flying Point are well known for their 1:8 Rallycross racer - the Probe. Now they offer a new range including the economically priced Pizzaz

**T**he Pizzaz is a 2WD 1/10th scale i.c. powered off-road racing truck which comes complete with a 2cc (15 class) engine complete with a recoil starter. It is an entry level model kit which is aimed at those who require the versatility of a traditional 1/10th electric buggy without the inherent drawback of having to recharge batteries every five or so minutes. The attraction of i.c. (internal combustion) powered kits is that they promise endless fun and power and when the glow fuel runs out, you simply re-fill the fuel tank and re-start the engine.

Although shunned by racers, the recoil start system is, on a kit such as this, a necessity as it eliminates the requirement for having a separate starter box and 12 volt battery thereby making the initial purchase correspondingly cheaper and also making the whole setup ultimately more mobile - just what you need for recreational use.

The Pizzaz actually comes virtually ready-built which is another attraction for the novice. All that is required is to install the Radio Control equipment (standard 2 channel), place and glue the tyres onto the rims and cutout and paint the bodyshell.

The instructions supplied do actually include all the steps required for building the truck from kit form. It also includes a very useful section on setting up the LEO 15 engine which is supplied. Setting up and running in an i.c. engine is a very important thing and the mixture/idle settings can be critical to the good running and long life of an engine.

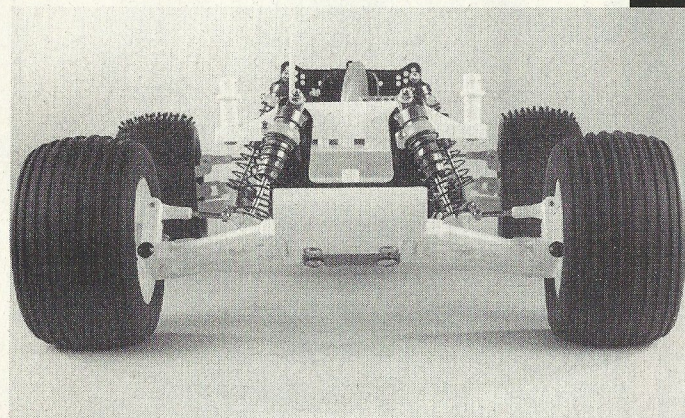
The kit itself is a 2WD truck which has fully independent suspension, taken care of by an oil filled shock absorber with a single wishbone and adjustable top link on all four corners. The wishbones are very long white moulded items that look very durable. In fact, my initial impressions of the kit were favorable. Whilst not radical, the Pizzaz looks very smart with its purple anodised aluminium tub chassis along with the white injection moulded plastic components.

The large fuel tank in front of the engine (all pre-installed) dominates the chassis layout and looks very purposeful.

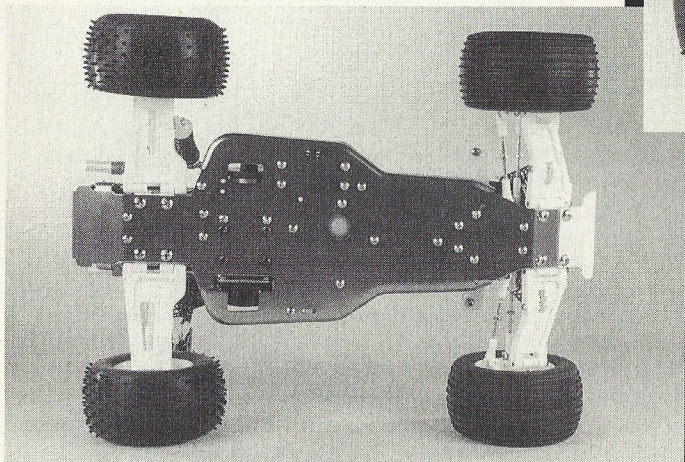
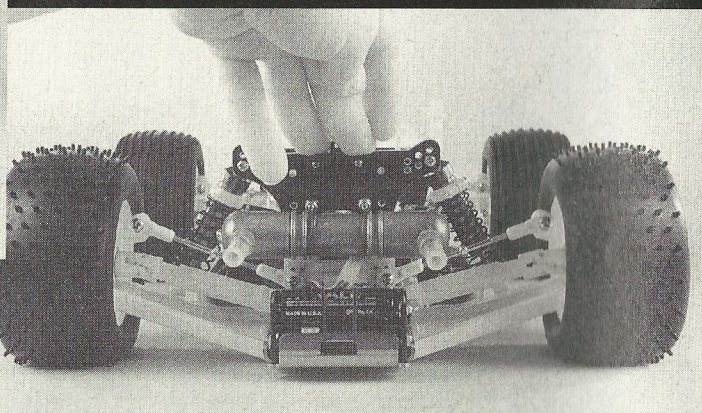
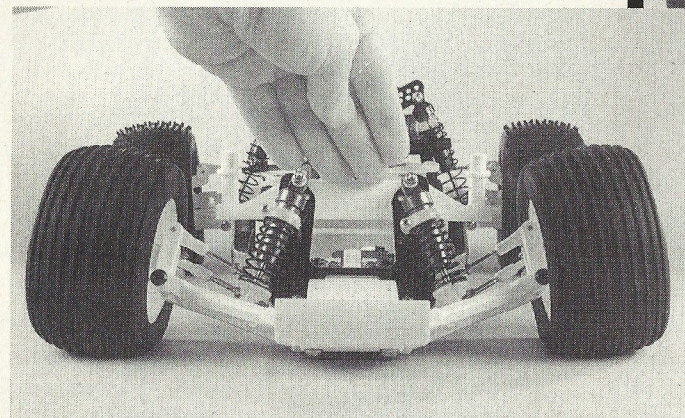
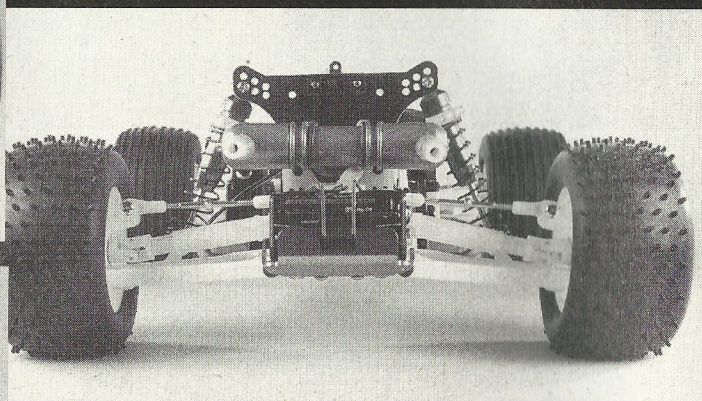
Drive to the rear wheels is taken care of by a reduction gearbox with a differential and a slipper clutch which enables the transmission to slip slightly under severe loadings thereby making it last longer (in theory!). The driveshafts are plastic telescopic items which should ensure that good power delivery is guaranteed for a long time to come.

In fact, the whole kit, with the obvious exception of the engine, looks like an electric buggy kit - much along the lines of the Traxxas cars and the Schumacher Nitro 10 range of kits.





Left; Big wheeled version of the Pizazz seen here is for real off roading but a smaller wheeled 2WD version is also available. Twin rear exhausts make the car stand out from other similar kits on the market. Tyres need to be glued in place before the first run.



### Assembly

With virtually 90 percent of the task done for you, I initially thought that the assembly would be a simple task of bolting two servos into place and installing the receiver. Unfortunately, I was wrong.

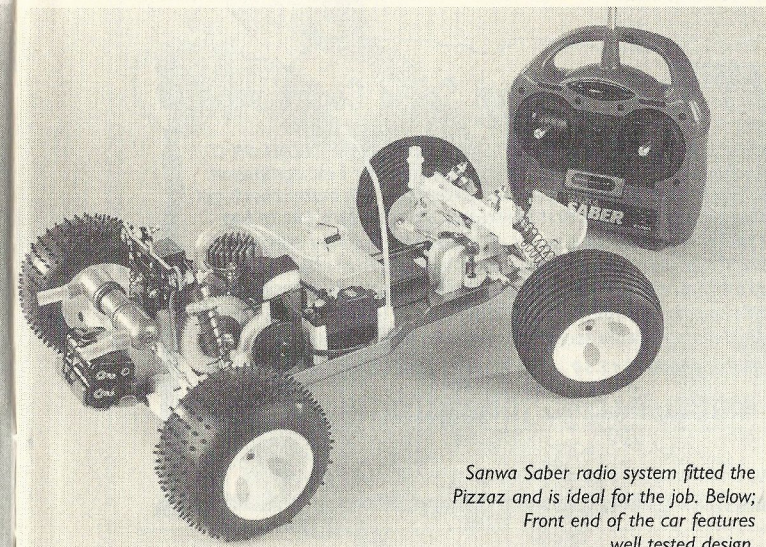
The Radio Control equipment supplied to us with the Pizazz was a SANWA DASH-SABER which is a basic two channel set operating on 27 MHz. The Sanwa sets have a good reputation for quality and, the SABER seems to be the same as all of its SANWA predecessors. The transmitter is very nice to hold (especially if you have small hands like me). The two servos supplied are the standard Sanwa 102's which are good enough for the rigours of off road use.

Unfortunately, when it came to installing the servos, the kit instructions duly informed me that the screws were supplied with the radio equipment but, after much searching, it was obvious that my set didn't have any which was most frustrating as it stops the

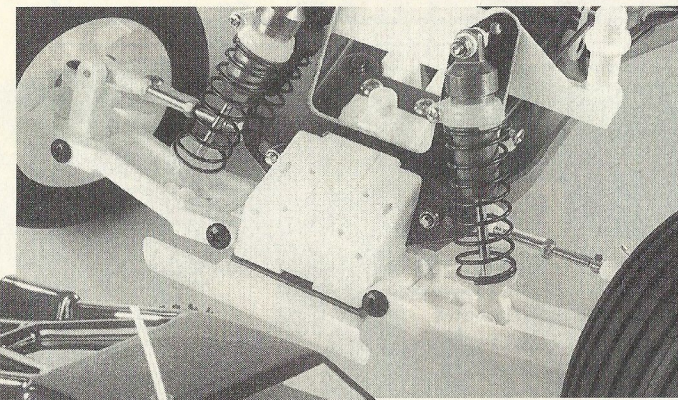
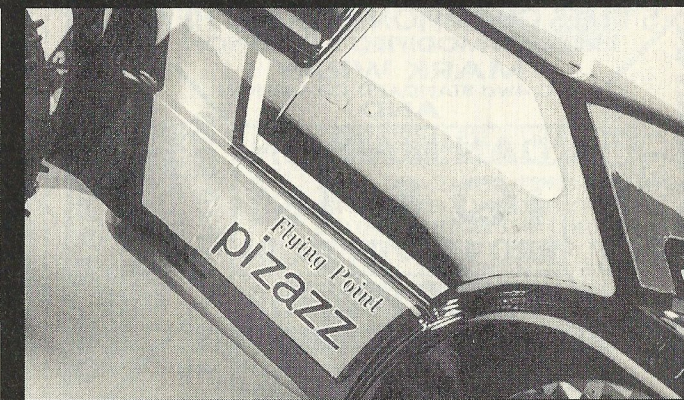
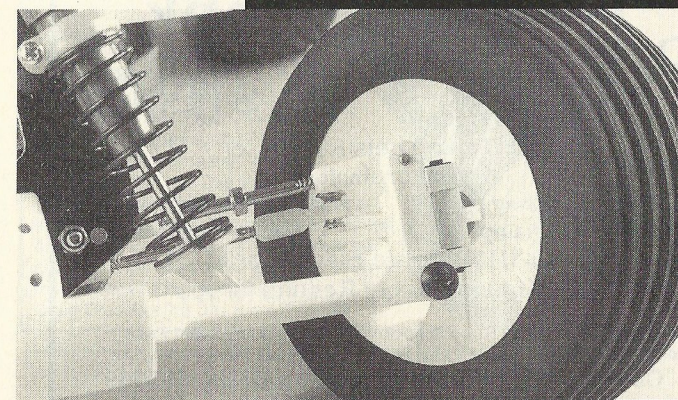
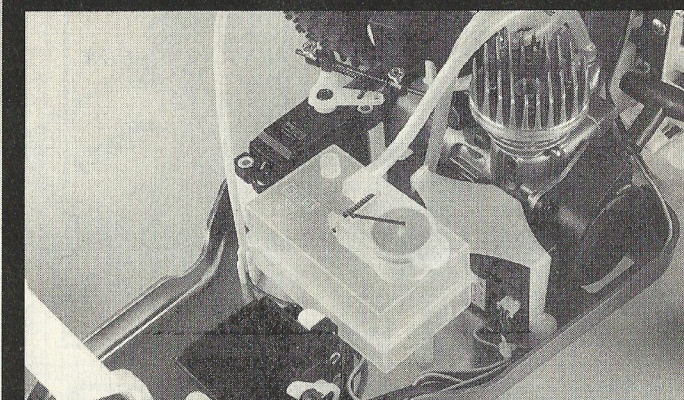
assembly. A quick call to the importers (Irvine Engines which also import the Pizazz) revealed that none of the Sanwa SABER sets come with mounting screws. They all include the necessary rubber grommets and brass eyelets which provide an anti-vibration mount for the servos but no screws. This is a pity and a catch 22 situation for the new truck owner as he/she is forced to go and buy 8 self tapping screws which, whilst it isn't a disaster, it is frustrating especially if the model shop where the kit and radio was bought from doesn't realise this at the point of purchase.

The R/C installation didn't get any easier even after I found some servo screws. There are three linkages supplied, all of which are

Sanwa radio installed fitted easily and connected to the steering and carburettor via the supplied radio hook up links. Nicely anodized chassis makes the car look very attractive.



Sanwa Saber radio system fitted the Pizazz and is ideal for the job. Below; Front end of the car features well tested design.



the same. One for the steering, One for the throttle and one for the brake. Unfortunately for those who have had little or no previous experience of setting up these linkages, the instruction manual isn't especially clear on this matter and the photos that are referred to are not much clearer. Even now, I couldn't guarantee that our review kit is 100 percent correct which isn't very good considering the target market is the relative novice. Either a supplement sheet showing the linkages in more detail and describing the assembly could be included or a good model shop with experience in setting up this type of car is most definitely required.

Once the R/C equipment is installed, the tyres need gluing into place on the wheels with a suitable glue such as superglue. The tyres are soft rubber and will wear out quickly if used on tarmac but they should provide good grip on dirt and grass.

The bodyshell is an attractive clear polycarbonate item that needs cutting out and painting. The decals supplied with the kit are quite basic but others can be put on if required. Alternatively, a smart paint job will look better than hundreds of stickers!

### CONCLUSION

After the bodyshell is painted and put onto the kit, it is difficult not to like the Pizazz. It certainly looks far more attractive in the flesh than on the box cover! The purple anodised chassis and shock absorbers really do stand out and look very neat. In fact, if it wasn't for the relatively poor instructions referring to the Radio installation, it would be virtually impossible to fault the Pizazz because other than that, the kit is well presented and put together. The Pizazz is imported by Irvine Engines and is available from any of these stockists priced approximately £175.00 (kit only).

List of items required not included in the kit.

- 2 channel r/c equipment
- Servo mount screws
- Superglue
- Threadlock
- Paint/masking tape
- Glow plug
- Glow fuel (dynaglo 10 or equivalent)
- Glow clip with a suitable 2v battery source