

"the Mini was shooting around the car park but I was not driving it!"

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# FORMULA top fun



# mini mayhem!

KYOSHO 1/10 GP  
MINI COOPER MK1



**W**ith the Mini being Britain's best loved car and the very first car I ever bought with my hard earned money, I could not resist the chance to review the Kyosho's 1/10th scale gas powered front wheel driven Mini Cooper. Looking at the picture on the box it was irresistible. What was very appealing about the mini was how smart it looked and how had I got my hands on it to build it! Not that

it took much building. The mini is already 90% built so it left me deep in thought on what to do next. Well, on opening the box and pulling everything out, stopping briefly to admire the body shell, which I had already decided to paint British racing green with the traditional white roof, I took out the chassis. The chassis is almost

"The sticker sheet is excellent"

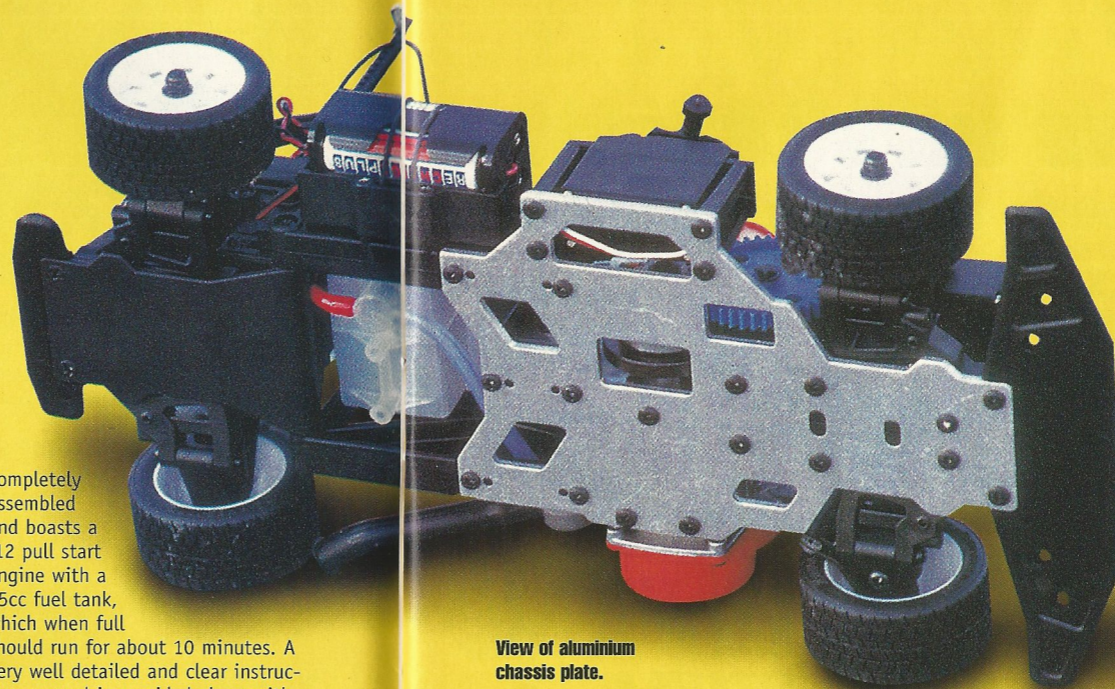
completely assembled and boasts a .12 pull start engine with a 75cc fuel tank, which when full should run for about 10 minutes. A very well detailed and clear instruction manual is provided along with an exploded view sheet on how everything goes together from scratch, along with part numbers next to it to order any spares you might need. The sticker sheet is excellent with a number of extras, including a big Union Jack for the roof, and these together with the plastic chrome parts should finish the job off a treat.

## What else do I need?

On the side of the box is an exact list of my requirements, a 2 channel radio which includes 2 servos, receiver and a battery box with a switch. I will also need some fuel and a glow starter and a dozen batteries, all of which can be bought from any model shop or as optional parts in the back of the instruction manual. There are also a few hop up options available which are detailed in the instruction manual for example changing the suspension by adding oil filled shocks. Don't go overboard on hop ups though if you intend racing the car until regulations are published for the Kyosho Cup and the RRCI Budget IC series.

## The short build

On opening the manual steps 1 to 10 are all about fitting the radio gear, which was more or less pretty straightforward in completing, apart from the odd hiccup with using the



View of aluminium chassis plate.

wrong pillow balls for the steering servo, but apart from that everything went very smoothly and to my disappointment very quickly because I do enjoy building these cars. Before I knew it the body mounts were on and I was in for a pit stop

Closer inspection of the workings.



Below: Completed chassis - all geared up



for the wheels to be fitted and as far as the works go - that was just about it.

## "Green" British please

Cutting out the shell was a task I was not looking forward to, but with a bit of time and care the familiar mini design was taking shape, and after a little rub down on those rough edges with an emery board I was ready to mask

British racing green colours - a real eye-catching colour scheme.

the windows with the masks supplied in the kit. Just before spraying I remembered the one thing I had over looked, the 30 holes that needed to be drilled, so with an assortment of drills and a bit of assistance from a friend, this was soon sorted out. Fixing the plastic chrome bumpers and the famous Mini Cooper badge took nearly as long as putting the radio in, but was worth every minute. When you look at the finished shell sprayed and with its decals and chrome effects attached all you will want to do now is to run the car.

## Let me have a go!

I was keen to get the car running but having never run a GP car I had to be patient, the steering had to be checked and aligned as did the throttle/brake. The fuel

was added and the engine started after a couple of pulls but was running a bit slow, so a small adjustment to the throttle valve was made. Other than that, everything was fine apart from the fact that the Mini was shooting around the car park but I was not driving it! I did a deal with Jon Tanner of Model Helicopter World Magazine, he would show me how to start the engine and check everything was OK, just as long as he could have a play! Finally it was my turn and yes it was exactly as I thought. A nippy little mover which cornered well even when at nearly full speed. It shot round on itself with a little jumping from the back wheels but hey that's

what a full size mini would do. The brake which I was dubious about to start off with worked very well and it needed to with the "Ed" getting his hands on it and showing off his driving skills, which I might add he enjoyed immensely but I was worried for the safety of my baby! But from now on, bring on some tarmac and I will be away, but I don't think I will be alone somehow after the interest shown in my small friend, now form an orderly queue behind me!

## Quick Spec.

1/10 scale IC powered car  
.12 Pull start engine  
FWD, 90% Pre-built chassis  
Clutch band braking  
Torsion spring suspension  
Length 342mm  
Width 164mm

## Testers Kit

Futaba Attack II 27 Meg radio and servos  
Ripmax Glowstart  
Borrowed Fuel

## Likes:

Everything

## Dislikes:

I want more daylight

# Eds comments

This is one pretty car as you will see from the photographs. As Nigel was checking out the car I could not resist wresting the transmitter from his grasp to have a play! Having got used to flinging the Kyosho Megane about the place I was well used to the friendly, forgiving handling but the Mini is even more fun. I reckon the scale power to weight ratio must be enormous as this little rocket flies. For maximum effect you can raise the rear end just a wee bit and get spectacular "lift off" oversteer to help you turn into the corners a bit more briskly, this also combats the fail safe/run wide understeer. Great Fun. If you fancy getting into racing IC cars in an economic and fun way then give this car a go in the standard Mini class of the Kyosho Cup later this year. Watch out for details in the "Racing Round Up" section. Better still join the RRCI International Drivers Club and race your Mini in our budget IC series as well! See you there. **RRCI**

