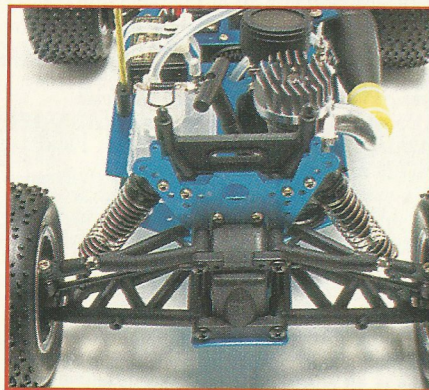


stand aside for the stampede

The Multiplex Stampede 4WD IC Stadium Truck



Show me where the rough stuff is



Turnbuckle adjustment for camber, neat

model and compare it to the Bandit (as reviewed by Nigel M in last July's edition of RRCi), the decision was easy and quickly made - YES! er, PLEASE!

I collected the model and drove home, the box sitting quietly beside me asking to be opened. This is it I thought I have moved from division three into the premier - I had progressed into the big league!

Open the box

When I had the model indoors, I lifted off the lid, and there it was, a lovely sight! My eight year old son's head was all I could see followed by "Wow! Cool truck Dad!" Peter E had told me that the truck was 90% built and I had thought this would be an ideal model for my son to help build, and needless to say he was very keen to do so.

We started straight away, this was definitely a truck not to be kept waiting! The model did in fact look almost complete and came with foam inserts for the tyres. The wheels and tyres went together very simply and were soon onto the model. This was looking good!

The Ed' comments

I spoke to Multiplex about the instructions. The Hobbyline range of R/C Cars is imported and distributed in the UK by CML and Multiplex. Multiplex are working closely with CML to improve the UK instruction set, the sheets will probably have changed by the time you read this. Our sample was an early pre-production unit and may not be typical.

Close examination of the instructions however, soon showed them to be a bit unfriendly. The written instructions would I am sure have been extremely useful if a) I could read and understand German, and b) I was building the Multiplex Lightning. Although the front cover shows pictures of both the Lightning and the Stampede, and there are several pictures in the booklet of the Stampede, they do seem to be predominantly for the Lightning, but not knowing anybody who could translate the written word into English, these instructions were as much use to me as slick tyres in a heavy downpour of rain. But wait! There is another set of instructions, and yes they are in English, but no, these were not much help either. These were for the Bandit! Since Nigel built the Bandit there have been some design changes in several areas, for the better I might add. The large exploded diagram of the complete truck was quite useful, but there is no doubt that this selection of instructions did confuse the issue. I decided to settle for the exploded diagram, as it was clear that this was definitely for the Stampede, and it was the only positive way I could identify the screws and nuts and bolts used to complete the kit. One thing that this kit lacks is a key to each type and screw size used.

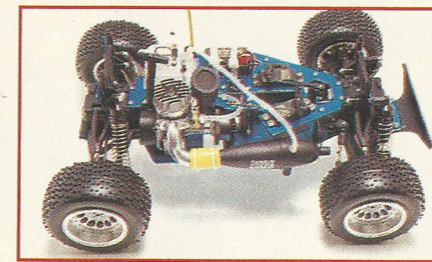
At this point there was no doubt, I would not be missing a challenge!

Changing times

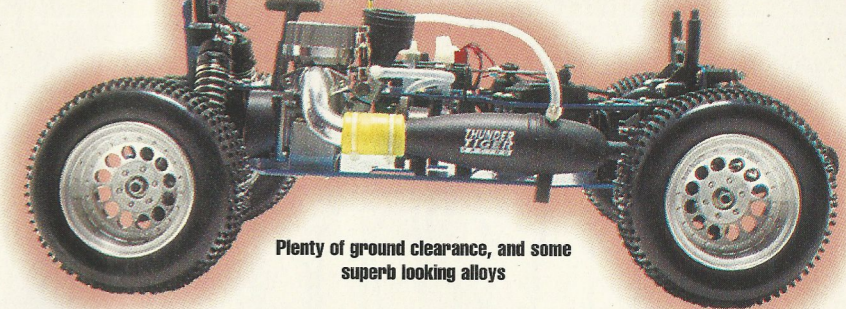
One area that there does seem to be a big improvement against the Bandit is the positioning of the servos. These are not mounted parallel to each other on the chassis, but are slightly offset making them easier to fit, although doing up the nuts and bolts to hold the servos in place was a fiddle, eight year old fingers came in very useful here! Also, connecting the throttle, break and steering linkages is very easy. None of the linkage bars needed to be cut to size.

As I progressed on through, it became quite clear that there were some parts missing. Panic! No, contact Nigel, he may be able to help. After a brief conversation telling him the sort of problems I was encountering, he was kind enough to bring the Bandit over to my

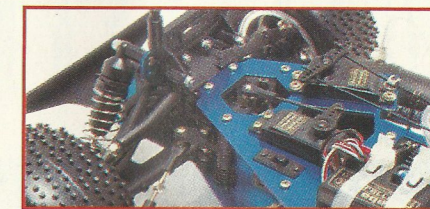
'it is undoubtedly a superb model'



The blue anodised alloy looks trick



Plenty of ground clearance, and some superb looking alloys



Everything neatly strapped into place

house, and I was able to use it as a guide to see how certain parts went together. Another minor problem area was the stay to support the exhaust. This is a straight rod of metal with a loop at one end, according to the diagram it should pick up on the screw securing the radio antenna bracket. All well and good on the Bandit, but they have actually moved the radio antenna to the other side of the chassis on the Stampede, hence there was nothing to secure it to. This meant a slight adjustment to the rod. The older enthusiasts amongst you may remember starting handles, reshaping the rod to this design, enabled me to secure the loop on one of the nuts and bolts holding one of the servos. It was very fiddly getting this into position, but it was well worth the effort, and small fingers again helped.

According to the instructions both the receiver and battery carrier should sit between the top and bottom of the chassis. This could not be done, the gap between the two is not large enough for the components I was using. After a bit of thought and a cup of tea, I fitted the receiver onto the top plate of the chassis, put the battery pack between the top and bottom chassis plate, and secured with two re-usable tie wraps which were supplied with the kit.

With the servos and radio gear fitted, all that remained was the last half a dozen or so screws securing the top and bottom chassis plates. This is where the exploded overall diagram came in very useful. Finally, the two body shell mounts to secure the shell, this was difficult as a major part that was missing was one of the body shell mounts and all of the nuts and bolts for the both mounts, so I borrowed these parts off of the Bandit.

Body and paint

Now for the body shell. I am always concerned at this point that the shell will crack whilst being cut out. I was very careful making sure that no sharp edges were left, and one thing I did find useful was using a sharp pair of curved manicure scissors to cut around the wheel arches. With this all nice and neatly cut out, I offered it up to the model. Oh dear!

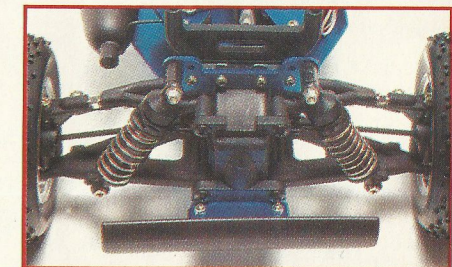
Reflections

Although frustrating at times due to the poor instructions and odd parts missing, building this model did prove to be an enjoyable challenge, and the satisfaction of the completed model is equal to any I have built previously. Once the obstacles have been overcome, it is undoubtedly a superb model.

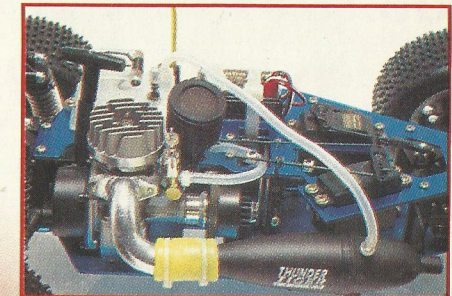
Sadly the run of the truck has had to be put on hold due to the inclement weather. This is

more frustrating than anything else, and has caused serious distress to my eight year old co-driver. So my fellow enthusiasts, watch this space! I will tell you all about this in a future issue of RRCi, but, I have a little secret for you, I have thrown down the gauntlet to Mr McStay - A head to head - Bandit v Stampede.

Move over Bandit and make way for Stampede! Will the Bandit Stand & Deliver or will the Stampede ride rough shod over the Bandit? We shall see in 'Drive In' next month! **RRCi**



Strong front bumper and bulkhead



The tuned pipe is standard

Quick Spec

1/10th scale 4WD stadium truck for 2ch RC. Powered by 2.5 cc engine. Supplied part assembled with polycarbonate body and decals

Likes

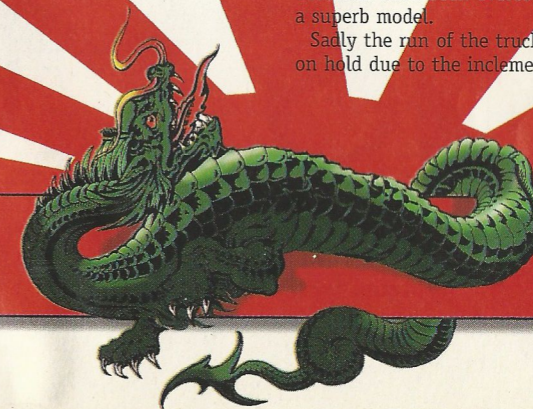
Almost ready to run
Foam inserts for tyres included
Good decal sheet
Chrome effect wheels

Dislikes

Poor instructions
Missing/ill-fitting parts
Waiting for a change in the weather



EASTER'N DELIGHT



wealth safety prosperity