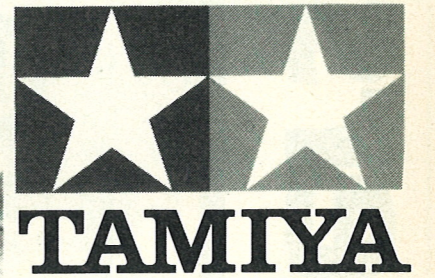
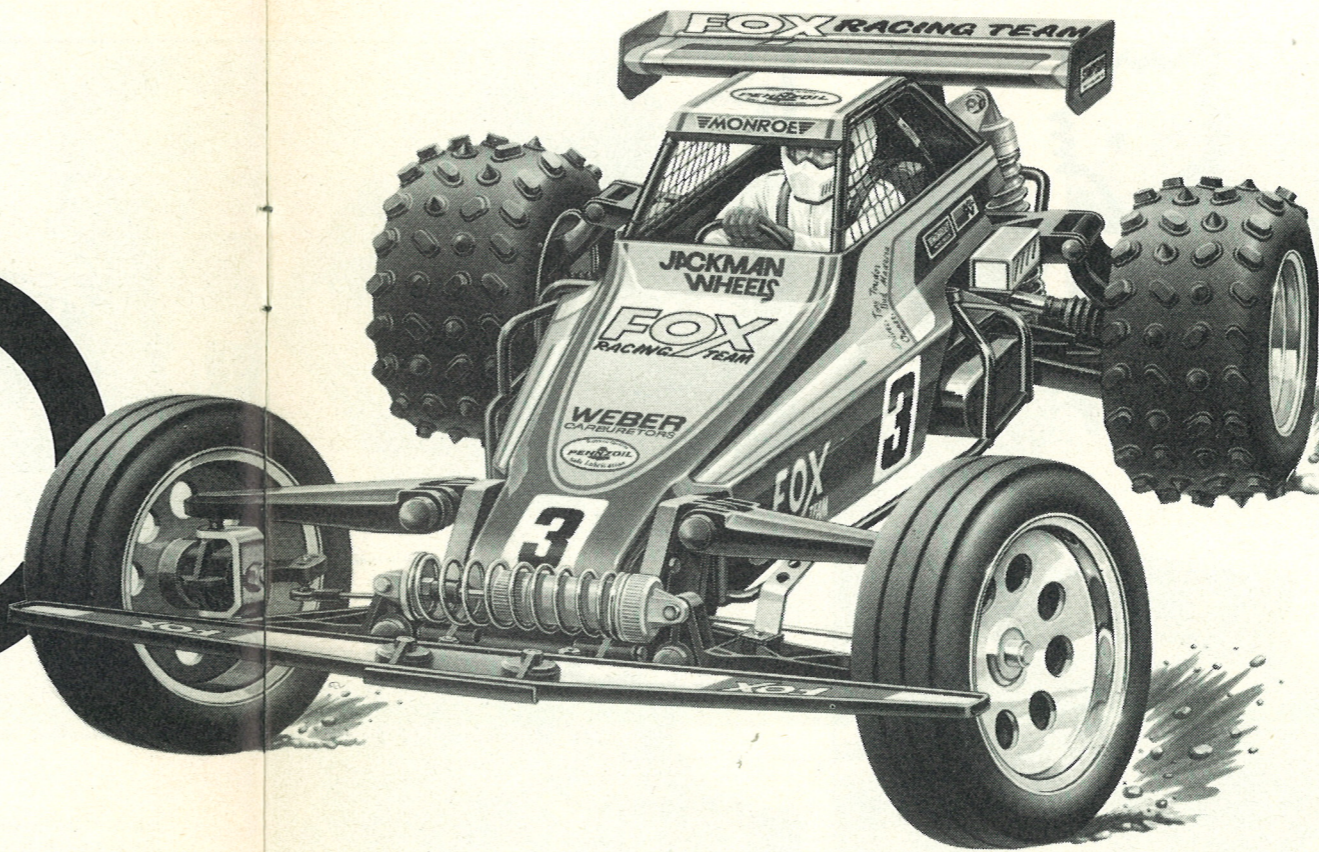


# The Rough Stuff



Following hot on the heels of the 'Wild One' is Tamiya's latest 1/10th scale Off-Road racer. Model Cars previews this new contender.

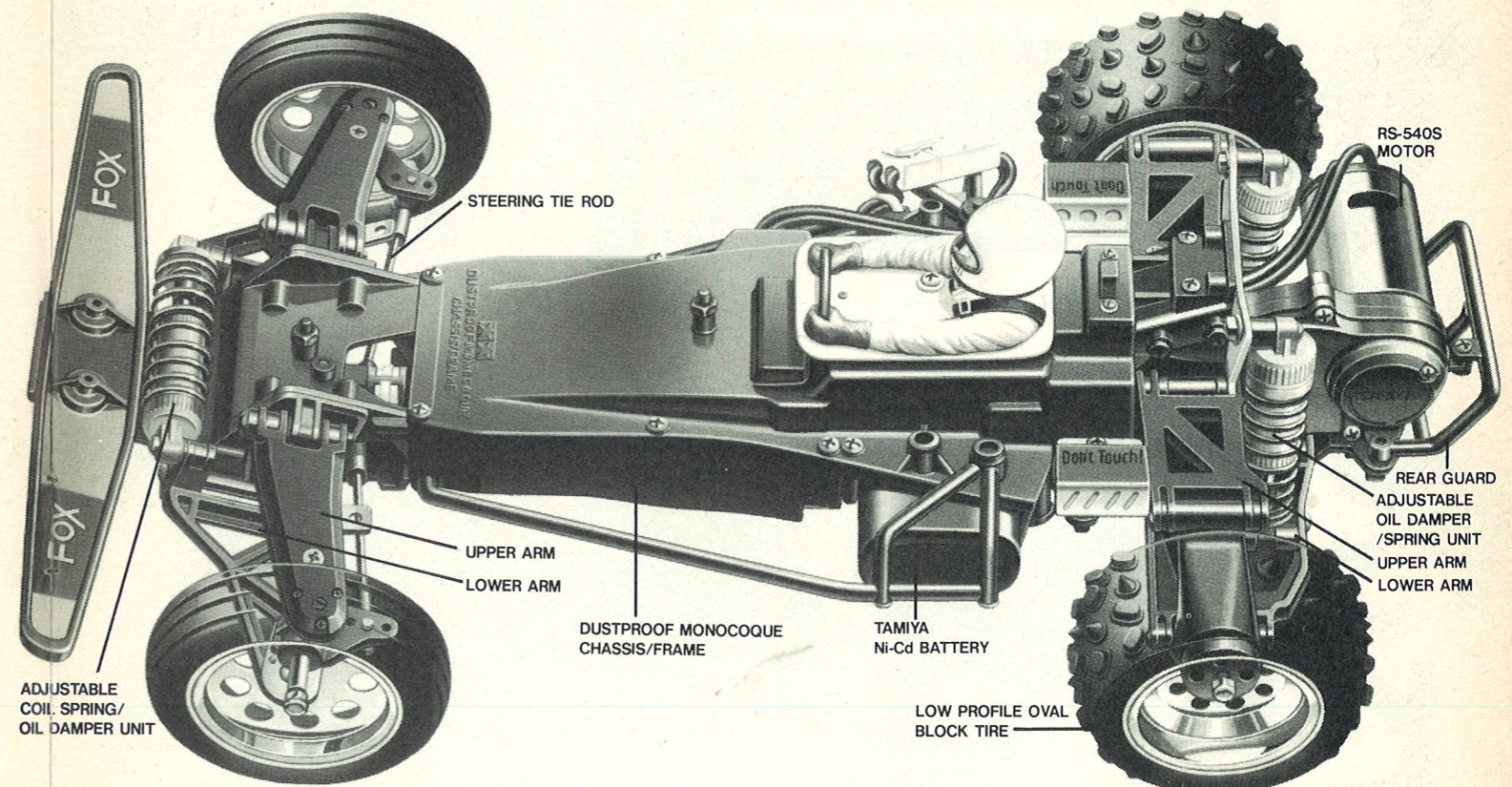
DESPITE THE FACT that the Japanese don't cotton much to Christmas the *Tamiya* 'Fox' managed to arrive in our toy shops just in time for the festive buying spree of the Western world.

With yet another glossy box top on the shelves model shop retailers must have been rubbing their hands with glee whilst discount mail order specialists got out the scissors.

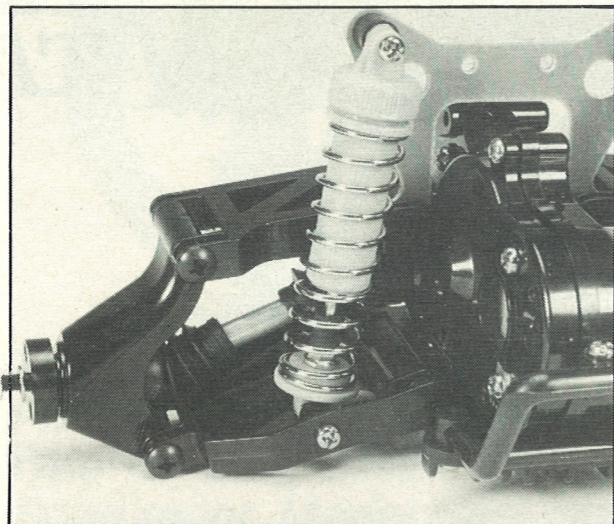
The 'Fox' continues the *Tamiya* tradition of excellent kit production from the beguiling box art, the fault-free instructions and most of all the quality of the components. With each new *Tamiya* kit it's hard to think of areas where improvements can be made, but every time there is something that has been changed for the better.

From a casual glance the 'Fox' could be mistaken for a re-bodied 'Hotshot.' On closer inspection however you begin to notice the bright yellow double dampers at the rear, the fact that this car is rear-wheel drive only, the flashy gold wheel hubs and dust tight monocoque chassis.

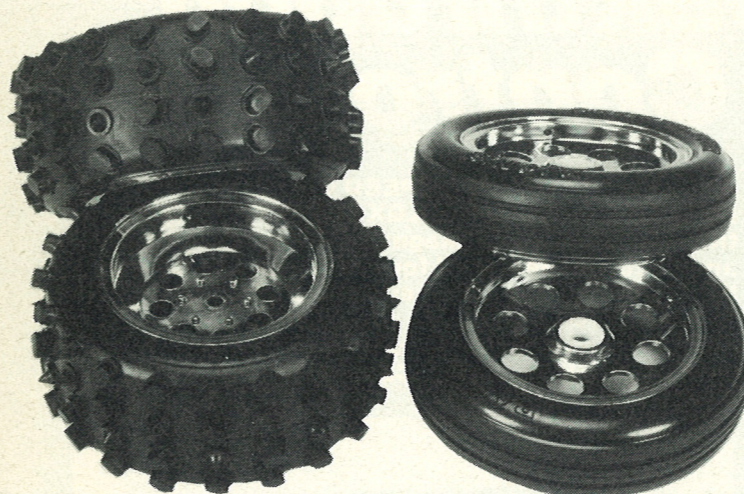
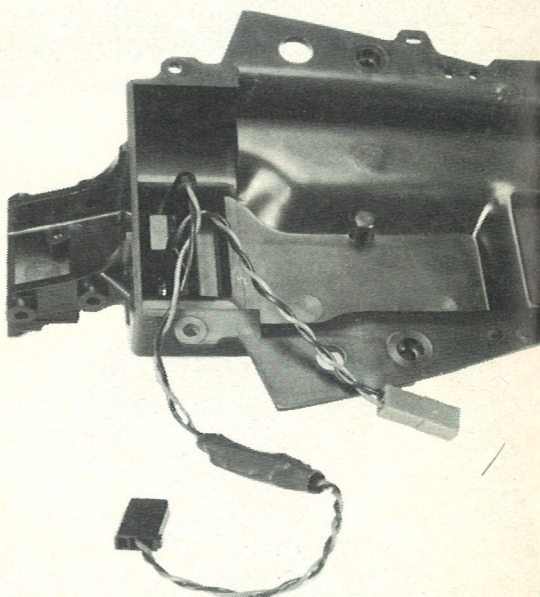
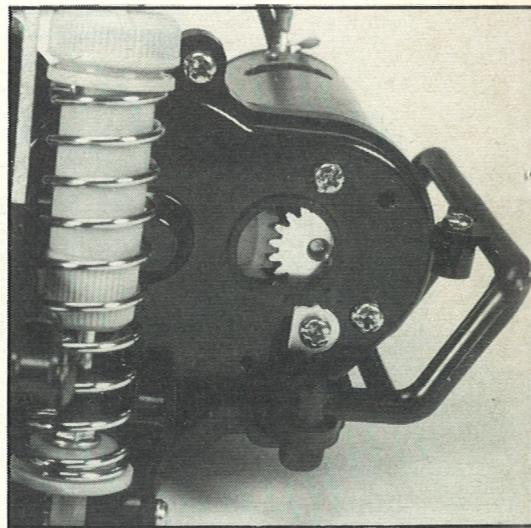
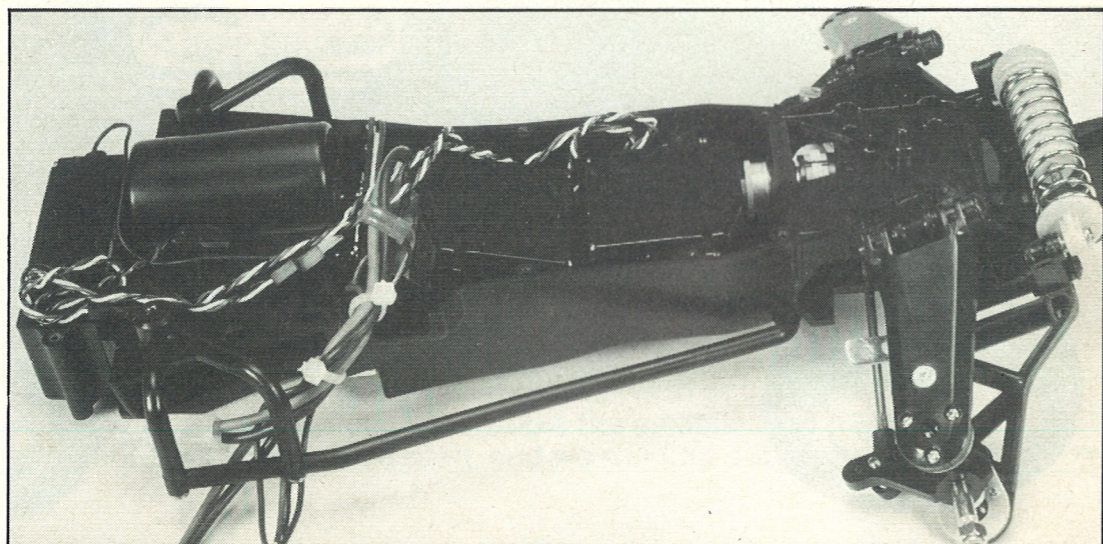
The 'Fox' really moves on from the 'Frog' in the two-wheel drive formula, providing a competitive car with good handling. Whether this will be enough to trouble the established Off-Road competition remains to be seen, and we will find out next month.



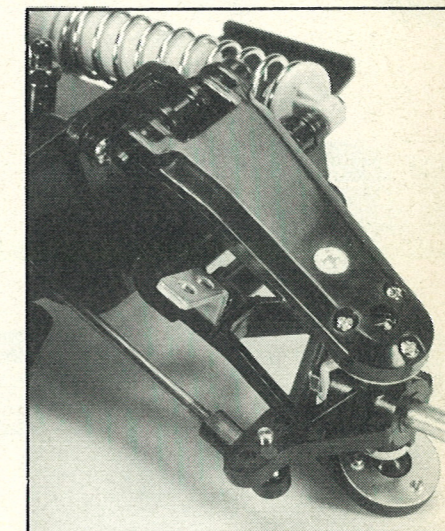
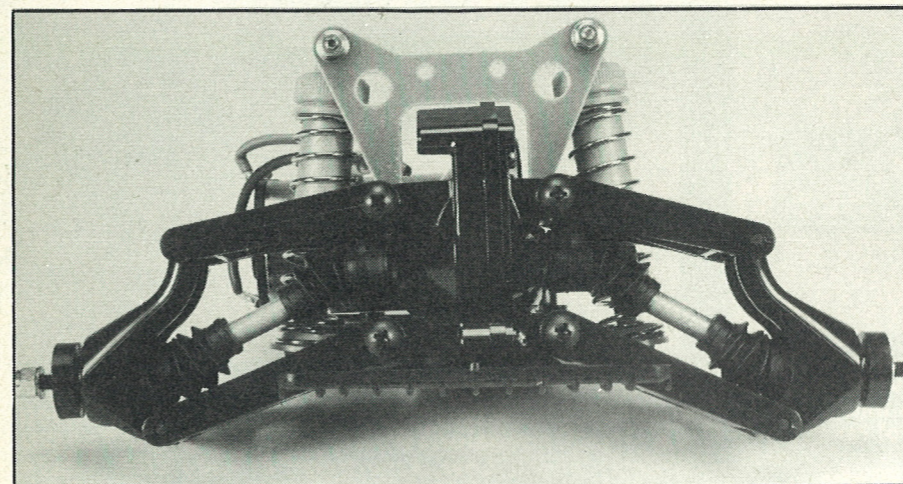
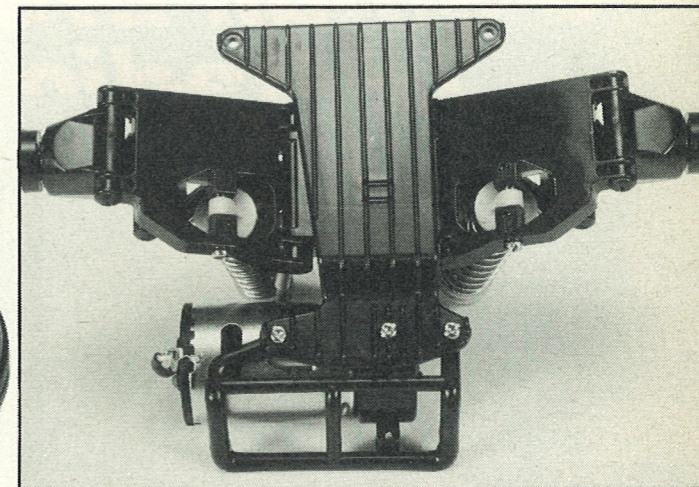
## The Rough Stuff



Above: one of the plastic damper units fitted to the rear-end. The amount of damping can be varied with the use of one of three piston valves supplied. Either normal (flat road), stiff (rough terrain) or jumps (effective during compression). The spring rates can also be altered by using either of the two spring spacers. Below: the completed chassis with R/C gear fitted. Above right: accurate motor gear mesh is insured with the use of the motor mount spacer. Sets positions for the available pinion sizes. Right: the 'Fox' kit is supplied with a switch/voltage regulator that hooks straight in between the speed controller and receiver.



Above: the attractive gold anodised one-piece wheel hubs with tyres fitted. Make sure the tyres are fitted correctly and facing forwards. A handy tyre wall arrow makes sure. Above right: the rear dampers mount almost in the centre of the lower wishbones to give smooth, linear action. Also protected from potential knocks. Below: from the rear showing the independent damping and drive shafts. The shafts and drive outputs are supplied connected and sealed together with rubber gaiters.



Above: close-up of the front steering/stub axle block and its suspension pivots. The suspension balljoints are identical to those of the 'Hotshot' but are now produced from hardened steel. Below left: the front-end is fitted with a mono-shock damper coupled to the lower wishbones. Below: underneath the front end showing the skid plate and bumper mount.

