

# 961 PORSCHE

## Model Cars takes a look at Tamiya's latest Tamtechs

**T**amiya have recently introduced quite a number of Tamtech cars to their range, but this, the 'Porsche 961' is the first real 'tin top' or saloon. Based on the Le Mans racing 961, the car comes complete with 'X' pack body styling which makes for a very purposeful and chunky look. Tamiya's usual high standards of moulding are retained and also a clever process of moulding-in tinted windows is employed.

### Under the shell...

With the introduction of the 'Porsche,' Tamiya have made some interesting chassis modifications which hopefully will improve the handling.

Firstly the main pivot of the rear suspension arm is now adjusted to take a slightly smaller ball joint. This allows for easier assembly and a smoother action.

The rear links to the suspension were of a 'dogbone' type but are now replaced by a set of blue ball type links. These are also placed on over the top of small rubber 'O' rings. This 'dampens' the movement of the suspension to give a smoother action — which

will hopefully remove some of the old 'Tamtech' twitchyness.

### Up the front

Modifications are small at the front but are important. They start with a new cross-link which connects the left and right steering upright. This stops any bumpsteer, which on a car this small can badly affect handling. To this cross the servo is connected with a small balljoint, therefore giving good steering response and no bumpster.

A new type of bumper moulding is also included which incorporates the 'Porsche' bodyshell.

### Electrics!

The basic CPR unit, servo and transmitter remain unchanged — why change what works so well. The steering servo is of ample strength and speed and the speed controller also works with a smooth progressive action. In use the 'Porsche' seems to have excessive oversteer. This problem can be cured by a number of solutions. Firstly by fitting a rate switch to the transmitter; this enables the amount of lock to be cut down which in turn

improves handling. Secondly the tyres can be altered. The front tyres can be trued to half the width, which also reduces steering 'bite' and gives a more docile type of handling. As for the gearing of the model the track conditions decide on this. The smallest pinion gives excessive wheelspin we feel on any circuit so we advise starting with the second pinion. From this setting the handling balance and endurance can be set correctly.

### Finish 'em-off

The whole idea of 'Tamtechs' as with any radio control car is to have fun! So why not paint your car in your favourite racing driver's colours and have mini formula one races? For the shots of the 'Porsche' we left it in the original white but it will soon be in Nigel Mansell colours!

Also available now is the Ferrari 'Testarossa,' this has the same revised chassis layout as the 'Porsche' but is topped off with the sleek red sports car body. We are informed that even more Tamtech are on the way from the Far East so hold on to your hats!

Available through Tamiya stockists price £149.00.

