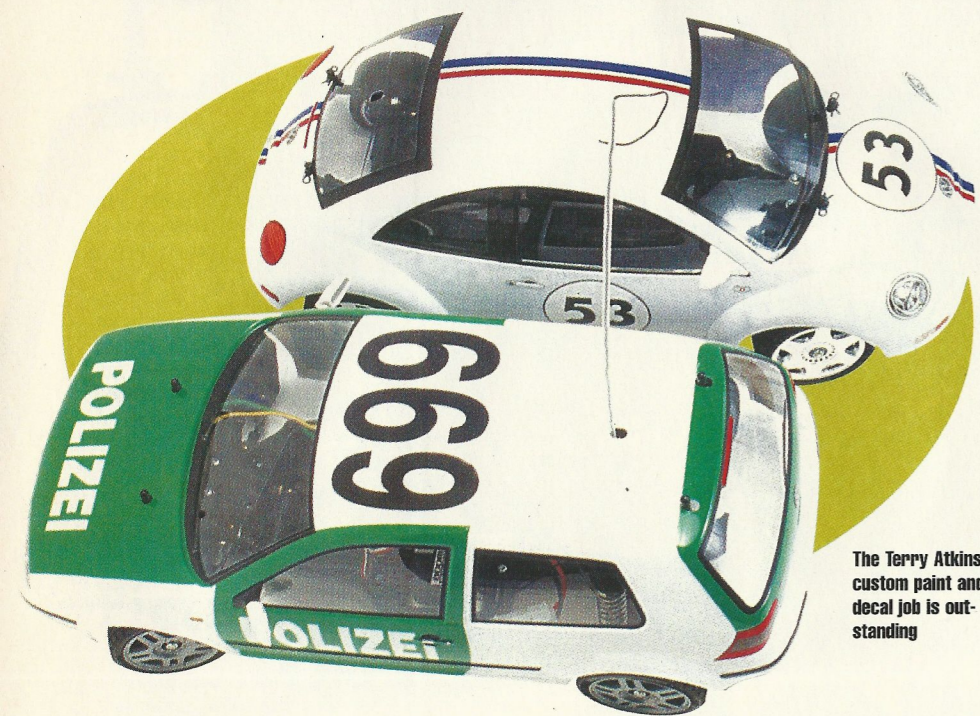
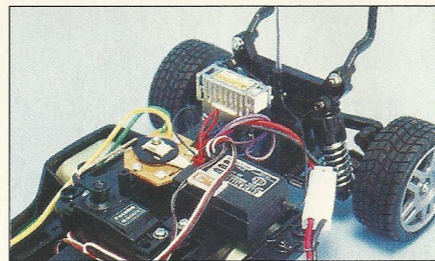


The Tamiya TA02 Volkswagens



The Terry Atkinson custom paint and decal job is outstanding



The rear of the chassis has plenty of space for the electronics



The smart 5 spoke alloys are as detailed as the shell



The custom front number plate is reflective

Better builder

The build up is straightforward and the instructions a lesson in clarity. We built up both chassis very quickly, indeed junior reviewer JonoE built one of the chassis during a half day visit to Traplet Towers.

The Beetle was built stock but the Golf was fitted with a Mtronik DigiSport - Plus RV, reversing ESC. This budget speedo features a very simple setup procedure and worked perfectly throughout the test, recommended.

Tip

If you are going to install the mechanical speedo supplied with the kit you will need to read the supplementary instructions found in the speedo parts bag. I mark up my instruction book with the places that I need to refer back to the supplementary set.

Herbie gets nicked!

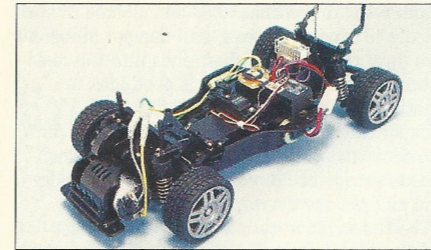
These Volkswagens are the latest in a long and successful line of Tamiya 1:10th scale touring cars. They are identical under the skin, both using the well proven

TA02 FWD chassis. We liked the look of both cars so we decided to review them together and Ed' PeterE gave Terry Atkinson the challenge of recreating the famous 'Herbie' Beetle and providing a continental police car to give chase.

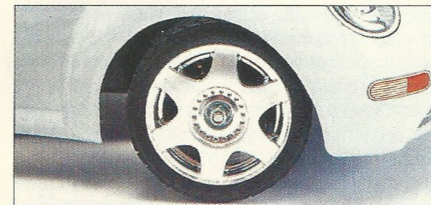
The Tamiya TA02 chassis has been around for some time. It is based on a plastic 'tub' which has appeared in various guises in various kits to provide 2 and 4 wheel drive models. The TA02 here is a front wheel drive chassis which incorporates a ball differential and it is fitted with good quality, oil filled shocks on all four corners. So a fairly sophisticated chassis, a fact borne out by the Tamiya Eurocup where the FWD TA02 remains the weapon of choice amongst the Stock Saloon racers, despite the presence of the much newer 4WD TL01 chassis.

The motor position is unusual as it is ahead of the front wheels. This puts the weight where it is needed for FWD and the result is good traction and excellent stability.

The Herbie theme was impossible to resist



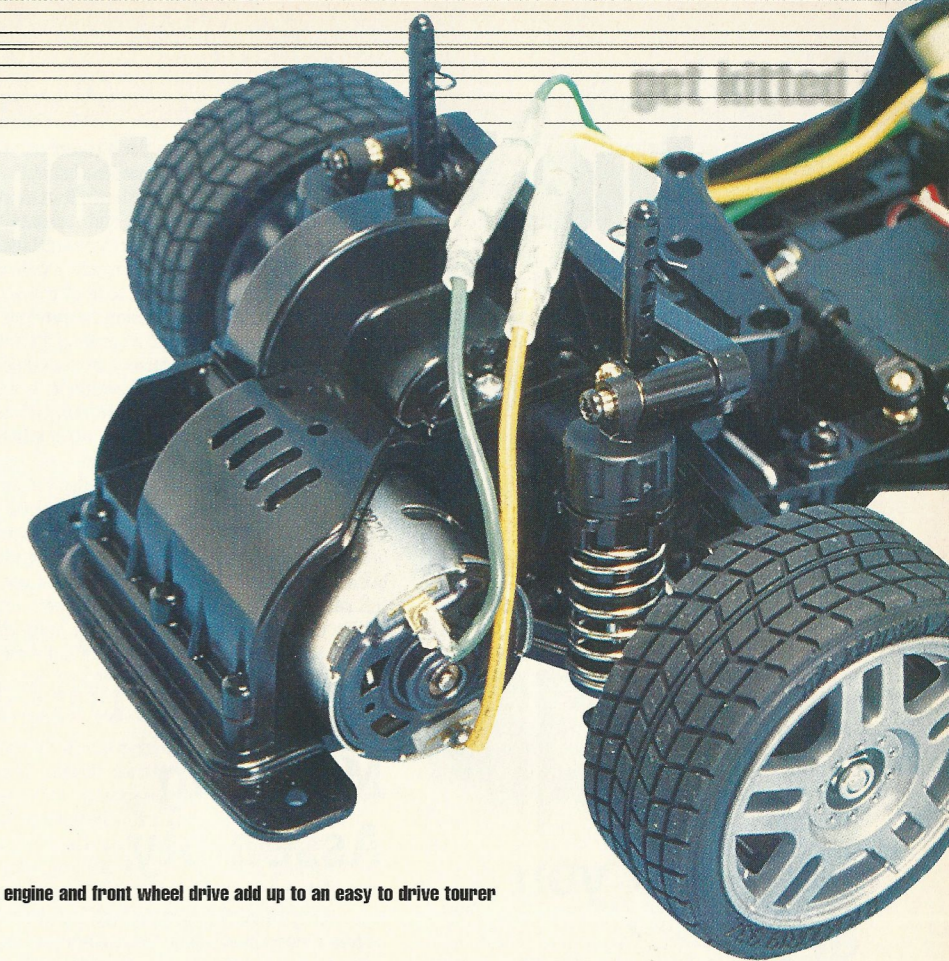
The rolling chassis fits both V'Dubs



The 'bug' sports some rather nice satin chrome wheels



The cute body shape clothes a pretty good chassis that responds well to tuning parts



Front engine and front wheel drive add up to an easy to drive tourer

'the FWD TA02 remains the weapon of choice amongst the Stock Saloon racers'

Read the instructions carefully

Pay particular attention when building the ball diff, it is easy to get it wrong. If the front end does not run smoothly, build it again because it should run easily. One car went together easily, the other we built the diff/front end three times before we were satisfied.

Use threadlock in all the important places such as fitting the pinion gear in place.

Use plenty of grease on bearings, diff and gears - buy more if you need to from your local model shop.

The 'EuroBill' ready to chase Eurocup villains



Don't

Rush!

Use an electric screwdriver for anything other than the initial take up of a screw, always finish the last bit of tightening by hand otherwise you will damage the threads. **RRCI**

Quick Spec

1:10th scale electric touring car. Supplied with motor and 3 step mechanical speed controller. Requires 2 channel radio, 2 x servos, NiCad battery, charger and paint to complete.

Testers Kit

Acoms Alpha 27 Mhz radio and servos
Tamiya 1400 mAh battery
'Terry the Paint'
Mtronik Digi Sport ESC

Likes:

Superb shells
Terrific instructions
Ease of build

Dislikes:

Hop Ups can be expensive
Poor grip from kit tyres

get kitted out