

Thunder Shot

Tamiya's offering in the almost ready to drive market is the Thundershot QD.

There is no doubt that the name Tamiya is synonymous with R/C cars. Tamiya were the founding fathers of our sport and have continued to innovate as our sport has grown and to date have mostly been made to 1/10 scale racing vehicles, keeping Tamiya cars at the forefront of technology.

The latest move on Tamiya's behalf has not been made in the technical war but on the sales front.

How many of us who once owned a Ford Escort, which we purchased for £150.00 now drive a fairly decent Ford? Yes, it may seem like a silly question, but that Ford with its rusty bodyshell and oily old engine started what the advertising boys call brand loyalty. In English that means that the old car, battered as it was, got you around rather well so you think you may buy another one, and here you are twenty years later still buying Fords!

Tamiya, in introducing the QD car have done exactly the same thing. The QD Thundershot arrived all ready to go, all you have to do is attach a few stickers, screw on the rear wing, insert the batteries and go. Even a pistol grip, two channel radio is included in the set.

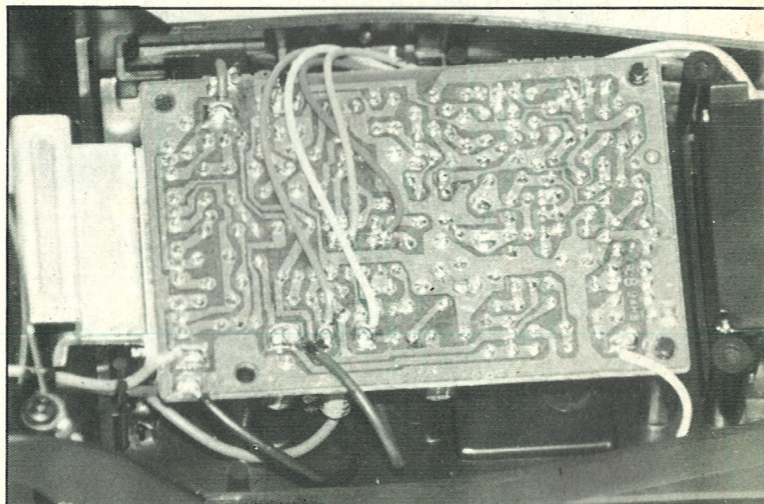
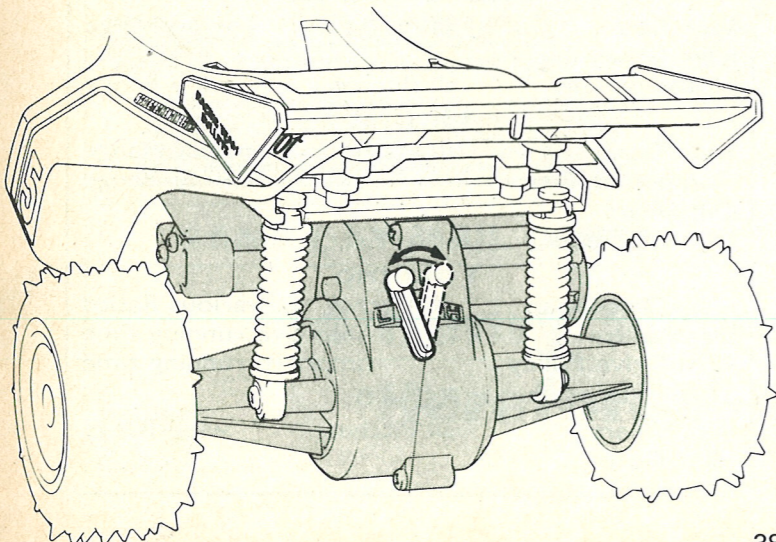
Overall the QD Thundershot is well up to Tamiya's high standard, so the youngster who wants his first R/C car doesn't even have rusty bodywork to deal with. Instead he has a very high quality, tough, plastic bodyshell that will withstand many hard knocks. The most important thing is that he has a radio in his hand and a car on the move, and what is even more important is that when it comes time to change the QD for

a tenth car, there is every chance that that tenth car will be one made in the Tamiya factory.

Tamiya QD Thundershot, the best almost ready to drive car that this reviewer has yet seen!

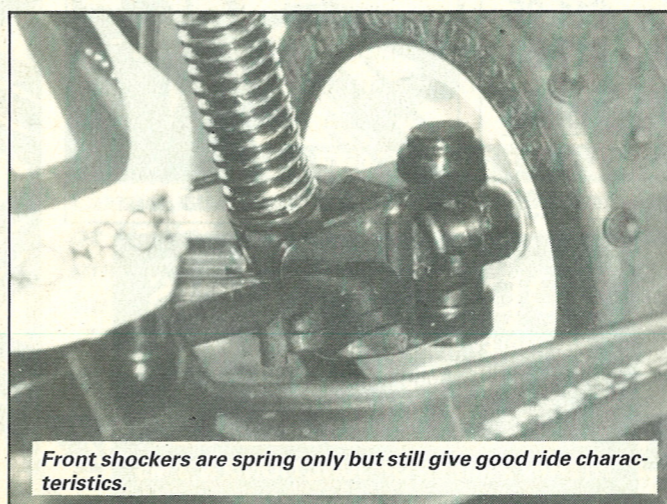
Available from Tamiya stockists everywhere.

Left, a simple lever alters the gearing from high to low. Below, this is what makes the QD Thundershot do what you ask — a combined receiver and electronic speed controller. Right, front wishbone is made of sturdy stuff.

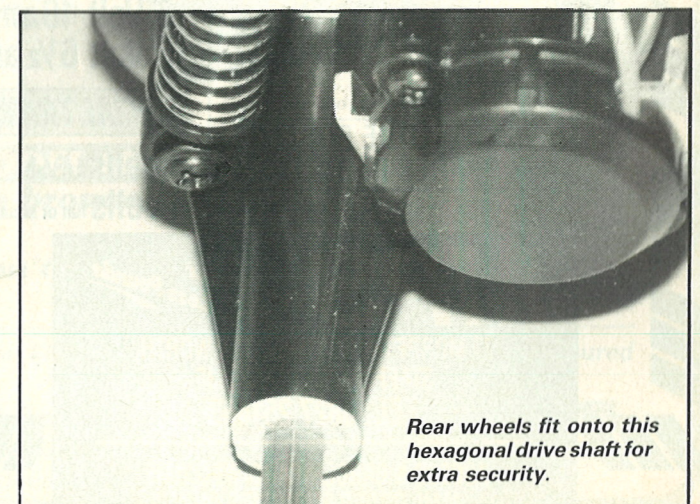


The 1/14 scale Thundershot is easy to load with batteries as the exploded drawing shows, rechargeable cells are less expensive in the long run, a charging jack is fitted to the car.

Equally easy to load is the radio, a single battery in the handle.



Front shockers are spring only but still give good ride characteristics.



Rear wheels fit onto this hexagonal drive shaft for extra security.