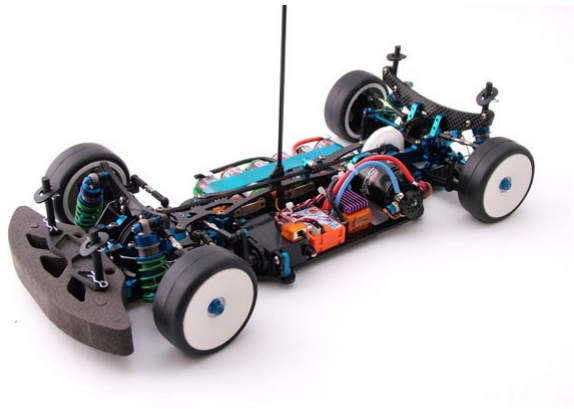
# What do I need to go racing?



Firstly, you'll need to purchase your own R/C car! There are many on the market from some great brands - Tamiya, Yokomo, Associated, HPI, Hot Bodies, Schumacher, Losi & Xray. Choosing the right kit for you can be somewhat bewildering here is a little guide for drivers on different budgets.

## Tamiya TT-01

Is a great chassis to start with, easy to build, robust but easy to fix and spare parts readily (and generally cheaply) available from many good model shops. Most juniors will start with this car and stay with it for quite some time before moving up to something to more suit their developing driving skills.

Expect to pay from **£60 to £160** depending on the kit and specification.

## Tamiya TA05, Hot Bodies Cyclone S, Xray T3R and Schumacher MI4 Race

Fantastic price for these mid-range kits - reliable, well specified belt-driven chassis that can compete with many top-of-the-line models. Parts are easy to obtain and are reasonably priced. If you have a little more cash to spend, these are well worth considering.

Expect to pay from **£130 to £220** depending on the kit.

## Schumacher Mi4CX, Xray T3, HB Cyclone TCX, Associated TC6, Top Photon and Tamiya 417

All great cars and all at the pinnacle of the sport in terms of balance, adjustability and build quality. It is tempting to get right into these models when first starting out but you may find them to difficult to work with until you fully understand the way cars need to be setup to handle correctly.

Expect to pay from **£220 to £380** depending on the kit and level of specification.

Of course, you'll need some extra bits to go with your kit. Radio gear, Batteries, motor, speed control. We'll take a look at these now.

# Radio Gear


Every car needs to be controlled by a radio system. These are operated on individual frequencies to other racers in your heat. There are three types for land-based vehicles - 27mhz, 40mhz & 2.4Ghz.

***27Mhz*** – is generally the cheapest way to get a radio setup, there are however just 12 different bands and it is widely accepted that 27mhz can be more prone to interference/glitching. Acoms do a nice starter radio (AP202) at under £40 which includes transmitter, receiver & two servos (although you only need one).

***40mhz*** - offers many more frequency bands and is less prone to interference but does cost more than 27mhz. There are many sets to choose from - some with many setup functions (sometimes more than you will ever need) so its best to choose something that matches your ability aswell as your budget.

***2.4Ghz*** - is relatively new but is so easy to use and interference-free. Their are no frequency crystals to change as the radio selects a new channel from hundreds of available channels when you switch it on. If you can stretch your budget, this is well worth looking at - Futaba do a great value set, the 3-GR at around **£200.00**, with kits from Core Rc and others from **£70.**

# Batteries

Cells have come on leaps and bounds in the past 5+ years. We've seen 2400mah jump all the way upto a massive 5600mah in capacity - more than enough for club stock racing. You can start off with what we can stick packs, these are 7.2v 6 cell preassembled shrinkwrapped packs that will get you into racing with ease. We suggest three packs of batteries (one for each race) with at least 2300mah. Hardcased 7.4v Lipo pakcs are also permitted. Prices range from **£10 to £40** for stick packs depending on capacity and lipo's from **£30 to £90**.

# Charger

Many people overlook the importance of a good charger - buy a decent charger to begin with and you're less likely to have to replace it in the future. A charger with a variable ampage upto 5A is very useful to have. Having one with a delta peak cut-off setting is very handy also. A basic 'fast' charger will set you back around **£20**. We'd advise not using the slow overnight chargers as they can become very inconvenient. Also with lipo batteries you will need a lipos specific charger like the Core Rc UAC40, with chargers starting from **£30**.

Okay, that's a bit more info, hopefully not too much to make your brain fry! If you do have any questions at this point, please do email the club or pop along to a club meeting. Next, we'll take a look at motors and other electrics.

# Motors

CMCC currently use 13.5 turn brushless & 27 turn brushed 'stock' motors. These are rebuildable non-ballraced motors which offer a pretty even playing field. The 'monster' based brushed motor (Trinity Revenge of the Monster)[ is one of the best to use at our club but needs to be geared correctly. You can use the silver can or a tamiya sport tuned motor that comes with tamiya cars if you wish. Brushed motors start from **£10** and brushless from **£30.**

# Speed Controllers

Speed controllers are what brings the cars to life giving you control of the motor allowing you to go forward, back and stop. There are many types on the market with brushed motor speed controllers like the Nosram Hawk starting at **£40** and going upto **£80**. Brushless motors require a brushless speed controller to work again going from **£45** upto **£200**+ for the high end fully adjustable race spec speed controllers

# Steering Servo

These are required to operate the steering on radio control vehicles with a wide selection avaliable from **£10** for an entery level servo upto **£90** for some of the high end race speced versions. Savox servos start from **£15** and have a great mix of price and high spec ideal for upgrading.

Any further questions, come along to club and ask us!