

THE PLAN

Weekly Schedule:

1st) Draw a top and side view of car (to scale) and trace it on the wood block. Cut out block with a band saw. (If someone in the group has a band saw and brings it on club day, you can get a parent to cut the blocks while the children are meeting in club.)

2nd) Shape car using files, carving tools, very rough sand paper, Dremal tool, etc. and sand to 220 grit sand paper. **Use Proper Protection with carving tools and power tools!**

3rd) Paint the complete car one color, then paint basic details such as windows, then put a clear coat over car and put of decals. Then finally add a clear gloss coat. (I recommend acrylic paints due to the fast-drying times and water base. Enamel paints need 2 to 3 days to dry. Don't mix paint type or you can cause a chemical reaction and destroy your paint job.)

4th) Put in the weights, using the best 5 oz. scale you can find (perhaps a grocery store or postage). It's easier to add a little then remove some. **If you're using hot lead, put it in before painting.** (Remember that paint adds weight to the car) Polish the axles and prepare the wheels by deburring. To polish the axles, I recommend debarring the head of nail with a fine file gently. Then place it in a drill with about 1/2 inch exposed.

Then start with 600 grit sandpaper on the file marks and then 2000 to 4000 grits over all the surfaces. Use polishing compounds. I like to go to 1 / 1000000 grit. I purchased some special polishing clothes to do this job. Then finally I use a car wax to clean the axles and protect them from rust. Prepare the slots to receive the axles by using a pin vise and a #43 drill, by carefully drilling square to the top of the slot or in the holes provided enlarge and deepen. This will allow you to push in the wheels & axles by hand so the wheels won't be damaged. I use a very sharp blade to clean the wheels of flash and molding posts. **Be careful not to damage the wheels.** Then I sand the wood surface where the wheels rub with 600 grit sand paper and then put a hard wax coat on this area. I will then apply pledge furniture wax to all the moving surfaces with a toothpick and put on the wheels. I like a gap of 1/16 to 1/32 of an inch between the car and the wheels. **Put car away for race day and don't play with it until after the race!** After the race the child can play with the car.

If the plan is used everyone should be able to complete their cars! The parents should be helping but allow the child to do much as possible. This should provide a one-on-one time with their children.

Putting on the axles and wheels should be the parent's job or an adult so we only have to race once and still be fair to all!