

THE ICONIC FORD FALCON XB GT

SCALE
1:8



Chassis Frame and Crosspiece



Benz Patent Motor Car

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THE ICONIC FORD FALCON XB GT

ISSUE 26

ASSEMBLY GUIDE

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A frame to support the engine is fitted to the front of the chassis assembly.

DESIGNS FOR A NEW ERA

6

Nicolas-Joseph Cugnot's 1769 steam-driven gun carriage was probably the world's first self-propelled vehicle, but the idea of a 'car' became a reality when Carl Benz patented his gasoline engine in January 1886.

YOUR MODEL

You will be building a 1:8 scale replica of a customised 1973 Ford Falcon XB GT. Features include a lift-up bonnet that reveals a detailed engine, opening doors, wind-down windows and an 'active' steering wheel. A remote-control fob illuminates the main lights, brake lights and indicators.

Scale: 1:8
Length: 62cm
Width: 25cm
Height: 19cm
Weight: 7+kg



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Items may vary from those shown.
All parts belong to a kit. Collectors' item for adults. Not suitable for children under 14. Some parts may have sharp edges, please handle them with care.

The installation of electronic parts must always be carried out by an adult. When replacing batteries, use the same type of batteries. Please ensure that the battery compartment is securely fastened before you use the model again. Used batteries should be recycled. Please make sure to check with your local council how batteries should be disposed of in your area. Batteries can present a choking danger to small children and may cause serious harm if ingested. Do not leave them lying around and keep any spare batteries locked away at all times.

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t=top, c=centre, b=bottom, l=left, r=right, u=upper



Stage 26: Chassis Frame

A frame to support the engine is fitted to the front of the chassis assembly.



List of parts:

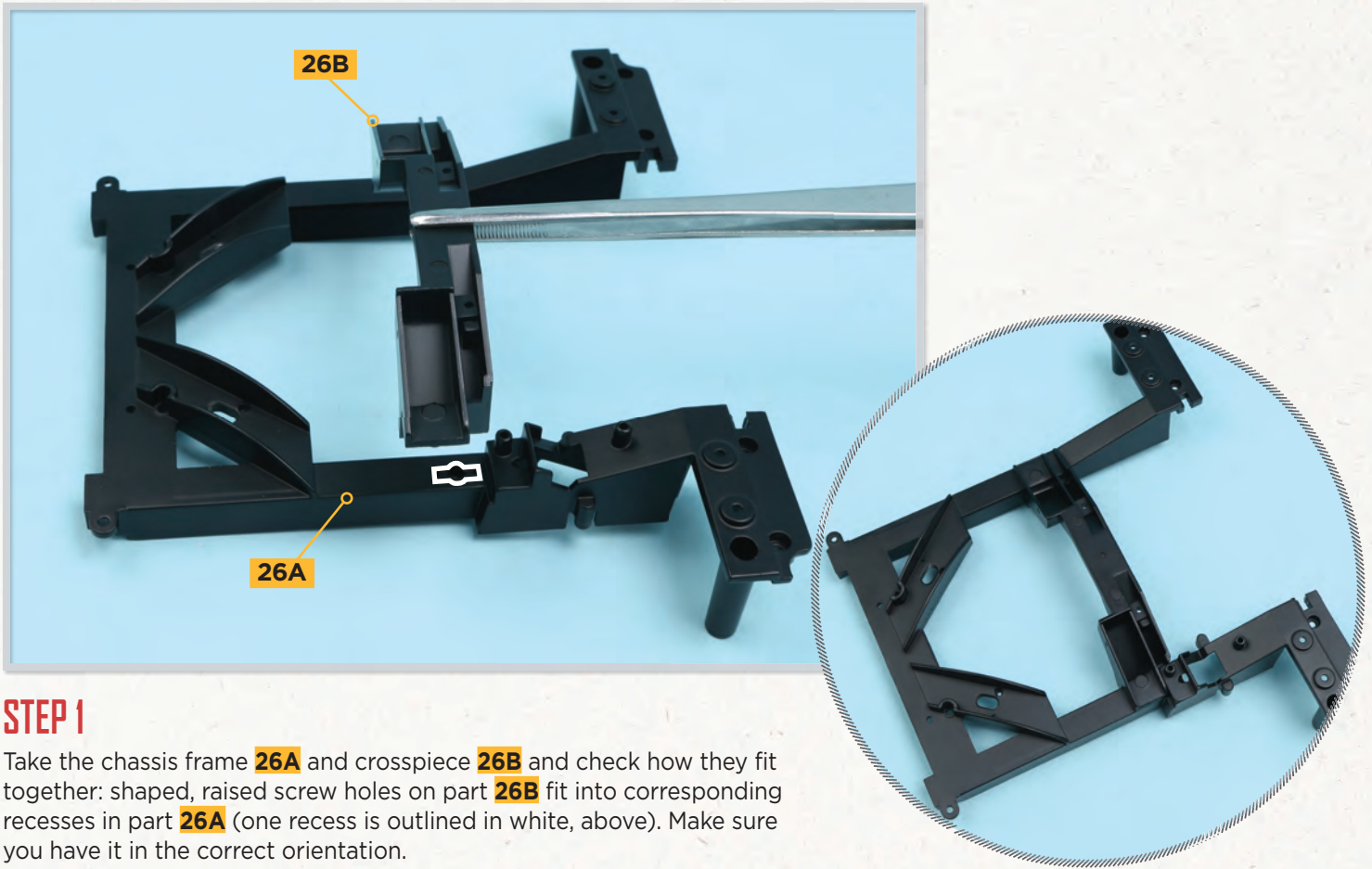
- 26A** Chassis frame
- 26B** Chassis crosspiece
- DS02** Seven* 2.3 x 4mm PM screws

* Including spare
PM = Pan head for metal

Area of assembly

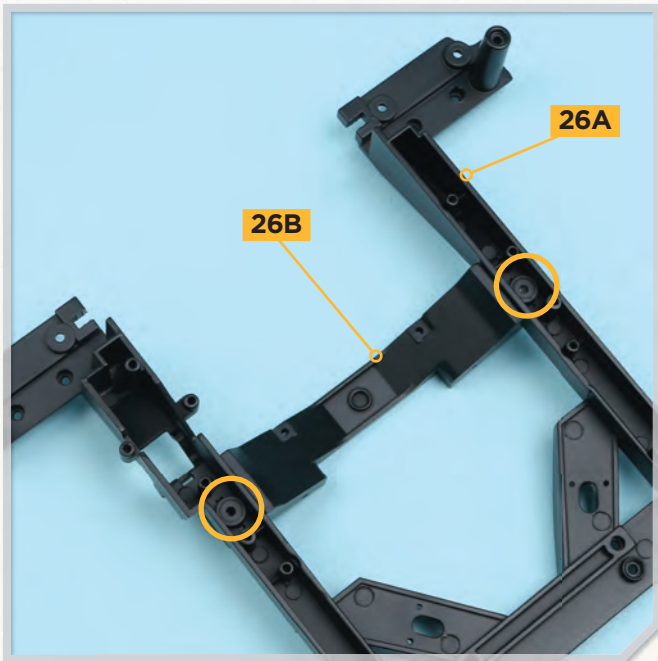


Stage 26: Chassis Frame



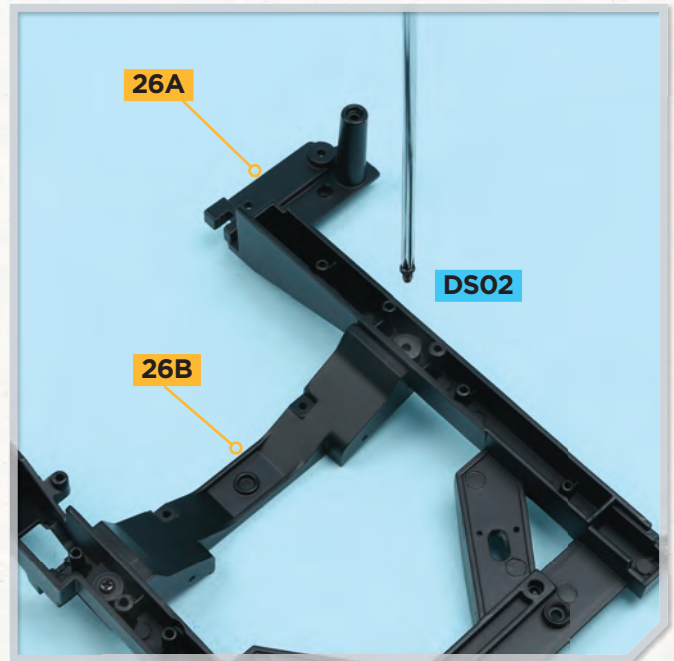
STEP 1

Take the chassis frame **26A** and crosspiece **26B** and check how they fit together: shaped, raised screw holes on part **26B** fit into corresponding recesses in part **26A** (one recess is outlined in white, above). Make sure you have it in the correct orientation.



STEP 2

Turn the assembly over so that you can access the screw holes in part **26A** (circled).



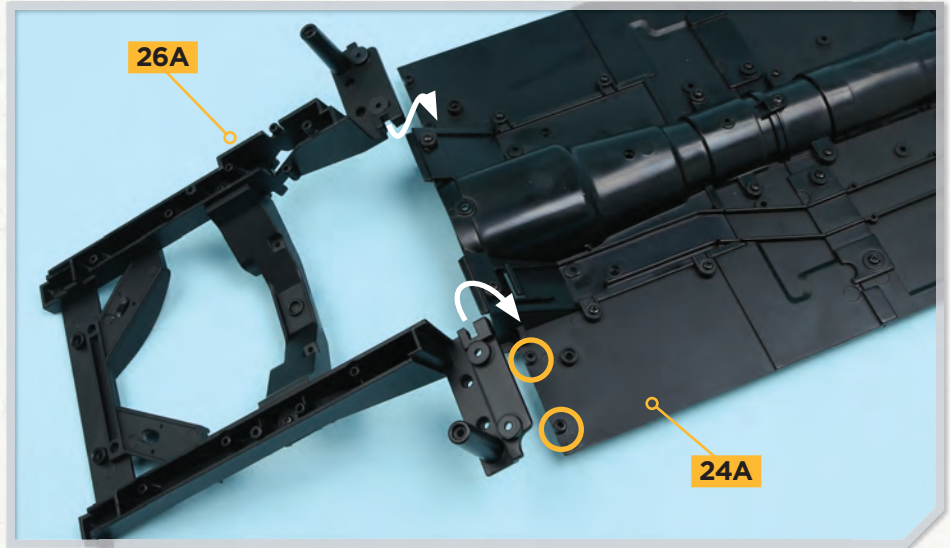
STEP 3

Fix the parts together with two **DS02** screws.



STEP 4

Take the chassis assembly from the previous issue. Check how the assembly from step 3 fits at the front end of the chassis assembly. Four screw holes at the rear edge of part **24A** (two of these are circled) align with raised screw holes in part **26A**. At the same time, rectangular blocks in part **24A** fit into slots in part **26A** (arrows).



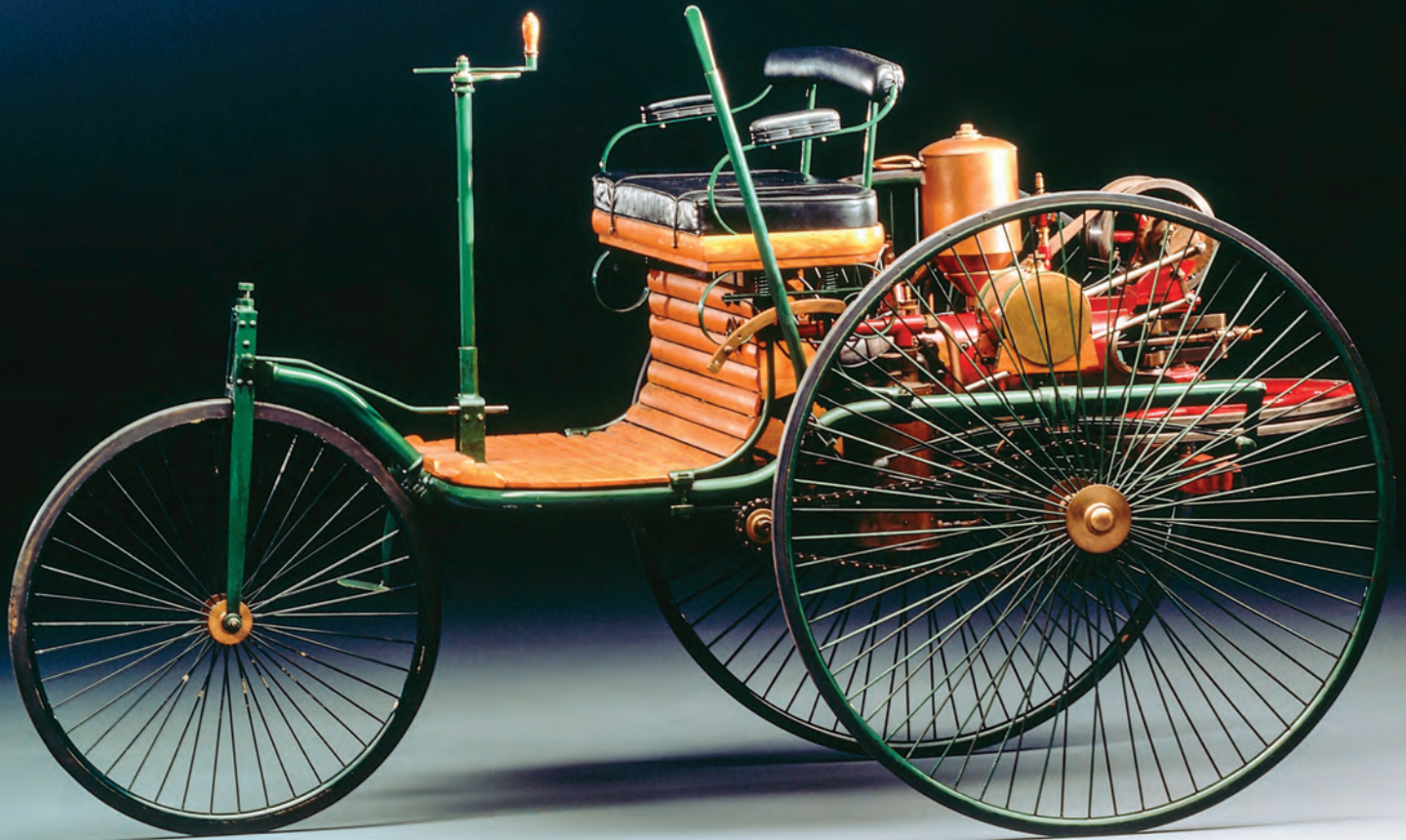
STEP 5

Fix part **26A** in place with four **DS02** screws.



COMPLETED ASSEMBLY

The front chassis frame and crosspiece have been fitted to the chassis.



Benz Patent Motor Car

Since the invention of the wheel, humans have demanded more speed and mobility, but the journey to the gasoline-fuelled car was a long one. Nicolas-Joseph Cugnot's 1769 steam-driven gun carriage was probably the first mechanically-propelled vehicle, but it would be another century before the idea of a 'car' became a reality.

The story starts in Germany in around 1884 when two men, Carl Benz and Gottlieb Daimler, began independent experiments with gasoline-powered engines (the word petrol would be invented eight years later). Although Benz and Daimler apparently never met, their eponymous companies would merge in 1926 to create Daimler-Benz, the company behind the Mercedes marque. Both men were successful in their endeavours, but it was Carl Benz who patented the concept of a vehicle powered by a gasoline engine on 29 January 1886. Patent 37435, submitted to the

Imperial Patent Office in Berlin, is perhaps the nearest thing the automobile has to a birth certificate, and it would determine the course of the 20th century.

The internal combustion engine was soon adopted by budding aviators and it also revolutionized travel on water, powering small boats and huge ships, as well as generators, pumps, saws and a host of other machines that would have been unthinkable in 1885. The engine had a correspondingly profound effect on society that — with pollution and global warming a regular topic in the news and a consideration in political

The design of Benz's petrol-powered vehicle owed a considerable debt to the structure of bicycles at the time.

campaigning — may seem counter-intuitive today, but is nonetheless true; the car was seen as a clean, healthy form of transport. Period television dramas skim over this, but before the advent of the car, going out in a city, especially on a wet day, potentially meant wading through a horse-manure-based and extremely pungent soup. Compared to getting horse manure on your clothes, the output from car exhausts must have seemed amazingly clean!

Carl Benz's patented motor wagon was designed entirely by Benz himself and made its public debut on 3 July 1886, in Mannheim. The three-wheeled vehicle was powered by his own design of engine, a horizontal, single-cylinder, four-stroke unit with a weight of around 100kgs and a displacement of 954cc. It produced 0.75bhp at 400rpm, enough to propel the trike to around 10mph and return almost 30mpg. Although obviously very simple, it featured many details that can be recognised today; a counterweighted crankshaft, electric ignition, water cooling, a surface carburettor to supply the fuel, a steel tube chassis, multispeed transmission and a brake of sorts, albeit only a hand lever acting on the countershaft belt pulley.

A TESTING TRIP

Benz was supported by his wife, Bertha who, frustrated by his lack of conviction in proving his own invention, took the initiative in August 1888 and, without her husband's knowledge, made the first ever car journey of significant length using an updated version of his design. Bertha and their two



Benz's wife Bertha was a resourceful woman: she used her dowry to bail out her husband's business after an unreliable partner caused financial difficulties. During her first journey in her husband's vehicle, she had to visit pharmacies to buy the fuel she needed to keep the car moving.

sons, Eugen (15) and Richard (14), travelled from Mannheim to Pforzheim, her place of birth. This was some 180 km (111 miles), including the return trip, and although Bertha apparently used a hatpin to unblock a fuel line, she demonstrated the practicality of the gasoline motor vehicle to the entire world.

Bertha sent Carl a telegram to say that the first long-distance journey with his Patent Motor Car had been a success. News of this sensational event spread like wildfire. Two young boys and a woman on a hissing, thumping horseless carriage; some people said this could only be the work of the Devil.

Carl Benz (1844–1929) studied engineering in the city of Karlsruhe.

Suddenly people were talking about the Benz Patent Motor Car, and Bertha's bravery had given birth to the industry of building cars. She invested her family inheritance to start the Benz company because she had a clear vision of just how important her husband's work could be.

Carl Benz later wrote in his memoirs: "Only one person remained with me in the small ship of life when it seemed destined to sink. That was my wife. Bravely and resolutely, she set the new sails of hope." In an era when the woman's role in society was quite different from today, Bertha's confidence in her husband and bravery in embarking on such an adventure with her children proved the potential of the automobile and changed the world forever. ■

COMING IN ISSUE 27



- **ASSEMBLY GUIDE**

The axle and springs for the suspension are fitted to the chassis assembly.

- **CUSTOM MADE**

American car designs of the 1960s were all about streamlining as 1950s tailfins began to give way to smoother lines and sporty curves. Customising became more straightforward, but some designs were very much style over substance!

NEW PARTS

Rear axle, lower and upper sections, rear differential housing, springs and screws.



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