



The New Racer's Guide

What is an RC Car/Truck?

Radio control allows the driver to control his/her vehicle from a distance. Today's controllers are proportional, meaning that a small control movement creates a small proportional control movement on the vehicle. A larger movement changes the vehicle control in a large way. The controller is typically a transmitter. The component *inside* the remote control vehicle is a receiver. Today's radios are typically 2.4 GHz so interference and frequency control are no longer an issue.

There are two kinds of remote control vehicles you can purchase: toy quality or hobby-grade quality. Toys are what kids see advertised on television most of the time. They come from discount stores and various sources. They are cheap, poorly made products usually and when they break, you cannot find parts. Hobby-grade vehicles are another thing entirely. Typically, hobby-grade vehicles come from a hobby shop. They are quite durable, well-made and you can get replacement parts and accessory parts for them. Always go with hobby-grade! You will be disappointed with toys and wind up spending money twice.

Never owned an R/C vehicle? Good, you can start off fresh! There are many hobby brands out there that offer quality vehicles. As you learn more about this fun hobby, you will learn about all of your choices.

For your first R/C vehicle purchase, we suggest the two-wheel drive *Traxxas Slash*. No other vehicle has done more for the radio control racing hobby, than the *Slash*. It stands head and shoulders above the rest in overall sales, aftermarket parts and nationwide familiarity. Our track has been designed with the *Traxxas Slash* in mind in terms of speed and jumps. You can purchase a *Slash*, with controller and batteries for about \$200.00 ready-to-run. Yes, there will be additional costs for parts, motors, etc. over time like any hobby. Make sure and read the manual, then charge the batteries and go have fun! Keep in mind that concrete will wear down your tires quickly. Dirt is much more forgiving.

Hoosier RC Racers intends to always have a "Stock *Slash*" class at the track. Most tracks in the United States do too so you can take your *Slash* with you when you travel and go play at an out of town track. Even if you eventually decide that R/C racing is not for you (impossible!), the *Slash* holds its value and is easily resold. Are there equal vehicles? Yes, definitely, but you can't go wrong with a *Slash*, and Traxxas offers excellent customer service. Learn more at www.TRAXXAS.com.

Things to Know at the Track

1. You will make mistakes. Don't worry, that's how you learn.
2. Speaking of which, don't forget your transmitter! (We've all done it.)
3. Take advice from experienced drivers and ask for help when you need it.
4. Good sportsmanship will go much further in earning respect than going fast.
5. We are a family-friendly club of all ages. No foul language towards other racers or track marshals is ever allowed.
6. Spend your time learning your vehicle initially. Don't go as fast as you can until you learn your lefts and rights and what your vehicle can do.
7. Never purposefully wreck another vehicle. Remember, you want a good reputation.
8. If you enter a race, make sure your vehicle meets the specific class guidelines.
9. You may wish to invest in a transponder to keep an eye on your progress. Like full scale racing, a transponder monitors your laps and your speed/time. Cool huh?
10. 2.4 GHz radios are most common these days. If you have an older style radio, frequency control is required. Check with the race director to be sure.
11. Don't make a mess! We are guests in the park, please remember that. Keep your area clean and pick up all trash.
12. Smoking is not allowed anywhere in the park.
13. This is your track, so keep it nice. A lot has gone in to making the track happen!
14. Offer to help water down the track or work on the track if asked.
15. Help others if you can. Someone helped you when you started, right? Pay it forward.
16. Finally, take your turn as a track marshal. If you race, you should marshal unless you are physically unable. Marshals should be attentive but safe at all times.
17. There will be posted times for club members only to use this track. That is the reward for helping to take care of the facility. Want to join us? Visit www.HCRCracers.com

Conclusion

See, it doesn't sound so difficult now, does it? Just by reading this short guide, you're well on your way to becoming a seasoned R/C racer! Now, it's time to hit the track... Even if you don't plan on becoming a serious racer, take your R/C vehicle to the track and turn some laps. The more you run, the better you'll get. Many of us find that R/C racing is a great way to relax and have fun with our families. If you are all about competition, you have much to look forward to in this hobby too. R/C vehicles are as complex as you want them to be and the smallest nuance on set-up can translate into additional speed and handling on the track.

**WHEN YOU GET TO THE RACE TRACK
AND REALIZE YOU LEFT YOUR
TRANSMITTER AT HOME...**



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