

Colby Counter

Monogram 29 Ford Rat Rod 3 'n 1

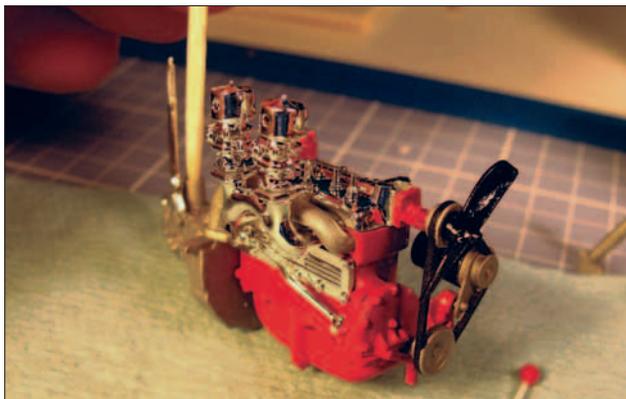
Bare essential hot rodding in kit form.

With bare essentials, exaggerated features, and a generally unfinished appearance, Rat Rods range from the mild to the wild. Like them or not, Rat Rods are the newest craze in our car culture, and they represent a new and unique way for auto enthusiasts to imitate early hot rods. Early Ford vehicles are an area of great interest for both “Rat Rodders” and model car builders.



The Revell '29 Ford 3 'n 1 Rat Rod provides builders with a host of customizing opportunities.

To meet the growing demand from scale enthusiasts, Monogram has just released the 1/25 '29 Ford Rat Rod 3 'n 1 kit #85-4932, complete with a wide variety of customizing opportunities. Scale modelers will find the Monogram '29 Ford Rat Rod model is loaded with

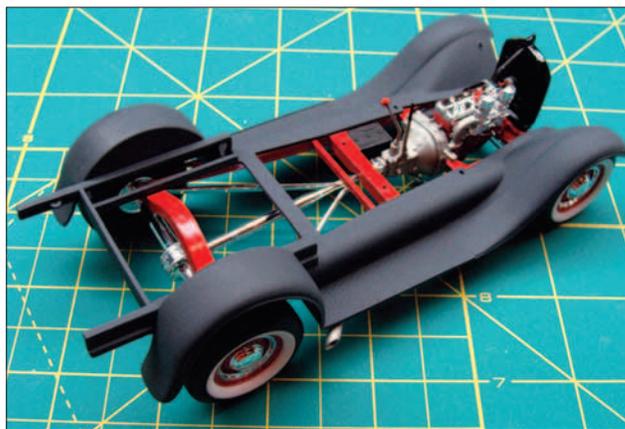


Building this model begins with the engine. In this case a four cylinder inline with dual chrome carbs.



options. With 159 molded white plastic and chrome plated parts as well as soft vinyl tires, this Skill Level-3 kit can provide hobbyists with a fun and challenging experience. The box art and descriptions are helpful in making choices for the finished model, but the illustrated instructions, the wide variety of available parts, and the extensive decal sheet all showcase even more possible combinations. The kit features optional parts that allow the modeler to combine the various elements to create a unique hardtop, convertible, or roadster model.

Building this model begins with the engine, chassis, and whitewall tires. These are all areas where the builder can customize with optional kit parts. With a



Assembling the chassis is where the builder can really begin experimenting with his many options.

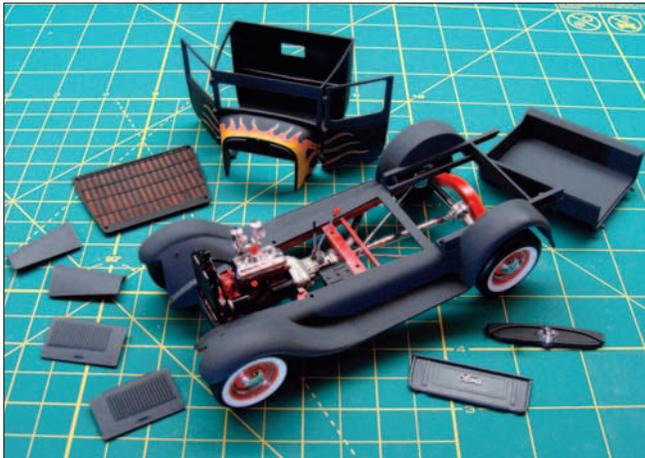
Rat Rod approach in mind, the chassis options include a chrome-laden Ford four cylinder flathead engine with dual carbs, shaved bumpers, chrome wheel trim rings, and side-mounted mufflers. The hinges and brackets for moving parts, along with trim pieces and suspension parts, are small and intricate to add another dimension of realism. Great care needs to be given to the removal and cleaning of delicate parts, so a sharp Excel Hobby knife, a Xuron Professional Sprue Cutter, and perhaps a Revell Razor Saw might all be beneficial for safely handling these parts. Moderate to light sanding will be needed to address some sharp edges, flashing, and mold marks in this model kit, but all the parts are generally clean and require very little preparation work.

Progressing through the build, the choice of paint



The body and fenders were painted flat black and then given a gentle sanding to smooth the finish.

combinations will quickly come into play as the installation of the engine and chassis to the fender section is early in the building process. Engine red, flat black, gray primer and steel are the primary colors. As the assemblies were painted, work progressed on the suspension, remaining body pieces, and moving parts, such as with the cab doors, engine covers, and tailgate. After carefully test fit-



It's really coming together, but final assembly takes care as everything needs to be properly aligned.

ting the parts, they are washed in mild soapy water followed by a thorough rinse, and then it is time for a coat of primer. In this case, the primer will be the final paint coat, although a light sanding with Alpha Abrasives Micro Finishing Cloth Abrasive Pads can create a



In Rat Rodding less is more as demonstrated by the stark interior that has been painted flat black.

smoother scale finish. The body sections were sprayed with flat clear for the final finish.

Overall, the parts fit is excellent but it is still necessary to continually test fit the moving parts so that they are free to move without binding. Careful study of the



Details like the bright red wheels, white wall tires, and chrome trim rings really make the model pop.

drawings will be very helpful for assembling complex components, as some of the illustrations can be confusing with so many parts being attached in the assembly steps. As an example, the cab will need to be carefully aligned with the hood and engine support brackets, hood hinges, and radiator shell all in one step. Masking Tape can be used for masking interior and underside areas for color separation during painting. For the more experienced modelers, it is relatively simple to add scratch-built details to the body, gauges and door supports with plastic sheet and rods. BareMetal Foil, a staple with car modelers, can



Intended for the more experienced builder, the kit assembles into an extremely attractive model.

also be used to enhance the window trim on the '29 Ford. These methods are an easy way to add realism and a more refined look to any model car. With the wide variety of decals included in this kit, the modeler can finish up by creating his own custom finishing touches.

While the kit is designed primarily for intermediate to advanced modelers, Monograms '29 Ford Rat Rod 3 'n 1 is certain to thrill almost any hobbyist with its many building options, challenging detail, and overall exciting features. **HM**