

Radio-Controlled Dentists

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Can't afford the real thing or your partner won't let you have the car of your dreams?

Don't worry, as there is a way you can enjoy all of the above albeit on a smaller scale!

Welcome to the world of professional RC cars.

So where do you start?

Depends on what you're looking for. Basically, there are a few categories

1. Size 1/10, 1/8, or 1/5th. (Think of this as small, medium or large-scale racing)
2. On-road or off-road?
3. Electric, nitro or petrol powered?

Electric cars are usually powered by lipo-batteries these days. These give running times of between 10-30 minutes, depending on other factors.

These are NOT toys, and can reach speeds of up to 100mph!

Within the petrol models, there are 2 types. Nitro powered models are run on essentially model fuel, whilst the pure petrol powered ones are run on unleaded petrol usually reserved for the larger 1/5th



A large 1/5th scale F1 Ferrari petrol powered 32cc model...not for the faint hearted!



A stunning 1/8th Scale recreation of the Porsche 959, it requires some gentle handling.



The Traxxas eRevo off-road truck with brushless electric motor can tear up a field with speeds of up to 65mph!

scale models. These models have everything from large exhausts to hydraulic disc brakes.

Most people buy an off-road car to begin with, as it can obviously be used off road or on road and therefore one has greater flexibility where to use it.

The parts for these don't come cheap, and many of the higher end models can be upgraded with hydraulic disc brakes and alloy parts.

The fun is in repairing and upgrading the cars as much as it is in driving them!

If you want to take it further, then there is the world of RC car racing. Just locate a club near to you, and off you go!

So, to sum up, nothing quite as satisfying as blasting an RC car around a track.

For a moment, just switch off, forget any worries and stresses, and become at one with you and your machine.

Just tell the wife you bought it for the kids! ■



Snapped wheel upright on my vintage Tamiya Frog. That's £10 right there!