TRAXXAS®

NITRO STAMPEDE

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

COVERS MODEL 4109

KC0532 Part #4199X Rev 070402

WARNING!

Carefully read and follow all instructions in this and any accompanying materials to prevent serious damage to your model. Failure to follow these instructions will be considered abuse and/or neglect.

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing the Traxxas Nitro Stampede®. This manual contains the instructions you will need to operate and maintain your Nitro Stampede. ***Look over the manual and examine the Nitro Stampede carefully before running it.*** If for some reason you think the Nitro Stampede is not what you wanted, then do not continue any further. ***Your hobby dealer absolutely cannot accept a Nitro Stampede for return or exchange after it has been run.***

Please read **ALL** of the operating instructions and precautions before attempting to drive the Nitro Stampede. Even if you are an experienced R/C enthusiast, continue reading to learn about Nitro Stampede's unique features. Pay special attention to the mechanical and safety precautions outlined in the manual.

If you have any questions about your new model, feel free to call Traxxas' technical support line toll-free at 1-888-TRAXXAS (1-888-872-9927) Outside the U.S. call 972-265-8000. Technical support is available Monday through Friday, from 8:30am to 9:00pm Central time. Technical assistance is also available through our website at www.Traxxas.com (e-mail us at support@Traxxas.com). We hope that you will enjoy many hours of fun with your new Nitro Stampede.

FUEL

Fuel is the most critical component for making your engine perform properly. Improper fuels will cause hard starting, poor performance, and excessive wear on the engine. For the best performance from your TRX® Pro.15 engine, use Traxxas Top Fuel.® Traxxas Top Fuel is the only model engine racing fuel which exceeds all of the Traxxas engine warranty requirements. It is specially formulated to resist heat, and is guaranteed to provide the best performance and longest life from your Traxxas engine. Top Fuel uses superior natural and synthetic lubricants in just the right amounts to deliver the crisp, clean throttle response and screaming top-end performance you want in a car fuel, without sacrificing long-term durability. Top Fuel's consistency and reliability has been proven in thousands and thousands of engines so you can trust it in your engine with confidence. Traxxas cannot guarantee the quality and consistency of other manufacturers' fuels.

Some fuels are capable of destroying your TRX Pro.15 engine! If you must use a fuel other than Traxxas Top Fuel contact Traxxas first, at 1-888-TRAXXAS, to find out if the fuel is safe for use with TRX engines.

FUEL BOTTLE

Fuel is usually purchased by the gallon or quart, so a smaller bottle with a dispensing tube is required to fill the fuel tank. The fuel tank in the Nitro Stampede has a capacity of 75cc. The fuel bottle should always be capped to prevent the fuel from evaporating and becoming contaminated with debris or moisture. The alcohol and nitro contents of the fuel will evaporate, thus upsetting the fuel balance and spoiling the fuel. Do not use old or dirty fuel!

Part #5001-Fuel Bottle

PERSONAL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Every precaution outlined in this manual needs to be followed to help ensure safe operation. Operate your model sensibly and with care and it will be exciting, safe, and fun for you and your spectators. Failure to operate your model in a safe and responsible manner could result in property damage and serious injury. You alone must see to it that the instructions are followed and the precautions are adhered to.

The Nitro Stampede is *not intended for use by children without the supervision of a responsible adult.* Traxxas shall not be liable for any loss or damages, whether direct, indirect, special, incidental, or consequential, arising from the use, misuse, or abuse of this product and any chemical or accessory required to operate this product.

- Nitro Stampede is very fast! Children under 16 years of age and inexperienced drivers should not operate the Nitro Stampede without the supervision of a responsible and knowledgeable (experienced) adult.
- **Model engine fuel is dangerous and highly poisonous.** Always follow all directions and precautions printed on the fuel container. Model engine fuel is poisonous to humans and animals. Drinking the fuel can cause blindness and death. Handle with care and respect.
- Model engine fuel, especially when in a fuel dispensing bottle, may look like a cool drink to a child. **Keep all fuel out of the reach of children at all times. Do not place fuel containers on the ground where children can reach them while you are driving.**
- Model engine fuel is flammable. Never allow smoking, sparks, heat or flame in the presence of fuel or fuel vapors.
- The engine, brakes, and exhaust system may become extremely hot during use. Be careful not to touch the parts, especially when refueling or stopping the engine.
- Prolonged exposure to the engine exhaust can be harmful. Avoid breathing the engine exhaust. Always run your Nitro Stampede outdoors, in a well-ventilated area. Never run the engine indoors.
- Do not operate your Nitro Stampede at night, or anytime your line of sight to the model may be obstructed or impaired in any way.
- Never operate your Nitro Stampede in crowds of people or busy pedestrian areas. Nitro Stampede is very fast and could cause injury to those unaware of its presence. Keep small children at a safe distance away from the operating area.
- Because Nitro Stampede is controlled by radio, it is subject to radio interference from many sources beyond your control. Since radio interference can cause momentary loss of control, always allow a safety margin in all directions around your model to prevent collisions.
- The engine can be loud. If the noise makes you uncomfortable, wear ear protection. Be considerate of your neighbors by not running your model early in the morning or late in the evening.
- ***Most importantly, use good common sense at all times.***

Previous experience with radio controlled models is recommended. Models require a higher level of setup, maintenance, or support equipment.

OTHER REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

To operate the Nitro Stampede, you will need these additional items. All of these items should be available from your hobby shop.

1. 12 "AA" size batteries for your transmitter (8) and receiver (4)
2. NiCad or NiMH 7.2V battery pack and charger for the EZ-Start®
3. Small Phillips head and flat screwdrivers (for adjustments)
4. After-run oil (to protect the engine from corrosion)
5. Spare glow plugs (standard plug, Traxxas part #3230; or heavy-duty plug, Traxxas part #3231)
6. In-line fuel filter (recommended)
7. Spare fuel line (recommended)

THE TQ™ RADIO SYSTEM

The Nitro Stampede is equipped with the 2-channel TQ radio system. The following radio system terms will be used throughout the rest of these operating instructions.

Channel - The 27 MHz (megahertz) frequency band is divided into six channels so that up to six models can be operated simultaneously. Each channel is referred to by its flag color and channel number, as shown below.

27MHZ	*FLAG COLOR*	*CH#*	*TRAXXAS PART#*
26.995	BROWN	1	2031
27.045	RED	2	2032
27.095	ORANGE	3	2033
27.145	YELLOW	4	2034
27.195	GREEN	5	2035
27.255	BLUE	6	2036

Clearing your frequency - A routine, verbal check to make sure nobody else in your area is operating on the same channel. Always clear your frequency by calling out your channel number before operating your model. Wait or move to another area if your channel is already being used.

Crystal (X-tal) - The plug-in device that determines on which channel the radio system will operate. For each channel, there are two crystals, one for the receiver and one for the transmitter. Of those two crystals, the one marked "RX" with the lower number (.455 MHz lower) must be inserted into the receiver.

Frequency band - The radio frequency used by the transmitter to send signals to your Nitro Stampede. All Traxxas RTR models operate on a 27 MHz frequency band.

mAh – Abbreviation for milliamp hour. Measure of the capacity of the battery pack. The higher the number, the longer the battery will last between recharges.

Neutral position - The standing position that the servos seek when the transmitter controls are at the neutral setting.

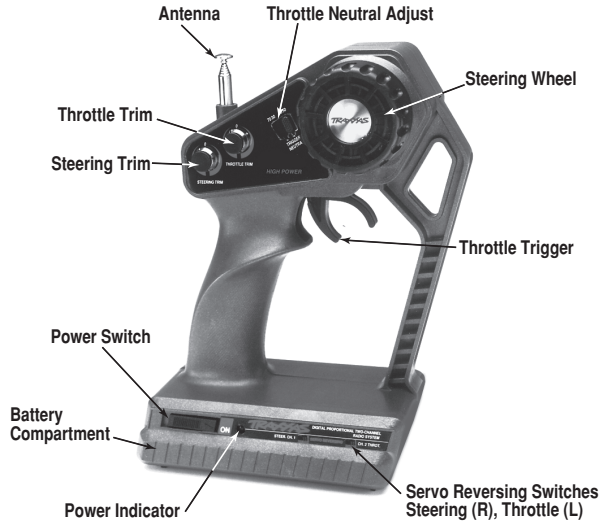
NiCad - Abbreviation for nickel-cadmium. The original rechargeable hobby pack, NiCad batteries have very high current handling, high capacity, and can last up to 1000 charging cycles. Good charging procedures are required to reduce the possibility of developing a "memory" effect and shortened run times.

NiMH - Abbreviation for nickel-metal hydride. Rechargeable NiMH batteries offer high current handling, and much greater resistance to the "memory" effect. NiMH batteries generally allow higher capacity than NiCad batteries. They can last up to 500 charge cycles. A peak charger designed for NiMH batteries is required for optimal performance.

Receiver - The radio unit inside your Nitro Stampede that receives signals from the transmitter and relays them to the servos.

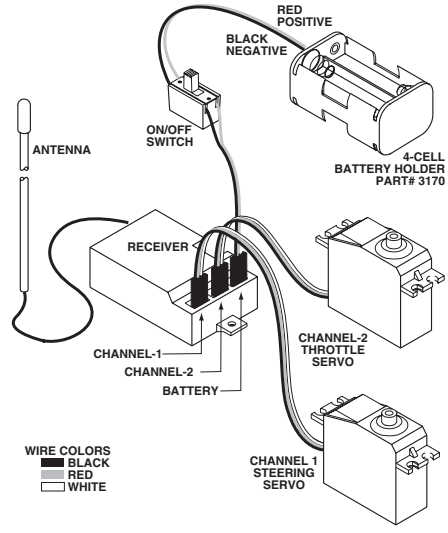
Servos - Small motor units in your Nitro Stampede that operate the throttle and steering mechanisms.

Two-channel radio system - The TQ radio system, consisting of the receiver, the transmitter, and the servos. The system uses two channels: one to operate the throttle and one to operate the steering.



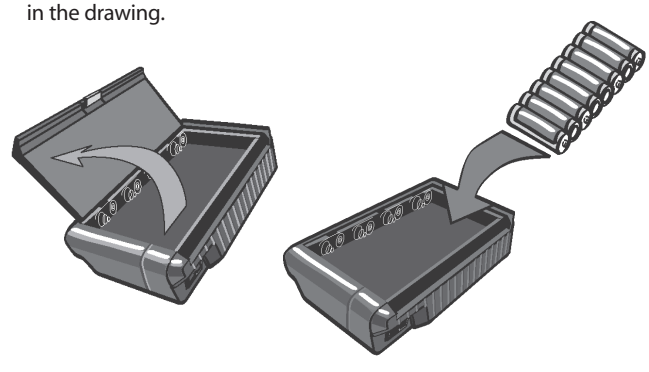
Transmitter - The hand-held radio unit that sends throttle and steering instructions to your Nitro Stampede.

Trim - The fine-tuning adjustment of the neutral position of the servos, made by turning the throttle and steering trim knobs on the face of the transmitter.

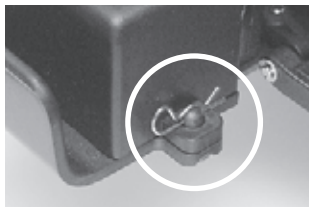


INSTALLING TRANSMITTER BATTERIES

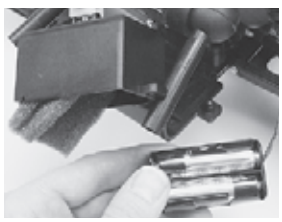
Install 8 "AA" batteries into the bottom of the transmitter as shown in the drawing.

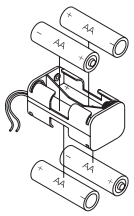


INSTALLING RECEIVER BATTERIES

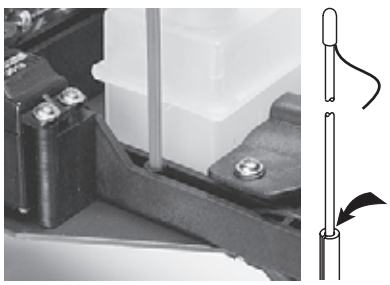


The receiver battery holder is located underneath the battery cover. Remove the battery cover by removing the two body clips from the posts on both sides of the battery holder. Install four "AA" batteries into the battery holder. Alkaline batteries should be used. Place the battery holder into the battery cover with the cushioning foam. Secure the battery cover to the chassis using the two body clips as shown.





ANTENNA SETUP



Locate the plastic tube and the antenna tip (supplied in the bag with your instructions). Insert the black antenna wire, extending from the receiver housing, into one end of the tube and push it all the way through. Spray the wire with glass cleaner to make it easier to insert Insert the tube into the antenna mount in the side of the chassis. Fold the remaining antenna wire over the top of the antenna tube and secure it with the vinyl antenna tip.

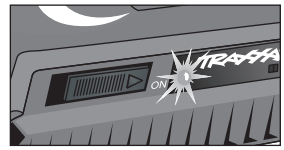
Under no circumstances should you ever cut your antenna wire. Its length is specially tuned to the frequency band, and cutting it could severely shorten the radio's range. On the transmitter, ***fully extend*** the chrome telescopic antenna.

RADIO SYSTEM OPERATION

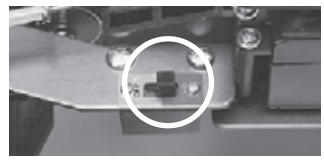
Your radio system was pre-adjusted before it left the factory, however, the adjustment should be checked prior to running the truck.

1. Before you ever turn your radio system on, you must "clear" your frequency. There are six different channels numbered 1 through 6. Each of the six channels is represented by a color. Look at the crystal in the back of the transmitter to determine on which of the channels your truck is operating. Clearing your frequency means checking to be sure that no one else in the area is operating on the same channel.

2. Always turn the transmitter on first and off last. This will prevent the model from receiving stray signals and running out of control. Slide the transmitter switch to the "on" position. A steady red light should illuminate. **A flashing red light indicates weak batteries.** Weak batteries will limit the range of the radio signal between your transmitter and receiver. Loss of the radio signal can cause you to lose control of the truck.



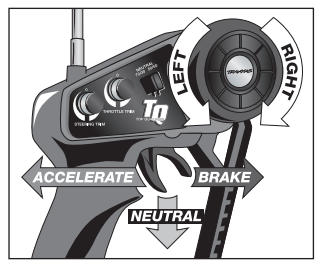
3. Turn the truck on. The switch is located on the chassis. The servos should jump and move to their idle (neutral) positions.

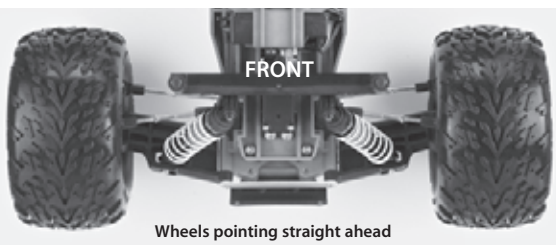


NOTE:

Never turn the transmitter or receiver off while the engine is running. The model could run out of control. (The on/off switch only turns the receiver on and off. It does not turn off the engine.)

4. With the front wheels off the ground, operate the steering control on the transmitter (channel 1). Check for rapid operation of the steering servo and that the steering mechanism is not loose or binding. If the servo operates slowly, check for weak batteries. Turn the "steering trim" control on the transmitter to adjust the servo so that the front wheels are pointing straight ahead. Check to be sure that the wheels do not turn more in one direction than in the other.



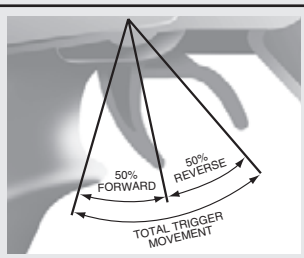


Wheels pointing straight ahead

5. Operate the throttle trigger on the transmitter to ensure that the throttle servo is operating properly. When the servo is in the neutral position, the carburetor should be in its idle position (you will adjust the engine idle speed later). When the throttle trigger is pulled all of the way, the carburetor should be in the fully-open position. When the throttle lever is pushed forward, the brake should be locked and the throttle should not close any further than when at idle.

RADIO SYSTEM ADJUSTMENTS

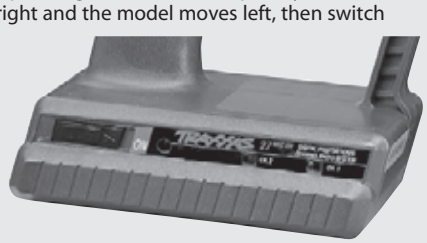
Throttle Neutral Adjust



The throttle neutral adjustment is located on the transmitter face and controls the forward and reverse travel of the throttle trigger. There are two settings, 50/50 which allows equal travel for both forward and brake, and 70/30 which allows more travel for throttle and less for brake. Change the adjustment by pressing the button and sliding it to the desired position. 50/50 is the recommended setting while running the Nitro Stampede.

Servo Reversing Switches

On the front of the transmitter there are two switches. One for throttle and one for steering. Moving the switches reverses the direction of the corresponding servos. For example, if you turn your steering wheel right and the model moves left, then switch the steering servo reversing switch to correct the servo direction. You may need to adjust the corresponding trim control after moving the servo-reversing switch.



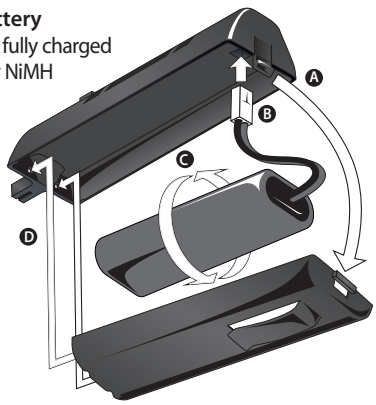
RANGE TEST THE RADIO

There are many things such as buildings, power lines, radio transmitters, etc. which can adversely affect the performance of your radio system. To make sure you do not have a "runaway" model, range test the radio system. With the radio system on and working, hold the truck and have a friend carry the transmitter away from you the distance you plan to run the truck. Have the friend operate the controls on the transmitter to be sure that everything is working at full range.

PREPARING TO RUN

Installing the EZ-Start® battery

The EZ-Start system requires a fully charged 7.2-volt rechargeable NiCad or NiMH battery pack (not included). Use a charger (not included) designed for 7.2-volt battery packs. Charge the battery according to the charger manufacturer's directions.

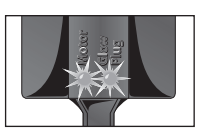


1. Press the tab in the end of the battery compartment door to open. (A)
2. Plug a fully charged 7.2-volt battery pack into the connector inside. (B)
3. Twist the battery 2 or 3 times to twirl the battery plug wires. This helps hold the wire and battery in place when the battery is installed in the compartment. (C)
4. Install the battery into the compartment and press the wires securely into place.
5. Snap the battery compartment door back on and lock the end tab. (D)

USING THE EZ-START

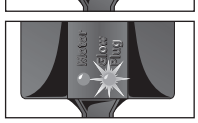
Your EZ-Start controller plugs into a 4-prong receptacle on the battery cover of your Nitro Stampede. When the red button on the controller is pressed, the EZ-Start motor begins to spin the engine and power from the control unit heats the glow plug. Assuming all settings and preparations are correct, the engine should start almost immediately.

Each of the two status indicator LEDs on the hand-held control unit, the Motor LED and the Glow Plug LED, should light green while starting. If either LED fails to light while starting, there is a fault indicated with that function:



If the Glow Plug LED fails to light, the glow plug may be bad, or the glow plug wire may be damaged or disconnected.

If the Motor LED fails to light and the starter fails to operate, then the EZ-Start is in protection mode.



Protection Mode

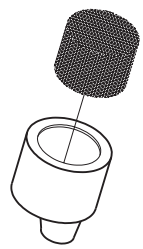
The EZ-Start uses Smart Start® technology to monitor the condition of the system and detect failures. The controller monitors the load being placed on the EZ-Start motor. If the load becomes excessive, the system shuts off power to the motor to prevent costly damage to the motor and the controller. This may occur, for example, if the engine floods with fuel during starting. The starter spins at first but when excessive fuel in the combustion chamber begins to lock up the engine, the starter motor slows under the heavier load. This causes the protection circuit to shut off the power to the motor. Allow at least three minutes for the starter motor to cool and the circuit to automatically reset before continuing. Use the time to find and eliminate the condition that caused the excessive load on the starter motor.

Use a Strong Starter Battery

A weak starter battery, or one that has not been fully charged, may not deliver enough power to crank the engine over at the appropriate rpm to keep the piston from sticking at top dead center (TDC). A new engine will typically have a tight fit between the piston and the top of the sleeve. This is a tapered fit, and a tight piston sleeve fit on initial startup is desirable for those who want the best-performing engine. Make sure you are using a good quality battery pack that is fully charged (new batteries usually require several charge cycles to reach peak voltage and full capacity). This is especially important with a new engine that needs to be broken in.

STARTING THE ENGINE

Installing the Air Filter



Remove the protective cap from the carburetor air intake. Install the rubber air filter base and pre-lubed foam element onto the carburetor intake. The foam air filter element may be cleaned and reused. **Always be sure the filter element is oiled properly before running the engine.** For the best filtration, use the type of oil made for foam air filters. Traxxas air filter oil is recommended (part #5263). Lightweight motor oil or after-run oil may also be substituted. When the element gets dirty, clean it with dish soap and rinse. Next, saturate it with oil and then squeeze out the excess oil.

Filling the Fuel Tank

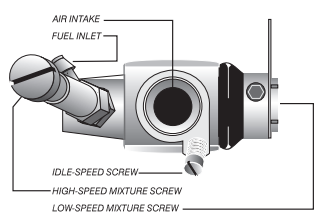
Use a small fuel bottle or bulb to put fuel into the tank. Only fill the tank to the bottom of the fill neck. The Nitro Stampede can be carefully refueled while the engine is running.

NOTE:
Your carburetor has been factory preset for break-in. Do not re-adjust your carburetor settings unless you suspect a problem. The following steps are for reference only.

High-Speed Mixture Setting

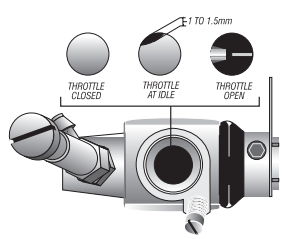
The high-speed mixture screw controls how much fuel enters the engine during mid and high-speed operation. Turn the high-speed mixture screw clockwise, by hand, until it stops **(Do not tighten or the needle may be damaged).** Now, turn the mixture screw counterclockwise 2 $^1/_2$ complete turns.

Setting the Idle Speed



The idle screw regulates the throttle opening to control the idle speed. The throttle opening at idle should be set as shown in the drawing. The opening should be 1 to 1 $^1/_2$ millimeters at the widest point in the opening. The engine may not idle well until it is warmed.

Low-Speed Mixture Setting



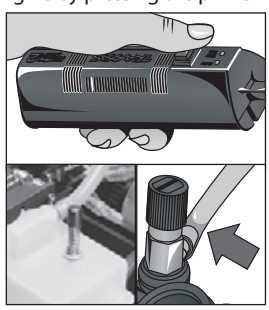
This screw meters the fuel at low speeds. The low-speed mixture screw is located in the end of the carburetor, inside the throttle arm. This screw controls how much fuel enters the engine at idle and low throttle. This adjustment will smooth the idle and improve acceleration to mid-speed. Make this adjustment with the throttle closed, after setting the idle. **Gently** turn this screw clockwise until it stops against the needle seat. Be very careful, it's difficult to know when the needle has seated due to the thread holding material on the needle's thread. **Overtightening of the screw may result in damage to the needle seat.** Now turn the low-speed mixture screw counterclockwise 1 $^3/_4$ turns.

Shutting Off the Engine
Before starting the engine it is important to know how to shut it off. The correct method is to pinch and hold the carburetor's fuel line at idle speed, until the engine dies.

Starting the Engine
Before you start your engine for the first time, make sure you have read all instructions and precautions in this manual. Pay close attention to the break-in instructions in the next section, and make sure you have read and understood them before you run your engine.

Your engine must be at room temperature (70° F or 21° C) or above the first time you start it. If it's cooler than room temperature outside, remove all fuel and keep your model indoors until you're ready to start it and then take it outside. We do not recommend running the model in temperatures below 35° F.

1. Turn on the radio system.
2. Make sure the throttle trigger on the transmitter is in the idle (neutral) position.
3. Connect the EZ-Start® controller.
4. Press the starter button in short two-second bursts and watch for fuel moving through the fuel line up to the carburetor. Watch closely! The fuel moves very fast. If the fuel doesn't move through the line within 5 seconds, prime the engine by pressing the primer button (built into the fuel tank) several times until the fuel moves through the fuel line towards the carburetor. Be sure to watch the fuel line going into the carburetor closely to see when the fuel reaches the carburetor. Once it reaches the carburetor, press the primer button one more time. If you press the primer button too many times, you will flood the engine and the EZ-Start will not be able spin it over.



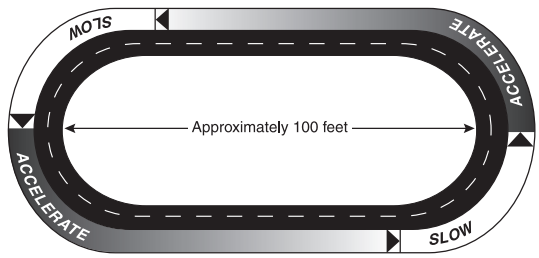
5. Once fuel reaches the carburetor, the engine should quickly start and idle.
6. Disconnect the EZ-Start controller from the model.
7. Proceed with the engine break-in.
8. Do not rev your engine with no load (wheels off the ground).

BREAKING-IN THE ENGINE *(VERY IMPORTANT!)*

Once your engine is running, it must be broken-in. The key to breaking in your engine is patience. **The break-in time will take about 1 to 1 1/2 hours.** During the break-in period, your engine may appear to malfunction with symptoms such as stalling, inconsistent performance, and fouled glow plugs. Don't give up on it! These are just "break-in pains" that every new engine has to go through. They will disappear once you get through the break-in period. ***Just keep it running, and throttle on and off as smoothly as you can. Sudden bursts or releases of the throttle can stall your engine.*** Resist the temptation to tune the engine for performance and/or run for extended times at wide open throttle. Soon, after about the fourth tank of fuel, your patience will pay off with solid, consistent performance.

During Break-in...
- Special break-in fuels are not required.
- Drive the model on a smooth hard surface.
- If possible, avoid running on very hot, humid days.
- Run with the body off for extra engine cooling.
- Turn the mixture screw (needle) clockwise (in) to lean the mixture and counterclockwise (out) to richen the mixture.
- Do not allow the fuel tank to run completely empty, possibly leading to a burned plug. An extremely low fuel level causes the fuel mixture to be too lean.
- Keep extra glow plugs handy. The break-in process, because of the engine running rich, can cause deposits to form on the glow plug, leading to failure.

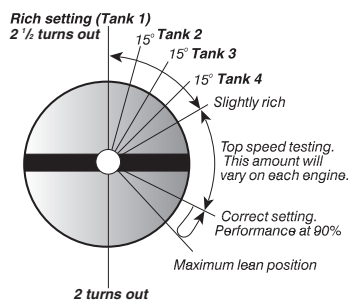
The First Tank of Fuel
Drive the Nitro Stampede on a flat paved surface in an oval configuration. This will cause you to naturally vary your speed over the entire rpm range. During this break-in time ease in and out



of the throttle slowly to avoid stalling the engine. The goal is to simply keep it running. The fuel mixture setting may require slight adjustment to correct for different altitudes and temperature. To tell if the engine is running rich (high volume of fuel flowing through the engine) look for the following conditions:

1. The engine should accelerate sluggishly.
2. There should be a thick trail of blue smoke coming from the exhaust.
3. If you do not observe the conditions above, then turn the high-speed needle out 15° (counterclockwise) and retest.
4. Do not rev the engine with the wheels off the ground. High, no-load rpm can damage the engine, usually resulting in a broken connecting rod. At the end of the first tank of fuel, stop the engine and allow it to cool for 5-10 minutes before proceeding.

Tanks Two Through Four: Shut off the engine and allow it to cool for 5-10 minutes, then refuel. Turn the high-speed needle in 15° (clockwise). Turn on the radio system and restart the engine. Continue driving on your oval course, varying your throttle, until the second tank of fuel is used up. Repeat this process for tanks three and four. **Important: Do not lean the high-speed mixture less than 2 turns out from closed (see illustration). Also, be sure to allow the engine to cool between each run.**



DRIVING PRECAUTIONS

- The radio system is not waterproof. Avoid driving through puddles, wet grass, or mud. Water could damage the electronics.
- Do not continue to operate the Nitro Stampede with low batteries. After the battery power drops below a certain point, the model will continue with the last command it had from the transmitter. Indications of low battery power include slow operation and sluggish servos. On the transmitter, a flashing red light indicates low transmitter batteries.
- Do not drive the Nitro Stampede at night, on public streets, or in large crowds of people.
- If the truck becomes stuck, do not continue to run the engine. Remove the obstruction before continuing to drive.
- Do not attempt to push or tow objects with the Nitro Stampede.
- The model is controlled by radio. It is subject to radio interference from many sources beyond your control. Since radio interference can cause momentary losses of control, allow a safety margin around the truck in order to prevent collisions.
- Use common sense whenever you are driving your model. ***Intentionally driving in an abusive and rough manner will only result in poor performance and broken parts.***

Tuning Your Engine for Best Performance
The engine's performance depends on the fuel mixture. Turn the mixture needles clockwise to lean the fuel mixture and counterclockwise to richen it. Leaning the fuel mixture will increase engine power up to the engine's mechanical limits. **Never run the engine too lean (not enough fuel flow). Leaning the engine beyond the safe allowable limits will result in poor performance and engine damage.** Indications of an overly lean mixture include:

- Cutting out or sudden loss of power during acceleration.
- Overheating (temperature beyond 300° at the glow plug).
- Little or no blue smoke coming from the exhaust.

If any of these conditions are present, stop immediately and richen the high-speed mixture 1/4 turn. The engine will probably be slightly rich at that setting and you can then retune for performance. Always tune for performance by starting rich and moving toward the ideal setting. Never try to tune from the lean side. There should always be a light stream of blue smoke coming from the exhaust.

Before you begin tuning, the engine should be warmed up to its normal operating temperature and running slightly rich. All final tuning adjustments must be made to the engine at its normal operating temperature. You can tell the engine is running rich by noting any of the following:

- Sluggish acceleration with blue smoke coming from the exhaust.
- There is unburned fuel spraying from the exhaust tip.
- Leaning the high-speed fuel mixture increases performance.

High-Speed Fuel Mixture Adjustment
With the engine warm and running at a rich setting, gradually lean the high-speed fuel mixture in 1/16 turn increments. Make several high-speed passes with the Nitro Stampede after each adjustment to clear out the engine and note any change in performance. Continue this procedure until one of the following conditions exists**:**

1. There is no longer any performance improvement
2. The engine begins to cut out at high-speed
3. There is a sudden loss of power during acceleration
4. The engine begins to overheat (see *Tuning the Engine by Temperature* for symptoms of overheating).

If any one of the above conditions occurs, the fuel mixture is already past the maximum safe lean setting. Richen the fuel mixture to the optimum setting by richening the high-speed needle at least 1/8 turn counterclockwise and retest. This setting will extend engine component life.

Low-Speed Fuel Mixture Adjustment
The low-speed mixture is always set after the high-speed needle is correctly adjusted. The low-speed mixture will be set using the pinch test.

1. Once the engine is warm, do several high-speed runs to confirm that the high-speed needle is set correctly.
2. Bring the vehicle in and pinch closed the fuel line going into the carburetor. The engine should run for 2-3 seconds, speed up, and then die.
3. It is very important to make several high-speed runs with the Nitro Stampede between adjustments to clear out any excess fuel. Perform the pinch test immediately after. If the engine is allowed to idle for a long period of time, it could "load up" with fuel and give you an inaccurate measurement from your pinch test.
4. If the engine runs longer than 3 seconds, then lean the low-speed needle 1/16 turn, make several more high-speed runs, and retest.
5. If the engine dies immediately without speeding up, then richen the low-speed needle 1/8 turn, make several more high-speed runs, and retest.
6. If the engine dies when you try to accelerate abruptly, then the low-speed needle is probably set too lean. Richen the low-speed needle 1/8 turn, make several more high-speed runs, and retest.
7. When the low-speed needle is set correctly, the engine's throttle response should be very quick.

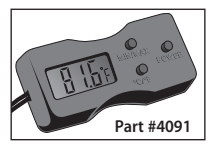
Idle Speed Adjustment
Once the high and low-speed mixtures have been set, reduce the idle speed to the minimum reliable idle speed. Remember, this adjustment should be made while the engine is running at normal operating temperature.

1. Turn the throttle trim on the transmitter so that the brakes are applied. This ensures that the throttle barrel is resting against the idle adjustment screw.
2. If necessary, remove the air filter to gain access to the idle adjustment screw.
3. Turn the screw clockwise to reduce the idle speed, or counterclockwise to increase it. The idle speed should be set as low as possible while still maintaining reliable running characteristics.
4. Reset the throttle trim on the transmitter.

Fine-Tuning the Carburetor
After fine-tuning your engine at the end of the break-in procedure, no major adjustments to the fuel mixture are usually necessary. Make note of the temperature, humidity, and barometric pressure at the time you finished fine tuning your carburetor. Current weather conditions can be found online from national websites, local TV news websites, and television. This information will be considered your baseline setting. You may need to adjust your carburetor needles to compensate for changes in temperature and barometric pressure (air density) from day to day. Generally, you'll need to richen the fuel mixture when the weather is colder than your baseline temperature and the air density is higher. Lean the fuel mixture when weather is warmer than your baseline temperature and the air density is lower. The chart below provides general guidelines on how weather conditions affect air density when they move higher or lower than your baseline setting.

If the...	is..	then the air density is...	the overall mixture should be...
Humidity	Lower	Slightly more dense	Slightly richer
	Higher	Slightly less dense	Slightly leaner
Pressure (barometer)	Lower	Less dense	Leaner
	Higher	More dense	Richer
Temperature	Lower	More dense	Richer
	Higher	Less dense	Leaner
Altitude	Lower	More dense	Richer
	Higher	Less dense	Leaner
Nitro %	Lower		Richer
	Higher		Leaner

Tuning the Engine by Temperature


Part #4091

The following procedures require an optional infrared temperature probe or on-board temperature gauge (Traxxas on-board digital temperature gauge, part #4091). Engine temperature can be used as an effective tuning aid when you understand the relationship between engine temperature and ambient temperature. The engine operating temperature, when tuned for maximum performance, will vary according to atmospheric conditions, engine load, gauge accuracy, and many other factors. The atmospheric condition that has the most influence on engine temperature is air temperature. Expect the engine temperature to vary almost in direct proportion to air temperature. Assuming you tuned the engine for the same maximum performance each day, the engine will run about twenty degrees hotter when it's ninety degrees outside than it would in seventy-degree weather. For this reason, we cannot give you a definitive temperature range that indicates the best possible engine tuning.

There is NO optimal temperature that can be used as a target to deliver the best engine tuning. Do not rely on a temp gauge alone to tune your engine. Tune the engine by paying very close attention to how it responds to changes in fuel mixture (more smoke/less smoke, fast/sluggish, reliable/stalling, smooth sound/ muffled sound, etc). Once the engine is tuned, then observe the temperature.

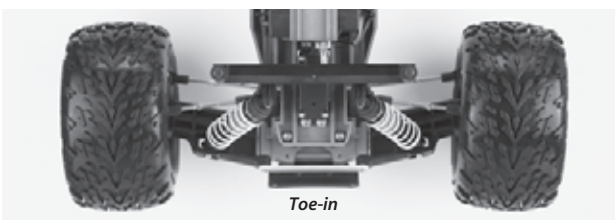
The temperature gauge can aid you in tuning by giving you a relative indication of how your adjustments are affecting the engine and to help prevent you from reaching excessive engine temperatures. For example, as you lean the fuel mixture, the engine performance will increase along with the temperature. If you continue to lean the fuel mixture and the temperature increases but the engine performance does not change, then you have exceeded the maximum safe lean setting. Make note of the engine temperature. Generally, try to keep your engine from exceeding 270° F when measured at the glow plug. If necessary, increase airflow to the engine by cutting out the windshield. In some situations, the engine may perform very well with no stalling, lagging, or hesitation at temperatures above 270° F, particularly in very hot climates.

If richening the fuel mixture to bring the temperature down to 270° F results in poor, sluggish performance (engine never cleans out) then return the engine back to a satisfactory state of tune based on how it sounds and performs (always with a visible stream of blue smoke coming from the exhaust). If engine temperature is exceeding 270° F with proper cooling and no signs of abnormal running, then avoid running the engine at its maximum lean setting. Watch closely for any signs of overheating. Richen the fuel mixture slightly to provide a safety margin of additional cooling lubrication.

Symptoms of overheating include:
Steam or smoke coming from the engine (not exhaust).
Hesitation or stalling during acceleration.
Popping or clattering sound when decelerating detonation).
Fluctuating idle speed.

ADJUSTMENTS

Toe-in
Geometry and alignment specs play an important role in your truck's handling, so take the time to set them correctly. Set the steering trim on your transmitter to neutral. Now, adjust your tie rods so that both wheels are pointing straight ahead and are parallel to each other (0 degrees toe-in). This will ensure the same amount of steering in both directions. If you run out of adjustment, then the steering servo will have to be re-centered (see "centering your servos" on page 9). **For increased stability add 1-2 degrees of toe-in to each front wheel. Use the turnbuckles to adjust the alignment.**

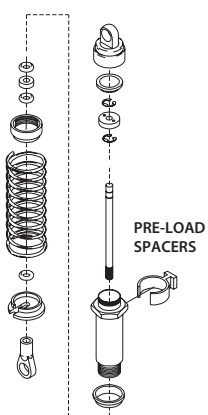

Toe-in

Camber
The camber angle of both the front and rear wheels can be adjusted with the camber rods (upper turnbuckles). Use a square or right-angle triangle to set the camber accurately. Adjust the front wheels to 0 degrees of camber (wheel perpendicular to the ground). In the rear, adjust the wheels to 1 to 2 degrees of negative camber. These adjustments should be set with the truck positioned at its normal ride height.


Positive camber


Negative camber

Shocks
The four shocks on Nitro Stampede have the most influence on its handling. Whenever you rebuild your shocks, or make any changes to the pistons, springs or oil, always do it carefully and in pairs (front or rear). Piston head selection depends on the range of oil viscosities that you have available. For example, using a two-hole piston with a lightweight oil will, at one point, give you the same dampening as a three-hole piston with heavier oil. We recommend using the two-hole pistons with a range of oil viscosities from 10W to 50W (available from your hobby shop). The thinner viscosity oils (30W or less) flow more smoothly and are more consistent, while thicker oils provide more dampening. **Use only 100% pure silicone shock oil to prolong seal life.**



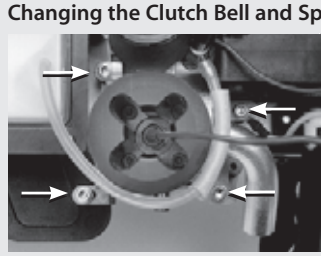
The ride height for Nitro Stampede can be adjusted by adding or removing the clip-on spring pre-load spacers. Instead of adding spacers to increase stiffness, use stiffer springs. Adjust the ride height so that the suspension arms are slightly above being parallel to the ground. Observe how the Nitro Stampede handles in turns. If it is picking up the inside rear wheel in hard turns, then stiffen the *front* suspension. If it is picking up the inside front wheel in hard turns, then stiffen the *rear* suspension. Proper set-up will add stability and help prevent roll-overs.

Gear Ratios
A unique Nitro Stampede feature is the ability to change the gear ratios. The final drive ratio of the gearbox is 3.75 to 1. Use the following formula to calculate the overall ratio:

$$\frac{\text{Number of } \textbf{Spur} \text{ gear teeth}}{\text{Number of } \textbf{Clutch Bell} \text{ gear teeth}} \times 3.75 = \textbf{Final drive ratio}$$

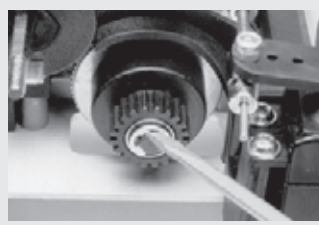
Nitro Stampede comes with a 66-tooth spur gear and a 18-tooth pinion (clutch bell) gear. This combination will provide the best overall acceleration and top speed. If you want more acceleration and less top speed, then use a smaller clutch bell gear (fewer teeth). For more top speed, use a larger clutch bell gear.

Changing the Clutch Bell and Spur Gears



Remove the rubber exhaust pipe and the tuned pipe. Remove the electric starter drive. Loosen the four 3x8mm cap-head screws which hold the slotted adjusting plates to the engine mount.

Remove the 4mm nylon locknut and the spring from the slipper clutch. Try to remove the slipper clutch as one assembly by holding the pressure plates together with your thumb and index finger.



Remove the large E-clip on the clutch shaft and the clutch bell gear. Remove the ball bearings and install them in the new clutch bell gear. Reinstall the clutch bell gear and E-clip. Note: Smaller clutch bell gears use smaller ball bearings. Refer to your parts list for the correct bearings. Reinstall the spur gear on the top shaft and secure it with the 4mm locknut.

Slide a strip of thin note paper between the spur gear and the clutch bell gear. Push the clutch bell gear against the spur gear and tighten the 3x8mm adjusting plate screws. Remove the paper and the gear mesh should be correctly adjusted.

Adjusting the Slipper Clutch
The Nitro Stampede features an adjustable slipper clutch on the spur gear to protect the drivetrain from sudden shock loads (such as landing off of jumps with the engine at full throttle). Under normal conditions the slipper clutch should not slip. Before adjusting the slipper clutch, turn the model off. Do not adjust the slipper clutch while the engine is running.

Use the supplied wrench to tighten the slipper nut (clockwise) until it stops and then back the nut out 1/4 of a turn. If you notice any

decrease in performance after making changes to the slipper clutch adjustment, then it may be too loose. The slipper must not be allowed to slip during normal acceleration or the slipper could be damaged.

Centering your Servos
Whenever your radio system has been removed for service or cleaning, the servos must be re-centered prior to installing the radio system in the model. If the radio system is installed in the truck, disconnect the servo horns from the servos.

Connect the steering servo to channel 1 on your receiver and the throttle servo to channel 2. The white wire on each servo cable is positioned towards the crystal. Connect the red and black cable from the battery holder to the "batt" terminal on the receiver. The red wire is positive and the black wire is negative.

Place fresh "AA" batteries in the transmitter and turn the power switch on. Slide the throttle and steering trim adjustments to the center position. Now install fresh "AA" batteries into the battery holder and turn the power switch to the "on" position. The servos will automatically jump to their center positions. Turn off the battery holder switch followed by the transmitter. The servos are now ready to be installed. Be careful not to move the servo shaft when reinstalling the servo horns.

AFTER-RUN PROCEDURE

You must perform after-run maintenance on your engine whenever the model will be stored for longer than a few hours. Taking the time to prepare your engine for storage will reward you with longer engine life, easier starting, and better performance.

When a nitro engine is shut off, some excess unburned fuel remains in the engine. The methanol in model engine fuel is hygroscopic, which means it easily attracts and absorbs moisture. This moisture can cause rust and corrosion on the steel engine parts (crankshaft, bearings, wrist pin and starter shaft) if the fuel is not removed from the engine. There are after-run oil products available from your hobby dealer or you can use WD-40™, a common household lubricant. To ensure your engine is protected from internal corrosion, use the following procedure:

1. Shut off the engine by pinching the fuel line closed. This allows most of the excess fuel to be consumed by the engine. Be sure the throttle is in the idle position. You may have to pinch the fuel line closed for several seconds before the engine stops.
2. Completely empty the fuel tank. Use your fuel-dispensing bottle to suck out the old fuel. Do not mix the old fuel with your fresh fuel supply. If you leave fuel in the tank, transporting or handling your model may cause fuel to run into the engine.
3. With the fuel tank empty and the throttle at the idle position, try to start the engine. The engine will most likely start and run for a few seconds as it uses up any fuel remaining in the engine and fuel lines.
4. Once the engine stops, clean the outside of the engine with compressed air or spray motor cleaner. Once the engine is clean and dry, remove the glow plug power wire, glow plug, and air filter.
5. Open the throttle fully and spray a one-second burst of WD-40 into the carburetor and into the glow plug hole (Caution! Wear safety glasses to prevent spray from getting into your eyes). If you are using after-run oil, follow the manufacturer's instructions.
6. Place a rag or paper towel over the engine to catch any WD-40 or after-run oil that may come out the carburetor or glow plug hole.
7. Connect the EZ-Start® controller to the model and spin the engine for 10 seconds.
8. Remove the rag or paper towel and repeat steps 5–7 two more times.
9. Clean and re-oil the air filter so it will be ready for use next time.
10. Replace the glow plug, reconnect the glow plug power wire, and reinstall the air filter.

MAINTENANCE

Nitro Stampede requires timely maintenance in order to stay in top running condition. **Neglecting the maintenance could allow dirt, deposits, and moisture to build up inside the engine leading to internal engine failure.** The following procedures should be taken very seriously.

After each hour of running:
- Clean and re-oil the air filter. The instructions for this procedure are on page 5. **We cannot stress enough the value of cleaning your air filter at the scheduled intervals.** The cleanliness and condition of your air filter directly influences the running life span of your engine. **Do not skip air filter maintenance!**
- Clean the outside of the engine of accumulated dirt, oil, and grime. Accumulated grime will decrease the engine's ability to cool itself.
- Tighten the wheel nuts (especially on the left side).

After each running session:
- Perform after-run maintenance on the engine. This clears the engine of destructive moisture and other corrosive deposits. **This is extremely important for the life of the engine.**
- Inspect the gears for wear, broken teeth, or debris lodged between the teeth
- Inspect the vehicle for obvious damage or wear. Look for:
  1. Loose or missing screws
  2. Cracked, bent, or damaged parts
  3. Cut or loose wiring
  4. Cut or kinked fuel lines
  5. Signs of fuel leakage

Other periodic maintenance:
- **Connecting rod:** The connecting rod should be replaced when the piston and sleeve are replaced. Also replace the piston wrist pin and G-clip whenever the connecting rod is replaced. As with other internal engine components, connecting rod life depends on engine's usage and the quality and frequency of the engine maintenance. Inspect the connecting rod after three gallons of fuel have been used.

- **Slipper clutch pads** (friction material): The slipper clutch pegs will wear over time and require replacement. The life of the pegs depends on how the slipper clutch was adjusted and how the Nitro Stampede was used. If the slipper will not tighten or you are seeing signs of wear on the face of the gear, then the pegs should be replaced.

- **Piston/sleeve:** The life of the piston and sleeve will vary greatly with how the engine was used and maintained. The piston and sleeve should be replaced when they no longer seal effectively (loss of compression). Symptoms include the engine being difficult to start when warm, stalling when warm, and stalling when throttle is suddenly closed to idle. Replace the wrist pin and G-clip whenever the piston and sleeve are replaced.

ENGINE TROUBLESHOOTING

The troubleshooting guide on the following pages has been provided to help you in diagnosing and repairing common engine problems. Most difficulties with engines can be traced back to problems with adjustment, fuel quality, dirt blockage, or common parts that wear with everyday use.

Flooded Engine
The engine can become flooded if it is primed too many times during the course of a routine start up. When the engine is flooded, the EZ-Start® cannot turn the engine and it will appear to be locked. Use the following procedure to clear a flooded engine.

1. Remove the blue glow plug wire
2. Remove the glow plug with a 5/16 or 8mm nut driver
3. Plug in the EZ-Start and turn the truck upside down
4. Push the EZ-Start button for several seconds to clear the excess fuel from the combustion chamber
5. Turn the truck over and re-install the glow plug with gasket
6. Reconnect the blue glow plug wire
7. Remove one of the motor wires from the EZ-Start motor
8. Push the EZ-Start button for several seconds. This lights the glow plug and burns off any remaining fuel
9. Reconnect the EZ-Start motor
10. Do not prime the engine. Partially open the throttle and press the EZ-Start button. The engine should start immediately.

Glow Plugs
The glow plug in your engine is a consumable item which must be replaced periodically to maintain peak performance and starting ease. To test for a leaking glow plug, place a few drops of fuel around the base of the glow plug when the engine is cool.

With the engine running, look for bubbles around the glow plug. If the gasket is leaking, tighten the plug or replace the gasket.

If the "Glow Plug" LED fails to light, the glow plug may be bad or broken. However, glow plug performance can deteriorate significantly before the element actually burns in two. **The only sure way to test for a faulty glow plug is to replace it with a new one to see if the problem goes away.** You can view the glow plug element by removing it and touching it against the engine head while pressing the EZ-Start button. The glow plug will not light unless it is grounded against the engine. Glow plugs can be damaged by particles in the combustion chamber or by running the fuel mixture excessively lean.

Traxxas makes three glow plugs. The standard hot plug (part #3230) is the stock replacement plug for TRX® Pro.15 engines. The optional heavy-duty (part #3231) and super-duty (part #3232) plugs will last longer in most cases, however, it is a medium temperature plug so performance may be reduced slightly. Do not use plugs with idle bars!

Carburetor
Dirt is the main enemy to your carburetor. If you notice a sudden change in the fuel mixture (lean) and performance of your model, you may have dirt lodged in the carburetor. To dislodge a dirt particle in your carburetor try screwing the high-speed needle all the way in and then back out to its original settings. If the engine doesn't return to normal operation, then try backing the mixture screw out and priming the engine to force fuel through the carburetor. Return the mixture screw back to its original settings. The engine will be flooded at this point so follow the directions for relieving a flooded engine. If this fails, then the carburetor will need to be removed and cleaned with denatured alcohol. Do not blow on carburetor passages or fuel lines with your mouth. Fuel and solvents are extremely poisonous. To prevent this from occurring again, insert a fuel filter in the line between the tank and the carburetor.

Piston stuck at "top dead center" (TDC)
"Top dead center" is the position where the piston is at the very top of the tapered sleeve. Occasionally an engine can get "stuck" at this position. This is most likely to happen on new engines during break-in, but can also happen at other times. If the engine is stuck at TDC, use the following procedure to release the piston from the sleeve:

1. Remove the glow plug using an 8mm (5/16") nut driver and verify that the piston is at the top of its stroke.
2. Use a flat blade screwdriver to rotate the flywheel. Place the blade of the driver into one of the grooves of the flywheel and push down, turning the flywheel counterclockwise when viewed from the front. The flywheel should turn, freeing the piston from the sleeve.
3. Put two or three drops of light machine oil into the glow plug hole to lubricate the piston and sleeve. Do not use too much oil. It will hydro-lock the engine. Verify the starter will spin the engine with the glow plug out.
4. Rotate the flywheel so the piston is at bottom dead center and replace the glow plug with gasket. Reconnect the blue glow plug wire.
5. You should now be able to start the engine with the EZ-Start.

LIMITED WARRANTY INFORMATION

Electronic Components
Traxxas electronic components are warranted to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of purchase. Electronic components consist of the radio system (transmitter, receiver, servos, switches, AC chargers, adapters, and receiver battery holders), and any other Traxxas electronic component. See the additional limitations that apply.

Chassis and Engine
The chassis consists of all remaining parts of the model that are not considered electronic or part of the engine. This includes recoil starters, the EZ-Start® system and controller, starter components, and the glow plug.

The Nitro Stampede is considered to be a race oriented, hobby-class model. We have made every effort in component design, material selection, and assembly to make our products as durable as possible. Because our products are high-performance hobby-class models that operate at a much higher level of performance than a "toy," require periodic maintenance, and are intended to be used in high performance applications over an extremely wide range of running conditions and situations, no warranties are expressed or implied that cover damage caused by normal use or wear, or cover or imply how long any chassis or engine part will last before requiring replacement due to wear. Parts will wear from use and occasionally require replacement. Engines and chassis are only covered against manufacturer's defects in materials, workmanship or assembly when they are new (before being used).

If any component is found to be defective, incorrectly made, or incorrectly assembled within the warranty coverage time period (where applicable), it will be repaired or replaced at Traxxas' sole discretion. This will be done within a reasonable time period and free of charge. If you believe a defect in materials, workmanship, or assembly was not apparent when the product was new and only became evident after the product was used, then please call us at 1-888-TRAXXAS. We stand behind our products and reputation and pledge to do our best to make sure you are satisfied with your Traxxas product.

Limitations
Any and all warranty coverage does not cover replacement of parts and components damaged by abuse, neglect, improper or unreasonable use, crash damage, water or excessive moisture, chemical damage, improper or infrequent maintenance, accident, unauthorized alteration or modification, use of improper fuels, or items that are considered consumable. Traxxas will not pay for the cost of shipping or transportation of a defective component from you to us.

Your Hobby Dealer's Role
All warranty claims are handled directly by Traxxas. Your dealer can assist you in contacting Traxxas and determining which components might be defective, but he is under no obligation to provide free replacement parts or service. Traxxas does not authorize dealers to make over-the-counter exchanges or refunds for Traxxas products that have been used. Traxxas will make the sole and final determination if a product or component can be covered under warranty.

Limitations of Liability
Traxxas makes no other warranties expressed or implied. Traxxas shall not be liable for any special, indirect, incidental, or consequential damages arising out of the assembly, installation, or use of their products or any accessory or chemical required to use their products. By the act of operating/using the product, the user accepts all resulting liability. In no case shall Traxxas' liability exceed the actual purchase price paid for the product. Traxxas reserves the right to modify warranty provisions without notice. All warranty claims will be handled directly by Traxxas. The Traxxas warranty gives the customer specific legal rights and possibly other rights that vary from state to state. The customer is required to fill out and return the Registration Card enclosed with the product as a condition of the coverage and performance of the warranty. All dollar amounts stated are in United States dollars. The term "lifetime" shall refer to the product's production life at Traxxas. Traxxas is not obligated to provide upgraded products at a reduced rate when a previous product's production cycle has ended.

To Obtain Warranty Service:

Call us first! Before you begin the process of obtaining warranty or repair service, please call us at 1-888-TRAXXAS and speak with one of our friendly and knowledgeable support technicians. Often a product might appear defective, or to malfunction, only because it is being used improperly or requires a simple adjustment. One phone call to our experienced support staff just might get you back running quickly and easily!

When you return a product to Traxxas, please provide the following:

- Proof of purchase indicating the date purchased
- Any applicable forms
- Return address
- Daytime and evening phone numbers
- E-mail address
- Brief description of the problem and mail or ship to:

TRAXXAS
1100 Klein Road
Plano, Texas 75074

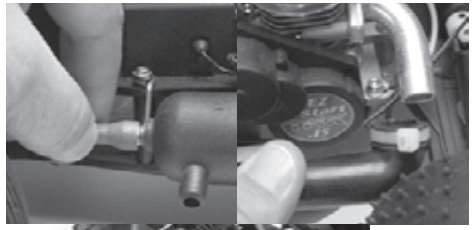
For technical assistance regarding your model, call 1-888-TRAXXAS (872-9927), 972-265-8000 (outside of the U.S.), or e-mail Traxxas at support@Traxxas.com.

For orders and other information, call 972-265-8000.

ENGINE TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE

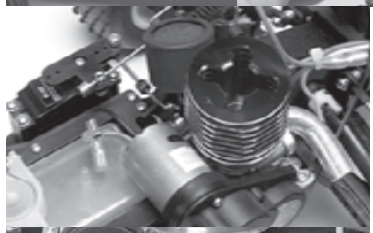
Engine will not start	1	3	7	25	8	16	13	14	21	26	19	35	36	32		
EZ-Start® motor will not turn	8	10	17													
EZ-Start turns but engine does not	11	12	37													
Engine starts and then stalls	16	21	24		26	25	27	32								
Engine sluggish, poor performance	3	6	16	15	21			22	20		30	29		31	32	
Engine Overheats	3	4	5	6	21		23	25	26	33	34	31				
Engine chokes/hesitates at speed	1	2	16	21	23	25	26	27	20	28						
Engine stalls under hard acceleration	1	2	16	21				24	25	26						
Engine stalls around turns	1	2	27													
Engine stalls during normal driving	1	2	3	16	25	26	27	21	20	32						

1 Out of fuel..... Fill fuel tank
2 Fuel level is low..... Refill fuel tank
3 Improper or contaminated fuel..... Replace fuel
4 Excessive nitro in the fuel..... Use fuel with a lower nitro content (page 2)
5 Incorrect oil content in the fuel..... Switch to a recommended brand of fuel (page 2)
6 Poor quality fuel..... Switch to a recommended brand of fuel (page 2)
7 Engine not primed..... Prime engine (page 6)
8 EZ-Start battery not charged..... Use a freshly-charged battery (page 5)
9 EZ-Start ground wire (yellow) faulty..... Clean, tighten, or replace ground wire (page 12)
10 EZ-Start motor wire loose..... Check motor connections on the EZ-Start motor
11 One-way starter bearing slipping..... Remove EZ-Start/ Clean or replace bearing (page 12)
12 EZ-Start gears damaged..... Listen for excessive gear noise/ Replace gears/motor
13 Glow plug wire loose from glow plug..... Crimp the connector on the glow plug wire
14 Glow plug wire damaged..... Replace or repair glow plug wire
15 Leaking glow plug gasket..... Check glow plug gasket/ tighten glow plug
16 Glow plug fouled or weak..... Check for two solid green lights when the EZ-Start button is pressed/ No GLOW PLUG light indicates a faulty plug/ Replace with Traxxas 3230, 3231, or 3232 glow plugs (page 9)
17 Engine flooded..... Clear the engine of excess fuel (page 9)
18 Engine overheated..... Allow engine to cool- find cause for overheating
19 Exhaust blocked..... Clear any obstructions
20 Air cleaner plugged..... Clean and replace air cleaner element (page 5)
21 Carburetor incorrectly adjusted..... Readjust carburetor to factory break-in settings (page 5)
22 High-speed fuel mixture is too rich..... Lean the high-speed mixture (page 7)
23 High-speed fuel mixture is too lean..... Richen the high-speed mixture (page 7)
24 Idle speed set too low..... Increase idle speed (page 7)
25 Fuel flow blocked..... Check that all fuel lines are clear with no pin-hole leaks. Check for dirt blockage in the carburetor fuel inlet and high-speed needle seat/ Install inline fuel filter
26 Air bubble in the fuel line..... Prime the engine to force the air through/ Check for pinhole leaks in the fuel line
27 Insufficient fuel tank pressure..... Replace the pressure hose (between pipe and fuel tank)/ clear blockage in the tuned pipe hose fitting/ check flow to and from tank/ Check fuel tank cap seal
28 Engine overheated..... Allow engine to cool/ find cause for overheating
29 Engine overgeared for application..... Use a lower gear ratio (page 8)
30 Engine clutch slipping..... Replace clutch shoes (see engine repair section, page 13)
31 Drive system is bound..... Locate the bound item and repair
32 Engine excessively worn..... Repair or replace engine (page 12)
33 Cooling air to the head is blocked..... Cut ventilation holes in the body (windshield)
34 Excessive load on the engine..... Check for bound drivetrain
35 Broken clutch shoe spring..... Replace clutch shoe spring (page 13)
36 Loose flywheel..... Replace flywheel nut (page 13)
37 EZ-Start motor pinion stripped..... Replace EZ-Start motor

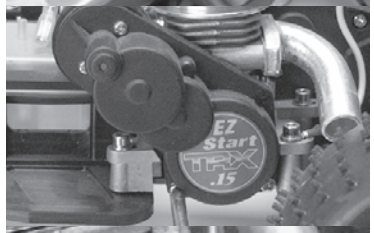


Rebuilding the Engine

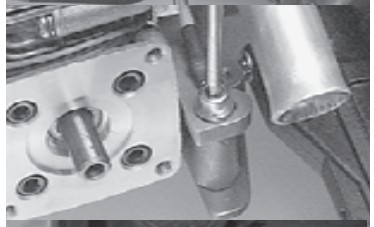
STEP 1:
Remove the 4mm locknut from the front pipe hanger. Pull the pipe from the rear exhaust header.



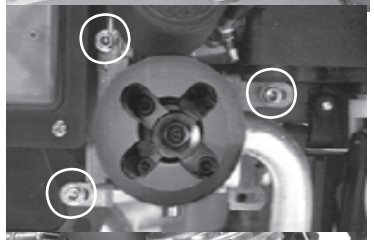
STEP 2:
Unplug the blue wire from the glow plug. Remove the fuel line from the carburetor inlet and from the exhaust header pressure fitting. Disconnect the red and black wires from the EZ-Start® motor.



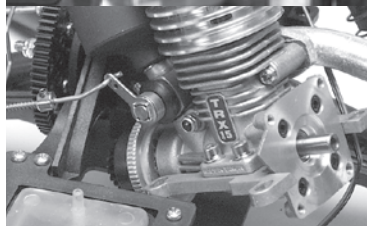
STEP 3:
Remove the EZ-Start gearbox by removing the three 3x8mm round-head machine screws.



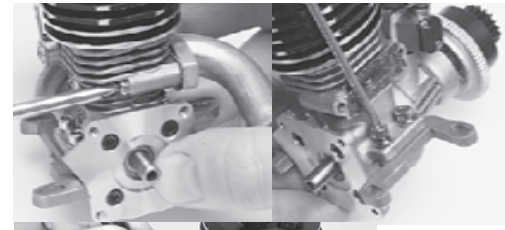
STEP 4:
Use a 2.5mm hex driver to remove the yellow ground wire from the engine mount. Move the EZ-Start wiring harness out of the way.



STEP 5:
Use a 2.5mm hex driver to remove the three remaining 3x10mm cap-head machine screws from the engine mount.



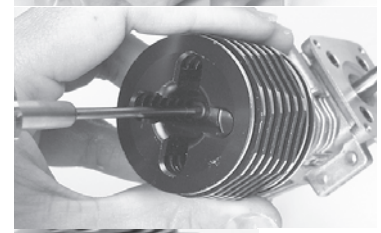
STEP 6:
Pull the engine from the chassis. Turn the engine so that the throttle linkage to the carburetor will come out.



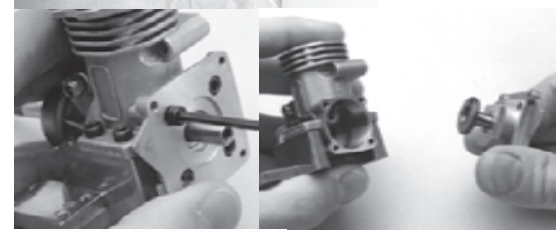
STEP 7:
Remove the 3x23mm cap-head machine screws that fasten the header to the engine. Carefully remove the header to avoid damaging the gasket.
To separate the engine from the engine mount, remove the four 3x8mm cap-head machine screws.

STEP 8:
Removing the carburetor is not necessary to rebuild the engine, unless you intend to replace the internal bearings of the engine. Remove the carburetor by loosening the 3mm locknut and pulling the carburetor straight up.

STEP 9: Changing the piston and sleeve assembly
Use a 5/16 inch nut driver to remove the glow plug and copper gasket.

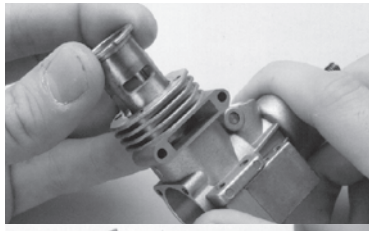


STEP 10:
Use a 2.5mm allen wrench to remove the four 3x12mm cap-head screws that fasten the cylinder head. Rock the cylinder head gently from side to side to release it from the sleeve. Note the thin aluminum head gaskets. We recommend that you replace these gaskets with new ones upon reassembly.

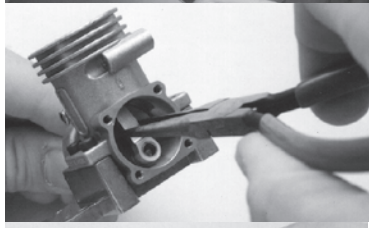


STEP 11:
Remove the backplate and the starter shaft. Replace the backplate gasket with a new one during assembly.

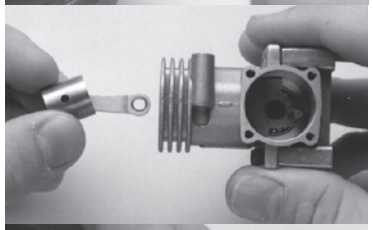
STEP 12:
The piston and sleeve are a matched set. When the piston and sleeve are disassembled, they must be reassembled in the same orientation. Use a hobby knife to scratch a mark to indicate the location of the piston in relation to the pinning of the sleeve.



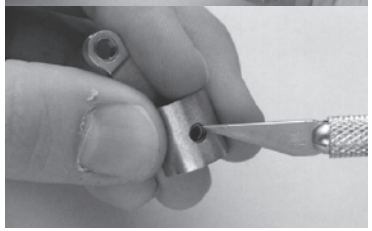
STEP 13:
Pull the sleeve straight up and out of the crankcase. If the sleeve will not move, rotate the crankshaft until the sleeve pushes up.



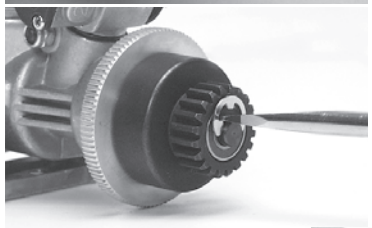
STEP 14:
Rotate the crankshaft to bottom dead center. Lightly grab the connecting rod with a pair of needlenose pliers and gently pull it off of the crankshaft journal.



STEP 15:
Remove the connecting rod and piston through the top of the crankcase.

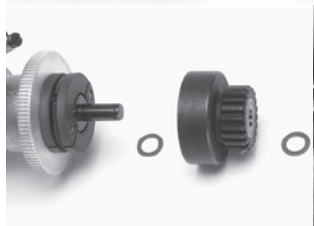


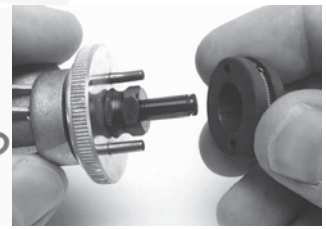
STEP 16:
To remove the connecting rod from the piston, use a sharp-pointed tool to remove the small metal G-clip in the side of the piston. Do not re-use the old G-clip. When installing a new connecting rod, use the supplied new G-clip.

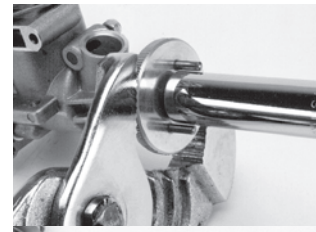


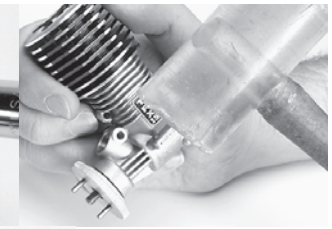
STEP 17: Removing the clutch and flywheel
It is not necessary to remove the clutch assembly unless you are servicing the clutch, crankshaft, or engine bearings. Use the tip of a small screwdriver to remove the E-clip which holds the clutch bell gear.

STEP 18:
Remove the clutch bell gear and the clutch shoes. Note that there are two 5x8mm Teflon® washers, one on each side of the clutch bell gear. Check the clutch shoes for excessive wear or cracking around the pin holes. If the clutch shoes are worn to the point that the clutch spring contacts the clutch bell, then the shoes must be replaced.

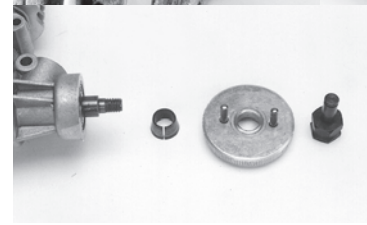




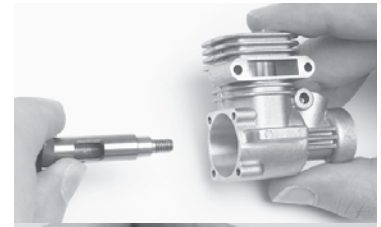




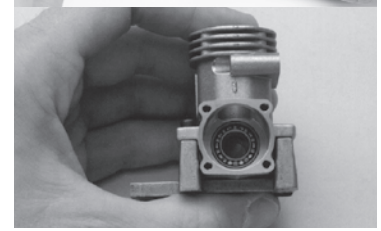
STEP 19:
Grip the flywheel with a pair of pliers (locking pliers work best). Remove the clutch adapter nut with a 10mm deep socket. Hold the engine just above your workbench and tap the flywheel from behind with a non-marring hammer (plastic or wood). Several easy blows may be necessary to release the flywheel and split beveled cone.



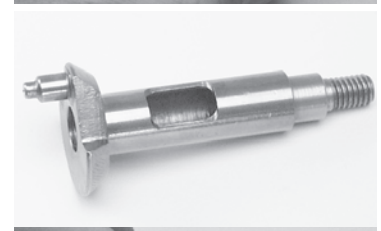
STEP 20:
The flywheel and the split-beveled cone should pull smoothly off of the crankshaft.



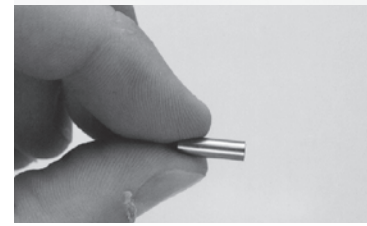
STEP 21:
Remove the crankshaft by pulling it straight out of the crankcase.



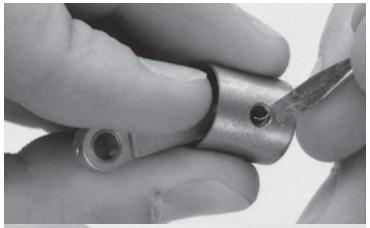
STEP 22:
The bearings are press-fit into the crankcase. To remove them, the crankcase must be heated with a heat gun or torch. The crankcase will expand with heat and release the bearings. To avoid the possibility of burns or other damage, do not attempt remove the bearings. Clean the bearings by flushing them with denatured alcohol and then place one or two drops of after-run oil on the races.



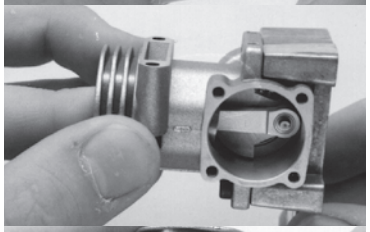
STEP 23:
Before installing a new connecting rod, you can increase connecting rod life by polishing the crankshaft journal. Use 1200 grit sandpaper to remove the surface scratches followed by liquid metal polish to buff the crankshaft journal to a bright, smooth shine. Rinse thoroughly with denatured alcohol. Lube with after-run oil.



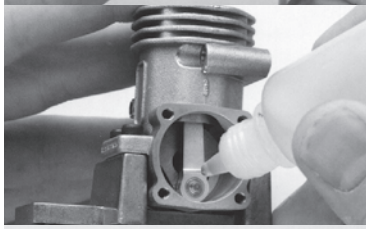
STEP 24:
Use the 1200 grit sandpaper and the liquid metal polish on the wrist pin also. Rinse thoroughly with denatured alcohol and lube with after-run oil.



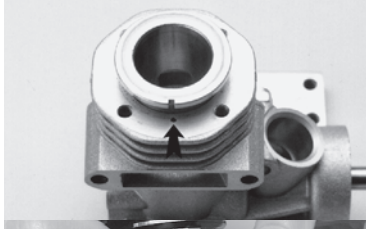
STEP 25:
To assemble the connecting rod and piston, place a drop of castor oil in the top end of the connecting rod. Insert the wrist pin through the piston and the top of the connecting rod. Secure the wrist pin with the G-clip. Make sure the G-clip fits securely into the groove machined in the piston. Be careful not to scratch the sides of the piston.



STEP 26:
Reinstall the crankshaft into the engine and make sure that it spins freely. Insert the connecting rod and piston assembly through the top of the crankcase. The G-clip should face the carburetor. Put a drop of castor or after-run oil in the bottom end of the connecting rod. Use your fingers to gently push the end of the connecting rod over the crankshaft journal.

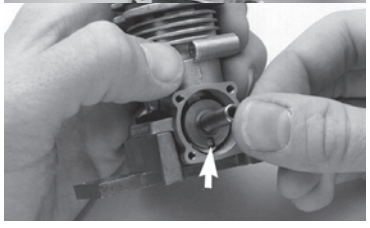


STEP 27:
Place another drop of oil on the connecting rod bushing. Rotate the crankshaft several times to distribute the oil.

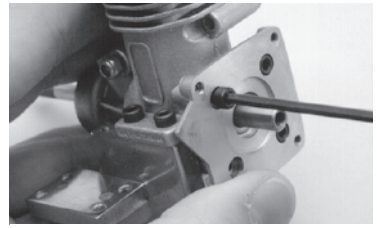


STEP 28:
Insert the sleeve into the top of the crankcase. Rotate the sleeve so that the notch in the sleeve will line up with the pin in the crankcase. Holding the engine upside down will make it easier for the sleeve to go over the piston.

STEP 29:
Install new head gaskets on the head. Use one thick and one thin gasket. Reinstall the head using the 3x12mm cap-head machine screws. Tighten the screws in small increments, in a criss-cross pattern, until all the screws are tight.

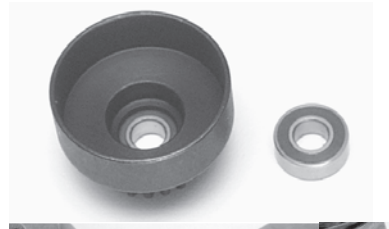


STEP 30:
Reinstall the starter shaft. Align the notch in the starter shaft with the crankshaft journal pin (arrow).



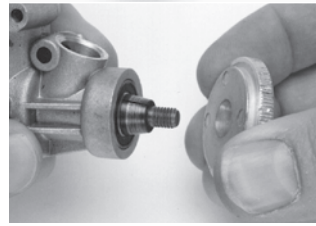
STEP 31:
Reinstall the backplate and a new backplate gasket with the 3x8mm cap-head machine screws. Tighten the screws in small increments, in a criss-cross pattern until all the screws are tight.

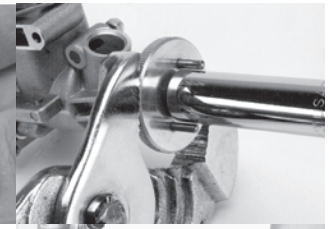
STEP 32:
Install the appropriate size ball bearing into one side of the clutch bell gear. The Nitro Stampede comes stock with an 18-tooth clutch bell gear which requires 5x11mm ball bearings.

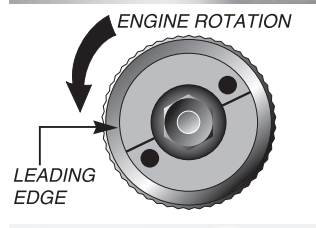


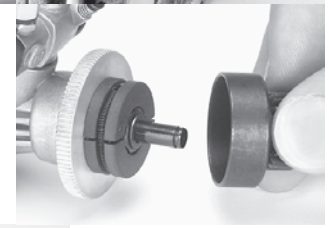
STEP 33:
Turn the gear over and install the other ball bearing.

STEP 34:
Install the split-beveled cone onto the crankshaft. Next, install the flywheel. Install the clutch adapter nut with a 10mm deep socket. Grip the flywheel with pliers while tightening the adapter nut.









STEP 35:
Install the clutch shoes exactly as shown in the drawing (leading edge engagement). Next, install a 5x8mm Teflon® washer followed by the clutch bell gear (with bearings installed). Install the remaining 5x8mm Teflon® washer followed by the E-clip (see step 14).

STEP 36:
Reinstall the carburetor with a new O-ring, header, a NEW glow plug, and engine mount. Use a new header gasket when re-installing the header on the engine. Reinstall the engine in the truck in the reverse order of removal. Don't forget to reconnect the yellow grounding wire to the engine mount. The rebuilt engine must now be broken in.

Traxxas Keeps The HORSEPOWER Flowing!

TRAXXAS TRX® 2.5R RACING ENGINE

Don't rebuild that worn-out, burned-up engine, replace it with a new one for 1/2 price!

- Exchange a worn Traxxas engine for a brand new TRX 2.5R Racing Engine; it's an affordable, convenient, no-questions-asked program.
- Exchanges can be made in your local hobby shop or directly through Traxxas.
- It's less expensive than rebuilding the engine with separate parts.
- Know that it's done right. Traxxas replacement engines are brand new (not refurbished) for factory-fresh performance.
- The program uses our top-of-the-line TRX 2.5R Racing Engine for all exchanges. Includes the latest performance upgrades and blue-machined head.

TRX PRO.15 UPGRADE KITS

Upgrade kits are available for TRX Pro.15 engines. Specially priced upgrade conversion packages allow easy installation of the new TRX 2.5R Racing Engine. The upgrade packages contain all the items necessary for a complete factory-style conversion. Depending on the application, the packages include items such as the engine mounts, linkage, exhaust header, pipe, and other required components specific to each model. Major components come pre-assembled and pre-adjusted. Just bolt them on. Nitro Stampede upgrade kit is part #4400. Each kit is shown at www.Traxxas.com/erp.

Contact Traxxas Support at

1-888-TRAXXAS

to learn more about the Traxxas Lifetime Engine Replacement Plan.

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