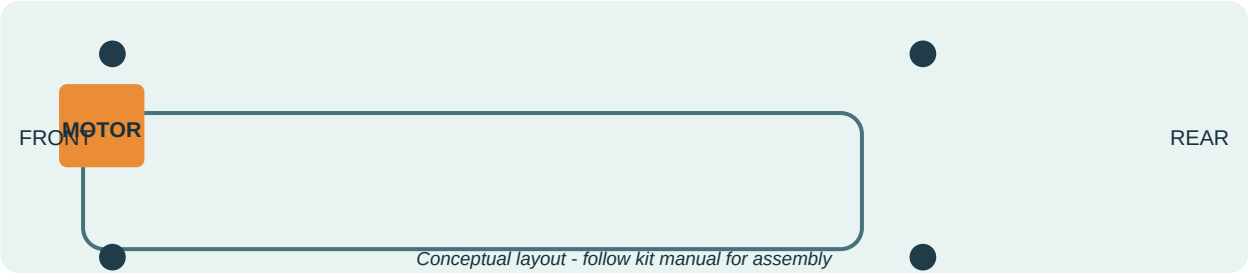
FM-A CHASSIS
B-MAX build guide

An experienced racer's starting recipe, assembly sequence and track-test worksheet. Use the exact kit manual and the event's latest rule notice at inspection.



01 Platform and race premise

Reference kit: Rowdy Bull 18707. **Layout:** front-mounted single-shaft; **wheelbase:** 83 mm; **reference-kit gearing:** 3.5:1. Distinctive hardware: front motor, underside access and molded skid. Other kits using this chassis may ship with different gears, wheels or tyres.

02 Exact starting bill of materials

Base kit	Rowdy Bull 18707; retain its matched kit gears, wheels, tyres, body and mounting hardware.
Motor	15486 Atomic-Tuned 2. Start here for a controlled baseline; choose another permitted motor only after repeatable runs.
Rollers	15408 13 mm plastic roller/stabilizer set on factory positions. After baseline runs, 15437 aluminum ball-race rollers are a B-MAX trial, subject to width and mounting checks.
Axle support	15523 low-friction plastic bearings, if the kit's axle seat accepts them without processing.
Plate / dampers	15514 FM-A Basic Tune-Up Set is a chassis-matched trial pack; check actual contents, existing holes, body clearance and dimensions.

Purchase check: Tamiya compatibility listings do not guarantee body clearance or local class approval. Confirm the exact package and all fasteners before racing.

03 Assembly order

1. Confirm the front motor cover and underside access panel lock fully; test the molded skid over a flat surface.

2. Keep the kit 3.5:1 gear pair together. Install the single-shaft motor in the front cradle and verify the rear axle turns freely with the underpanel closed.

3. Install the kit wheels and uncut tyres in equal front/rear size. Verify every wheel is fully seated, then measure ground clearance with race batteries installed.

4. Fit plastic bearings and rollers on original mounting points. Tighten each screw until secure without bending a stay; spin the rollers by hand and remeasure width.

5. Use 15514 as the first plate/damper trial on factory holes. Check front overhang and braking clearance against the 83 mm wheelbase before seeking more front mass.

6. Run several full laps on the intended course. Record lap completion, ejection point, jump attitude and motor/battery combination before changing one variable.

04 Track tuning and fault isolation

On a jump that pitches nose-down, compare front brake contact and speed first. On a lane-change climb, test one front roller setting at a time while retaining clearance.

Failure clue: A scraping front skid can be a clearance or assembly issue; measure ground clearance with race batteries fitted.

Baseline	Record 3-5 clean runs, course layout, motor, batteries, kit ratio, tyres and roller holes.
Corner / lane change	Move or change one permitted roller variable; recheck width, free rotation and body/track clearance.
Slope / jump	Compare motor speed first, then one permitted brake or damper setting. Preserve the required ground clearance.
Drivetrain	If speed fades or noise rises, stop and inspect axle seating, gear pair and cover fit before using a faster ratio.

05 Inspection gate

1. Confirm the event uses Basic-MAX GP v5.0 and note its local amendments; apply Tamiya competition dimensions, mass, battery and safety checks.

2. Check the chassis, bumpers and attachment holes have not been processed; compare any body trimming with the narrow v5 allowance rather than assuming it is free-form.

3. Check every roller, plate, damper and screw is secure, permitted, inside the event's dimensions and away from the track surface.

4. Verify the correct shaft-type motor, matched gear pair, secure body and freely rotating wheels; ask the inspector about any uncertain detail before qualifying.

06 Sources and limits

Tamiya chassis catalogue | Rowdy Bull 18707 | Tamiya competition rules | Tamiya gear matching chart | Tamiya setup guide

Basic-MAX GP v5.0. Rules and product availability can change. This guide is an editorial build hypothesis, not an official rule interpretation or a certified parts list. Event scrutineers make the final decision.