

THE ICONIC FORD FALCON XB GT

SCALE
1:8



Fuel Pump and Fan Belts



Taxi Driver (1976)

Published weekly
UK: £10.99 AUS: \$21.99



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POST-APOCALYPTIC EDITION

THE ICONIC FORD FALCON XB GT

ISSUE 60

ASSEMBLY GUIDE

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A fuel pump and fan are added to the assembly from the previous issue, and two fan belts are fitted.

CARS ON SCREEN

7

Taxi Driver (1976), set in mid-1970s New York, stars Robert De Niro as a disturbed loner who drives a cab and suffers from insomnia following his service as a Marine in the Vietnam War.

YOUR MODEL

You will be building a 1:8 scale replica of a customised 1973 Ford Falcon XB GT. Features include a lift-up bonnet that reveals a detailed engine, opening doors, wind-down windows and an 'active' steering wheel. A remote-control fob illuminates the main lights, brake lights and indicators.

Scale: 1:8
Length: 62cm
Width: 25cm
Height: 19cm
Weight: 7+kg



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Published by Hachette Partworks Ltd
4th Floor, Jordan House, 47 Brunswick Place,
London, N1 6EB
www.hachettepartworks.com



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Distributed in the UK and Republic of Ireland by Marketforce.
Printed in the United Kingdom
ISSN 2976-5811

Complete in 130 issues.

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Items may vary from those shown.
All parts belong to a kit. Collectors' item for adults. Not suitable for children under 14. Some parts may have sharp edges, please handle them with care.

The installation of electronic parts must always be carried out by an adult. When replacing batteries, use the same type of batteries. Please ensure that the battery compartment is securely fastened before you use the model again. Used batteries should be recycled. Please make sure to check with your local council how batteries should be disposed of in your area. Batteries can present a choking danger to small children and may cause serious harm if ingested. Do not leave them lying around and keep any spare batteries locked away at all times.

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This product is not a toy and is
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t=top, c=centre, b=bottom, l=left, r=right, u=upper



Stage 60: Fuel Pump and Belts

A fuel pump and fan are fitted to the assembly from the previous issue. Two fan belts are fitted around pulleys.



List of parts:

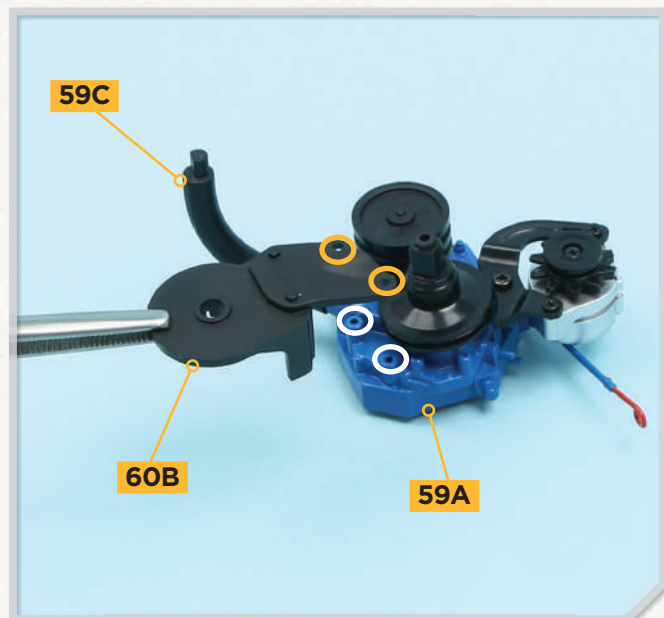
- 60A** Fan blade
- 60B** Fuel pump support
- 60C** Fuel pump
- 60D** Fuel pump pulley
- 60E** Two fan belts
- PS05** Three* 2.3 x 4mm PB screws
- DS06** Three* 1.8 x 3.5mm PM screws

*Including spare
PB = Pan head for plastic
PM = Pan head for metal

Area of assembly



Stage 60: Fuel Pump and Belts



STEP 1

Take the fuel pump support **60B** and identify the fixing point on the engine front plate **59A**, near the hose **59C**. Two screw holes in **60B** (circled in orange) align with sockets in part **59A** (circled in white).



STEP 2

Fix part **60B** in place with two **DS06** screws



STEP 3

Turn the assembly upside down and fit the fuel pump **60C** to the rear of the fuel pump support **60B**.



STEP 4

Carefully turn the assembly back over, holding part **60C** in place. Fit the fuel pump pulley **60D** to the other end of the fuel pump support **60B** so that the central screw holes are all aligned.



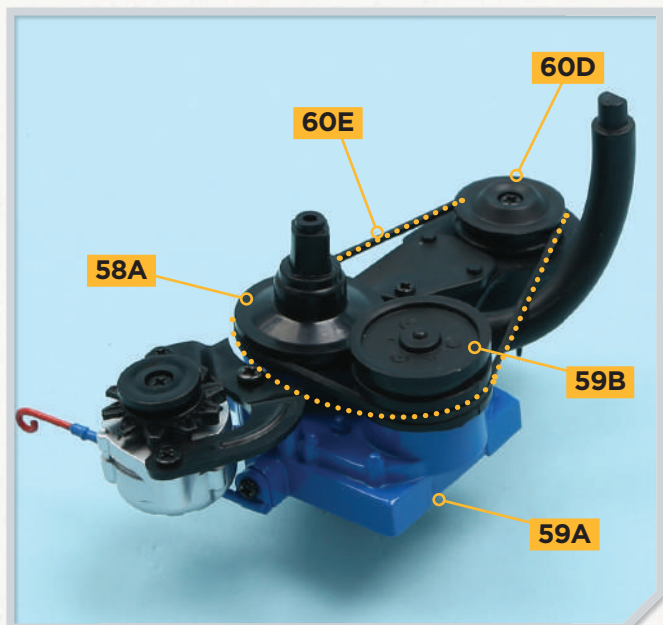
STEP 5

Fix the fuel pump in place with a **PS05** screw.



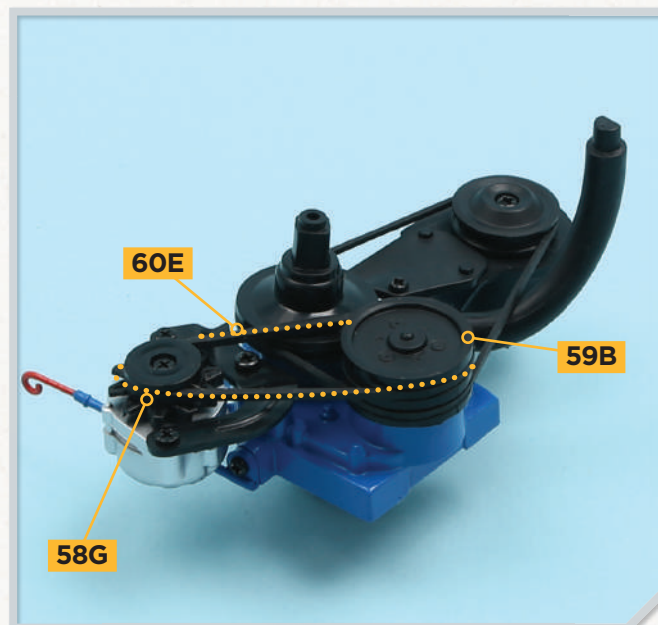
STEP 6

Take one of the fan belts **60E** and fit it around the fuel pump pulley **60D**.



STEP 7

Then fit the belt **60E** around the engine pulley **59B**, gently pushing it into the pulley channel close to the engine front plate **59A**. Then fit the belt around the front fan pulley **58A**, as indicated by the dotted line. Check that there are no twists in the belt.



STEP 8

Take the second fan belt **60E** and fit it into the empty channel around part **59B** and then around the alternator pulley **58G**, as indicated by the dotted line. Check that there are no twists in the belt.

Stage 60: Fuel Pump and Belts



STEP 9

Take the fan blade **60A** and fit it to the central peg of the front fan pulley **58A**.



STEP 10

Fix the fan blade **60A** in place with a **PS05** screw.

COMPLETED ASSEMBLY

The fuel pump, fan and fan belts have been fitted to the engine front plate.



Taxi Driver (1976)

Taxi Driver (1976), set in mid-1970s New York, is an uncomfortable film with an uneasy vibe. Robert De Niro plays Travis Bickle, a disturbed loner suffering from insomnia following his time as a Marine in Vietnam.

Taking a job as a night-time taxi driver, Bickle becomes increasingly detached from reality and muses on cleaning up the city through some violent act. We hear his inner monologue as he begins to obsess over presidential campaign worker Betsy (Cybill Shepherd), who he regards as the one decent person in sleazy New York. When he fails to establish a relationship with Betsy, Travis fixates on saving Iris – a 12-year-old prostitute played by Jodie Foster – and rescuing her from her pimp, ‘Sport’ (Harvey Keitel).

Paul Schrader’s script was written in just 10 days, “I was in a low and bad place,” admitted Schrader, “broken [up] with the woman I left my wife for and in debt.” Living in his car, alone and not having spoken to anyone for weeks, Schrader had the image of himself as a person in an iron box or coffin, floating around the city.

DETAILED PREPARATION

De Niro prepared for his role in the film by getting a taxi licence – hack number 265216. He then spent weeks driving a cab. Having lost 35 pounds for the movie, the recent Oscar winner was only recognised once. Director Martin Scorsese filmed on the West Side

during the summer of 1975 during a sanitation workers strike. The city was on the verge of bankruptcy, so various condemned buildings and garbage piles provided a perfect backdrop. The genuine Manhattan Car Depot taxi base at 57th Street was used and supplied the cars.

Bickle’s taxi is a Checker A11 of approximately 1975 vintage. It is portrayed by more than one Checker, but this was appropriate as drivers don’t always use the same cab. New York taxis have extremely hard lives. They are sometimes driven around the clock across two or three shifts, meaning breakdowns and crashes are common. That said, the cab in the film always displays the same 1759TI licence plate.

Checker Motors Corporation was established in 1922 in Illinois (later in Michigan) and produced purpose-built taxi cabs. In 1956,

the A8 model, a large, boxy four-door with room for eight people and their luggage, made its first appearance. The A9 model followed in 1959 and begat the A10 – the first Checker offered for civilian use. Checker increased its range with a station wagon and Aerobus long-wheelbase versions with eight doors for airport and hotel use. The A11 model (and A12 civilian version) was introduced in 1961 with a Chevrolet straight-six engine, or a V8 option from 1965.

Taxi Driver is often cited as one of the best films ever made, grossing almost \$24-million at the box office against its \$1.3-million budget. The actors in the film took pay cuts to ensure the film was made and went on to future stardom. It is not known what happened to the taxis. Perhaps, just like Travis Bickle, they simply went back to work. ■



Robert De Niro obtained a taxi licence before filming began.

COMING IN ISSUE 61



• ASSEMBLY GUIDE

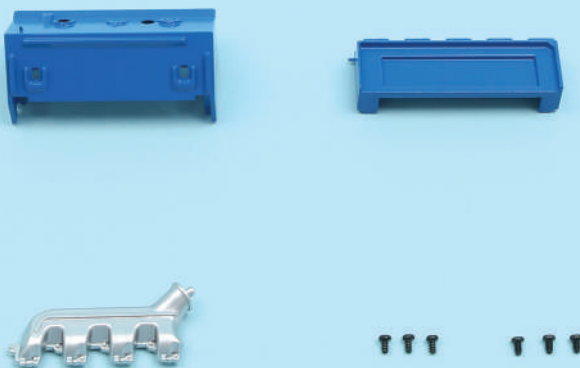
The exhaust manifold and right valve block are fitted to the right engine block.

• HISTORY OF THE FORD FALCON

The Falcon platform returned in 1969 with what Ford marketed as its "Simple Machine; Simple to buy, Simple to own, Simple to park, Simple to repair." It was named Maverick.

NEW PARTS

Right-hand engine block, right-hand valve block, right-hand exhaust manifold and screws.



Published weekly

UK: £10.99

AUS: \$21.99



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