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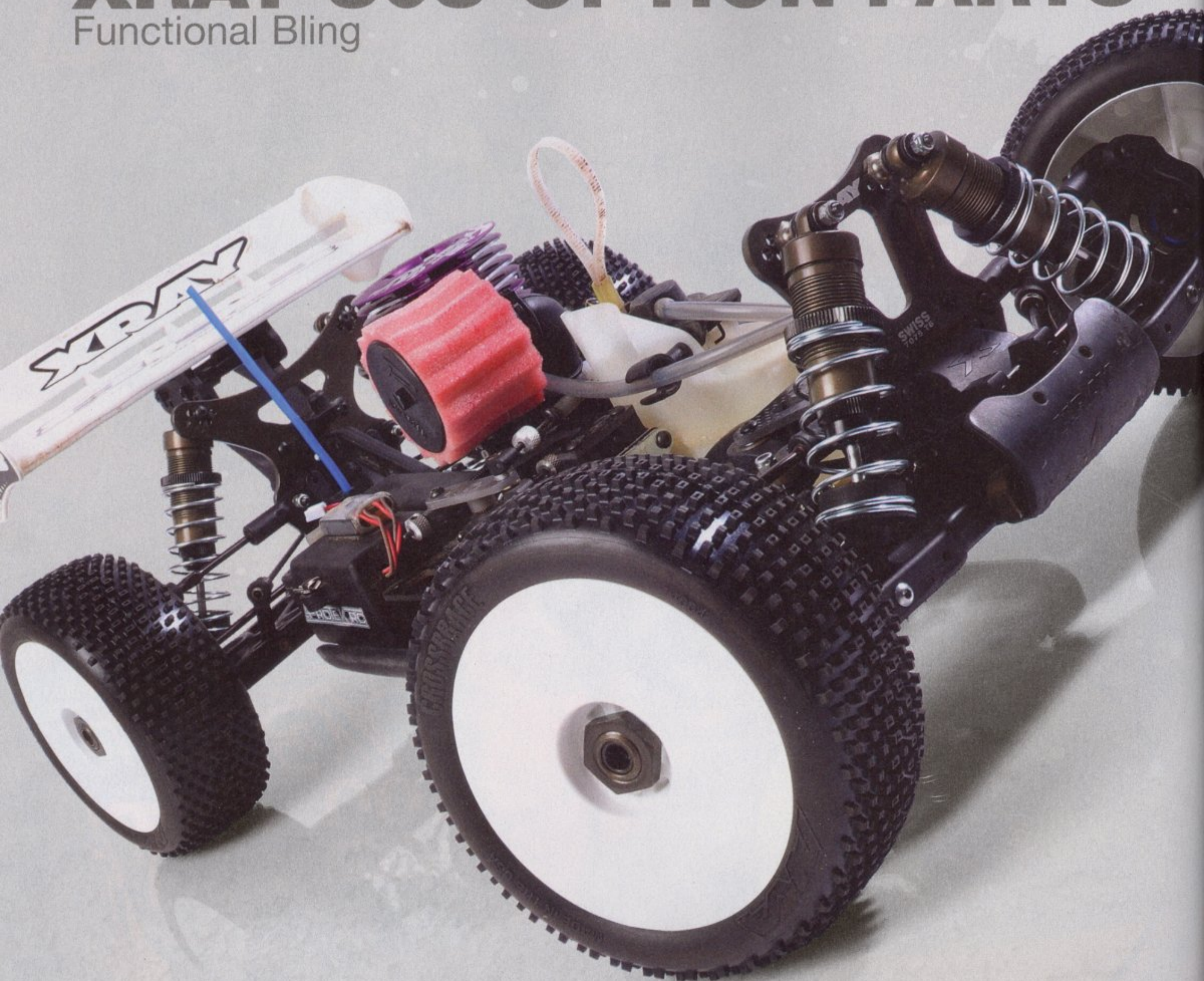
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PRODUCT TEST

XRAY 808 OPTION PARTS

Functional Bling



RC Car Staff> Xray's 808 buggy impressed us with its smooth, easy-to-drive manners. It's easy to go fast with the 808, so long as you don't need to make many tuning adjustments in its stock form. Out of the box, the 808 includes only one rear toe plate, one anti-squat plate, and virtually no other adjustments to its suspension. One might suggest that the 808 doesn't "need" these adjustments because the car works so well in stock form, and that's correct...to a certain point. Xray recognizes the need for a fully adjustable car, and has subsequently introduced a range of tuning option parts that bring the 808 to fully adjustable status. We installed a grip of Xray option parts on our 808, and we bring them to you here for your perusal.

PRODUCT TEST

XRAY 808 OPTION PARTS

FRONT END OPTION PARTS

In stock form the 808 has fixed front kickup, carbon-fiber towers, and plastic front steering spindles. We updated all of those parts to improve the 808's durability and adjustability.

Hard anodized aluminum steering spindles (#352256/352266) look bulletproof, and are. Note the smooth radiused edges and solid mounting surface for the steering turnbuckle.

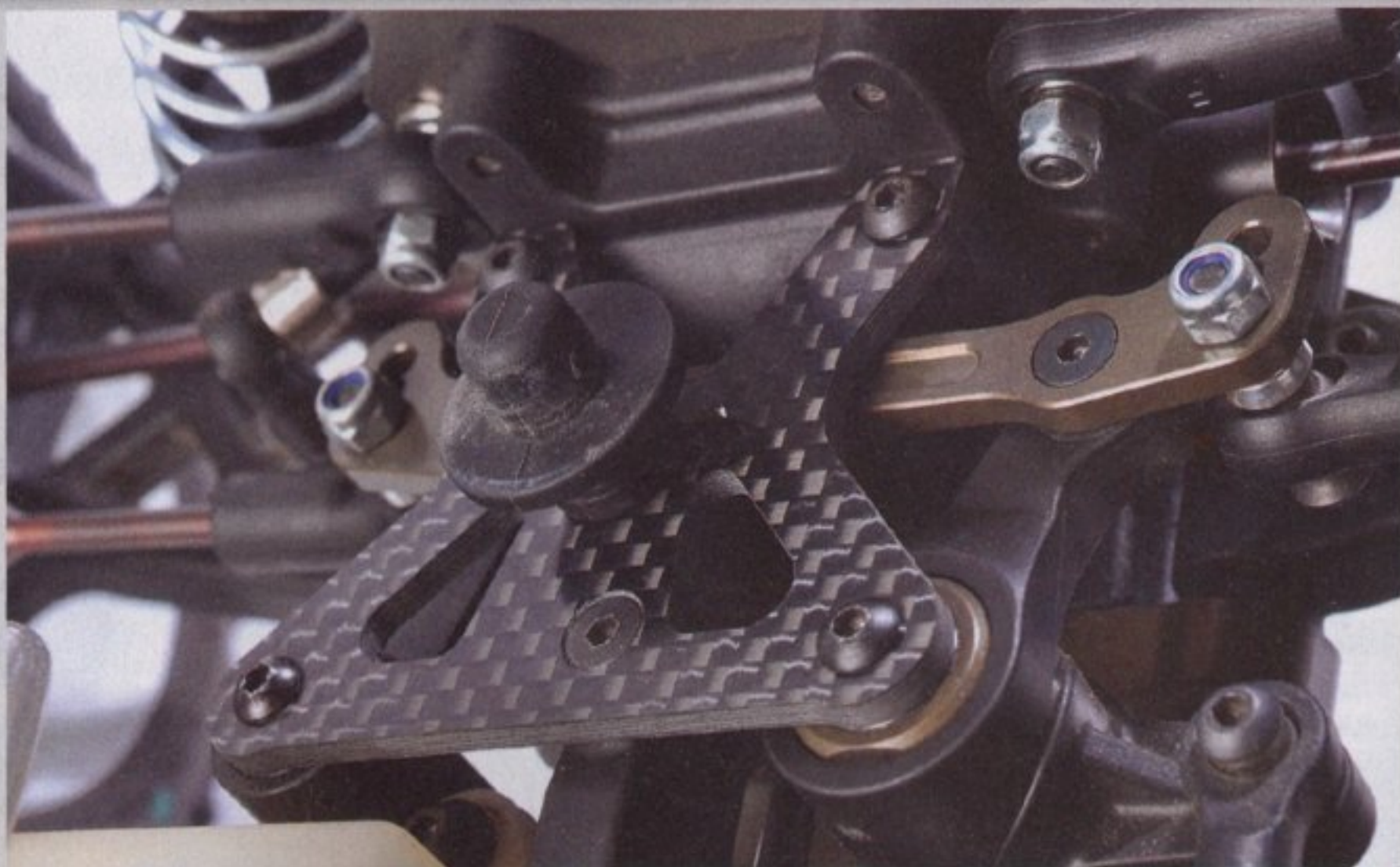
For those of you who are a little "tough" on your equipment, Xray offers this hard anodized aluminum shock tower, (#352093). We didn't find the aluminum tower an absolutely necessary hop-up over the carbon fiber piece, but it's still a high quality piece.

Arguably the one piece we would consider a necessity: the aluminum adjustable front suspension holders (#352303), which includes a front kick-up plate and rear aluminum front bulkhead mount as well (not shown). Plastic bushing inserts adjust the angle of the front lower hinge pin, while improving durability with its 5mm thick 7075 aluminum construction.

Two high-performance options for the steering system: a hard anodized steering Ackermann plate (#352573) with an optional third hole mounting position, and a carbon fiber top plate (#351341) that's stiffer and lighter than the stock plastic upper plate.

CHASSIS

We didn't find many option parts for the main chassis, as it's already milled and



lightened from the factory. We did, however, install a few key options to help our racing and wrenching efforts.

We installed a Protek LiPo battery and regulator in our 808 to improve weight balance and to provide consistent voltage to the servos over a long main.

Another "must-have" on our list of option parts is Xray's two-piece engine mount (#358718) for Novarossi/Sirio/RB engines. This hard anodized 7075 aluminum engine mount makes clutch and engine maintenance a snap, while maintaining the gear mesh every time. Simply remove four screws, and the engine is released. A must-have.

For those of you racing on high-bite, high traction blue-groove tracks, Xray offers these hard anodized aluminum chassis braces (#353086 and #352087). They stiffen the chassis considerably, but doing so takes away some of the 'forgiveness' through the bumps. We didn't install these on our car because we race on rutted, bumpy tracks, and like the plastic braces' slight flex. These aluminum braces should be considered a tuning option, not a necessity.

If you're looking to make your 808 as light as possible in all the right places, try Xray's optional Spring Steel CVD axles (#355212). Packed in a set of four, these axles tremendously reduce unsprung weight at the wheel, but they are for serious racers, only due to their increased wear rate.

REAR END

The third and final "must have" on our list is this hard anodized 7075, 5mm thick rear suspension holder set (#353303). Included with the rear toe plate is an adjustable 5mm aluminum rear anti-squat plate. Combined, these two plates offer all of the adjustments you could want to tune in the rear end. In stock form, the 808's plastic toe plate locks in rear toe at three degrees. Now you can use the plastic bushing inserts to dial in between.

Like the front tower, Xray offers this optional 7075 aluminum rear shock tower (#353093) to replace the kit's lightweight carbon fiber tower. The tower includes multiple shock mounting holes and increased durability.

Xray's aluminum rear hubs (#353356), offer additional mounting positions and trick plastic hub bearing inserts that prevent the aluminum hubs from wearing out. We haven't seen many plastic rear hubs break, and we like the lightweight plastic stock units, but for those of you concerned with durability, these hubs should be the ticket. *R/C*

SOURCES

Xray, imported exclusively by RC America, 167 Turtle Creek Boulevard Ste. C, Dallas, Texas 75027 • (214) 744-2400.

Protek RC, a division of A-Main Hobbies, www.protekrc.com

