



MAKE THIS
AWESOME
TRACK FOR
YOUR OWN
GRAND
PRIX!

DIY racetrack

WITH CHRISTMAS JUST AROUND THE CORNER, WHY NOT MAKE YOUR KIDS A PLACE TO RACE THEIR NEW WHEELS AND KEEP THEM OCCUPIED OVER THE HOLS. IF YOU'RE LUCKY, YOU'LL GET A GO, TOO!

Kids of all ages can get excited about this project. It's a cool racetrack complete with chicanes, jumps, a bridge and tricky corners that will keep even the most skilled remote-control drivers challenged. Best of all, it's a project you can make from timber offcuts you might have lying around, so it's a great way to clean out your shed at the same time. Of course, no track is complete without wheels, so gear up for your own grand prix with a shiny new set of remote-controlled cars from Supercheap Auto and start your engines...



WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- 16 x 2400 x 600mm ply (2)
- 3 x 2400 x 1200mm ply (1)
- 16 x 1200 x 600mm MDF offcut
- Timber quad moulding or flexible conduit
- Screws
- Circular saw
- Jigsaw
- PVA glue
- Flat head nails
- Kid's 300mm-dia bike tyre
- Hacksaw
- Sandpaper
- Wood planer
- Masking tape
- Red, dark grey and white (or undercoat) paint, roller and paintbrushes
- We made a bridge, jumps and chicanes using offcuts (find them at timber yards)
- Face mask and safety glasses.

Steps



STEP 1



STEP 2



STEP 3



STEP 4

JUMPS & BRIDGE

STEP 1 Firstly we are going to screw 2 lengths of 16 x 1500 x 200mm ply together so that, when cut, they will be exactly the same.

STEP 2 To get the curved shape for the bridge, place the joined (laminated) sheets on the table and insert a screw at either end, coming in 300mm from either end and up 90mm from base, and also in the centre top. Using anything flexible, such as conduit or quad moulding, lay it between the screws to form a crescent curve shape.

STEP 3 Draw a line to form the curve and cut it out with a jigsaw.

STEP 4 Unscrew the 2 pieces to expose both sides and keep the offcuts for the sides of the jumps.

STEP 5 Using the same technique with screws and flexible quad moulding, shape the offcuts and cut out with jigsaw. The jump will be 700mm long x 200mm high.

STEP 6 Also cut 15 x 368mm long pieces from the offcuts to be used for support and strength under the jumps and bridge. The alternative would be to use 42 x 19mm pine. Use the batons – 4 along the curve and between the 2 sections – to create the width and screw in place.

STEP 7 The next step is to 'skin' the bridge and jumps with the 3mm ply. Glue and nail the skin in place with 20 x 1.4mm wallboard flat head nails.

STEP 8 Cut a children's 300mm-diameter bike tyre in half with a hacksaw and this will create our tunnel under the bridge. Using as a template, mark and cut the semi-circle using the jigsaw. Once painted this will be screwed in place.



STEP 5



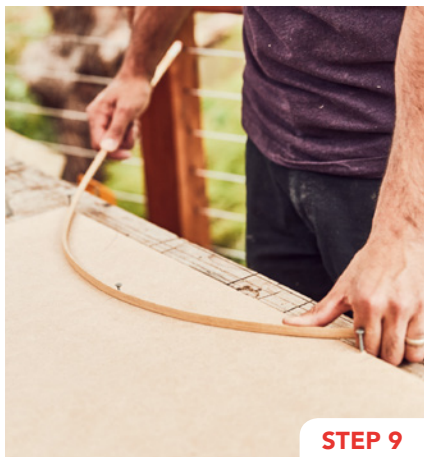
STEP 6



STEP 7



STEP 8



STEP 9



STEP 10



STEP 11



STEP 12



STEP 13



STEP 14



STEP 16

CHICANES

STEP 9 16mm MDF – 600 x 100mm wide. Divide in half and mark up 100mm from base. Using the same technique as before – a screw at each end, one in the centre - use a flexible strip to make the curve, then draw it.

STEP 10

Cut out with jigsaw then using planer make several passes to create a curve with front and back edges sloping down to a thickness of about 5mm on leading edge (the front of chicane edge should be almost down to flat to allow cars to mount the strip). The curve itself should be about 50mm wide in the centre.

PAINTING THE RACETRACK

STEP 11 Paint all the components with white – we have used white Dulux Weathershield found in the shed, which is self-priming, so no need to undercoat – you will need 2-3 coats on the chicanes with sanding between coats as they will have red and white stripes and the white will remain as is.

STEP 12 Paint the sides of the jumps and bridge with red using a 100mm roller. We are using a 'true red' that we found in the shed and it will require 2 coats.

STEP 13 Paint the tops or road surface with a dark grey using a 100mm roller. We are using 'Black Caviar' found in the shed – this will also require 2 coats.

STEP 14 Paint the stripes on the chicane – either measure and mark out 70mm stripes and paint by hand or lay 3 strips of masking tape together then strips either side – remove the centre 3 and repeat at either side revealing the stripes. Roll over stripes with the red and, when dry, remove tape.

STEP 15 Glue the chicanes onto the backing ply with PVA glue and screw from underneath.

STEP 16 Once the paint is dry on the jump, screw the tyre into place to create the tunnel.

YOU'RE READY TO RACE!

Set up your racetrack on Christmas morning with cars ready to race and you'll be a supercar superstar!