

MODEL 37254-8

RUSTLER®

TRAXXAS

QUICK START GUIDE



FIRE HAZARD! Charging and discharging batteries has the potential for fire, explosion, serious injury, and property damage if not performed per the instructions. Before use, read and follow all manufacturer's instructions, warnings, and precautions. Lithium Polymer (LiPo) batteries pose a SEVERE risk of fire if not properly handled per the instructions and require special care and handling procedures for long life and safe operation. LiPo batteries are intended only for advanced users that are educated on the risks associated with LiPo battery use. Traxxas does not recommend that anyone under the age of 18 use or handle LiPo batteries without the supervision of a knowledgeable and responsible adult. ONLY use a Traxxas iD® charger to charge Traxxas iD batteries. DO NOT use a non-Traxxas charger. DO NOT use a legacy non-iD Traxxas charger with iD batteries. Traxxas iD connectors are mechanically keyed to help prevent incompatible connections. DO NOT modify or change the battery connector. DO NOT use an adapter of any kind. Using an adapter defeats iD system safety protocols and may cause fire, personal injury, and/or property damage.

Important Warnings for users of Lithium Polymer (LiPo) batteries:

- LiPo batteries have a minimum safe discharge voltage threshold that should not be exceeded. The electronic speed control is equipped with built-in Low-Voltage Detection that alerts the driver when LiPo batteries have reached their minimum voltage (discharge) threshold. Stop immediately to prevent the battery from being discharged below its safe minimum threshold.
- Low-Voltage Detection is just one part of a comprehensive plan for safe LiPo battery use. It is critical to follow all instructions for safe and proper charging, use, and storage of LiPo batteries. Make sure you understand how to use your LiPo batteries. If you have questions about LiPo battery usage, please consult your local Traxxas hobby dealer or contact Traxxas Customer Support.
- DO NOT use NiMH or NiCad chargers or charge modes to charge LiPo batteries. The use of a NiMH or NiCad charger or charge mode will damage LiPo batteries and may cause fire, personal injury, and/or property damage.
- DO NOT charge LiPo batteries in series or parallel.

Charging and handling precautions for all battery types:

- ALWAYS confirm that the charger settings exactly match the type (chemistry), specification, and configuration of the battery to be charged. DO NOT exceed the maximum manufacturer recommended charge rate.
- ALWAYS inspect your batteries carefully before charging. Look for any loose leads or connectors, damaged wire insulation, damaged cell packaging, impact damage, fluid leaks, swelling (a sign of internal damage), cell deformity, missing labels, or any other damage or irregularity. If any of these conditions are observed, do not charge or use the battery. Follow the disposal instructions included with your battery to properly and safely dispose of the battery.
- DO NOT attempt to charge batteries that have an internal charge circuit or a protection circuit, batteries that have been altered from original

WARNING! CAUTION! DANGER!



manufacturer configuration, or batteries that have missing or unreadable labels, preventing you from properly identifying the battery type and specifications.

- DO NOT let any exposed battery contacts or wires touch. This will cause the battery to short circuit and create the risk of fire.
- ALWAYS place the battery on a non-flammable surface while charging or discharging. DO NOT charge batteries on wood, cloth, carpet, or on any other flammable material.
- ALWAYS charge batteries in a well-ventilated area.
- ALWAYS remove flammable items and combustible materials from the charging area.
- DO NOT operate the charger in a cluttered space, or place objects on top of the charger or battery.
- DO NOT leave the charger and battery unattended while charging, discharging, or anytime the charger is ON with a battery connected. If there are any signs of a malfunction or in the event of an emergency, unplug the charger from the power source and disconnect the battery from the charger.
- DO NOT charge batteries inside of an automobile while parked or driving.
- ALWAYS keep a Class D fire extinguisher nearby in case of fire.
- DO NOT disassemble, crush, short circuit, or expose the batteries to flame or other source of ignition. Toxic materials could be released. If eye or skin contact occurs, flush with water.
- If the battery temperature exceeds 110°F / 43°C during the charging process, IMMEDIATELY disconnect the battery from the charger and discontinue charging.
- The battery may become warm during use. Allow the battery to cool off between runs before charging.
- ALWAYS disconnect the battery from the charger when not in use.
- ALWAYS disconnect the battery from the electronic speed control when the model is not in use.
- DO NOT disassemble the charger.
- ALWAYS remove the battery from your model or device before charging.
- DO NOT expose the charger to water or moisture.
- ALWAYS store batteries safely out of the reach of children or pets. Children should ALWAYS have knowledgeable and responsible adult supervision when charging and handling batteries.
- DO NOT store large quantities of batteries together.
- ALWAYS store and transport your batter(ies) in a cool dry place. DO NOT store in direct sunlight. DO NOT allow the storage temperature to exceed 140°F or 60°C, such as in the trunk of a car, or the cells may be damaged and create a fire risk.
- ALWAYS proceed with caution and use good common sense at all times.

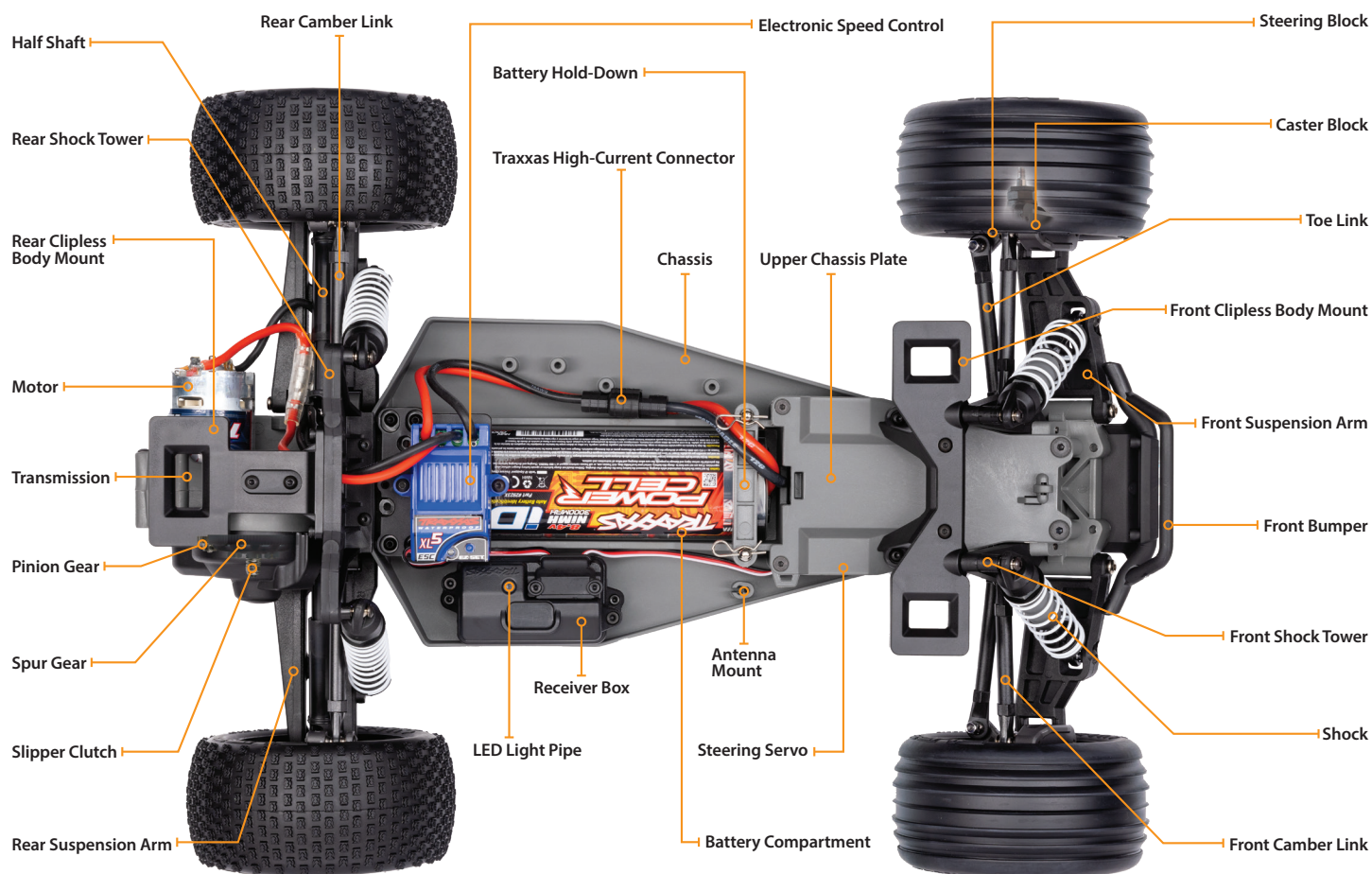
All of us at Traxxas want you to safely enjoy your new model. Operate your model sensibly and with care, and it will be exciting, safe, and fun for you and those around you. Failure to operate your model in a safe and responsible manner may result in property damage and serious injury. The precautions and instructions provided or available for this product(s) should be strictly followed to help ensure safe operation. You alone must see that the instructions are followed and the precautions are adhered to.

Important Points to Remember

- Your model is not intended for use on public roads or congested areas where its operation can conflict with or disrupt pedestrian or vehicular traffic.

- Never, under any circumstances, operate the model in crowds of people. Your model is very fast and could cause injury if allowed to collide with anyone.
- Because your model is controlled by radio, it is subject to radio interference from many sources that are beyond your control. Since radio interference can cause momentary losses of radio control, always allow a safety margin in all directions around the model in order to prevent collisions.
- The motor, battery, charger, and speed control can become hot during use. Be careful to avoid getting burned.
- Do not operate your model at night, or anytime your line of sight to the model may be obstructed or impaired in any way.

MODEL OVERVIEW



Supplied Tools and Equipment



2.5mm "L" wrench



2.0mm "L" wrench



1.5mm "L" wrench



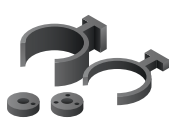
U-joint wrench



4-way wrench



Optional gears



Pre-load spacers and shock pistons



7-cell iD NiMH battery pack*



NiMH battery charger with iD*

Required Equipment



4 AA alkaline batteries



USB-C power adapter and cable

*Battery and charger style are subject to change and may vary from images.

QUICK START GUIDE

The following guide is an overview of the procedures for getting your model running. The complete manual for your model can be viewed and downloaded by following the link on the cover of this Quick Start Guide or by scanning the QR code. Please read the entire manual for complete instructions on the proper use and maintenance of your model.

Read All Warnings and Safety Precautions

For your own safety, understand where carelessness and misuse could lead to personal injury and property damage.

Prepare Your Model



WARNING: FIRE HAZARD!

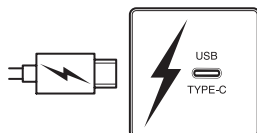
The included battery charger is designed for use ONLY with Traxxas iD® NiMH batteries. Legacy Traxxas High-Current Connectors are not compatible with this charger. DO NOT try to force legacy connectors into the charge connector. DO NOT attempt to charge LiPo batteries with this charger. DO NOT use any type of adapter between the charger and the battery. DO NOT modify the charger or the battery connector.

Charge the battery pack

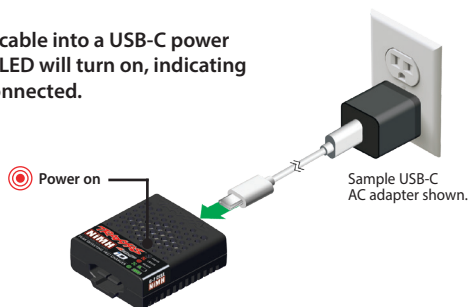
RECOMMENDED POWER ADAPTER AND POWER CABLE

Part No.	Description
2912*	Power adapter, AC, USB-C (45W)
2916*	Power cable, USB-C, 100W (high output)

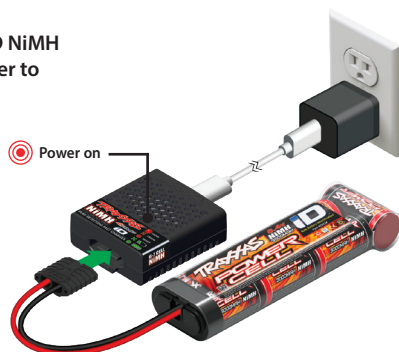
*Sold separately



- 1 Plug the USB-C cable into a USB-C power source. The red LED will turn on, indicating that power is connected.

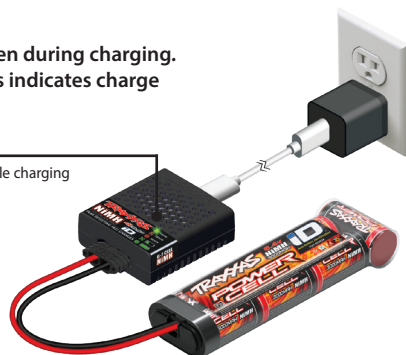


- 2 Connect a Traxxas iD NiMH battery to the charger to begin charging.



- 3 The LED will flash green during charging. The number of flashes indicates charge progress.

Battery connected
LED flashes green while charging

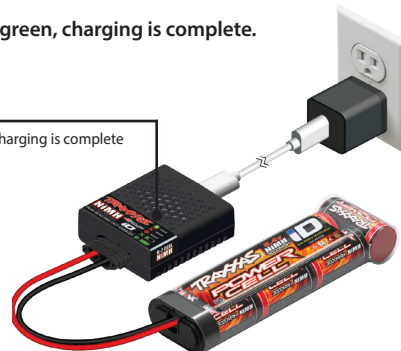


CHARGE PROGRESS

x1	1 green flash	0 - 25% charged
x2	2 green flashes	25% - 50% charged
x3	3 green flashes	50% - 75% charged
x4	4 green flashes	75% or more charged
	Solid green LED	100% charged

- 4 When the LED is solid green, charging is complete.

Battery connected
LED solid green when charging is complete



LED INDICATION

LED INDICATION	MEANING
Solid Red LED	Ready for Charging
Slowly Flashing Green LED	Charging (see Charge Progress chart)
Solid Green LED	Battery Fully Charged
Flashing Red LED	Charger error

Clearing errors

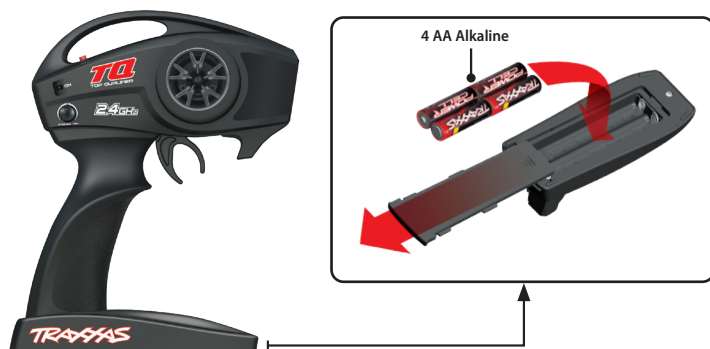
If there is a problem with the battery or the power adapter, the charger's LED will flash red. See error codes and recommended solutions below. If the error code repeats or will not clear, contact Traxxas Customer Support.

LED INDICATION	MEANING	SOLUTION
x1	Power source error	Disconnect battery and USB-C power source. Check power source for compatibility.
x2	Battery voltage is too low	Disconnect and discontinue use of battery.
x3	The charger timer has expired	Disconnect battery. If battery is hot, discontinue charger use. If battery is not hot, reconnect to continue charging.
x4	The internal charger temperature is too high	Disconnect charger and allow charger to cool.
x5	Power adapter error	Disconnect battery and power adapter. Adapter is not sufficient to support charging.
x6	Battery connected to charger before USB-C power supplied.	Disconnect battery; wait for solid red LED on charger before reconnecting battery.
x7	Battery voltage is too high	Disconnect battery; battery is not compatible with the charger.
	Charger has detected an internal error	Disconnect battery and power adapter. Discontinue charger use.

Charging tips

- The charger MUST be connected to USB-C power BEFORE connecting the battery. If the battery is connected before connecting to USB-C power, the charger will show an error (red LED flashes 6 times and repeats). To correct, unplug the battery and the charger. Plug in the charger to USB-C power, and then connect the battery to be charged.
- The charger requires 10W or greater output from the USB-C source to operate.
- The charge output current varies depending on the available power from the USB-C source. To ensure the maximum charge rate, use a USB-C power source rated at 45 watts (capable of 2.25 amps at 20 volts). Traxxas USB-C AC Power Adapter (part #2912) and Power Cable (part #2916) are designed to deliver the full 4-amp charge output from the charger.

Install batteries in the transmitter

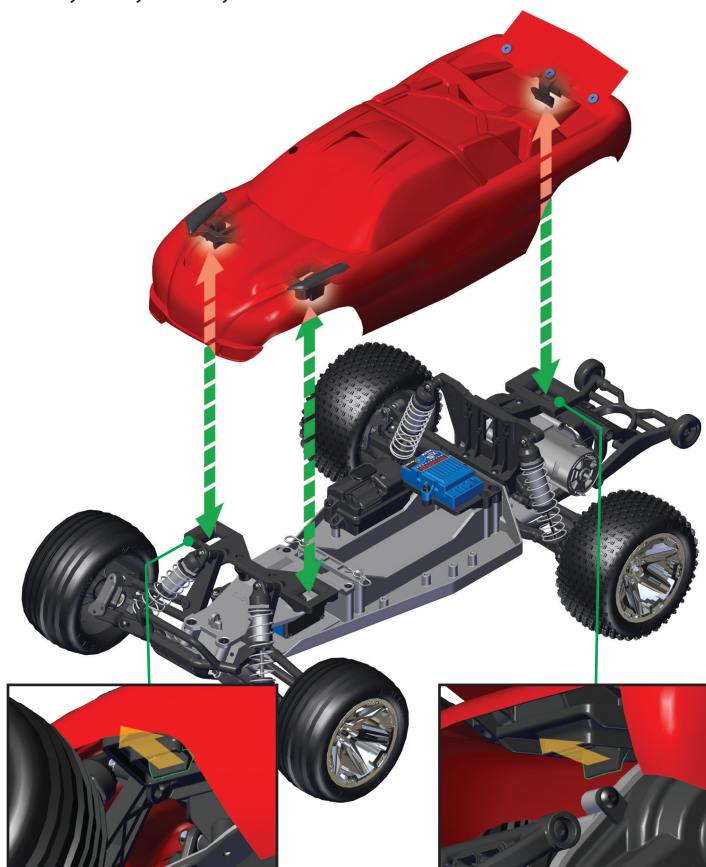


Installing the body

Your Rustler includes an innovative latching system for securing the body to the chassis (body clips are not required).

To remove the body for chassis access:

1. Reach beneath the truck body and pull the latches toward the outside of the truck body to release them from the front and rear body mounts.
2. Push up on the latches to fully disengage them from the mounts.
3. Lift the body straight up from the chassis. Lift the front and rear of the body evenly or it may become difficult to remove.



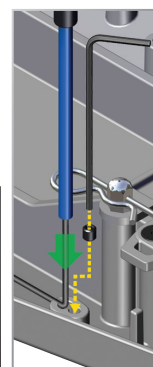
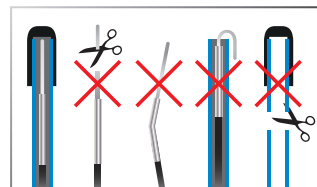
To reinstall the body:

1. Position the body on the chassis. Align the front and rear latches with the body mounts.
2. Press down on the body at each latch location until the latches snap into place.

Note: To keep the clipless system functioning properly, periodically inspect and clean the latches in the body and the slots on the front and rear body mounts. If dirt and grime accumulate on these components, the clipless system will not operate smoothly.

Install the Antenna

1. Slide the antenna wire into the bottom of the antenna tube until the white tip of the antenna is at the top of the tube under the black cap.
2. Insert the antenna tube into the mount while making sure that the antenna wire is in the slot in the antenna mount.
3. Install the set screw next to the antenna tube. Use the supplied 1.5mm wrench to tighten the screw just until the antenna tube is securely in place. **Do not overtighten.**
4. To prevent loss of radio range, do not kink or cut the black wire, do not bend or cut the metal tip, and do not bend or cut the white wire at the end of the metal tip.



Install the battery pack in the model

Place the battery in the tray. Insert the hold-down into the chassis as shown. Secure by placing the clips into the posts.

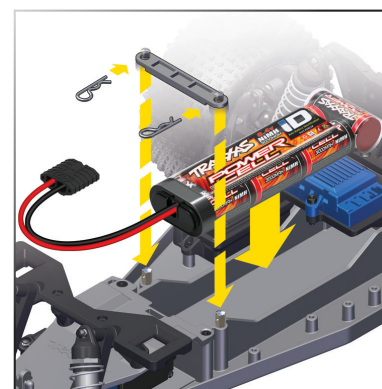
Compatible batteries:

- 6-7 cell NiMH
- 2-cell LiPo (2s)



ATTENTION: USERS OF LIPO BATTERIES

Activate Low-Voltage Detection when using LiPo batteries. Refer to the EZ-Set Tips card attached to your model, or see the "Electronic Speed Control Adjustments" section of this guide.



Turning on Your Model

Turn on the transmitter: Always turn the transmitter on first, before turning on the model. The transmitter's LED will glow.

Plug the battery into the speed control: Align the + and - markings. Make certain the battery plug is completely inserted.

Turn on the model: Press and release the EZ-Set button on the speed control. The speed control's LED will glow.



Before Operating Your Model

Check servo operation

Confirm the model's wheels turn right and left when the transmitter steering wheel is turned right and left. The front wheels should be pointing straight ahead. If they are turned slightly, slowly adjust the steering trim control on the transmitter until they are pointing straight ahead.

Range test the radio system

With a friend's help, check servo operation at a distance and that there is no interference before running your model.

Operating Your Model



Note: After stopping the model, return the transmitter's trigger to neutral and push up again to activate reverse throttle.

Avoid running your model in tall grass or soft sand. These will strain the power system. If the model becomes stuck, do not apply throttle. Free the model before operating it.

The TQ 2.4GHz transmitter has a directional antenna. For maximum range, hold the transmitter upright and pointed in the direction of the model. Pointing the transmitter away from the model will reduce radio range.

Transmitter Adjustments



Steering Trim

Slowly turn the steering trim knob to precisely set the steering neutral point. To adjust, drive the vehicle forward slowly while "steering" with the trim knob until the vehicle travels in a straight line with no steering input.

Electronic Speed Control Adjustments

ATTENTION: IF USING A LiPo BATTERY

To prevent over-discharging of LiPo batteries, Low-Voltage Detection must be switched on. To check the status of your model, turn it on. If the speed control's LED is green, Low-Voltage Detection is already activated. If the LED is red, Low-Voltage Detection is not active. Follow these steps to turn on Low-Voltage Detection:

1. Turn the model on. Make sure the LED on the speed control is on and red.
2. Press and hold the EZ-Set button for ten seconds. The LED will turn off and then light green, and the motor will beep twice. Release the button.
3. Low-Voltage Detection is now ACTIVATED.

LiPo batteries are intended only for the most advanced users that are educated on the risks associated with LiPo battery use.

WARNING: FIRE HAZARD!
Do not use LiPo batteries in this vehicle with Low-Voltage Detection disabled.

To disable Low-Voltage Detection when using NiMH batteries, repeat the steps above. The motor will beep three times and the LED will glow red.

Selecting a Throttle Mode: SPORT, RACE, or TRAINING

1. Connect a fully charged battery to the model and turn on your transmitter.
2. With the model off, press and hold the EZ-Set button until the LED turns solid green, then solid red, and then begins blinking red. It will blink once, then twice, then three times, then repeat.

One blink = Sport Mode is the default setting. It allows full forward and reverse throttle.

Two blinks = Race Mode removes reverse throttle in case your track does not allow it.

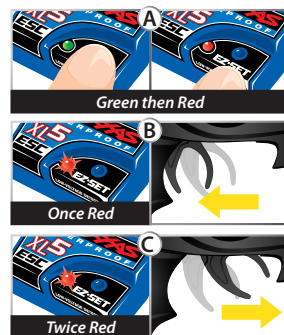
Three blinks = Training Mode will slow the model down by 50% for young or inexperienced drivers.

3. Release the EZ-Set button after the number of blinks for the mode you wish to select. **Note:** If you missed the mode you wanted, keep the EZ-Set button pressed down and the blink cycle will repeat.
4. The LED will blink and then turn solid green (Low-Voltage Detection ACTIVE) or red (Low-Voltage Detection DISABLED). The model is now ready to drive.

Calibrating the Speed Control

The speed control is calibrated at the factory. If the LED on the speed control is flashing green, then follow these steps to recalibrate it.

1. Connect a fully charged battery to the model.
2. Turn on the transmitter (with the throttle at neutral).
3. Press and hold the EZ-Set button (A). The LED will first turn green and then red. Release the EZ-Set button.
4. When the LED blinks RED ONCE, pull the throttle trigger to the full throttle position and hold it there (B).
5. When the LED blinks RED TWICE, push the throttle trigger to the full reverse and hold it there (C).
6. When the LED blinks GREEN ONCE, programming is complete. The LED will then shine green or red (depending on Low-Voltage Detection setting).



Running in Wet Conditions

Your Traxxas model is designed with water-resistant features to protect the electronics in the model (receiver, servos, electronic speed control). Though highly water resistant, the model should not be treated as though it is submersible or totally, 100% waterproof. Water resistance applies only to the installed electronic components. Running in wet conditions requires additional care and maintenance to prevent corrosion and maintain proper function. Download the complete manual for full precautions and maintenance requirements. Read and understand all precautions before operating your model in wet conditions. The complete manual for your model can be viewed and downloaded by following the link on the cover of this manual or by scanning the QR code. Please read this entire manual for complete instructions on the proper use and maintenance of your model.

Gearing

Your model includes an additional pinion gear. This gear is for maximum-speed running on hard surfaces only. Using the high-speed gearing for general driving and off-road driving may overheat the motor, speed control, or battery. For full instructions on installing and using the high-speed pinion, download the complete manual. The complete manual for your model can be viewed and downloaded by following the link on the cover of this manual, or by scanning the QR code. Please read this entire manual for complete instructions on the proper use and maintenance of your model.

After You Run Your Model

Turn the model off

Press and release the EZ-Set button on the speed control. The speed control's LED will go out.

Unplug the battery and remove it from the model

Do not store the model with the battery installed.

Turn the transmitter off

Always turn the transmitter off last, after the model has been turned off.

