

TAMIYA 99T

Tamiya Lotus 99T Formula One Car 1/20 Scale Model Kit Instruction Manual

Model Number: 20057

1. INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing the Tamiya Lotus 99T Formula One Car 1/20 Scale Model Kit. This kit allows you to recreate the iconic 1987 Lotus 99T, featuring a Honda V6 turbocharged engine and an active computerized suspension system. This manual provides detailed instructions for the assembly, painting, and care of your model. Please read all instructions carefully before beginning assembly.



Image 1.1: Tamiya Lotus 99T Model Kit Box Art. This image displays the packaging of the model kit, featuring a dynamic illustration of the Lotus 99T car in action.

2. SETUP AND ASSEMBLY

2.1 Tools and Materials Required

- Plastic cement (e.g., Tamiya Cement)
- Hobby knife or sprue cutters
- Small files and sandpaper (various grits)
- Tweezers
- Paint brushes (various sizes) or airbrush
- Model paints (acrylic or enamel, as specified in the color guide)
- Masking tape
- Clear coat (optional, for protection and finish)

2.2 General Assembly Steps

1. **Part Identification:** Carefully identify all parts on the sprues using the provided parts diagram.
2. **Part Removal:** Use sprue cutters or a hobby knife to carefully remove parts from the sprues. Avoid pulling or twisting, which can damage parts.

- 3. **Cleaning and Fitting:** Trim any excess plastic (flash) from the parts using a hobby knife or file. Dry-fit parts before applying cement to ensure proper alignment.
- 4. **Cementing:** Apply a small amount of plastic cement to the mating surfaces. Hold parts firmly together until the cement sets.
- 5. **Painting:** Refer to the color guide for specific paint colors and application instructions. It is often easier to paint smaller components before assembly.
- 6. **Decal Application:** Apply decals after painting and clear coating (if applicable). Use water to slide decals into position and a soft cloth to remove excess water and air bubbles.



Image 2.1: Model Kit Parts on Sprues. This image shows the unpainted plastic components still attached to their sprues, ready for removal and assembly.

2.3 Key Assembly Areas

- **Chassis and Monocoque:** Assemble the carbon fiber monocoque frame first, ensuring all structural components are securely joined.
- **Engine Assembly:** The V6 twin turbo engine is highly detailed. Follow the instructions for precise assembly and painting of engine components.
- **Suspension System:** The active computerized suspension system components require careful assembly. Pay attention to the orientation of each part.
- **Removable Cowling:** The kit includes a removable cowling, allowing for display of the detailed engine and suspension. Ensure the cowling fits snugly but can be removed without force.
- **Wing Tip Pieces:** New front and rear wing tip pieces are included to depict Nakajima's on-board camera and antennas.
- **Metal Transfers:** Use the provided metal transfers for side mirrors to achieve a realistic metallic finish.
- **Driver Helmets:** Parts for both Ayrton Senna's and Satoru Nakajima's helmets are included. Assemble and paint according to the reference images.



Image 2.2: Detailed Engine Assembly. This image highlights the intricate details of the V6 twin turbo engine after assembly and painting.

3. DISPLAY AND CARE

Once assembled, your Tamiya Lotus 99T model is designed for display. Proper care will ensure its longevity and preserve its appearance.

3.1 Display Recommendations

- Display the model on a stable, flat surface away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and high humidity.
- Consider a display case to protect the model from dust and accidental damage.

3.2 Handling Precautions

- Always handle the model by its main body or chassis. Avoid touching delicate parts like wings, mirrors, or antennas.
- Do not apply excessive pressure to any part of the model.



Image 3.1: Finished Tamiya Lotus 99T Model. This image showcases the completed model, highlighting its intricate details and vibrant livery.

4. MAINTENANCE

Minimal maintenance is required for your finished model.

4.1 Dusting

- Regularly dust the model using a soft, dry brush or a can of compressed air.
- Avoid using abrasive cloths or chemical cleaners, which can damage paint and decals.

4.2 Storage

- If storing the model for an extended period, place it in a sealed container or display case to protect it from dust and environmental factors.

5. TROUBLESHOOTING COMMON ISSUES

This section addresses common challenges encountered during model assembly.

5.1 Parts Not Fitting Correctly

- **Check for Flash:** Ensure all excess plastic (flash) has been removed from the edges of the parts.
- **Dry-Fit:** Always dry-fit parts before applying cement. If a part doesn't fit, gently sand or file the mating surfaces until it does.
- **Orientation:** Double-check the instruction manual to confirm the correct orientation of the parts.

5.2 Paint Adhesion Issues

- **Clean Parts:** Ensure parts are clean and free of mold release agents, oils, or dust before painting. Wash parts with mild soap and water, then rinse and dry thoroughly.
- **Primer:** Using a primer coat can significantly improve paint adhesion and provide a uniform base color.
- **Thinning Paint:** Ensure paints are thinned to the correct consistency for application, whether brushing or airbrushing.

5.3 Decal Problems

- **Surface Preparation:** Apply decals to a glossy surface for best results. A clear gloss coat can be applied before decals.
- **Decal Softener/Setter:** Use decal softener or setter solutions to help decals conform to irregular surfaces and eliminate silvering (air trapped under the decal).
- **Patience:** Allow decals to fully dry before applying a clear topcoat.

6. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Name	Lotus 99T Formula One Car
Scale	1/20
Model Number	20057
Brand	TAMIYA
Material	Plastic
Recommended Age	14+

Package Dimensions (L x W x H)	11.7 x 7.5 x 1.9 inches (29.7 x 19.1 x 4.8 cm)
Package Weight	0.18 Pounds (0.08 kg)
Included Components	Decals, removable cowlings, front and rear wing tip pieces, metal transfers, parts for Senna's helmet, parts for Nakajima's helmet

7. WARRANTY INFORMATION

Tamiya products are manufactured to high-quality standards. This model kit is intended for assembly by the end-user. Tamiya warrants its products against manufacturing defects in materials and workmanship. This warranty does not cover damage resulting from improper assembly, misuse, modification, or normal wear and tear. Please retain your proof of purchase.

8. CUSTOMER SUPPORT

For technical assistance, missing parts, or inquiries regarding your Tamiya Lotus 99T model kit, please contact Tamiya customer support. Contact information can typically be found on the Tamiya official website or on the product packaging.

- **Tamiya Official Website:** www.tamiya.com
- Refer to the contact section on the website for regional support details.

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