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Engine tuning your RC nitro Cars by [Javed Khan](#)

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Some people say that a car's engine is more like the human heart. You have to take good care for it if you want it to run effectively. To do this, you have to tune your RC nitro cars engine often, and unlike the electric car engine, require a different form of maintenance.

In order for you to have your RC nitro cars running as smoothly as possible, you should always take care to clear your car's engine of any debris, dirt, and oil residue. You can do this by raising the car's idle to $\frac{1}{4}$ of a turn, raising the engine's temperature to about 145-150 degrees, and holding the carburetor open, enabling the flushing out of dirt, oil, and grime that may be stuck.

If you want to tune your RC nitro cars directly out of the box, note for any of the engine manufacturer's baseline settings. If your car's engine didn't come with one, then simply adjust setting until you are able to get it running. The normal and most widely used starting point in RC nitro cars setting is using the 1 turn open on the low speed needle while simultaneously adjusting the high-speed needle to 2 or 3. No race tuning is necessary for your car until it has been properly broken in. Remember that when you break your nitro engine, it will be idle for a while, so you should not panic. Also note that nitro engine may have to be flicked a little around the throttle to use and clear out any unused fuel in the engine. Once your RC nitro cars are properly broken in, you may adjust the high-speed setting and tune it for the racetrack. However, note that a proper breaking in of your toy car will take a few tanks of gas without ever taking it to full speeds.

Race tuning on the other hand, is intended for your car to go as fast as it possible can in the littlest possible time. To do this, you will have to clear out the engine and start tuning with the bottom end of the engine, and wait for it to go idle. If the engine idle slows down and you stall the engine, then lean the bottom needle to the right. However, if the idles speeds up, then turn the bottom end of the needle to the right. Be sure to keep the RC nitro cars engine's idle for at least a minute lowering the screw setting as far as it can go until the engine begins to stall. To tune the top end, open the engine full throttle for 2 seconds then go back to idling it. Remember to listen well to the engine and lean the top end needle until you hear a crisp and clear sound from your car. After this, open the car's carburetor to full throttle for 3 seconds and close it for the same amount of time, before doing it one more time.

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