

Right On Replicas, LLC Step-by-Step Review 20160108*
Bigfoot Ford F-150 Monster Truck 1:32 Scale AMT Model Kit #805 Review



Bigfoot, introduced in 1979, is regarded as the original monster truck. Other trucks with the name "Bigfoot" have been introduced in the years since, and it remains a well-known monster truck moniker in the United States. Bigfoot 4x4, Inc. is owned and operated by its creator, Bob Chandler.

AMT's Ford "BIGFOOT" Monster Truck is all about fun in model building. This easy to assemble kit is molded in three colors so no painting is required. The snap-together parts let young or inexperienced hobbyists build a great looking model in a short time. The kit includes a full-color DECAL sheet to add the finishing touch!

For the Modeler: This review covers the Round2 release of the 1/32 scale Bigfoot Monster Truck from AMT. The kit is number AMT-805L in the current catalog. This is a Re-release (Re-Pop) of the popular Bigfoot Monster Truck in new 30 Years decals. This kit is also available in multiple versions with other designs. This is a "SNAP-IT" kit made as Skill Level 1 for the Beginning Builder. It is molded in three colors and will need no paint or glue to assemble. There are 25 parts molded in Blue, White and Black. It includes

Vinyl tires and Metal axles. No engine or interior is supplied. The chassis is a flat base with the frame work as an attachment. The body is solid with only the bumpers and light bar separate. The tires are hollow and can be mounted in the proper direction. Oddly, it does have waterslide decals but is a beginner's kit. This would be considered a CURBSIDE kit. Overall the dimensions are: Length: 7", Width: 4-3/4", Height: 4".

BUILDING CAVIATS: Having organization and a proper work area is important if you want to build a model properly. But even without dedicated space a place to leave your build while you work is necessary. Being able to lay out your parts organized helps the build as you are not digging for parts in the box possibly losing or damaging them. Also you really should have a place to let painted parts cure.

Throughout the review you will find **OPTIONAL IDEAS** that I suggest. These are completely your choice. Not doing these steps will in no way affect the build, they are just ways to offer some personal and custom touches to your builds. **OPTIONS** will be noted. One of the best parts of model building is using your imagination to create the car YOU want! Unless you are building a "Factory Stock" or a "Replica" car your choices of color and build options is completely up to you. The instruction give recommendations but you are free to substitute whatever options you want. There is no "Wrong way" to build your kit! Have fun and enjoy your hobby. Review the instruction sheet thoroughly to get familiar with the assembly sequence. Decide your color scheme in advance and your custom options so you can build accordingly.

Note to remember: Always follow the Manufacturer's Safety and Use Guidelines when using any of the products mentioned in the review for your own protection.



PIC 1 This is the box art for this kit as released in the 2015 Round2/AMT release. As this is a SNAP-IT kit no glue or adhesives will be used. If needed for strength Superglue will be used and noted as to where it was used.

PIC 2 Here are the decals for this build. The quality is very high and color register is good. As these decals are quite extensive, I would recommend adult supervision and help with younger builders to insure proper locations.



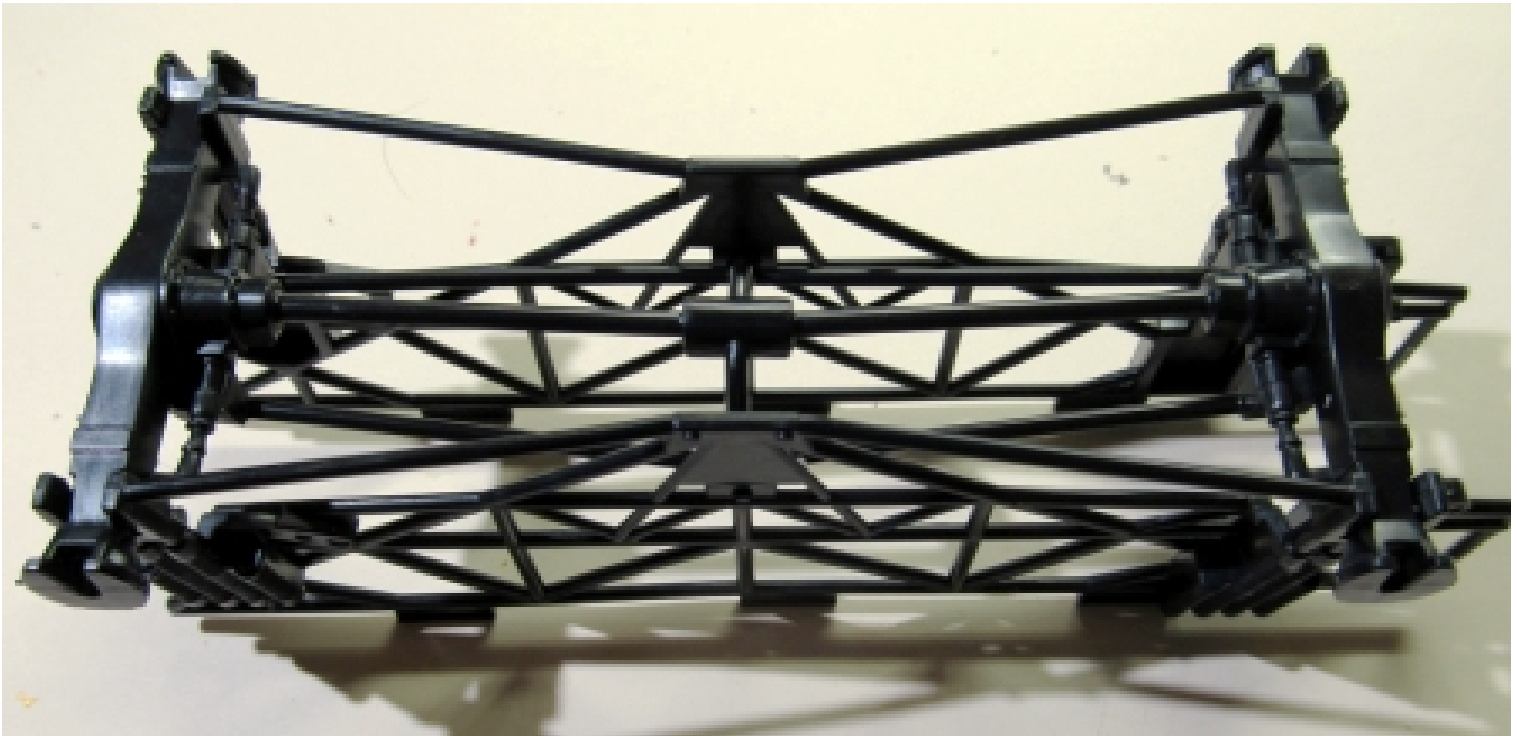
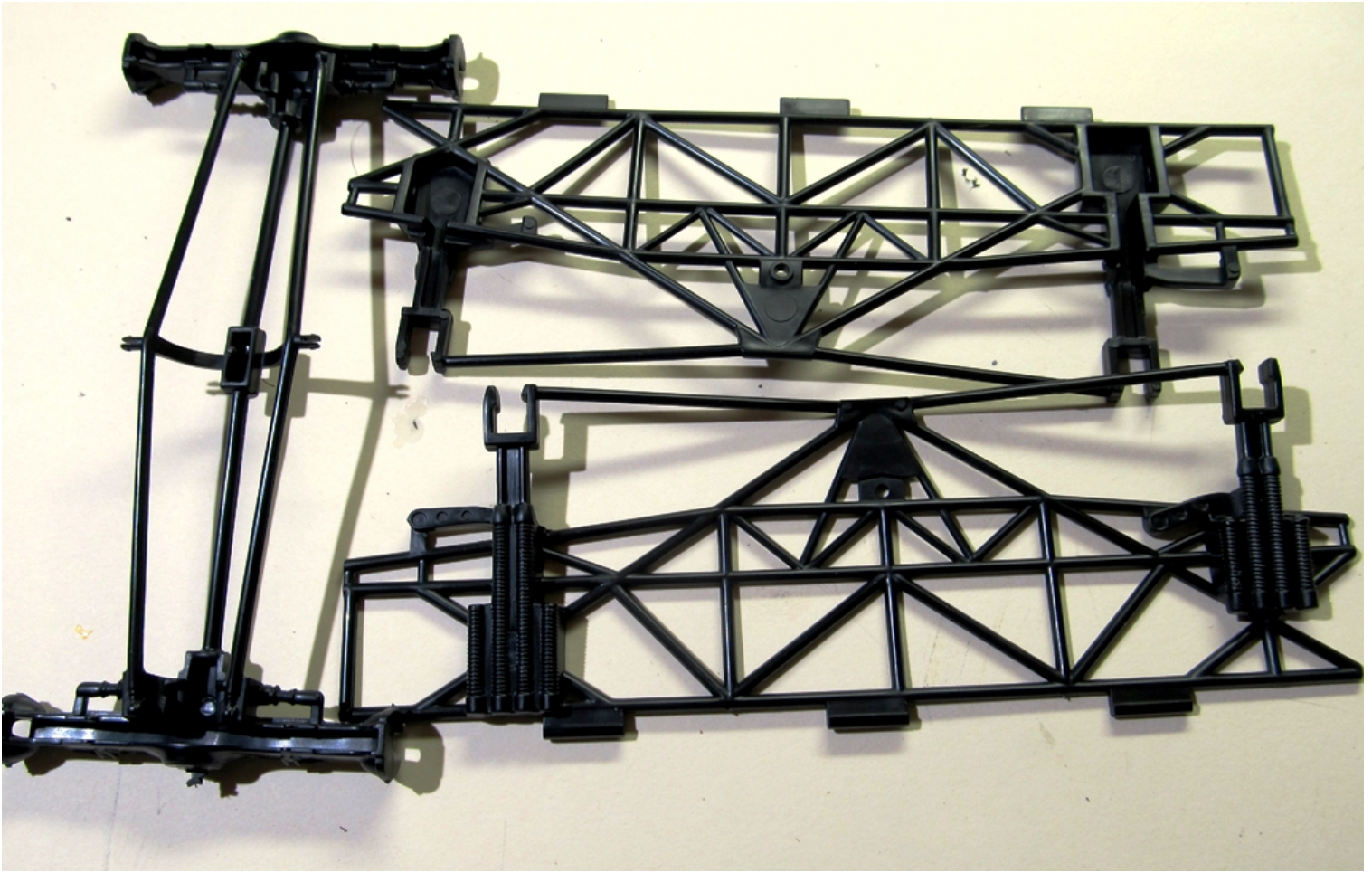
PIC 3 Start with the tires. The hubs snap in with two tabs. Aligning and inserting the tabs is a bit difficult for the beginner as the rim is deep and the hub does not just slide in place. Insert the finished rim into the tires.



PIC 4 Make sure to line up the directions of the tires so you will have all four going forward when installed. I did use some glue to hold the hubs in the rims.



PIC 5 PIC 6 Slide the axles into the rear hole on the rims and tap lightly with a hammer to place them. Do the two matching tires so you can slide the axles into the chassis and add the opposite side. This will help ensure they are facing the proper direction.



PIC 7 PIC 8 Assemble the three chassis parts by snapping the frames on to the axles and the center support into the frame.



PIC 9 PIC 10 Slide an axle into each suspension and add the corresponding tire to the other side. This completes the chassis frame assembly.



PIC 11 PIC 12 The light bar and lights can be installed. Add the front and rear bumpers and visor to the truck. I did use a wash of 50/50 Flat Black and Water to give the grille some depth prior to adding the decals.



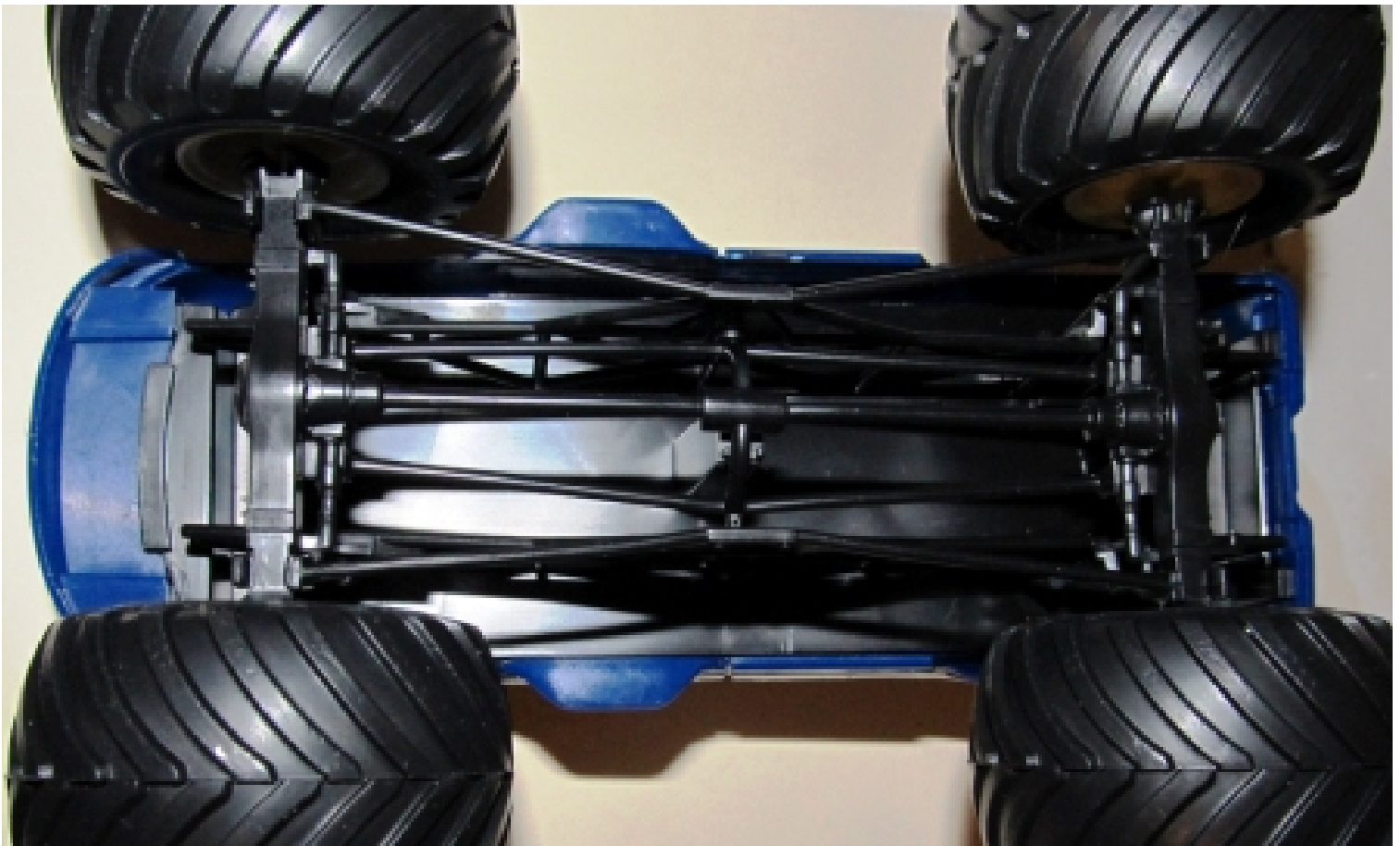
PIC 13 Body Decaling and Finishing: Remember decals lay better on a GLOSS surface and will not adhere properly on a FLAT surface. If you decal a flat surface you get what is called SILVERING of the decals, or the look that they are not adhered, as air is trapped under the decal. Clean your work area good so no dust or grunge from building and sanding gets under your decals. Pick the decals you want to work with and plan out how the best way to lay them out without handling previously laid decals will be. I try either a Front to Back or Top to Bottom approach doing one side at a time then the front and rear of the car in steps giving the decals time to set and dry in place before handling it again. Once you have a plan of action cut your first decal as close to the edge of the outermost color as possible. Once trimmed place the decal into warm water and let it get soft until it "Floats" loosely on the carrier paper. Microscale Industries has a product set called Micro-Set and Micro-Sol. The purpose is to soften the decals to help them conform to the contours of the body and lay smooth. To apply Micro Set, use a soft brush and apply Micro Set to the part where you are going to apply the decal. Next apply the decal as normal. Use a small pointed tip synthetic bristle brush and carefully position the decal. Blot the decal carefully with a Q-tip or paper towel so as not to move it and allow it to dry. For a tougher decals apply Micro-Sol with a small flat brush on to the decal. Apply with as few strokes as possible so as not to disturb the decal. As the decal dries slowly work any creases or blemishes in the decal out with a Q-tip or damp paper towel. Work slowly as not to damage the decal. A second coat of Micro-Sol can be added if needed. Now continue this process until all the decals for that area are done, wait for them to set and continue the rest of the car. Let the decals cure at least overnight before applying your clear coat.



PIC 14 Once all decal work is completed and cured add the window "glass".



PIC 15 The instructions have you place the chassis pan into the body now. I did find that if I installed the chassis frame and wheels to the pan FIRST it made final assembly much easier. Attach the frame to the pan and then install the chassis unit into the body. This will finish the overall build.



PIC 16 The chassis pan and frame sits inside the body.



PIC 17 PIC 18 Here is a front and rear view to show the finished truck.



PIC 999 OVERALL IMPRESSIONS: This is a fun build and can be detailed slightly to help the look but overall there is not much to do for the advanced builder. Some advanced options would be to paint the suspension parts to highlight the shocks, driveshaft and some of the other minor parts that are molded in. Aside for painting the body and clear-coating over the decals it does not leave much for the advanced builder to do. This is a SNAP-IT kit made for beginners and it is a great way to get kids involved in the hobby. Monster Trucks are a huge draw for young kids and Bigfoot gives the kids something they can relate to. This is a great afternoon project for a to introduce a child to the hobby. It is perfect for taking up less than an hour and still getting completed before a youngster would lose interest. Also for those with "Modeler's Block" this will allow you to relax and COMPLETE something! On a scale of 1 to 10, based on the target market I give this kit a 9. I feel it is a great entry level kit but using decals can get a bit tough for someone new to the hobby so a little guidance is in order there.

Premium Model Reviews



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