



Two screws are removed from the bumpers to make room for the cage's mounts. A small area of the bumper braces need to be removed in order for the cage to fit properly. The original MGT doesn't have the additional screws in the bumper mounts so if you have the original you can jump right to the mounting of the cage.

remove the unwanted material. This is to make room for the cage's brackets

With the material removed from the bumper mounts the cage drops right into place. Four screws and two brackets later we are in business. A dab of threadlock is recommended since it's a metal-to-metal connection. The mounted cage looks great so its time to see how well it does its job.

### TESTING

It's rare that I head out with the intentions of driving poorly but since that is what the cage is to provide protection from I have no choice. It's a tough job but someone has to do it.

First up is some erratic road action to see how the cage reacts to being thrown over on its side. Full squeeze of the trigger followed by an abrupt left-hand turn sent the MGT through a small series of sideways tumbling. Other than

minor scrapes in the powder coating nothing was out of shape. I give this part of the test a thumbs-up.

Assuming the same action in the dirt or on the grass would yield the same results I went straight for the one event that will be a true test of the cage's ability to protect - land the heavy truck on its lid. I stacked two skateboard ramps for a steep launch attack. The first pass was off-center, sending the truck over on its side in a wobbling motion, which

left the cage and truck unharmed. The next pass was dead-on. In mid air at the highest point I slammed on the breaks bringing the top of the truck to the bottom. SLAM! A solid hit did nothing more than add another divot to the yard. I was so impressed that I decided to see if I could stand on the upside down truck on the pavement. I am no lightweight and the truck barely flinched as I stood with all my weight on the bottom of the chassis. Another thumbs-up!

### CONCLUSION

If you are concerned about weight then you don't want a steel roll cage. But if you are concerned about beating your truck without it actually taking a beating then you need to look to VG Racing to see if they have a cage for you. The cage adds a nice touch of realism while also adding a huge level of protection for the chassis and its critical elements. ©

### Links

Team Associated, [www.teamassociated.com](http://www.teamassociated.com), [www.rc10.com](http://www.rc10.com), (714) 850-9342

VG Racing, [www.vgracing.com](http://www.vgracing.com), 310-839-9700

For more information, please see our source guide on pg. 209.

# Monster protection for a monster truck

## MGT Roll Cage

### VG RACING

If your monster truck sees more bashing action than racing then you probably have a need for a product that will help protect the engine head and other chassis components from inevitable damage. That is just what VG Racing had in mind when they began designing cages for some of the more popular trucks available. Not only do these cages provide protection they add a huge dose of realism and a convenient way to carry the truck.

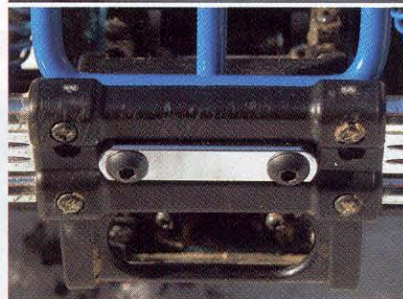
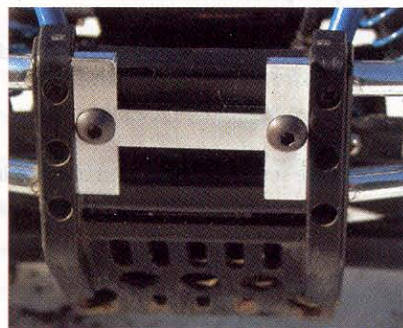
Let's take a closer look at the VGRT MGT roll cage. It's shown here in blue powder coat but is also available in polished chrome. It's hand-made from 3/16 in. and 1/4 in. high quality steel with plenty of reinforcing welds for extra durability. The stock MGT truck body will fit over the cage but you just might like the look of it without the body and opt to not use it anyway.

This cage was designed to fit the original MGT without modification. I will be installing it on the new MGT 4.6 that has revised bumper mounts, requiring me to hack small bits of plastic away to make it fit.

### INSTALLATION

Installing the cage, which has few additional pieces of hardware, is fairly simple with the exception of some hacking that is required that I will discuss in a moment. Beyond that installation involves four screws, an "H" bracket and a single "bar" type bracket.

The new 4.6 MGT features a modification to the bumpers that is in the way. So I first removed the top two screws on each bumper that secures them to the truck so I could use my Dremel to



The mounting system includes an "H" brace for the front and a simple "bar" brace for the rear. Each one mounts through their respective bumpers and into the threaded mounts on the cage.