

1-1/2 Ton Military Truck

Lew Zervas

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Take a JJRC "Military Truck" and convert it into a 1-1/2 ton truck by making a few modifications and you have a nice close to scale appearance truck for use with an operational diorama. Here is what the stock truck looks like:



This truck started out as a JJRC Q61 (4X4) RC truck and with some extensive modifications it became a truck that fits in well with the other WWII period items. The original cost (in 2019) ranged from \$30-40 (U.S.)

Modifications made here include:

- Changing out the too-small bed with a scratch built one.
- Replace front bumper with a correct style bumper and add tow hooks.
- Remove stock gas tank (too modern)
- Add new tool box under the bed.
- Add new gas tank under the bed.
- Replace tires and wheels with military tires and wheels (dual tires on rear).
- Add a spare tire under the bed.
- Replace side mirrors.
- Add mud flaps.
- Repaint O.D. and add markings.
- Add a tow hitch.

The JJRC Q61 comes with a basic radio control, steering center, left, and right, and stop, forward, and reverse. These are not proportional controls as the vehicle either goes straight or turns completely one way or another, and either goes forward or backward (at full speed) so it does not have any slow speeds or gentle turns.

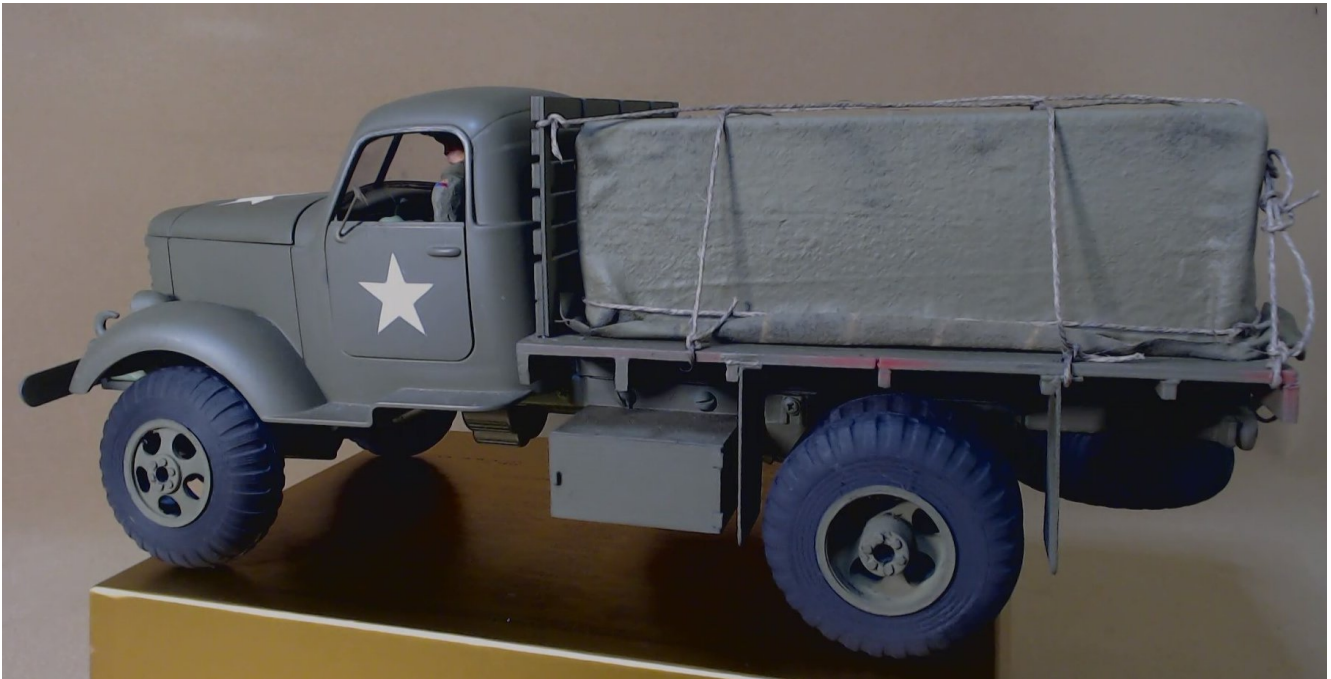
To replace the radio control with a proportional system would cost about \$60-80 (U.S. in 2020) considering one would need the radio, speed controller, and a servo.

A variety of loads can be added to the bed. Side railings or solid sides can be added as well as a canvas top (using hoops).

Photo of the completed modified truck with load:

To add a little realism to the truck, add a figure or two. Here a 1/16 scale soldier was added as the driver. The legs had to be cut off because there is little space being the engine compartment has to be big enough to hold the battery.

Also added is a load with a canvas cover. The “load” is a box made out of balsa to keep the weight down. It was sealed with varnish but paint would also do. The “canvas” is actually an old, worn cotton handkerchief. Worn one was used as such it is thinner and easier to work with, especially when folding the corners. It was then draped over the balsa box and painted, two coats, the last one being Testors Olive Drab spray can. The hemp “ropes” are from a craft store (Michaels).



3D printing was used for a variety of parts here, including the wheel rims, tires, bed and fence behind the cab, gas tank, front bumper and hooks, tool box, and mud flaps.

Decals were custom made on an inkjet printer using decal paper available on Amazon and the numbers were rub-on lettering.

Photos of the completed modified truck:

