



Thompson's spiffy "midget car" sports running boards, a windshield, lights, and a bucket seat.

"Midget Car" Built From Garden Tractor

"It's built like a Mercedes-Benz and will go about 12 mph," says Art Thompson, Dolliver, Iowa, about the "midget car" he built out of an old Minneapolis-Moline garden tractor.

Thompson bought the tractor from his neighbor, Clair Moore. The seat and some other parts were missing. He cut the tractor down and rebuilt it onto a different frame. He mounted a Honda 11 hp gas engine on back. The engine belt-drives the tractor's 3-speed transaxle, powering it at a higher speed than the original engine. The tractor still has the original pedal controls, although they

were repositioned, along with the steering. Thompson made a new body and added running boards, a windshield, and lights. The bucket seat is off a small pickup. A plastic windshield mounts ahead of the steering wheel, which is off a car.

"My 11-year-old grand daughter likes to drive it so much that I recently gave it to her," says Thompson.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Art Thompson, 4944 110th St., Dolliver, Iowa 50531 (ph 712 865-2275).

Off-Road Go-Carts "Built Heavier Than Anything On The Market"

Anyone who wants an ATV just for leisurely riding will want to take a close look at the heavy-duty, high-clearance go-carts custom-built by Robert Frisk of New Lisbon, Wis.

"They're a low-cost alternative to conventional 4-wheel ATV's and are built much tougher than commercial go-carts on the market," says Frisk.

Frisk custom builds go-carts from the ground up in his farm shop. His most recent model is 6 1/2-ft. long and 66 in. wide and is equipped with two bucket seats out of a Ford pickup, allowing it to comfortably seat two adults. The rig is powered by a 12 hp Tecumseh gas engine. The engine belt-drives a jackshaft which chain-drives the rear axle. The driver is protected by a rollover cage fitted with 1-in. thick foam padding and by a steel firewall mounted just behind the seats. The go-cart rides on 20-7-8 tires and has independent front and rear suspension. It has 13 in. of ground clearance compared to only 4 in. for most commercial models.

"It can keep up with any commercial 4-wheeler in mud and snow," notes Frisk. "Most go-carts are underpowered, built too light, and they're expensive. The cheapest commercial ATV's sell for about \$4,500. My go-carts sell for only \$2,500 and you can have just as much fun with them.

"There's no transmission to shift. Just press your foot on the gas and it automatically shifts by itself according to the load on the rear wheels. To move forward you simply push on the gas pedal. It has plenty of speed and power for use on or off the road. If you're on a hard road it automatically senses the torque on the wheels and goes faster. If the wheels hit mud, it automatically produces more power. Top speed is about 35 mph. It's equipped with 10-in. dia. dual disc brakes so it has a lot of braking ability.

"The seats slide 8 in. forward or back and are equipped with automotive-type seat belts.

"The engine mounts on a subframe supported by a pair of shocks, so that the rear

"Kid-Friendly" ATV Features Shutdown Safety Switch

Your kids can have a lot of fun with these new mini ATV's from E-Ton America, Dallas, Texas.

The E-ton TXL-50 ATV is designed to be driven by kids from 6 to 16 years old. It measures just 50 in. long, 32 in. wide, and 32 in. high. It weighs only 197 lbs. and rides on 23 1/2-in. high tires. The rig is powered by a Mikuni air-cooled, 2-stroke, 49 cc gas engine.

Standard features include an automatic choke for easy starting without flooding; electric start with a backup kick starter if the

battery runs down; adjustable, thumb screw-operated throttle stop and exhaust restrictor for controlling the ATV's speed; automatic CVT (Continuous Variable Transmission) for even torque through all riding conditions; automatic oil injection which eliminates the need to pre-mix gas and oil; parking brake; quick release latch seat for easy access to a tool box; horn; and flag holder.

A safety-training tether is available for younger riders. The tether plugs into a shut-off switch at the back of the ATV. If a child falls off, the engine shuts down immediately.



To build his mini "race car", Brown started with a golf cart that had a blown engine.

Mini Race Car Made From ATV, Golf Cart

I've looked forward to every issue of FARM SHOW for years. Now I'd like to show other readers one of my projects. I call it a 'race car'," says Doug Brown, Columbia, Tenn.

I started with a golf cart that had a blown engine. I fitted it with an 8 hp. Briggs & Stratton engine. I took all the fiberglass off and centered the steering but it would still only go 20 mph. That was not nearly fast enough so I found a Honda 3-wheeler and cut the rear end off the ATV and the rear end off the golf cart, leaving the suspension system in place. I mounted the ATV rear end and frame to the golf cart suspension. I went to the junk yard and got four shocks off a pair of Honda motorcycles and added them to the frame to stiffen it up.

I made a track in my pasture. It has a 700-

ft. long straight-away. The cart is fast and rides great because golf carts are made for comfort. My daughter lives close to us and told me she was going to take the key away unless I put rollbars on it so she bought me a tubing bender for Christmas and I made the rollbars out of 1-in. well pipe.

Then I decided to make a body for it using plastic sheeting. I painted it red and applied number decals and sponsor logos.

It works so well, and is so much fun to drive, several family members have asked me to build them one. So now you know what I will be doing for a while, besides reading FARM SHOW.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Douglas Brown, 2904 Luke Moser Rd., Columbia, Tenn. 38401).



This heavy-built 6 1/2-ft. long, 74-in. wide go-cart is equipped with two bucket seats out of a Ford pickup, allowing it to comfortably seat two adults.

axle and engine move together. Both the frame and rollbar are built from 1 1/4-in. sq. tubing. The spindles on front are made from 1-in. dia. cold rolled steel.

"The steering system is built heavier than on any other go-cart on the market. The steering shaft is solid steel and has a pillow block bearing at the top and bottom. There's a safety kill switch on the steering wheel and

also one at the back of the machine."

Frisk also builds a single seat model that's powered by the same 12 hp engine. It rides on 20 by 7 by 8 front tires and 22 by 11 by 8 rear tires. Top speed is 40 mph. It sells for \$2,200.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Robert Frisk, N5706 Cty. B, New Lisbon, Wis. 53950 (ph 608 562-5130).

Available in red and yellow. Sells for \$1,595 plus S&H.

Two larger models are available.

For more information contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Brewer Implement, 3655 Highway 82 West, Tifton, Ga. 31794 (ph 912 387-7888) or E-Ton America, 6929 N Hayden Rd., Suite C4, No. 437, Scottsdale, Az 85250 (ph 800 591-2121 or 480 314-9896; fax 480 657-8715; E-mail: info@e-tonamerica.com).



Kids have a lot of fun driving this mini ATV. A safety training tether is available for younger riders.