

# THE ICONIC FORD FALCON XB GT

SCALE  
1:8



Left and Right Wheel Arches



Cadillac Customising

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## POST-APOCALYPTIC EDITION

# THE ICONIC FORD FALCON XB GT

ISSUE 86

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Wheel arch back plates are fitted behind each of the front wheels.

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Cadillac prided itself on offering exclusive cars built to the highest standards, but some owners wanted more, and started to customise them.

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With a title borrowed from a song by Simon and Garfunkel, *Baby Driver* (2017) is an action thriller that follows the escapades of a getaway driver.

## YOUR MODEL

You will be building a 1:8 scale replica of a customised 1973 Ford Falcon XB GT. Features include a lift-up bonnet that reveals a detailed engine, opening doors, wind-down windows and an 'active' steering wheel. A remote-control fob illuminates the main lights, brake lights and indicators.

Scale: 1:8  
Length: 62cm  
Width: 25cm  
Height: 19cm  
Weight: 7+kg



  
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Items may vary from those shown.  
All parts belong to a kit. Collectors' item for adults. Not suitable for children under 14. Some parts may have sharp edges, please handle them with care.

The installation of electronic parts must always be carried out by an adult. When replacing batteries, use the same type of batteries. Please ensure that the battery compartment is securely fastened before you use the model again. Used batteries should be recycled. Please make sure to check with your local council how batteries should be disposed of in your area. Batteries can present a choking danger to small children and may cause serious harm if ingested. Do not leave them lying around and keep any spare batteries locked away at all times.

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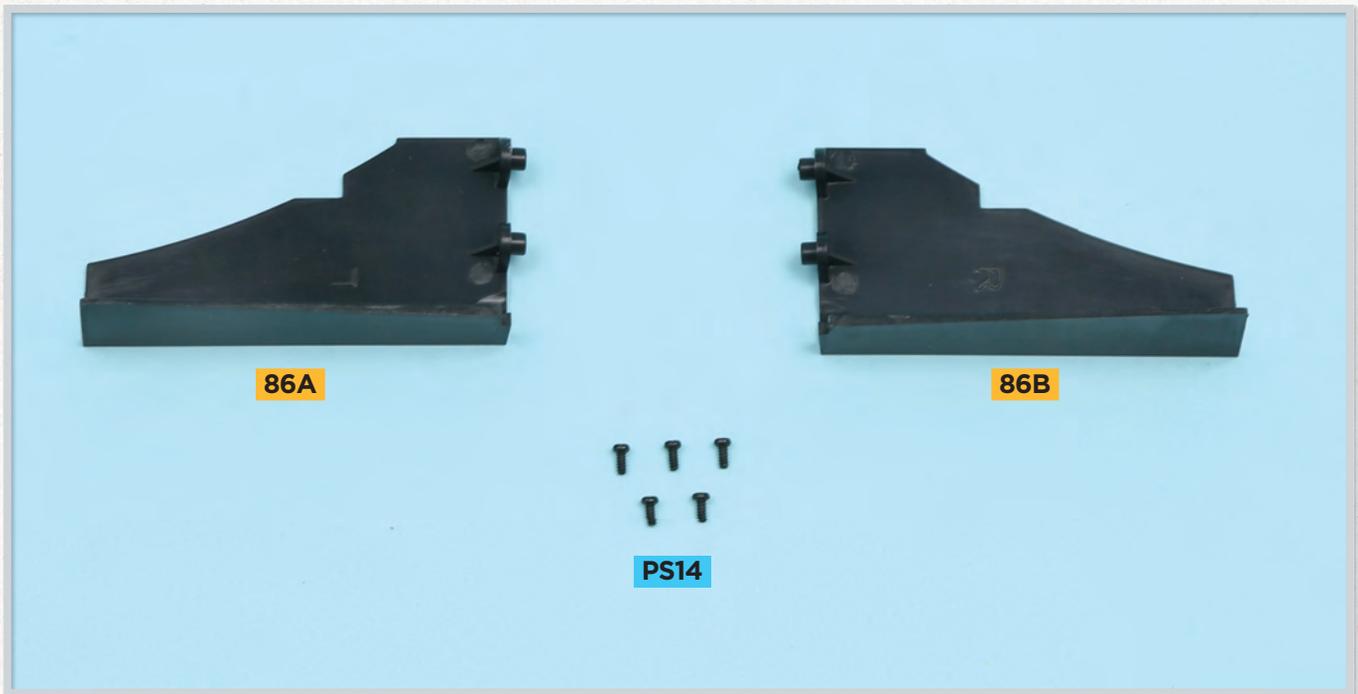
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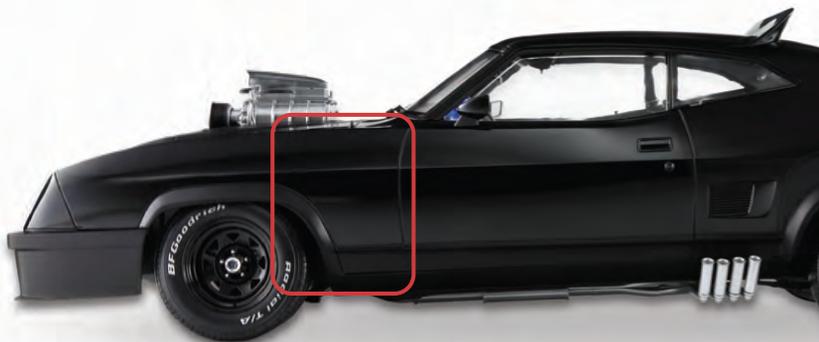


# Stage 86: Left and Right Wheel Arch Back Plates

Panels are fitted behind each of the front wheels.



## Area of assembly



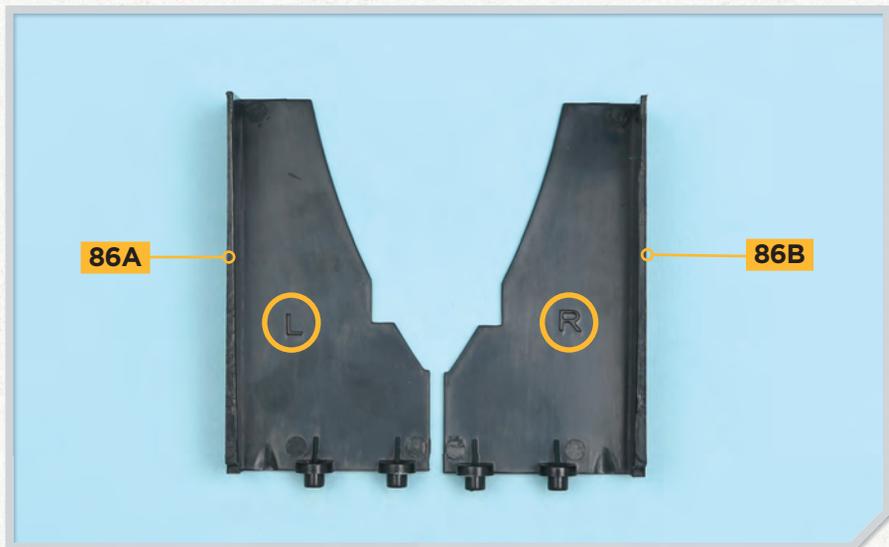
## List of parts:

- 86A** Front left wheel arch back plate
- 86B** Front right wheel arch back plate
- PS14** Five\* 1.8 x 4mm PB screws

\* Including spare

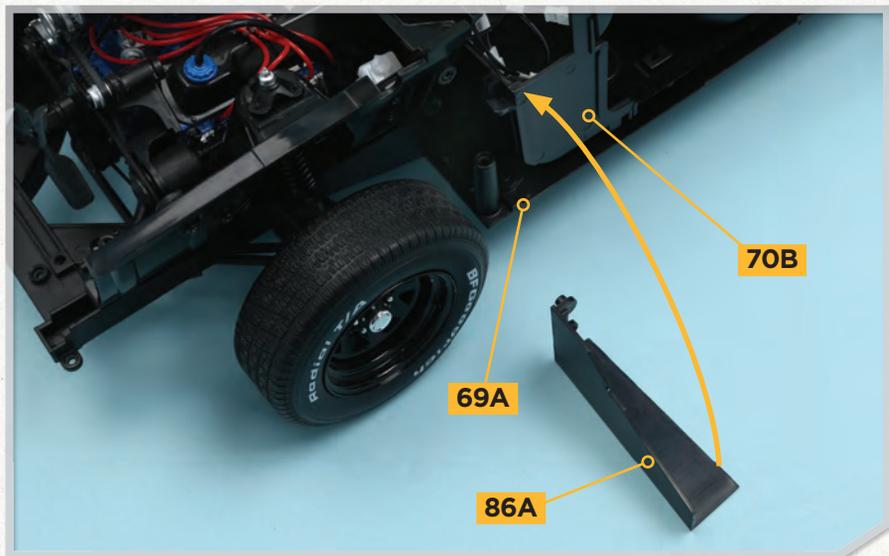
PB = Pan head for plastic

## Stage 86: Left and Right Wheel Arch Back Plates



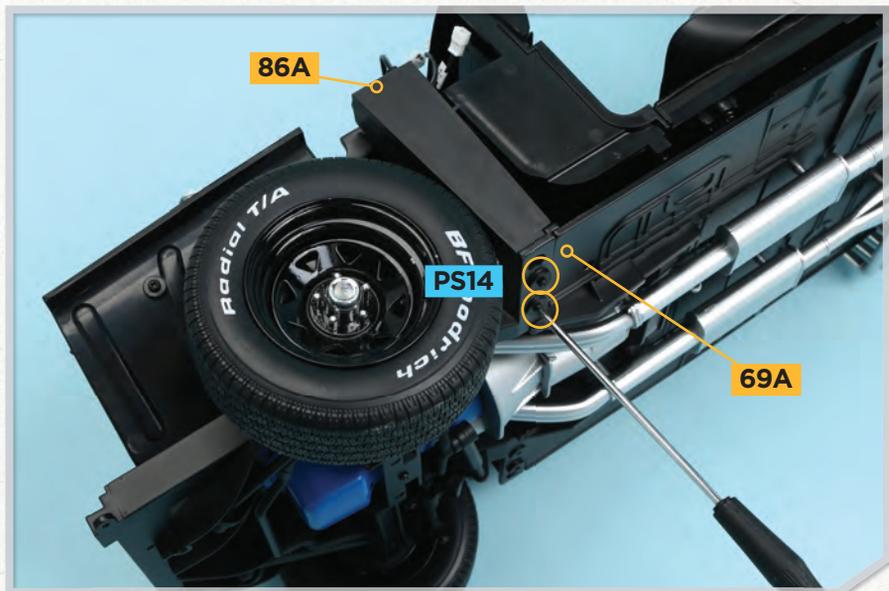
### STEP 1

Note that the wheel arch back plates **86A** and **86B** are marked L and R (circled).



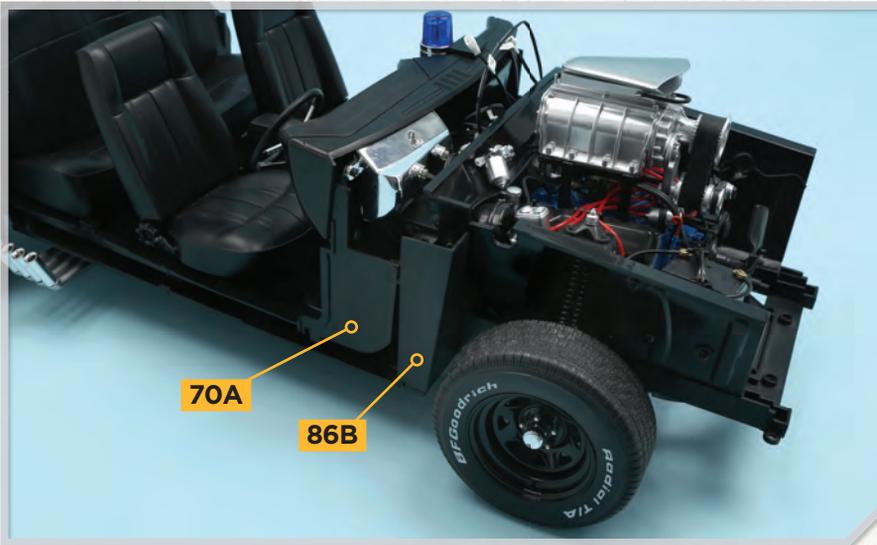
### STEP 2

Take the left wheel arch back plate **86A** and slide it behind the wheel, so that the flange along the side edge fits around the side panel **70B** and the two tabs with screw holes on the lower edge fit beneath the floor **69A**.



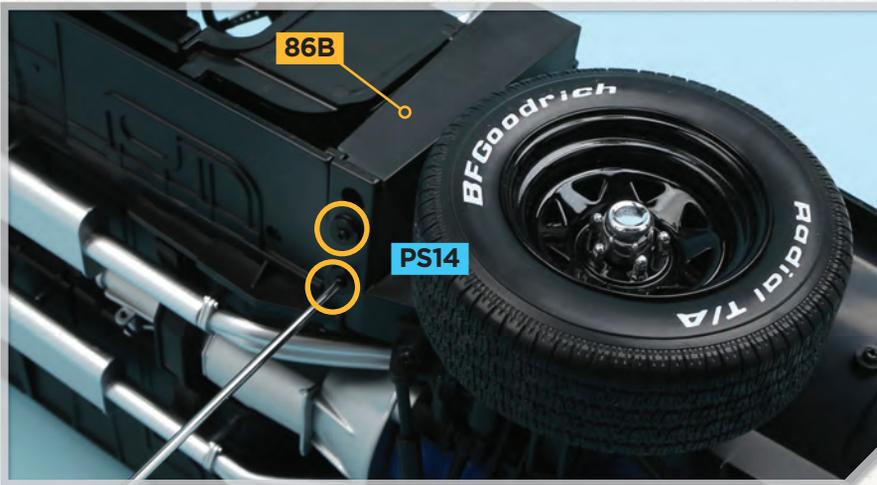
### STEP 3

Carefully turn the model on one side and fix part **86A** in place with two **PS14** screws.



## STEP 4

Similarly, fit the right wheel arch **86B** back panel on the other side of the model, between the right wheel and the side panel **70A**.



## STEP 5

Carefully turn the model on one side and fix part **86B** in place with two **PS14** screws.



## COMPLETED ASSEMBLY

Wheel arch back plates have been fitted to the model.

# Cadillac Customising

Cadillac prided itself on offering exclusive cars built to the highest standard, but some owners wanted to take things further and customised their cars.

While luxury car manufacturers such as Rolls Royce or Duesenberg offered a complete chassis and expected their customers to choose the specific bodywork, or commission an independent coachbuilder, Cadillac tended to provide their own coachwork in-house. Cadillac was the top brand at General Motors and offered a complete car, built and finished by the company.

It wasn't impossible to buy just the chassis from Cadillac, but it was unusual. For the 1930 V16 cars there were 10 body styles, with as many as 70 other optional designs. For image-conscious Hollywood it wasn't enough to merely own an expensive car, celebrities wanted exclusivity. They turned to customisers such as J. W. Earl of Earl's Automobile Works (whose son Harley would become perhaps Detroit's top stylist) or to famed Los Angeles car customiser George Barris. Barris created numerous custom Cadillacs over the years, one of the first being his personal car, a 1942 Cadillac with



A beautiful 1959 Cadillac Eldorado Brougham, incorporating Larry Watson's styling, was a trophy winner at the Detroit Autorama in 2019.

padding top. Barris created another notable example from a 1953 GM show car called the Le Mans for shoe millionaire Harry Karl.

## CARS FOR THE KING

Elvis Presley had numerous Cadillacs modified, starting with his first, a 1954 Fleetwood custom-painted in pink that was destroyed in a roadside fire. Most famous was the black over blue 1955 Fleetwood he also had repainted pink and gifted to his mother. Then Barris built Elvis a 1960 series 75 limousine. It cost \$10,000 to buy and a further \$65,000 to add

gold plated fittings, white fur, a bar, fridge, television, razor, telephone and shoe polisher. It was later painted in 40 coats of pearl containing crushed diamonds.

Larry Watson was a renowned custom car painter, he re-coloured numerous Cadillacs but was most famous for two examples that he owned himself. He drove a 1959 Coupe de Ville straight from the dealership to his shop where he removed the handles and trim, fitted Bellflower exhaust pipes, dropped it six-inches and covered it in candy burgundy over white pearl. It caused a sensation on the streets. A year later Watson swapped it for a rare 1957 Eldorado Brougham, which he covered in 30 gallons of translucent Raspberry Platinum paint. Since these cars came with factory air suspension it was easy to lower the Cadillac. By the end of 1961 the Brougham had won over 20 awards. ■



One of Elvis Presley's many Cadillacs on display at his Graceland home.

# Baby Driver (2017)

With its title borrowed from Simon and Garfunkel, *Baby Driver* (2017) is a musical action thriller set around Miles, nicknamed 'Baby', a young getaway driver ferrying thieves from robberies for criminal boss Doc. Over 150 vehicles were used for the movie.

The film opens with a well-choreographed car chase as Baby chauffeurs three bank robbers in a 2006 Subaru WRX STI. Since 1994, editor Edgar Wright had dreamed of a car chase synced to the Jon Spencer Blues Explosion's song 'Bellbottoms'. Wright had directed the 1997 music video for Mint Royale's 'Blue Song' and borrowed from it for the beginning of *Baby Driver*.

The Subaru was portrayed by four 2.5-litre WRXs, disguised as STIs, plus one genuine STI. Allpro Subaru of Atlanta performed the changes including fitting ICW 17-inch Racing Wheels with Ironman iMove all-season tyres. One 200bhp WRX was converted to rear-wheel-drive with a hydraulic handbrake for drift stunts. The main stunt car was given a Cusco rear limited slip differential with an OS Giken front diff and Exedy Stage 1 heavy-duty clutch. Upgrades including new pistons and valves gave it 330bhp. Another WRX was cut up to film interior scenes while mounted on a truck. One had a fake gear stick and all the main controls in a pod on the roof from where stunt driver Jeremy Fry piloted the car.

It was discovered that although the WRXs were perfectly set up when practising at a nearby racetrack, their tyres gripped differently on Atlanta's streets. Stunt coordinator Robert Nagle put water down, allowing Fry to slide the Subarus more easily.



Minimal CGI was used, resulting in one of the best and most realistic cinematic car chases for decades.

After lending them his 1994 Infiniti G20 for Baby to jump over during an escape on foot, on-set mechanic Ronny Matthew was later able to purchase the 330bhp WRX. Elgort was given one of the vehicles for his birthday, while a third was sold on eBay in 2017.

## BEYOND THE SUBARU

A black 2007 Chevrolet Avalanche pickup is used for a disastrous getaway where a bystander's 2003 Dodge Ram lives up to its name. The stunt Avalanche had a welded differential for slides, but when that truck broke most of the stunts were done with the stock version.

Chrysler supplied various cars including the red 2015 Dodge Challenger SRT Hellcat that Baby

Baby (Ansel Elgort, right) plays a getaway driver for criminals played by Jamie Foxx and John Hamm.

steals, 15 Dodge Charger police cars – all but two were destroyed – and Doc's black 2014 Mercedes S550. The stunt S550 needed its computer reprogrammed to allow it to perform.

Baby takes a job delivering pizzas with a Toyota Cressida and a 1985 Chevrolet Blazer K5 also appears toward the film's climax. The 1979 Lincoln Continental Mk5 Baby uses on his date with Debora was rented from a local owner. At the end of the film she picks Baby up from prison in a 1959 Chevrolet Impala convertible. But it's the chases you'll remember: other than *The Blues Brothers* (1980), *Baby Driver* is the most stylish car chase musical you'll ever see. ■

# COMING IN ISSUE 87



## • ASSEMBLY GUIDE

The radiator grille and fan housing are fixed to the back of the radiator.

## • DESIGNS FOR A NEW ERA

BMC's relationship with Italian master stylist Sergio Pinin Farina began after a chance remark by the late Duke of Edinburgh, and the result was a range of stylish, dependable cars that became UK street furniture in the 1960s.

## NEW PARTS

Back of the radiator, radiator grille, fan housing and screws.



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