ORACLE Red Bull RACING

RB19

MAX VERSTAPPEN

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Saudi Arabia 2023

Free practice and qualifying



The sessions leading up to the 2023 Saudi Arabian Grand Prix, which took place at the spectacular Jeddah circuit, were the scene of some tense moments and unexpected surprises.

On March 17 and 18, 2023, the fast Jeddah track played host to the teams in free practice and qualifying for the second Grand Prix of the Formula 1 season. On a circuit with a top speed of 209 mph (337 km/h) and only nine specific braking points, the Oracle Red Bull Racing team displayed its dominance, but qualifying was not without its hiccups.

Dominance in free practice

The Red Bull RB19, with a perfect balance between power and aerodynamics, exhibited a remarkable superiority over the rest of its competitors, especially on the fast straights of the Jeddah circuit, one of the quickest on the calendar. However, despite the unchallenged performance of the Oracle Red Bull cars, their rivals

Max Verstappen driving the (1) Oracle Red Bull Racing RB19 on track during qualifying ahead of the F1 Saudi Arabian Grand Prix at the Jeddah Corniche circuit on March 18, 2023.

Sergio Pérez driving the (11) Oracle Red Bull Racing RB19 on track during qualifying for the 2023 Saudi Arabian Grand Prix.



Pole for Checo



Christian Horner congratulates Checo Pérez after his brilliant pole position at the Jeddah circuit. The Saudi Arabian Grand Prix got off to a great start for the Mexican driver.

"It was tricky that Q3, especially [after] not getting that second lap. That [first lap] was quite good, it was quite clean, really clean. Nailing that lap, you know, you really feel the Formula 1 cars coming alive in this place and yeah, just maximizing that lap was very important... Max has been really strong the whole weekend. So hopefully tomorrow we can have both cars up there."

never failed to show their desire to compete. Fernando Alonso, for example, at the wheel of his Aston Martin, was constantly in the fight. And that allowed him to close Thursday's second session in first place, setting a time of 1:28.827, which would put him ahead of Mercedes driver George Russell and Verstappen.

In any case, the third free practice was a prelude to what was to come. Verstappen struck an authoritative blow and was once again the fastest driver, with an astonishing time of 1:28.412. In his wake were the Ferrari of Charles Leclerc and Checo Pérez, who had been following his teammate closely since the start of free practice. Everything seemed to indicate that qualifying would be a triumph for the Oracle Red Bull Racing team.



Unexpected setback in qualifying

But the great thing about Formula 1 is that you can never be certain too early. Friday afternoon's qualifying brought an unexpected surprise that threw the Oracle Red Bull Racing team and its fans. In Q1, Max Verstappen once again confirmed his supremacy and set the pace with a time of 1:28.761, which allowed him to beat Checo by only half a second. The Dutchman looked unstoppable and everything indicated that he would take another pole position without any major difficulties. However, fate had other plans for the afternoon.

Q2 started promisingly: the Red Bull champion continued on his path to glory, but this time under heavy pressure from Alonso and Leclerc. And, when no one expected it, the big surprise came. After aborting his first attempt at a flying lap, an untimely transmission failure forced Verstappen to retire. The world champion was out of qualifying. Team members, as well as fans of the Dutchman, were devastated to see him eliminated prematurely.

No one had wished such a setback on Verstappen, but his direct competitors saw his elimination as an unexpected opportunity to take points off the world championship leader. However, they still had a serious obstacle in their way: Checo Pérez and the strength of Oracle Red Bull Racing.

Checo Pérez exiting his garage to join the track in qualifying. The RB19 allowed him to put in an unbeatable lap.

Pérez comes to the rescue

There's no room for self-pity in Oracle Red Bull Racing's DNA. Misfortune is overcome with



A general view of the Jeddah Corniche circuit in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, 2023. The Jeddah Corniche circuit is a 3.836-mile (6.174-km) street circuit built in the Red Sea port city of Jeddah, in Saudi Arabia.

courage, as the Mexican driver showed on Friday night. Under the bright lights of Jeddah, Sergio Pérez played the role of hero and did it to perfection. It was no easy task because, with his teammate out of contention, Checo not only had the responsibility on his shoulders to keep the team at the front of the field, but also to reaffirm his own status as a solid driver with the will to succeed.

When it was time for him to prove whether he was truly capable of earning the trust that Oracle Red Bull had placed in him, Checo Pérez's performance was impeccable. His lap of 1:28.265 was simply spectacular. He beat Charles Leclerc by 0.155 seconds and secured first place on the grid for the race.

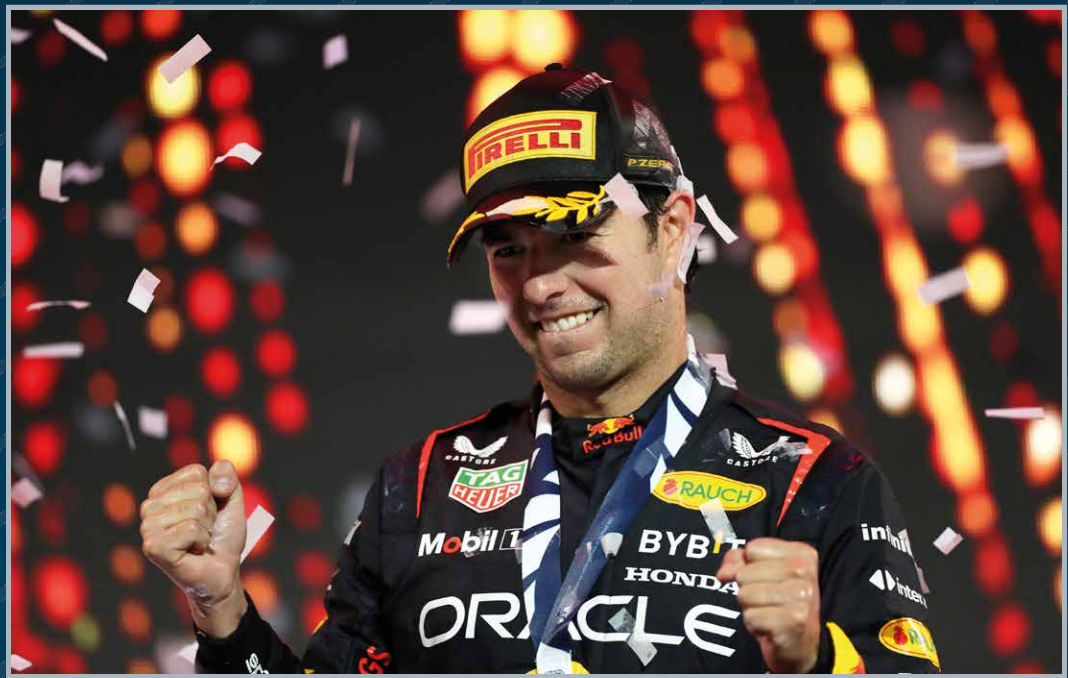
With Sergio Pérez on pole and Max Verstappen in 15th, the race in Jeddah was shaping up to be an epic challenge for the Oracle Red Bull team. Nerves were high and, despite the shocks of the last few hours, the RB19 showed that the Austrian team was in a position to put on a memorable show at the 2023 Saudi Arabian Grand Prix.

Qualifying classification

Pos.	Nº	Driver	Constructor	Q1	Q2	Q 3	Final grid
1	11	Sergio Pérez	Oracle Red Bull Racing	1:29.244	1:28.635	1:28.265	1
2	16	Charles Leclerc	Ferrari	1:29.376	1:28.903	1:28.420	12*
3	14	Fernando Alonso	Aston Martin Aramco-Mercedes	1:29.298	1:28.757	1:28.730	2
4	63	George Russell	Mercedes	1:29.592	1:29.132	1:28.857	3
5	55	Carlos Sainz Jr.	Ferrari	1:29.411	1:28.957	1:28.931	4
6	18	Lance Stroll	Aston Martin Aramco-Mercedes	1:29.335	1:28.962	1:28.945	5
7	31	Esteban Ocon	Alpine-Renault	1:29.707	1:29.255	1:29.078	6
8	44	Lewis Hamilton	Mercedes	1:29.689	1:29.374	1:29.223	7
9	81	Oscar Piastri	McLaren-Mercedes	1:29.706	1:29.378	1:29.243	8
10	10	Pierre Gasly	Alpine-Renault	1:29.890	1:29.411	1:29.357	9
11	27	Nico Hülkenberg	Haas-Ferrari	1:29.547	1:29.451	N/A	10
12	24	Zhou Guanyu	Alfa Romeo-Ferrari	1:29.654	1:29.461	N/A	11
13	20	Kevin Magnussen	Haas-Ferrari	1:29.744	1:29.517	N/A	13
14	77	Valtteri Bottas	Alfa Romeo-Ferrari	1:29.929	1:29.668	N/A	14
15	1	Max Verstappen	Oracle Red Bull Racing	1:28.761	1:49.953	N/A	15
16	22	Yuki Tsunoda	AlphaTauri-Honda RBPT	1:29.939	N/A	N/A	16
17	23	Alexander Albon	Williams-Mercedes	1:29.994	N/A	N/A	17
18	21	Nyck de Vries	AlphaTauri-Honda RBPT	1:30.244	N/A	N/A	18
19	4	Lando Norris	McLaren-Mercedes	1:30.447	N/A	N/A	19
NC	2	Logan Sargeant	Williams-Mercedes	2:08.510	N/A	N/A	20

*Charles Leclerc received a ten-place grid penalty for exceeding his quota of control electronics elements.

2023 Saudi Arabian Grand Prix
Formula 1 reaches a new level



Race winner Sergio Pérez from Oracle Red Bull Racing celebrates on the podium after the F1 Saudi Arabian Grand Prix.



Checo Pérez enjoys his lap of honor on the Jeddah circuit surrounded by fireworks at the end of the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix in 2023.

Moved forward to Saturday March 2, 2023, the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix had focused the eyes of millions of fans on the lightning-fast Jeddah circuit. Although it was only the second race of the season, the surprising events of the qualifying session – with Verstappen sidelined by a transmission problem and Checo putting on an impressive display – had set the scene for a great spectacle. And, right from the start of the race, expectations were fulfilled.

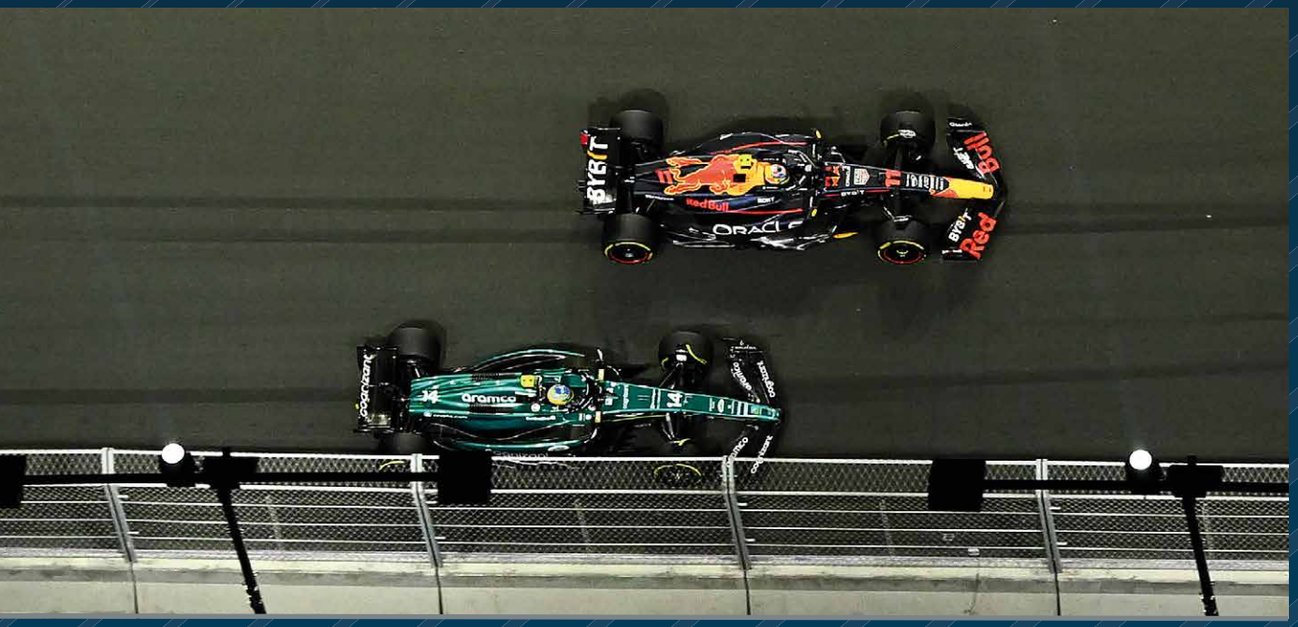
A heart-racing start

By 18.00, the stage was set for an epic battle under the bright floodlights of the Jeddah circuit. Pole-sitter Sergio Pérez looked calm and poised to continue to shine as he had the previous afternoon, showing that, given the slightest chance, he would once again be a serious contender for the world title. But in Formula 1 racing, nobody gives away chances, something that Fernando Alonso made very clear with an exceptional start that put him in the lead of the race. The crowd roared in admiration and bewilderment. But the surprise was short-lived, as the Asturian driver made a small mistake by positioning his car incorrectly on the grid and receiving a five-second penalty. Checo quickly regained the lead and immediately took control of the race.

Many fans focused their attention on the leading positions, not realizing that the real outcome of the race was taking place at the back, with the RB19 driven by Max Verstappen. Starting from

FINAL CLASSIFICATION

1 Sergio Pérez – Red Bull-Honda RBPT
2 Max Verstappen – Red Bull-Honda RBPT
3 Fernando Alonso – Aston Martin A.M.
4 George Russell – Mercedes
5 Lewis Hamilton – Mercedes
6 Carlos Sainz Jr. – Ferrari
7 Charles Leclerc – Ferrari
8 Esteban Ocon – Alpine-Renault
9 Pierre Gasly – Alpine-Renault
10 Kevin Magnussen – Haas-Ferrari
11 Yuki Tsunoda – AlphaTauri-Honda RBPT
12 Nico Hülkenberg – Haas-Ferrari
13 Zhou Guanyu – Alfa Romeo-Ferrari
14 Nyck de Vries – AlphaTauri-Honda RBPT
15 Oscar Piastri – McLaren-Mercedes
16 Logan Sargeant – Williams-Mercedes
17 Lando Norris – McLaren-Mercedes
18 Valtteri Bottas – Alfa Romeo-Ferrari
RET Alexander Albon – Williams-Mercedes
RET Lance Stroll – Aston Martin A.M.



Sergio Pérez driving the (11) Oracle Red Bull Racing RB19 overtakes Fernando Alonso at the wheel of the (14) Aston Martin AMR23 Mercedes.

15th position had condemned him to a difficult start. But, despite the procession of cars making overtaking difficult, the Dutchman began to move up positions with a real display of driving and speed. Under the astonished gaze of fans and rivals, Verstappen did not stop overtaking until he was already in the points on lap 10. And even then he didn't slow down. While other drivers struggled to maintain their positions, it seemed that Verstappen had set off with the sole aim of taking the lead of the race.

Dueling partners

Anyone watching that night's action at the Jeddah circuit would have been aware of the scale of the spectacle. And things only got better for the Oracle Red Bull Racing team as the race progressed. The safety car had to be brought out onto the track as a result of a problem that forced Lance Stroll to stop his Aston Martin. That incident proved crucial as, with the cunning of a great champion, Verstappen took advantage to make a quick pit stop. When he rejoined the race, he was already in 4th position. In the blink of an eye, the Dutchman had joined the leading group.

During the second half of the race, the RB19s showed their formidable dominance on the tarmac and the show put on by their drivers was memorable. Checo had set out to win, and his control of the race was absolute. With an authority only displayed by the greatest drivers, he kept a pursuing Fernando Alonso at bay at all times. At the same time, just a few meters behind, Max Verstappen was putting on his own show, first overtaking George Russell and then Fernando Alonso in a perfect maneuver.

The two RB19s went into the final part of the race together, occupying the top two places. But who would take the win, and would there be specific instructions from the team? Amidst the excitement and uncertainty, the fans were aware that they were witnessing a full-blown battle within the team. Verstappen was pushing hard, closing the gap to his teammate lap after lap, but Checo was still not letting up. He was mentally prepared to cross the line first and nothing was going to stop him.

In the Oracle Red Bull Racing paddock, the team followed the performance of its drivers with admiration. The euphoria subsided for a few moments when Max radioed that his car was starting to experience some vibrations. The memory of what happened in qualifying concerned some of the mechanics. But the possibility of mechanical failure didn't put Verstappen off. On the contrary. With his familiar coolness, he put his foot down on the accelerator and set the fastest lap on the very last lap of the race. But even that was not enough to subdue Checo, who remained steady at the wheel and made no mistakes until, at last, he passed the checkered flag. Victory was his!

An amazing weekend

Joy filled the hearts of the Oracle Red Bull Racing team. The team had achieved its second consecutive one-two of the season. And, during the race, it was clear not only that the team had the fastest car on the grid, but also that it had two of the best drivers in Formula 1 in its ranks.

"What a race," declared Christian Horner, having barely caught his breath. "All credit today goes to the team. They have built an incredible car. That, coupled with some really fantastic driving, has meant we've had the best start to our history ever."

Sergio Pérez claimed his fifth Formula 1 victory, while Verstappen's second place and fastest lap ensured he retained his lead in the drivers' world championship. Red Bull's happiness contrasted with the serious faces of most of its rivals, as the race was not without drama even after its conclusion. Fernando Alonso, who had finished third, was penalized for an incident during his pit stop, relegating him from the podium. Aston Martin demanded a review and the stewards rectified the situation, restoring Alonso to third place and allowing him to celebrate his 100th Formula 1 podium finish. Behind him, Russell had to settle for fourth and Lewis Hamilton finished fifth.



Max Verstappen ahead of the group led by Yuki Tsunoda (Scuderia AlphaTauri ATO4) during the F1 Saudi Arabian Grand Prix.

SPEED ON THE STRAIGHTS



A view of fireworks at the podium celebrations following the race win of Sergio Pérez and Oracle Red Bull Racing during the 2023 F1 Saudi Arabian Grand Prix at the Jeddah Corniche circuit on March 19.

For weeks before the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix took place, Formula 1 fans had been talking about nothing else: the thrilling power duel between the Ferrari and Oracle Red Bull cars in Jeddah. There was real excitement to see how Ferrari's SF-23 would perform on a high-speed track, having sacrificed a little downforce to improve on the straights. The Saudi circuit had some fantastic straights on which to test this change in strategy against a very tough competitor in the form of the RB19.

During pre-Grand Prix testing, that uncertainty faded much more quickly than expected, in favor of Oracle Red Bull Racing's powerful machine. During qualifying, the RB19 showed absolute superiority, recording a higher top speed than the SF-23. The Ferrari cars had the ability to exit the corners faster, but the advantage this gave them was immediately lost on the straights.

During the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix, it was clear that Ferrari had not achieved the top speed it needed. Carlos Sainz Jr. and Charles Leclerc had to settle for sixth and seventh respectively. After the test, Ferrari team boss Fred Vasseur revealed that they had used the same setup in both qualifying and the race. Ferrari fans were convinced that their car could perform better, but the SF-23s had failed to perform as expected on a key circuit.

BUILD THE

ORACLE Red Bull RACING RB19
MAX VERSTAPPEN

FRONT LEFT SUSPENSION (1)

In this issue, we will start assembling the suspension system and the front left brake disc.

PIECES IN THIS ISSUE



4A Inner part of the brake disc
4B Central part of the brake disc
4C Outer part of the brake disc
4D Brake disc vent
4E Front left suspension lower arm
4F Front left suspension lower reinforcement arm
4G Hub mount
4H Front left suspension arm mount
4I Wheel hub
4J Hub inner part
A Screws 2.3 mm x 4 mm (2 + 1*)
B Screws 1.7 mm x 3 mm (2 + 1*)
C Screws 2.3 mm x 4 mm (2 + 1*)

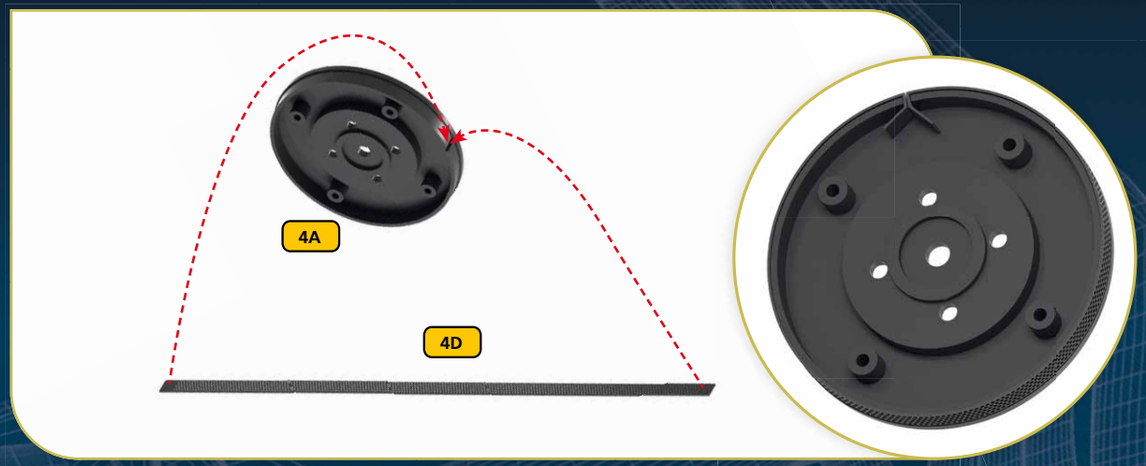
* Spare screw

SCREWS

The different screws are distinguished by their length, diameter, and thread type (for plastic and for metal). In each step, use only the screws provided and identified with the specific letter.

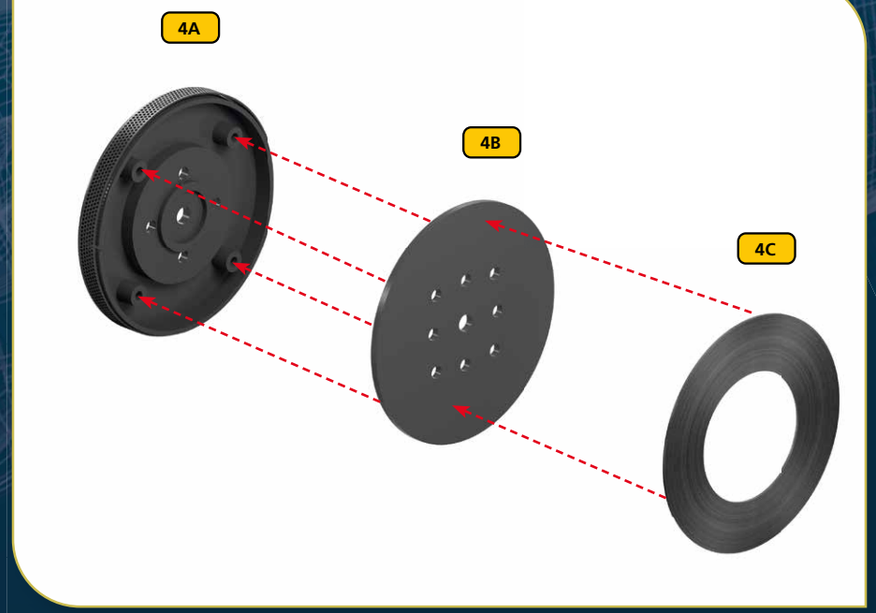
STEP 4–1

To start, slide a few millimeters of one end of the brake disc vent **4D** into the highlighted slot on the inner part of the brake disc **4A**. Wrap the vent around the entire brake disc and fit the other end of the vent into the same slot as the first end.



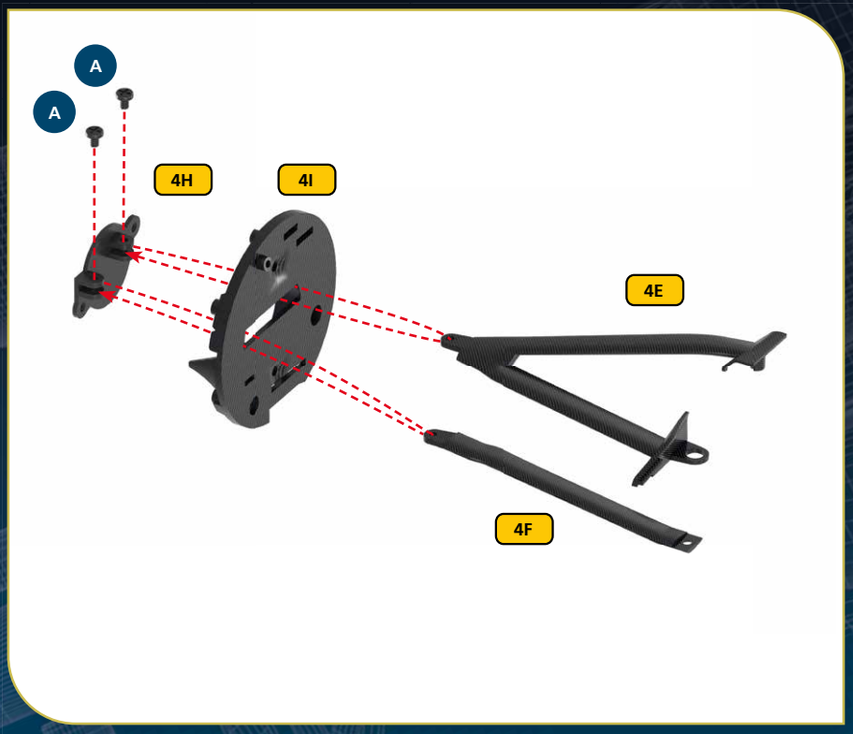
STEP 4–2

Insert the four pins in the central part of the brake disc **4B** into the four highlighted holes in the inner part of the brake disc **4A**. Next, remove the adhesive layer from the outer part of the brake disc **4C** and carefully attach the outer part of the disc to the central part of the brake disc **4B**.



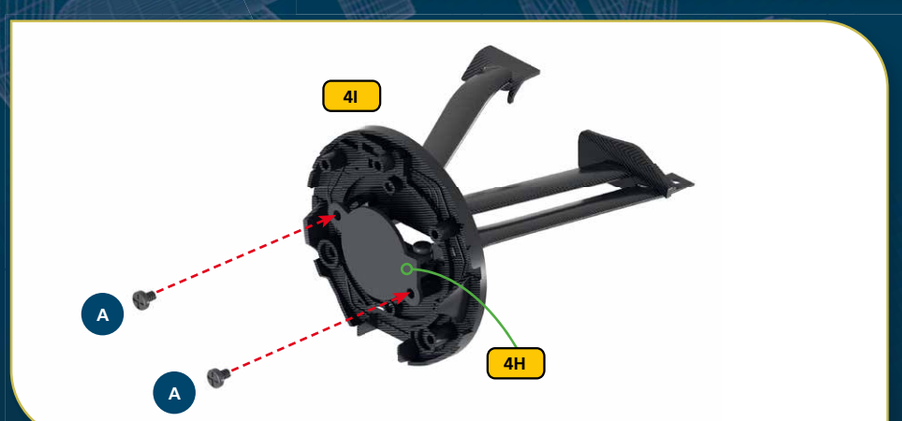
STEP 4–3

Check the position of the parts in the picture and pass the front left suspension lower arm **4E** and the front left lower reinforcement arm **4F** through the groove in the wheel hub **4I**. Next, attach the ends of the arms **4E** and **4F** to the front suspension arm mount **4H** with two **A** screws.



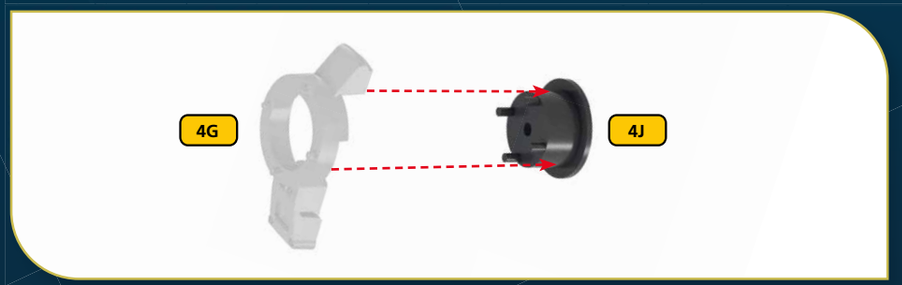
STEP 4–4

Align the front left suspension arm mount **4H** with the two holes in the wheel hub **4I** and connect the parts with two screws **A**.

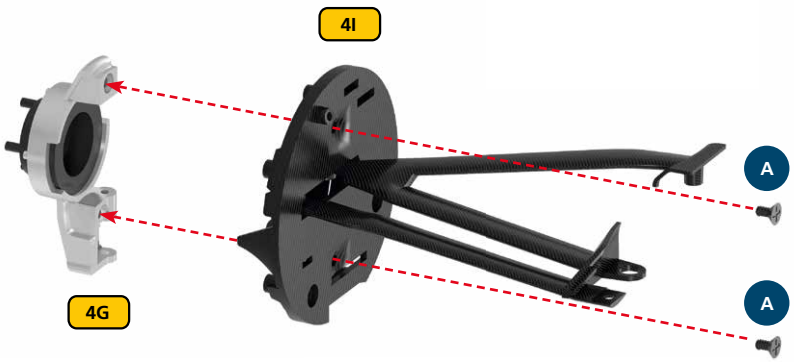


STEP 4–5

Fit the hub inner part **4J** into the center hole in the hub mount **4G**.



Front left suspension (1)



STEP 4-6

Finally, fasten the hub mount **4G** to the wheel hub **4I** with two **A** screws, as shown in the picture.

FINAL RESULT

This is what the parts that have been assembled at this stage of the assembly look like.

