ORACLE Red Bull RACING

RB19

MAX VERSTAPPEN

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Spain 2023
Practice and qualifying



In the run-up to the Spanish Grand Prix 2023, Oracle Red Bull Racing left no room for surprises: the team secured pole position and proved once again why it remained the big favorite for the season.

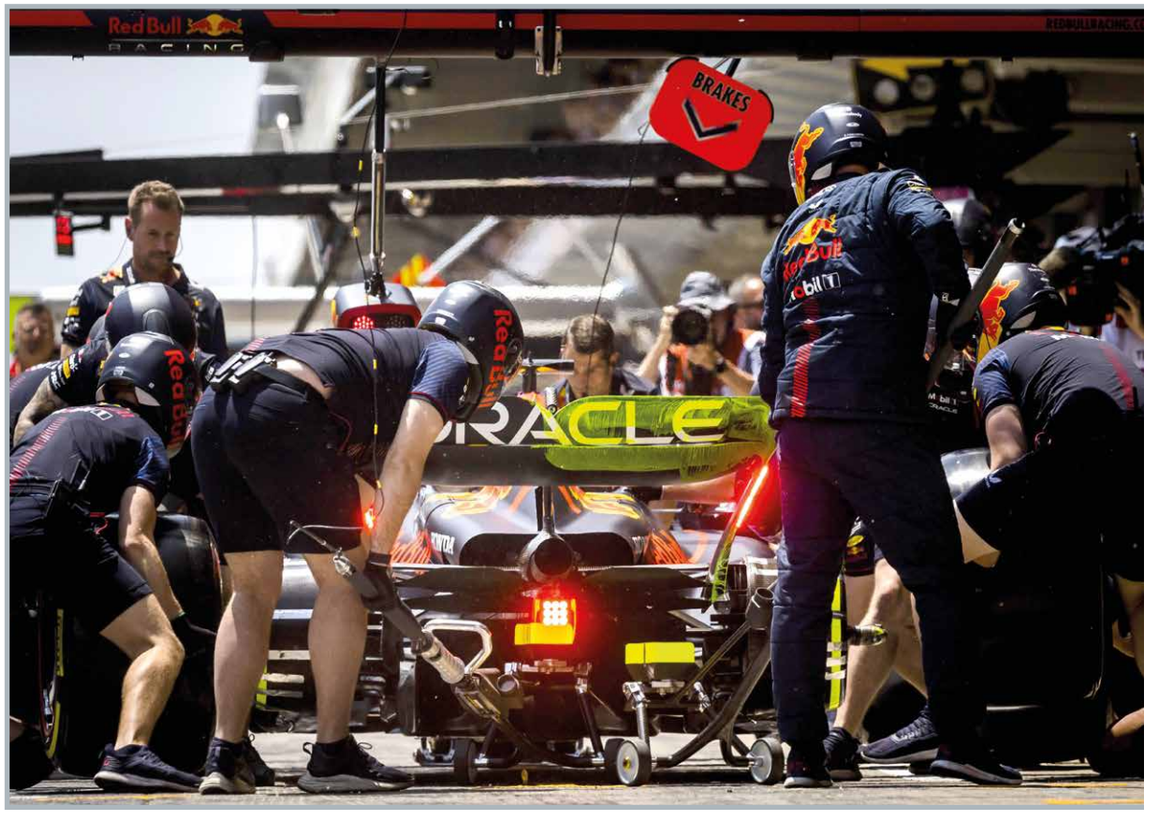
On June 2 and 3, 2023, the Barcelona-Catalunya circuit in Montmeló hosted the free practice sessions for the Spanish Grand Prix. Max Verstappen was once again emerging as the favorite, after his sublime drive in Monaco just a few days earlier.

Under control

Already from the first free practice, the Oracle Red Bull Racing champion and his RB19 took to the track hungry for victory and proved it by setting an impressive time of 1:14.606. He managed to get no less than 0.768 seconds ahead of his closest rival, who was none other than his teammate Sergio "Checo" Pérez. Verstappen was comfortable on the circuit, despite the intense sun that shone down on Montmeló.

In the second free practice, Max again showed his supremacy. However, on this occasion, the times began to narrow. Fernando Alonso, keen to take advantage of

Max Verstappen pictured during the first free practice session in Spain on June 2, 2023.



The Oracle Red Bull Racing team fit a new set of tires to Verstappen's car during free practice.

the energy provided by the Spanish public, wanted to offer more of a show and closely followed Verstappen. The Red Bull driver finished with a time of 1:13.907 and was only 0.170 off the Spaniard. German driver Nico Hülkenberg surprised everyone by finishing third, just ahead of Checo and Esteban Ocon.

Clouds threaten practice sessions

With threatening clouds in the sky, the racers rushed to try to record their best times in the third practice session, fearing that rain could affect the track. Max Verstappen did not lose his head, and that allowed him to record the best time again: 1:13.664, beating Checo by only 0.250 seconds, so the Oracle Red Bull Racing team managed to complete the free practice with some excellent results. Mercedes also displayed impressive speed, with Lewis Hamilton recording the third-fastest time, while Spaniards Carlos Sainz Jr. and Fernando Alonso had to settle for fourth and fifth places.

Another nightmare for Checo

The rain was getting heavier and its effects were clearly visible from the start of qualifying. Incidents were not long in coming, with drivers losing control of their cars, and accidents that made the spectators' hair stand on end. The Oracle Red Bull Racing crew got through Q1 with flying colors, with Max Verstappen the first to set a competitive time (1:13.660), showing that he had the fastest car of the weekend and knew how to control it to perfection. However,



Sergio Pérez was just a quarter of a second behind his teammate in free practice.

the situation got noticeably worse in Q2 for his teammate Sergio Pérez, who was once again caught in a nightmare similar to the one suffered in the previous Grand Prix. It all happened in tenths of a second, when the Mexican went off track at turn 5 due to wet conditions.

"Going into turn 5, the track was a bit damp and I lost the rear and went into the gravel, so we ended up losing a bit of time that cost us dearly," explained Checo, dejected about the outcome. "That incident made the tires too hot on my last lap and it was difficult to come back."

The mishap relegated Pérez to 11th position for Sunday's race. The driver's tense face spoke for itself.

A decisive pole

In the final qualifying session, Max Verstappen put on a superb display. The Dutch driver made it clear why he was the title favorite with a spectacular lap of 1:12.272, placing him on pole with a remarkable time difference over the next fastest drivers. Neither Hamilton nor Hülkenberg – who surprised by placing third – could do anything to snatch pole position. Alonso, on his only fast lap, managed a creditable fourth place, but the dominance of Verstappen's RB19 was absolute.

The Oracle Red Bull Racing champion took his fourth pole of the season with complete authority. "Qualifying started off tricky. You had to be on track at the right time and not make mistakes," he noted at the end. "Going into Q3 I knew there was good potential left in the car, so I was finally able to push it to the limit. The first run was very fast, then we went back out for the second run and it would have been



In Spain, championship leader Max Verstappen was keen to add to his four wins in the 2023 season.

even better, but I was told to abort the lap to save the tires."

Great expectations

With Verstappen starting from pole, qualifying was looking good for Oracle Red Bull Racing to add another win in the 2023 season. The RB19's performance had been flawless throughout Friday and Saturday, and only a major unforeseen event could stand in the team's way.

As in Monaco, the joy was not quite complete because of Pérez's mishap. Now, the question was how the Mexican would perform during Sunday's race. Once again, he would have to make up quite a few places, but the efficiency of the RB19 was good and so was the fighting character of Checo.

Qualifying classification

Pos.	Nº	Driver	Constructor	Q1	Q2	Q3	Final grid
1	1	Max Verstappen	Red Bull Racing-Honda RBPT	1:13.615	1:12.760	1:12.272	1
2	55	Carlos Sainz Jr.	Ferrari	1:13.411	1:12.790	1:12.734	2
3	4	Lando Norris	McLaren-Mercedes	1:13.295	1:12.776	1:12.792	3
4	10	Pierre Gasly	Alpine-Renault	1:13.471	1:13.186	1:12.816	10*
5	44	Lewis Hamilton	Mercedes	1:12.937	1:12.999	1:12.818	4
6	18	Lance Stroll	Aston Martin Aramco-Mercedes	1:13.766	1:13.082	1:12.994	5
7	31	Esteban Ocon	Alpine-Renault	1:13.433	1:13.001	1:13.083	6
8	27	Nico Hülkenberg	Haas-Ferrari	1:13.420	1:13.283	1:13.229	7
9	14	Fernando Alonso	Aston Martin Aramco-Mercedes	1:13.747	1:13.098	1:13.507	8
10	81	Oscar Piastri	McLaren-Mercedes	1:13.691	1:13.059	1:13.682	9
11	11	Sergio Pérez	Red Bull Racing-Honda RBPT	1:13.874	1:13.334	N/A	11
12	63	George Russell	Mercedes	1:13.326	1:13.447	N/A	12
13	24	Zhou Guanyu	Alfa Romeo-Ferrari	1:13.677	1:13.521	N/A	13
14	21	Nyck de Vries	AlphaTauri-Honda RBPT	1:13.581	1:14.083	N/A	14
15	22	Yuki Tsunoda	AlphaTauri-Honda RBPT	1:13.862	1:14.477	N/A	15
16	77	Valtteri Bottas	Alfa Romeo-Ferrari	1:13.977	N/A	N/A	16
17	20	Kevin Magnussen	Haas-Ferrari	1:14.042	N/A	N/A	17
18	23	Alexander Albon	Williams-Mercedes	1:14.063	N/A	N/A	18
19	16	Charles Leclerc	Ferrari	1:14.079	N/A	N/A	PL**
20	2	Logan Sargeant	Williams-Mercedes	1:14.699	N/A	N/A	PL***

* Pierre Gasly received two three-place grid penalties for impeding Carlos Sainz Jr. and Max Verstappen in Q1.
** Charles Leclerc qualified 19th, but he received a 15-place grid penalty for exceeding his quota of power unit elements.
*** Logan Sargeant qualified 20th, but he was required to start the race from the pit lane due to changes made to the set up of the suspension under *parc fermé*.

2023 Spanish Grand Prix

Verstappen... and the others





Max Verstappen (left) and Ferrari's Carlos Sainz Jr. (right) share the lead at the start of the Spanish Grand Prix.

More than 125,000 people gathered in Montmeló, Barcelona, on Sunday, June 4, 2023, to attend a great celebration of motor racing. With a temperature slightly above 72° F (22° C) and a humidity of 65 percent, the atmosphere at the circuit was extraordinary. Max Verstappen was expected to lead the Oracle Red Bull Racing team to glory once again, but nobody suspected that he would be able to do it so easily. The truth was that, from the moment the starting lights went out until the checkered flag waved in the wind, the Dutch driver was absolutely unbeatable.

A perfect start

Starting from pole position, Verstappen took off like a bullet. The RB19 came out wanting to eat up the circuit. Carlos Sainz Jr. followed in his wake, ready to excite the Spanish public, but even at the first corner, the challenge he posed was immediately neutralized by the skills and expertize of Max. While imposing a fast pace, some interesting duels were going on behind him, such as the one between Lewis Hamilton and Lando Norris, which ended with a slight touch that forced the latter to bring his McLaren to the pits earlier than expected. Further back, Sergio Pérez began his particular redemption, which took shape with the first overtakes he made on the cars of Hülkenberg and Guanyu.

In the lead, Verstappen stepped on the gas in his RB19. It was only a matter of time before the gap widened, and he was soon six seconds ahead of Sainz Jr. The distance from the others grew even more, with Hamilton, Russell, and Stroll fighting for a podium place.

Verstappen led from start to finish at the 2023 Spanish Grand Prix.

FINAL CLASSIFICATION

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



Sergio Pérez fought his way through the field to make up seven places and finish fourth.

A wise choice

Quite possibly, one of the secrets of Oracle Red Bull Racing's success in the race was the right choice of tires. After Verstappen had stayed on medium tires, the team decided to change its strategy on lap 26, when Hamilton pitted to switch from soft to medium. Max, wasting no time, made his stop on the next lap, fitting hard tires to go all the way to the end of the race.

Pérez, who had mounted hard tires on lap 28, was in ninth position, but his pace was impressive. The Mexican began to overtake his rivals with ease, leaving Alonso, Tsunoda, and Ocon behind to move into sixth position just as the race reached the halfway point.

Hamilton attacks, Pérez on a charge

During the second part of the race, things started to get really interesting. Max Verstappen defended his lead with a poise that left little room for uncertainty. On the other hand, his pursuers were fighting like fierce beasts, not so much to catch up with the champion, but to guarantee themselves podium places. After a pit stop, Hamilton took advantage of the DRS on the main straight to overtake Sainz Jr. and move into second place. For his part, Russell, who had started 12th, was now fighting to stay in the leading positions.

Checo continued to execute his comeback with astonishing precision. With new tires, the Mexican was in the hunt for third place, passing Sainz, who was unable to defend himself due to the continued degradation of his Ferrari. It was not long before Russell realized that, with Checo breathing down his neck, he had gone from hunter to prey.



A jubilant Max Verstappen after winning the Spanish GP by an impressive margin of 24 seconds.

Minimizing risks

Verstappen was pushing his RB19 hard at the front of the race, so hard in fact that the Dutchman was given a warning flag for overstepping the track limits. From the radio, the Oracle Red Bull Racing race engineer's voice boomed out to remind the Dutchman that his lead over Hamilton made it unnecessary to take any risks at all. Max got the message loud and clear and eased off a little until he crossed the finish line like a true champion – with a 24-second lead over Hamilton. Despite Pérez's attempts to catch him, Russell managed to retain third position, completing the podium and giving Mercedes a brilliant result at the Barcelona-Catalunya circuit.

Checo had to settle for fourth place. The Mexican driver was disappointed not to have made it to the podium, but everyone praised his outstanding effort in executing an incredible comeback from 11th place.

While Verstappen comfortably defended his first place, Pérez fought with real tenacity to come back and challenge for a podium position.

The Oracle Red Bull Racing team members celebrated the victory of Verstappen, who once again consolidated his championship lead by adding the fastest lap bonus. The team also praised the role of Sergio Pérez, as he confirmed the character of the RB19 even in the most adverse situations.

Unrivaled success



Oracle Red Bull Racing's jubilant number one driver celebrates on his RB19 after winning the 2023 Spanish Grand Prix. The victory gave the Dutchman a 53-point lead in the Drivers' Championship.

It was his fifth win in seven races and proved that he was a cut above the rest. Max Verstappen continued on the path to his third consecutive title without any opposition. The Red Bull driver not only dominated at the Spanish Grand Prix, but did so in a totally controlled manner. In the crowd, someone joked that, had he been given a magazine, he would surely have had time to glance through it between corners.

From the very first lap, Max made it clear who was in command at the Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya. With an unstoppable pace, he quickly got away from the pack, making the race look like a walkover. Not a single rival could get close enough to worry him. He performed the race as if it were almost a perfect choreography. His dance partner, the RB19, was a car that practically flew on the straights, and under Max's control it was unstoppable. Even the weather seemed to yield to them. The clouds, which threatened rain, ended up settling for being mere spectators high in the Barcelona sky. Because when Verstappen and the RB19 advance on the track, not even the rain dares to intervene.

BUILD THE

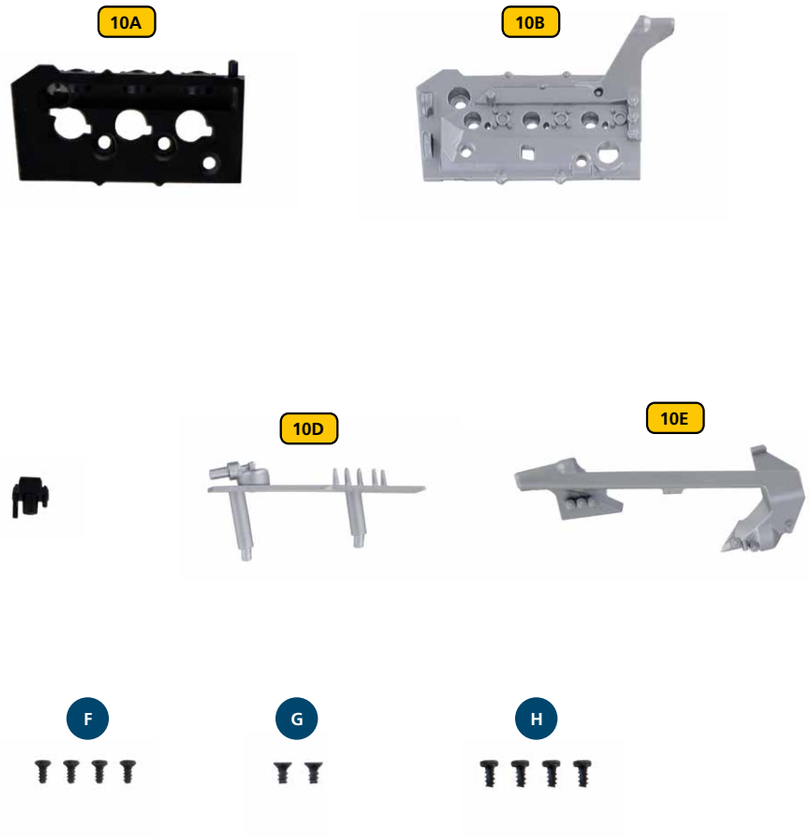
ORACLE Red Bull RACING RB19

MAX VERSTAPPEN

LEFT-HAND ENGINE BLOCK

In this issue, we will start assembling the left side of the engine block.

PIECES IN THIS ISSUE

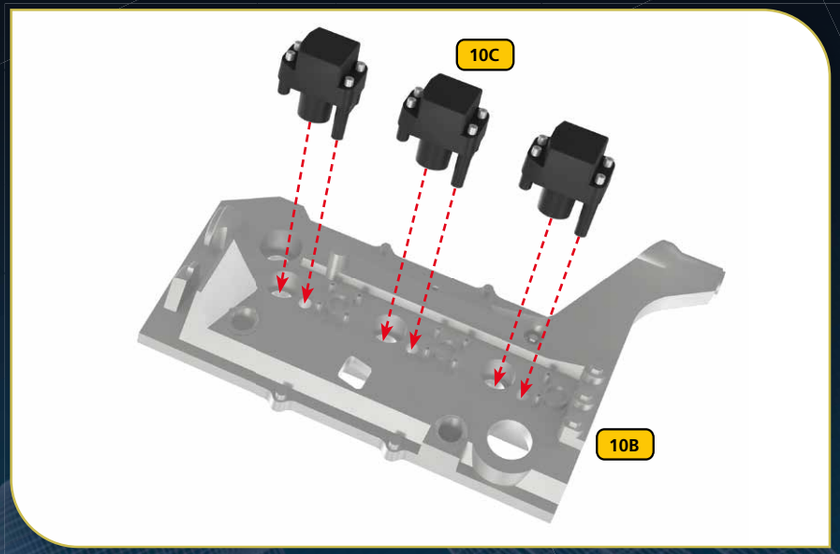


- **10A** Left-hand engine block
- **10B** Left cylinder head 1
- **10C** Left ignition coils
- **10D** Left cylinder head 2
- **10E** Left cylinder head 3
- **F** Screws 1.7 mm x 4 mm (3 + 1*)
- **G** Screws 2 mm x 4 mm (1 +1*)
- **H** Screws 2 mm x 4 mm (3 + 1*)

* Spare screw

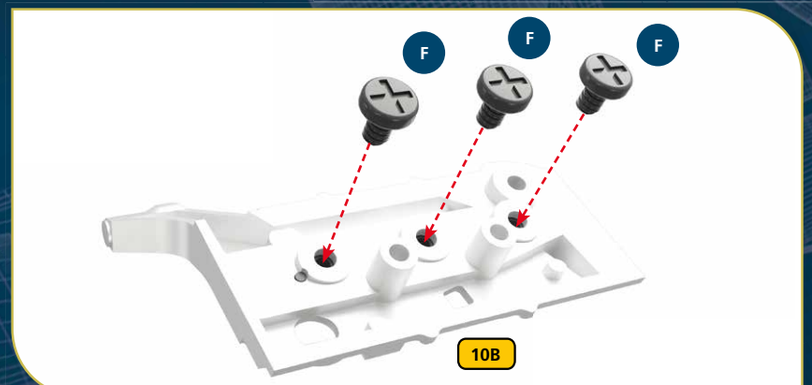
STEP 10-1

Insert the pins on the three left ignition coils **10C** into the highlighted holes in the left cylinder head 1 **10B**.



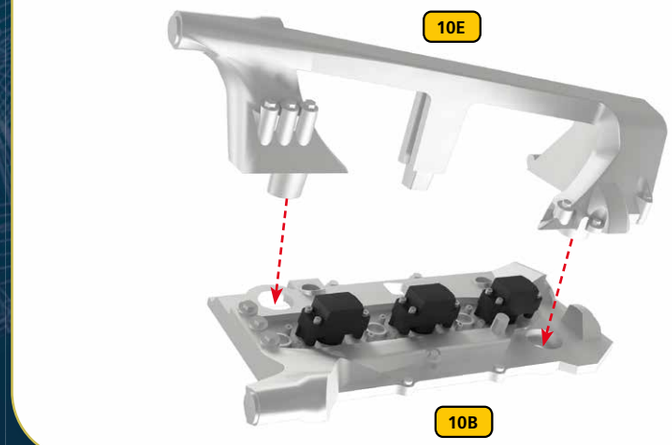
STEP 10-2

From the inside of the left cylinder head 1 **10B**, secure the left ignition coils **10C** with three **F** screws.



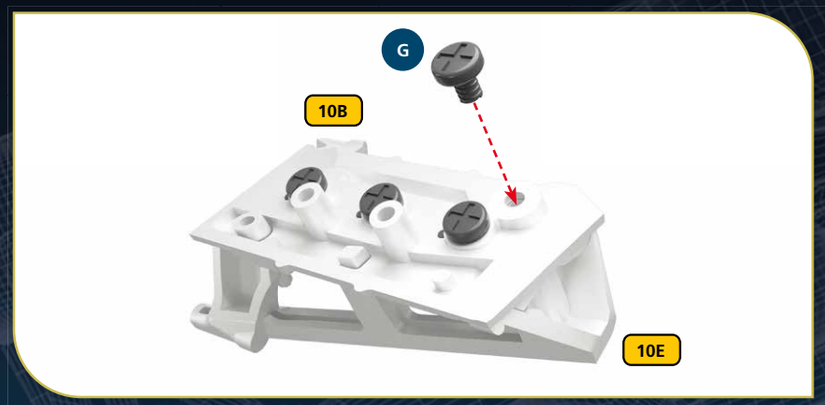
STEP 10-3

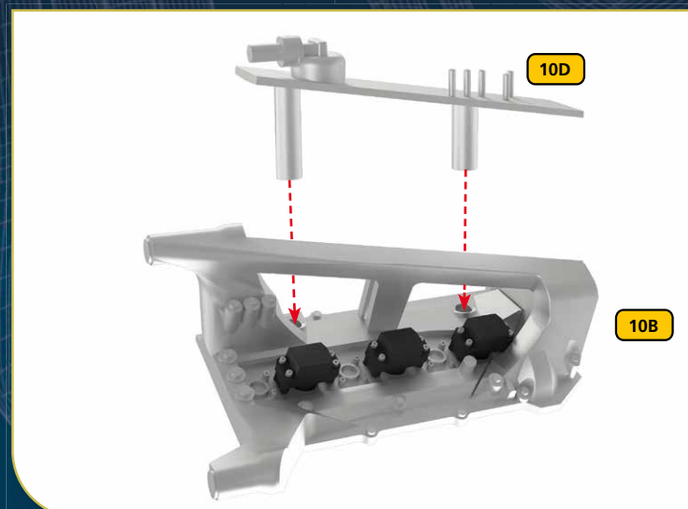
Fit the left cylinder head 3 **10E** onto the left cylinder head 1 **10B**, as shown in the picture.



STEP 10-4

Connect one end of the left cylinder head 3 **10E** to the left cylinder head 1 **10B** with a **G** screw.



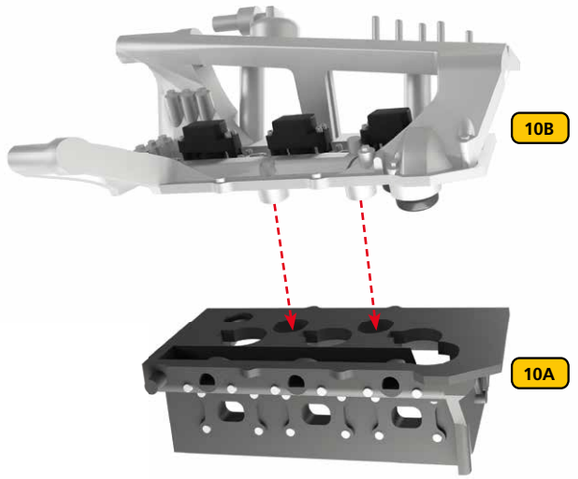


STEP 10-5

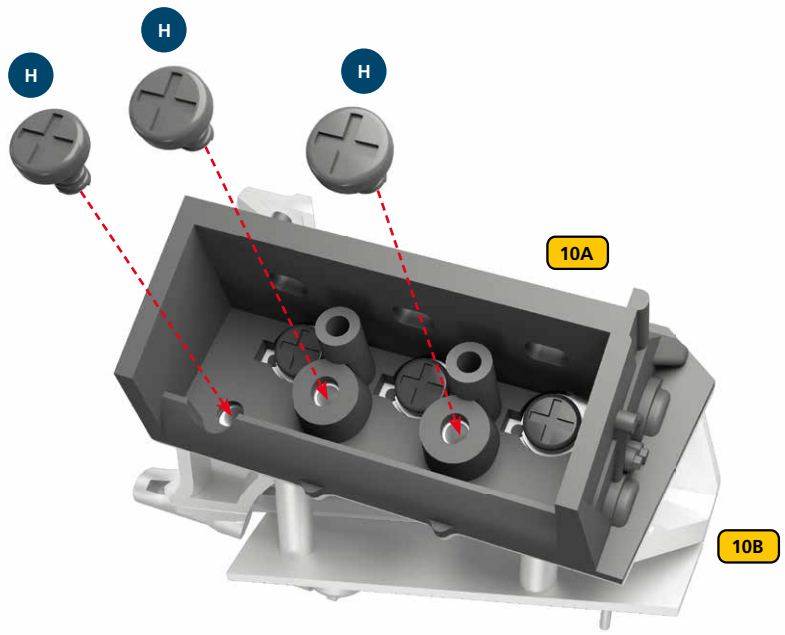
Insert the two pivots on the left cylinder head 2 **10D** into the highlighted holes in the left cylinder head 1 **10B**.

STEP 10-6

Fit the left cylinder head 1 **10B** onto the left-hand engine block **10A**, as shown in the picture.



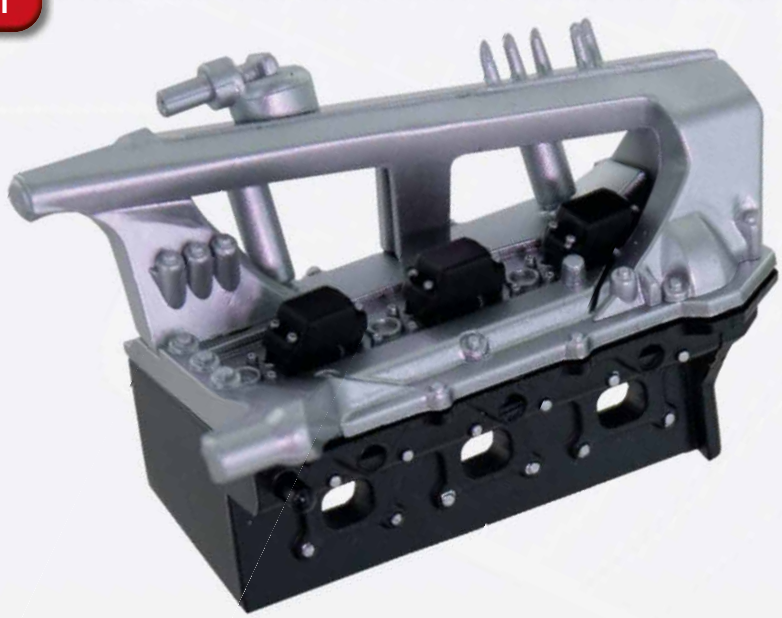
Left-hand engine block



STEP 10–7

Turn the assembly over and secure the left cylinder head 1 **10B** to the left-hand engine block **10A** with three **H** screws in the highlighted holes.

FINAL RESULT



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