

STEMnex[®]
CONNECTS
TO FUTURE
SCIENTISTS!

ENG



V8 MODEL ENGINE

ITEM NO.42494942

AMAZING STEMNEX® SERIES

Welcome to the AMAZING world of the **STEMNEX®** series in the 21st century. Our vision in this series is to open the door to a world of new possibilities and imagination in our STEMNEX® products, so to educate the future generation to become successful in their own ways.

STEMNEX® integrates Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics through hands on fun learning activities! **Science** stimulates our curiosity and can increase creativity. **Technology** focuses on turning theories into reality and empowers inventions. **Engineering** improves hand-eye coordination skills and gives opportunity to connect things together. Whereas **Mathematics** helps to promote problem solving skills. All of these are important life skills for growing and learning in this fast-growing society.

STEMNEX® is our modern learning toys preparing and motivating the future generation to adapt skills in problem solving, creativity and imagination through building experiments to enrich intelligence and stimulate the minds to enhance knowledge. Future generation can learn how science is applied to daily life and how things work around us through embracing STEM learning – it is everywhere and everyday connection around us.

Have an amazing future!

WARNING

Adult supervision and assistance is required.

Not suitable for children under age 3 years old due to small part(s) and component(s)– CHOKING HAZARD.

Read and follow all instructions in the manual before use.

This toy contains small parts and functional sharp points on components.

Keep away from children under age 3 years.

Please retain the information and this manual for future reference.

Follow the instruction manual to perform the circuit connection.

Instructions for parents are included and have to be observed.

Do not lock the motor or other moving parts. Otherwise it may cause overheating.

The toy is not to be connected to more than the recommended number of power supplies.

Warning. Do not use close to the ear! Misuse may cause damage to hearing.

BATTERY INFORMATION

Use 3 x AA size batteries (not included)

Remove batteries when not in use.

Batteries must be inserted with the correct polarity.

Non-rechargeable batteries are not to be recharged.

Re-chargeable batteries are only to be charged under adult supervision.

Re-chargeable batteries are to be removed from the toy before being charged.

Different types of batteries or new and used batteries are not to be mixed.

Only batteries of the same or equivalent types are to be used.

Exhausted batteries are to be removed from the toy.

The supply terminals are not to be short-circuited.

Do not dispose of the batteries in fire.

Do not mix old and new batteries.

Do not mix alkaline, carbon zinc and re-chargeable batteries.

Introduction

Internal combustion engine is a machine that makes use of combustion of a fuel to provide mechanical power. It was not invented by a single person. In fact various scientists and engineers contributed to its development since the 19th century and nowadays it is a common mechanical unit in many different aspects. One of the most common places you will find them in is inside the car. Internal combustion engine is like the heart of a vehicle – it provides the power for the car to run!

What is the difference between an electric motor and an internal combustion engine?

A electric motor makes use of electricity to create rotatory motion. Basically, it consists of magnets and coils. When electricity flows through the coils in the motor, the electro-magnetic force (attraction towards a magnet/repulsive force away from a magnet) drives the coils to move. Actually, the rotatory output of a motion originates from such electro-magnetic force.

An internal combustion engine makes use of the “combustion” of a fuel such as petrol. In simple, first a small amount of petrol is sprayed (in the form of a gas mixture) inside the combustion chamber. Then, a spark ignites the air-fuel mixture. The abrupt combustion of the air-fuel mixture is pretty much like a very small-scale explosion. This small-scale explosion provides the propellent force as the mechanical power output for the internal combustion engine.

Remark: An important difference between the petrol engine and the diesel engine is, the diesel engine does not need a spark to ignite the diesel spray. The ignition of the diesel spray is triggered by the heat produced by air compression. Anyway both types of engines make use of the same principle (combustion of fuels like a small-scale explosion) to provide power.

How to differentiate if a vehicle/vessel is using an electric motor or an internal combustion engine?

If the machine needs fill in liquid fuel for power, then it should be using an internal combustion engine. If the machine needs to charge up for electricity, then it should be using an electric motor.

How many types of internal combustion engines are there?

It depends on what criteria you use to differentiate them. For example, the internal combustion engine for the car is very different from that of the areophane. And then, among the car engines, there is spark ignition engine (using spark to ignite the petrol spray) and compression ignition engine (no spark, but by compressing the air to provide heat to ignite the diesel spray). And among them there are engines of 2-stroke cycle, 4-stroke cycle and 6-stroke cycle (6-stroke cycle is for spark ignition engines only).

This V8 Model Engine is a simulation of a 4-stroke-cycle V8 petrol engine. It is called V8 because there are a total of 8 cylinders (the combustion takes place in a cylinder) and they are arranged in “V” shape. Therefore in this manual, we will focus on this particular type of internal combustion engine.

What is 4-stroke-cycle and how a 4-stroke engine works

As said earlier, the working principle of an internal combustion engine is like this:

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First a small amount of petrol is sprayed (in the form of a gas mixture) inside the combustion chamber. And then, a spark ignites the air-fuel mixture. The abrupt combustion of the air-fuel mixture is pretty much like a very small-scale explosion. This small-scale explosion provides the propellent force as the mechanical power output of the internal combustion engine.

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This combustion process, which is pretty much like a very small-scale explosion, takes place in the combustion chamber. The combustion chamber is also called a cylinder. These diagrams demonstrate the key process inside a cylinder during the operation of this type of internal combustion engine:

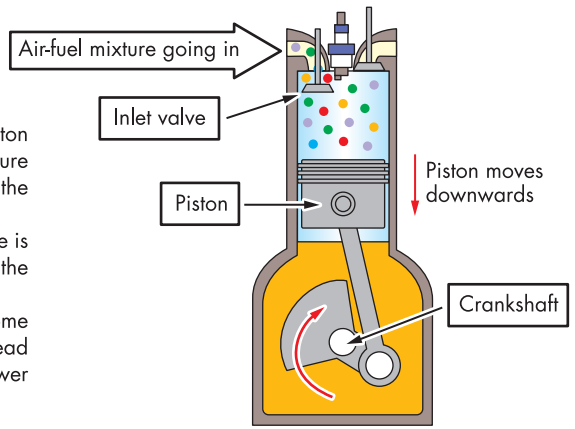
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The 1st cycle - Intake

The shaft rotates and as a result the piston moves downwards, allowing the air-fuel mixture (air mix with volatilized petrol) to fill in the cylinder.

* At the top left of the diagram, the inlet valve is opened to let the air-fuel mixture flow into the cylinder

[If you wonder "where does the power come from?" that rotates the shaft in this cycle, read through all 4 cycles and you will find the answer in the end]



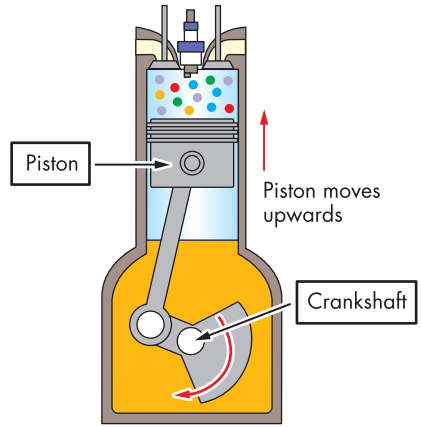
2

The 2nd cycle - Compression

The shaft continues to rotate and then the piston moves upwards, compressing the air-fuel mixture in the cylinder.

* Note that at the top left of the diagram, the valve is closed so that the air-fuel mixture is trapped inside the cylinder for the compression to take place.

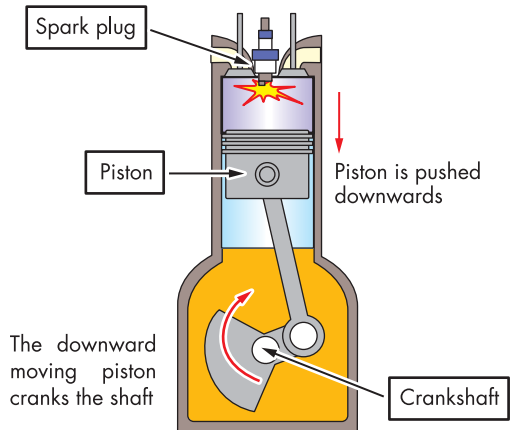
[If you wonder "where does the power come from?" that rotates the shaft in this cycle, read through all 4 cycles and you will find the answer in the end]



3

The 3rd cycle - Power

The spark plug is the igniter. It makes a spark, igniting the air-fuel mixture. The air-fuel mixture immediately combusts. This is pretty much like a very small-scale explosion that pushes the piston downwards. When the piston is pushed downwards, it cranks the shaft. This is called a power stroke, which is the source of power for the engine.



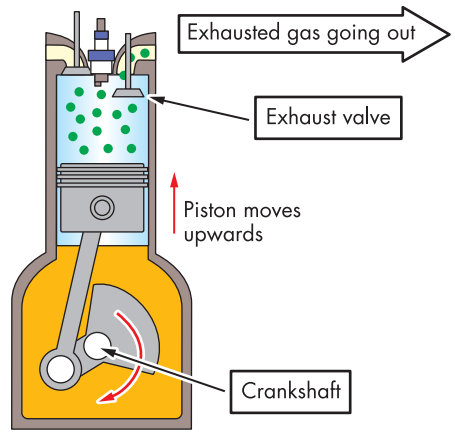
4

The 4th cycle - Exhaust

The shaft continues to rotate and the piston moves upwards, expelling the exhausted gas completely.

* Note that at the top right of the diagram, the exhaust valve is opened for the exhausted gas to leave.

And then the shaft keeps on rotating and back to the 1st cycle and continues the process.



Where does the power come from that rotates the shaft to move the piston up and down in the 1st, 2nd and 4th cycle?

In an ordinary 4-stroke cycle engine, there will be 4 cylinders. They won't be at the same cycle at the same time. In fact, they all will be at a different cycle. To put it simple, let's call the 4 cylinders A, B, C, D.

First, when A is at the 1st cycle, B will be at the 2nd, C will be at the 3rd, D will be at the 4th.

Then, when A is at the 2nd cycle, B will be at the 3rd, C will be at the 4th, D will be at the 1st.

Then, when A is at the 3rd cycle, B will be at the 4th, C will be at the 1st, D will be at the 2nd.

Then, when A is at the 4th cycle, B will be at the 1st, C will be at the 2nd, D will be at the 3rd.

And the process keeps going.....

So that there will always be a cylinder that is at the 3rd cycle that provides the power!

In a V8 engine, there are 8 cylinders. This is basically the same as 4 cylinders ones, except the fact that the crankshaft is now cranked by 8 pistons, instead of 4. Therefore it has more power and smoother power output.

How to start the engine from stationary?

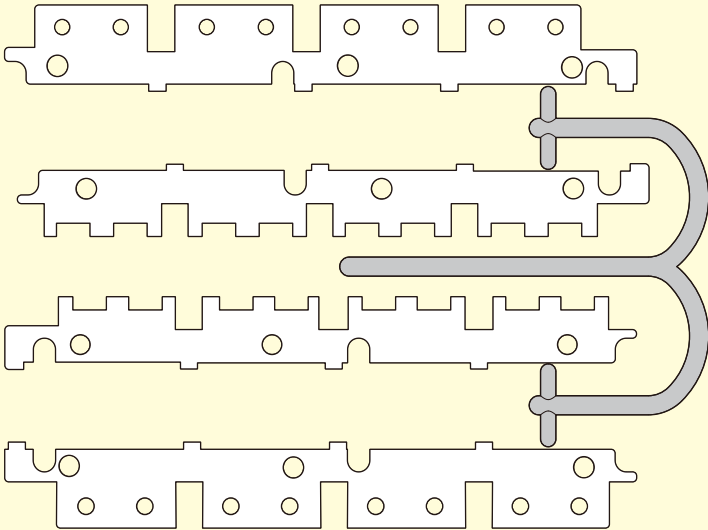
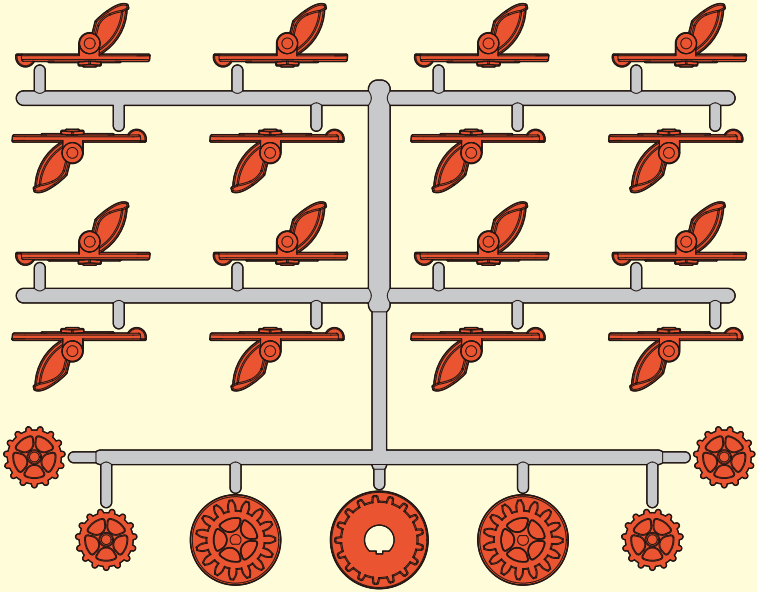
When you understand the working principle of 4-stroke-cycle, naturally a question would come up in the mind: what about at the beginning, when the engine is off, the shaft is not moving, no power is there at the moment, how do you turn it on? How does it start the process?

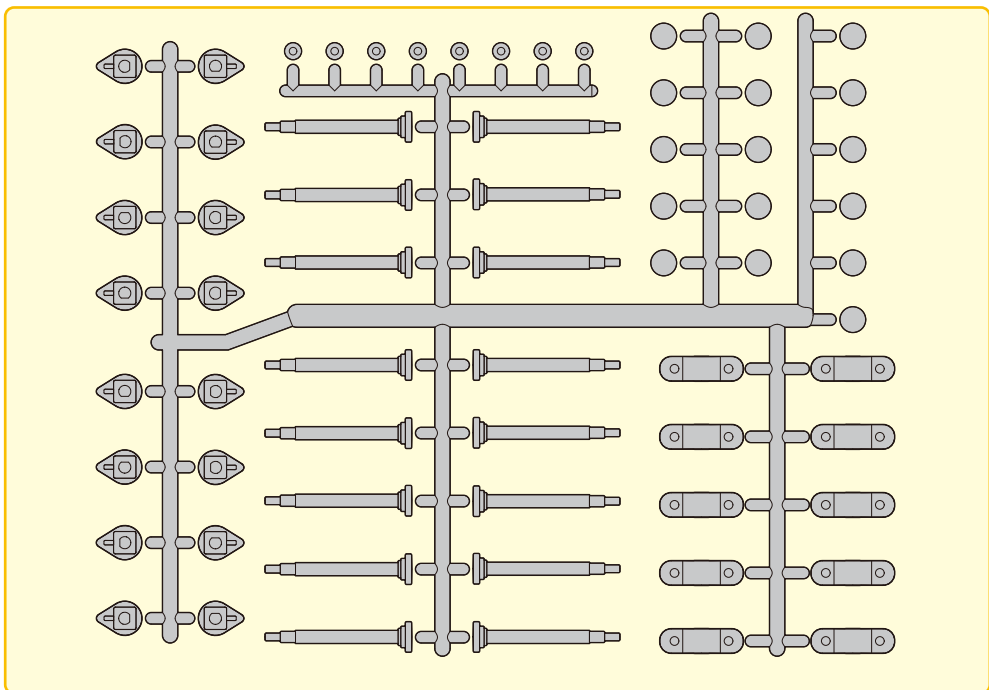
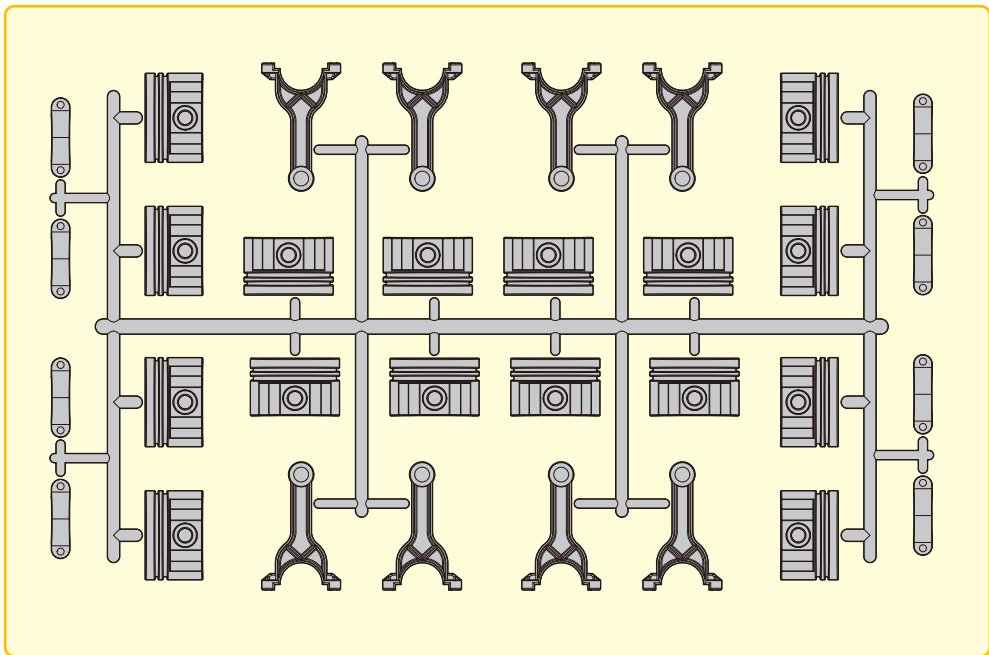
The answer is, for modern car engines it will come up with a "starter", which is an electric motor unit to crank the crankshaft at the beginning. Once the crankshaft is rotating, the 4-stroke-cycle can start.

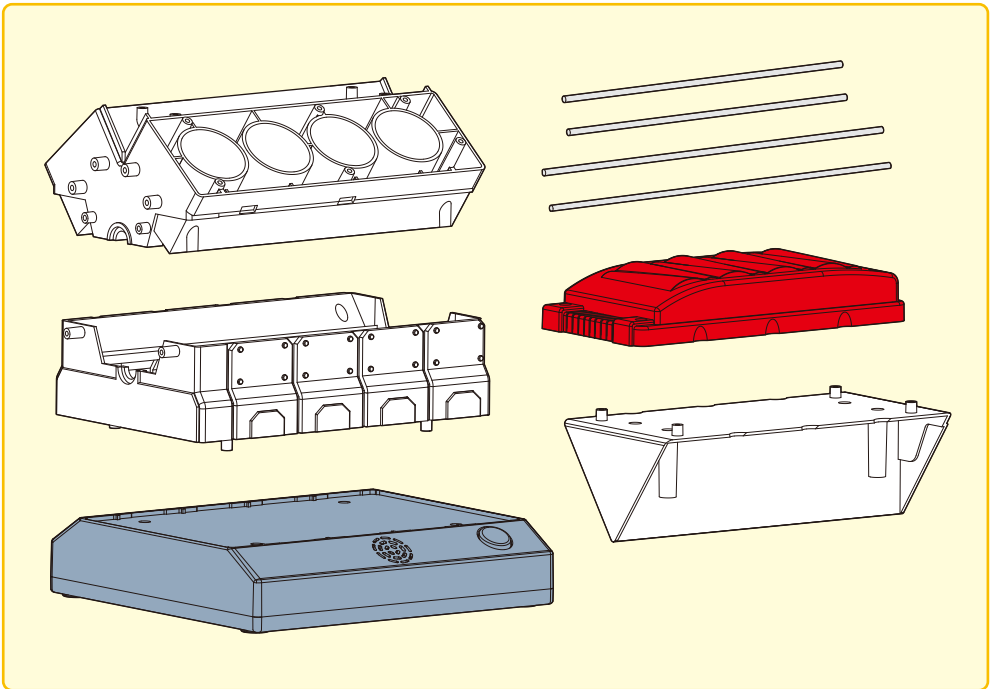
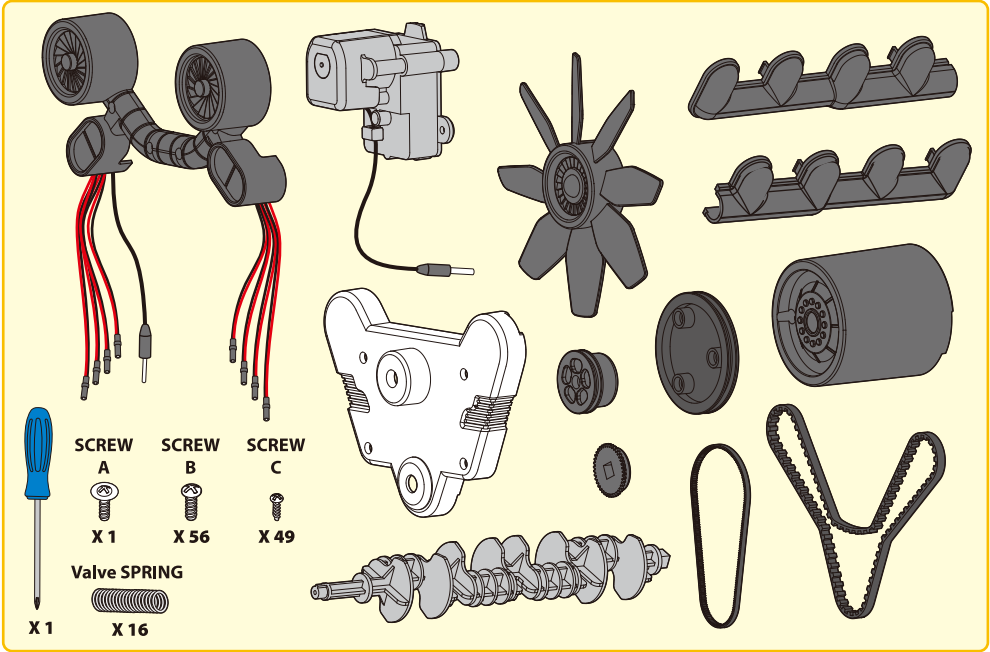
What controls the opening and the closing of the valves?

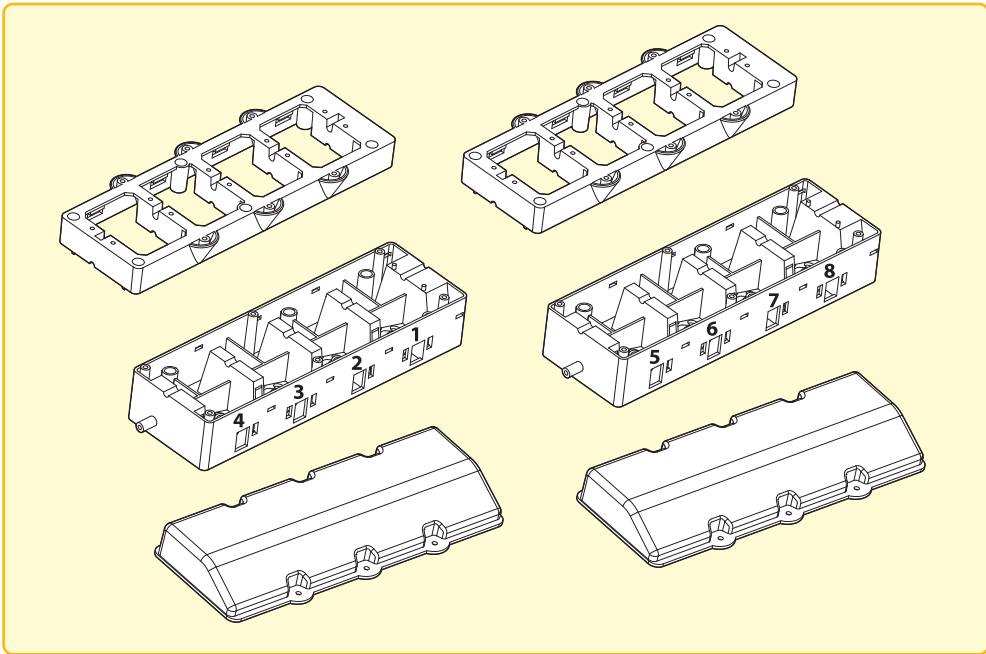
The opening and the closing of the valves are controlled by the system of "timing belt + camshaft + rocker shaft". In simple, when the crankshaft rotates, it also drives the timing belt to move. The timing belt then drives the camshaft and rocker shaft to rotate accordingly. The details are difficult to express in words. When you build the V8 engine kit, for the part of "timing belt + camshaft + rocker shaft", try turning them a few times to see. You will see how the smart design of such system makes the valves open or close at the proper time automatically.

COMPONENT LIST



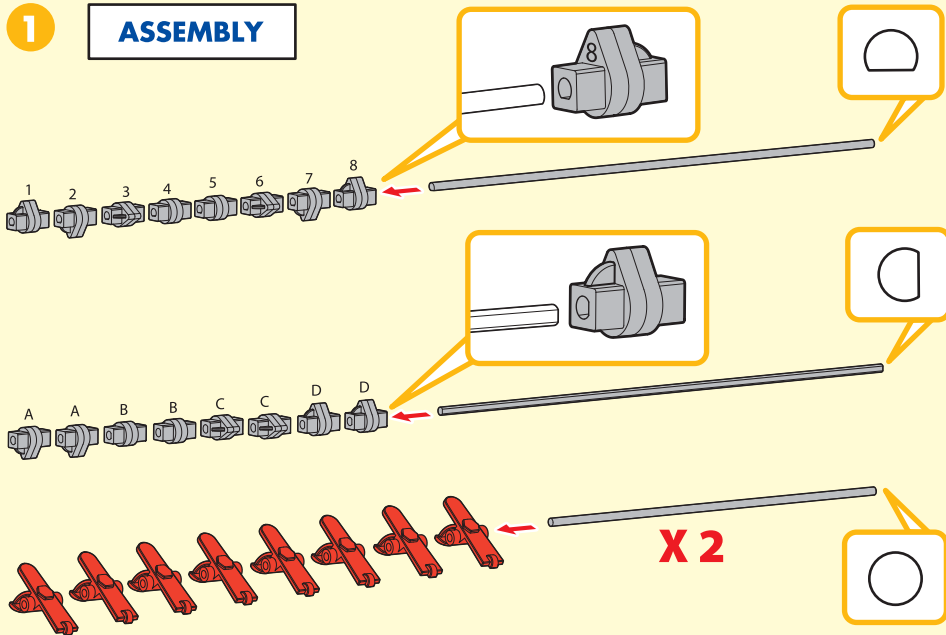






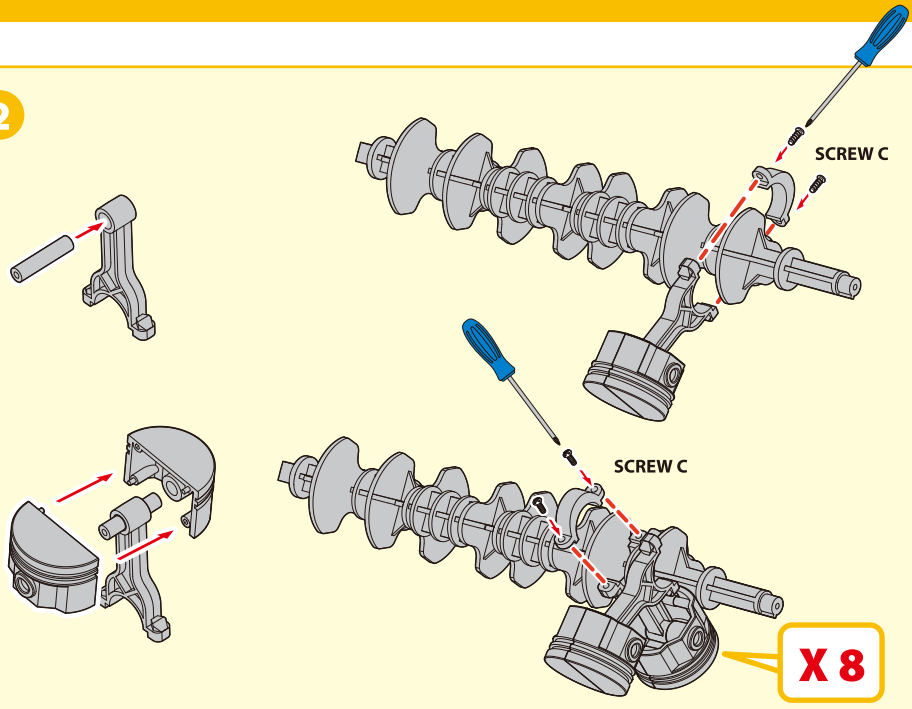
1

ASSEMBLY

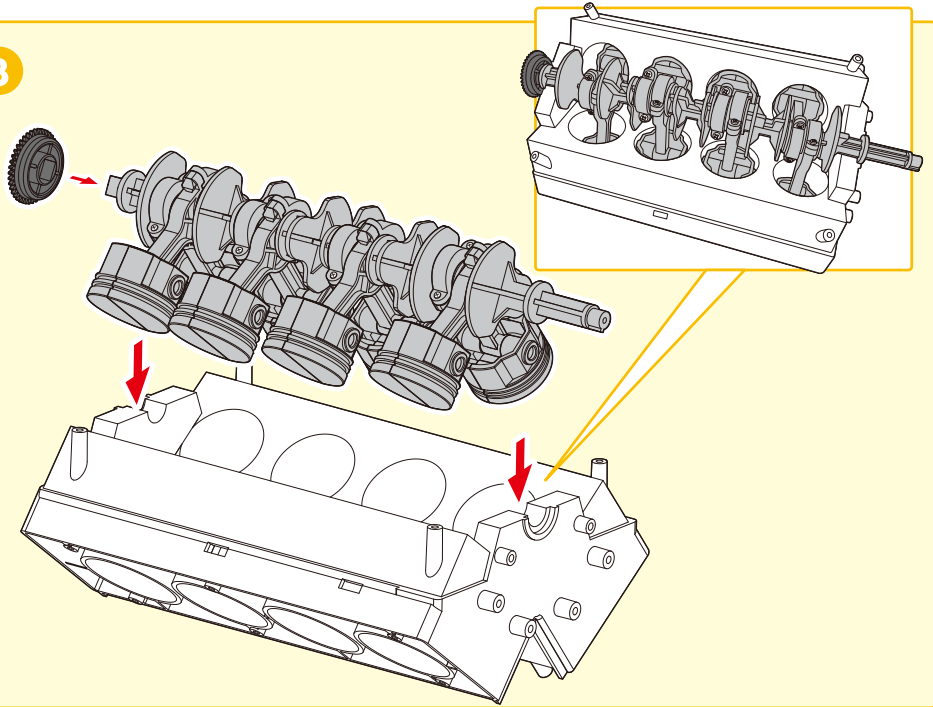




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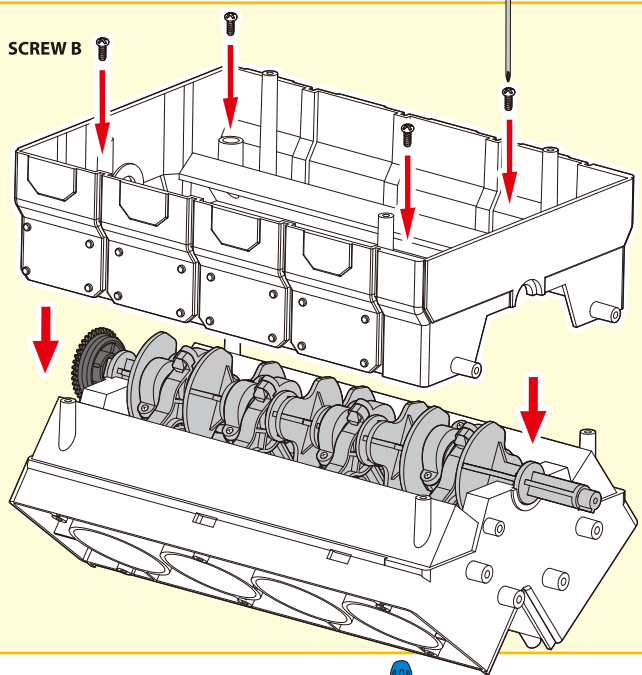
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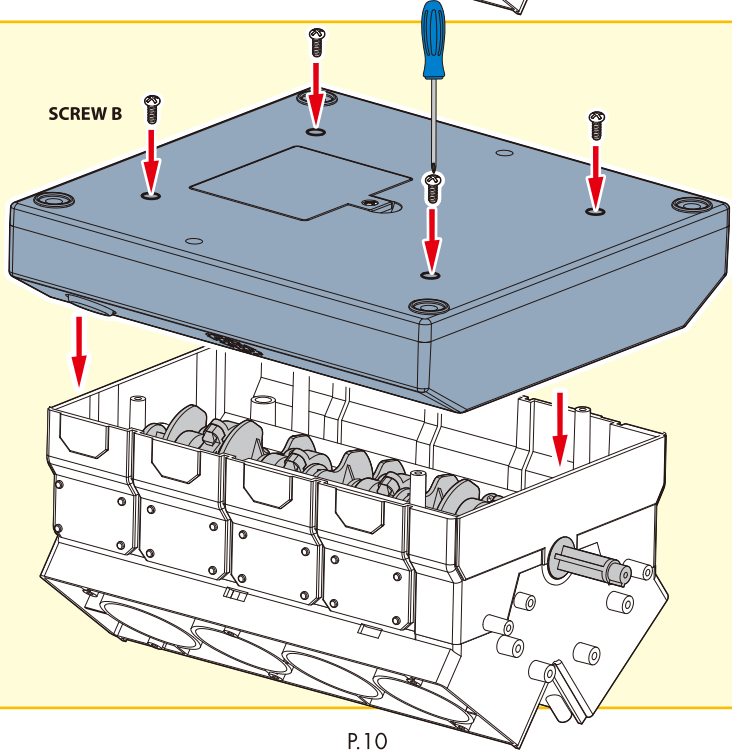
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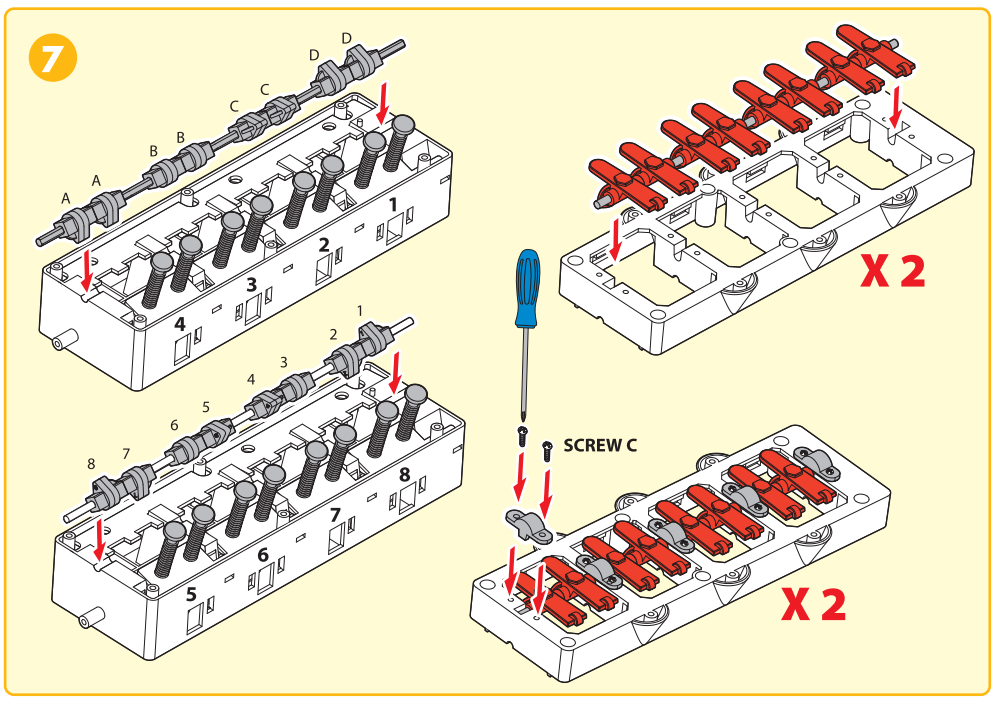
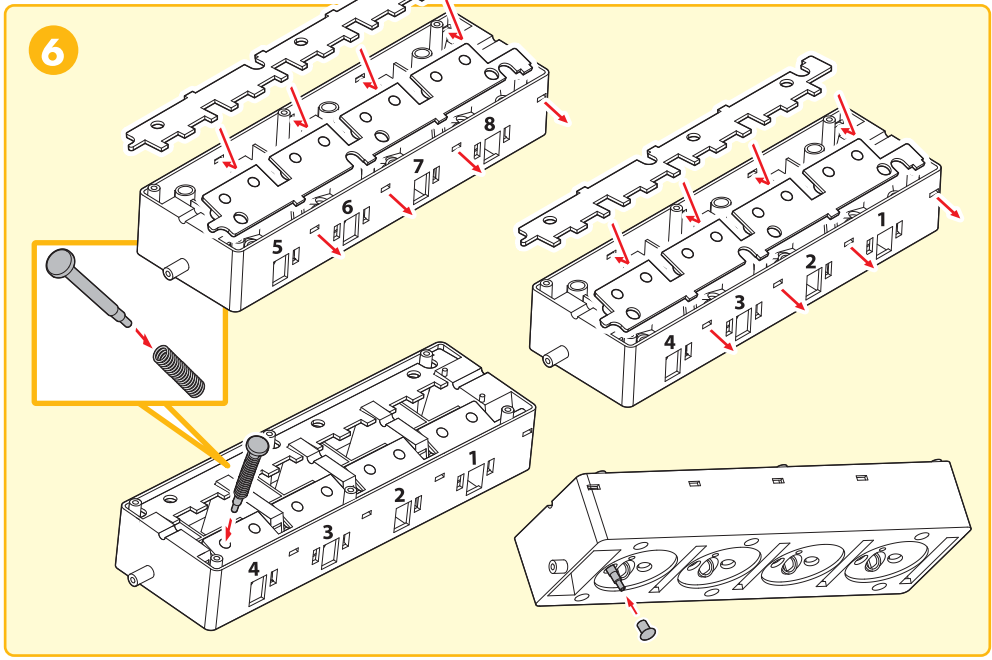
SCREW B



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SCREW B

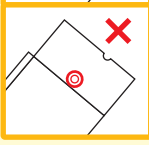






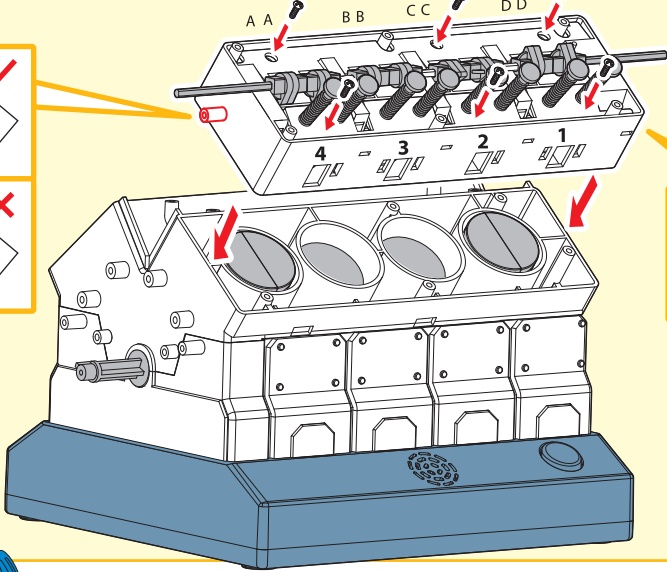
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Front



SCREW B

AA BB CC DD

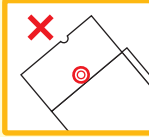
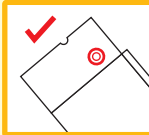


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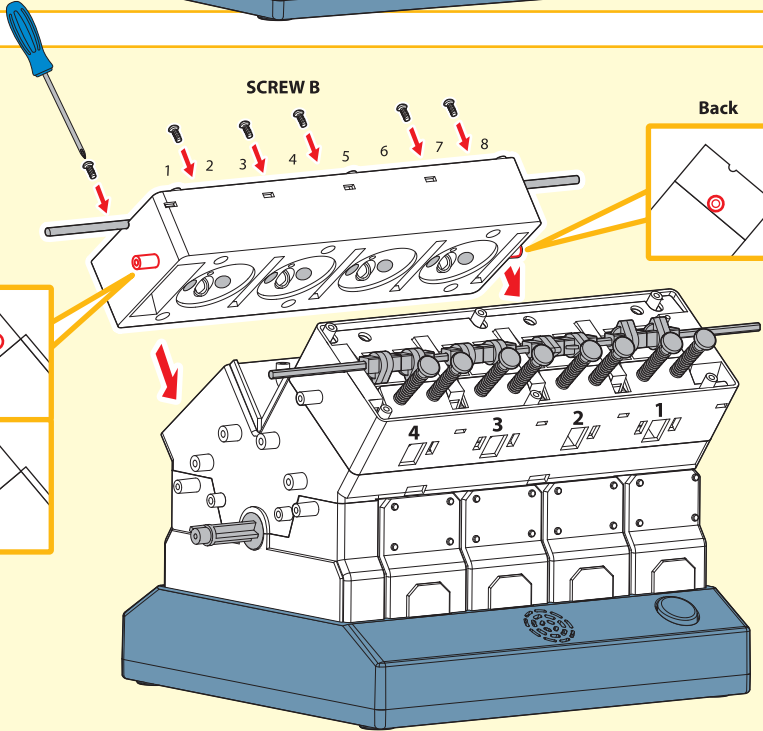
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Front



SCREW B

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

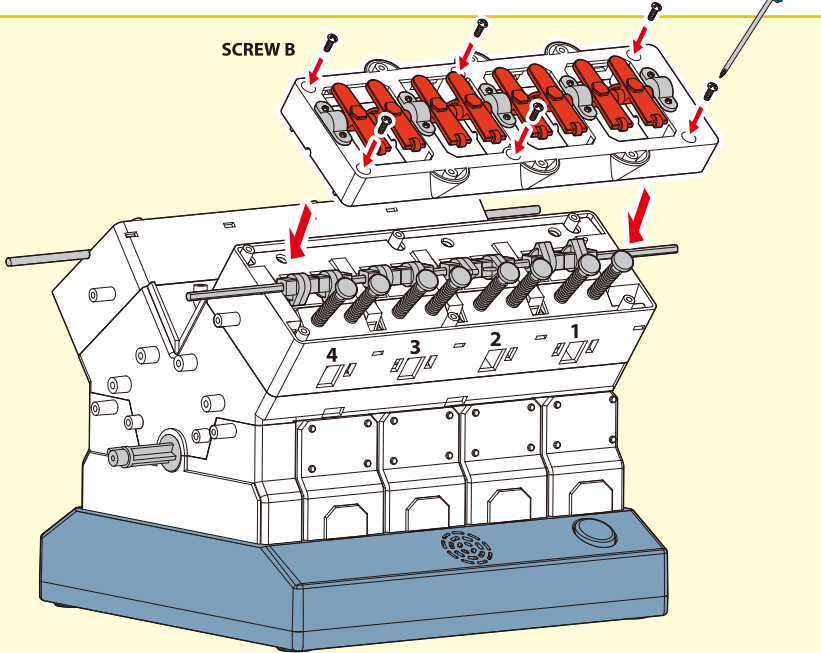


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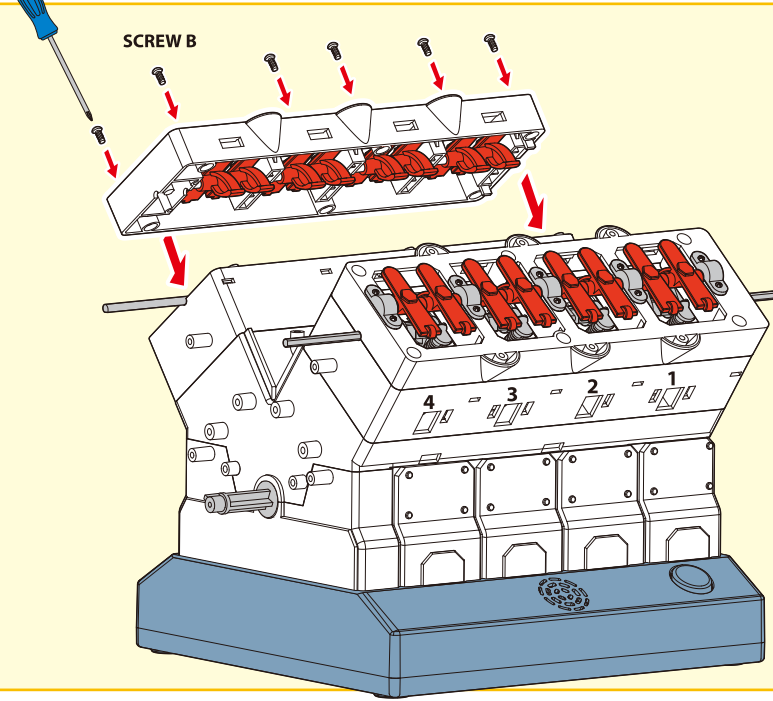




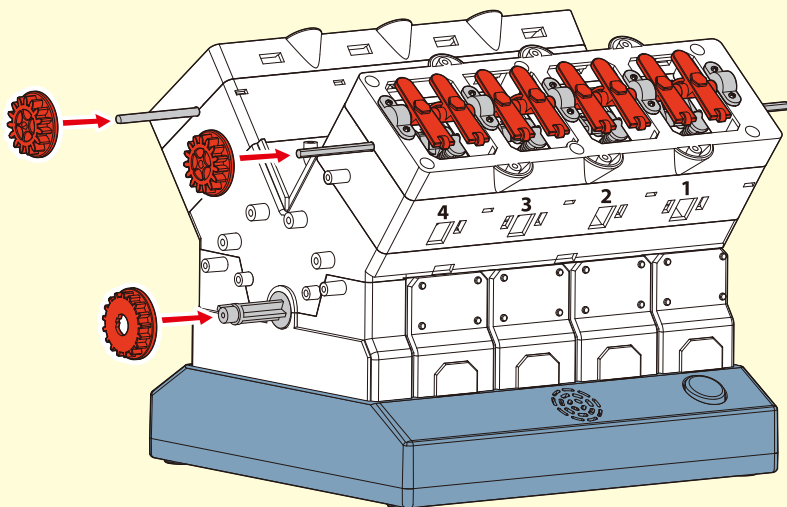
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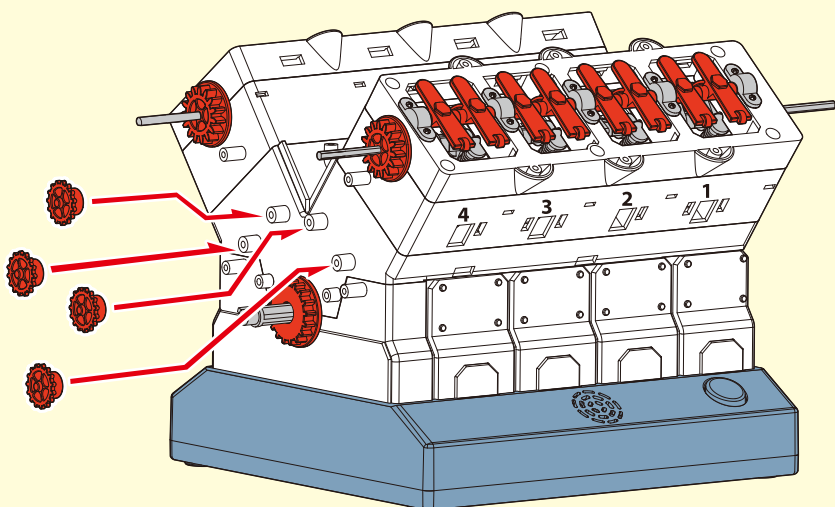
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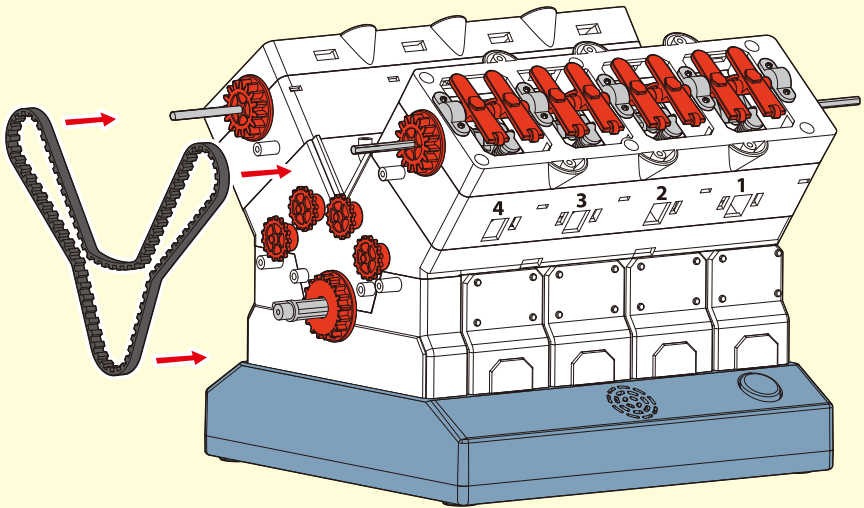
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