

GISMO IS BACK!

We've made our popular robot even easier to build. Meet GISMO 3.

IN 1956, *Boys' Life* readers met "Gismo the Great," a lanky robot they could make from scratch.

In February 1987, we showed how to build a more modern fellow, GISMO2BL. Thousands of little robots resulted.

Now meet the newest member of the GISMO clan, GISMO 3. He is the easiest to build yet, because he sits atop the chassis of a radio-controlled toy truck. There are no motors to wire, and no control cables to mess with.

GISMO 3 is remote-controlled and wicked quick. You can direct his moves from up to 70 feet away.

The basic robot can be built for about \$60. He will cost even less if you can find parts around the house.

GISMO 3's head is a clear plastic food-storage container. He has red lights for eyes. His body is a durable plastic wastebasket. His arms consist of flexible hose. For hands, we used ribbon cartridges from a computer printer.

The heart of GISMO 3 is a radio-controlled truck chassis, including motor and wheels. Choose a truck with four-wheel



Watch your toes. GISMO 3 is radio-controlled. And he's on a roll! Basic GISMO 3 is shown above. The version on the opposite page is "GIS" after an artist added some robot styling. Show us the kind of GISMO you can create.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROGER MORGAN
GISMO STYLED BY RAY BEL CORNELIUS

drive. It will have a rugged motor and good traction.

We used the Radio Shack "Off-Roader." With high ground clearance and big tires, it runs well even on carpet. Other r/c trucks will work too; note that eye and switch wiring may vary from that shown on page 27.

What can GISMO 3 do? The only limits are your imagination, skill and budget.

Give GISMO 3 a high-tech look by installing an old circuit board under his clear dome. It will be his electronic "brain." Or try a metallic look, as our artist did (opposite), with some kitchen utensils. Mount a tray on GISMO so he can carry things.

A tape player or walkie-talkie hidden inside will give GISMO 3 the gift of gab.

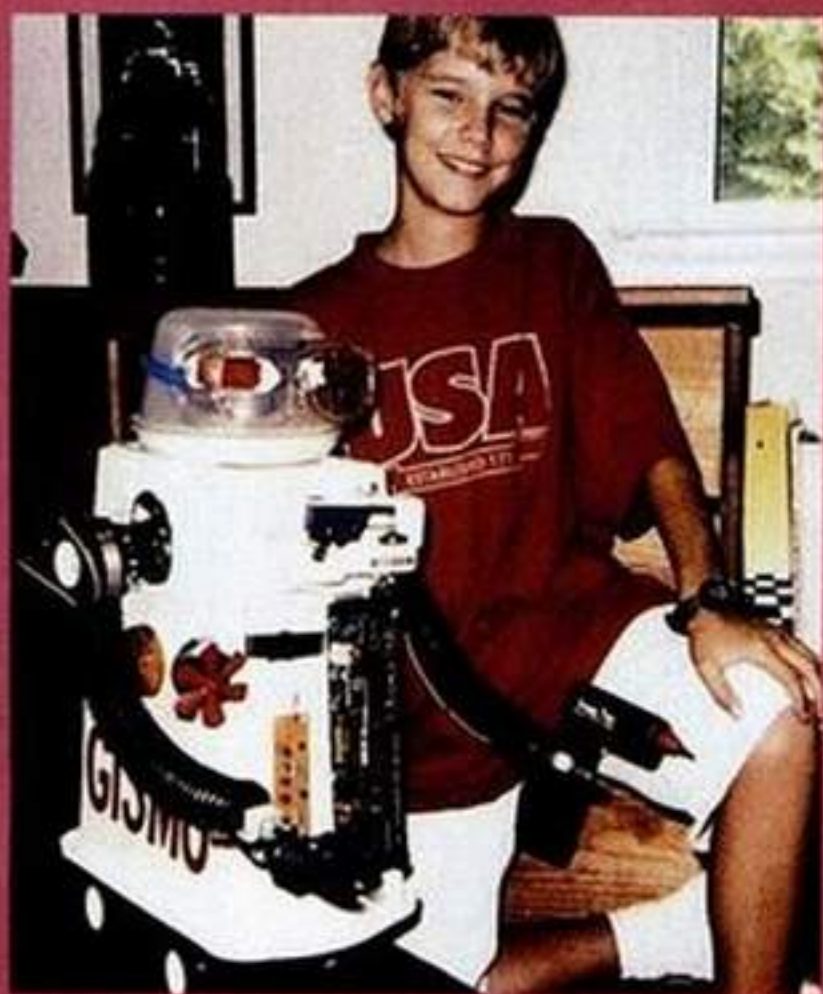
Let's Start Building

1. Buy a radio-controlled truck. Add batteries. Test-drive the truck before you remove the chassis. Stores may not honor the warranty afterward.

2. Remove the screws that hold the truck body to the chassis. Carefully lift off the body, work-



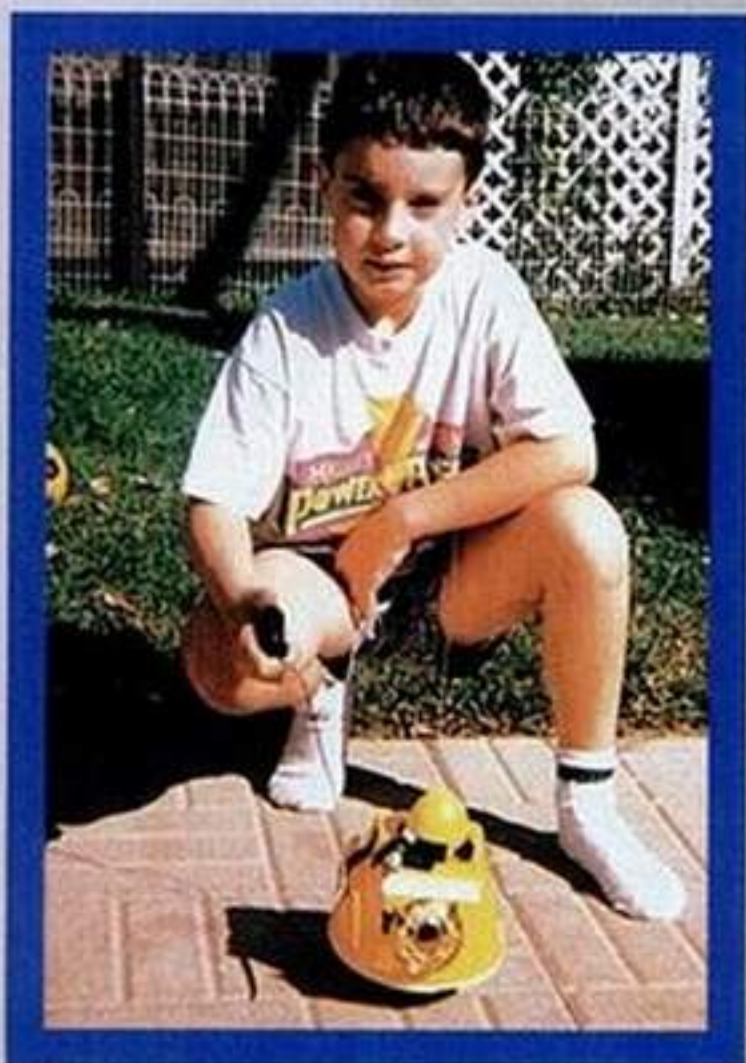




A 12-volt motorcycle battery—connected to a voltage meter—powers Brian Allison's household helper.



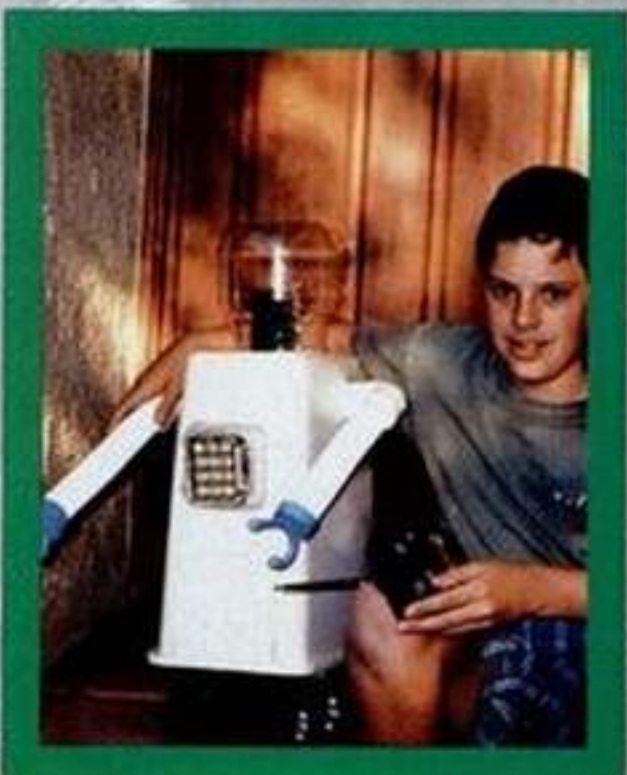
Timothy McDonnell of Pack 842, Coppell, Tex., spent two months buying parts and building his GISMO.



Dusty Reed proved it doesn't take big bucks to build a robot. Old toys and recycled trash do the trick.



Kyle McLinn of Pack 101, Garden City, Kan., says, "I had always wanted to build a robot." Now, he's an expert.



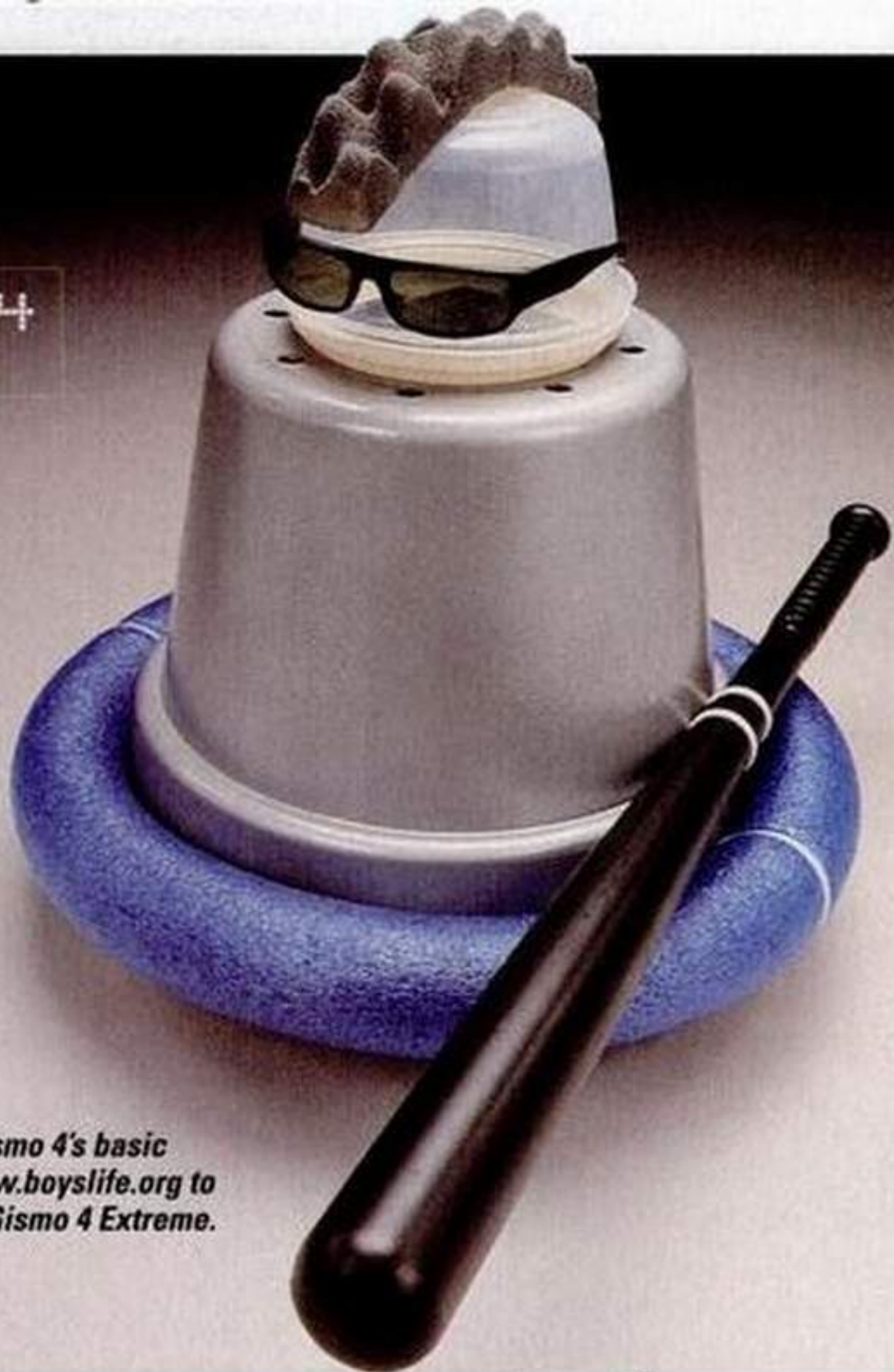
J. J. Krakowski of Cypress, Calif., used a telephone key pad and a hair-dryer coil to give his robot a high-tech look.

Get Your GISMO Plans

Would you like to build your own GISMO? We'll send you copies of the plans that appeared in the April 1996 issue of *Boys' Life*. Just send a **stamped, self-addressed, business-size envelope** (the long kind) to *Boys' Life Robot*, S204, P.O. Box 152079, Irving, TX 75015-2079. Offer ends March 31, 1998.

GISMO 4

EXTREME



Turn the page for Gismo 4's basic blueprint. Go to www.boyslife.org to learn how to make Gismo 4 Extreme.