Remote-Control Cars: 
A Guide to Troubleshooting

It’s a lot of fun to operate remote-control cars and trucks; it’s a lot less fun when they don’t work. If your car stops working, follow the steps that are summarized below to troubleshoot your car.

Use these steps to categorize the problem and clarify whether the issue is with the vehicle or with the remote control.

1. Is your car turned on? If not, switch it on. If it will not turn on, verify that the battery is put in correctly. If the ends of the battery are not lined up, straighten them. If it still doesn’t turn on after you have changed the battery’s position, replace the battery.

2. If your car turns on, but it will not drive, also check the batteries in your remote. If they are in correctly, but still do not work, then replace them.

3. Make sure you are within range of your car’s remote. Try getting closer to the car and changing the position of your antenna to intensify the car’s ability to sense the remote.

4. If the car still does not move, try taking it to another area where you may be able to amplify the communication between the remote and the car. Your remote sends special waves to the car to make it drive, and another piece of electronic equipment nearby may weaken the waves.

5. Finally, if nothing has worked, you should use a computer to search the Web for your car model. Other people may have posted solutions to the problem.

6. If the car still does not work, try returning it to the store where you purchased it. You can also check the Web site of the company that makes the car, as they may repair or replace it.