

THE QUICKIE

Text by Michael Semira // Photos by RCH Designs // Model Niki Torres (myspace.com/missunforgettable)



It's no secret that some people simply work faster than others. It's evident in every task, from the most simple to the highly complex. For example, writing a story on a car for *PAS* may take me only a couple of hours, where it may take someone else a couple of days. On the other hand, it would take me forever (not to mention a lot of help) to solve a math problem, where solutions come to others as if it were second nature. Same goes for me when building a car. I can talk the game until the cows come home, but I'm totally lost when I have to get my hands dirty. Fortunately, Daniel Ibarra and his team at Underground Per4mance (www.undergroundper4mance.com) can not only talk the talk, but also walk the walk. Case in point is this 2007 Toyota Yaris, which was built entirely in-house in just over three weeks >>

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MOTIVATION

A port-and-polish job was done to the head, throttle body and intake manifold to improve flow. An Injen intake beefed up the cool side, while a set of Megan Racing headers and Thermal cat-back helped with the exhaling process. Ibarra opted for the instant horsepower of a Nitrous Express system, while an upgraded ACT clutch transfers power to the front wheels. After the team's tinkering was all said and done, the Yaris produces an estimated 189hp at the wheels.

With projects like a Chevrolet Cobalt and Mitsubishi Eclipse already under their belt, the Ibarra brothers (Daniel and James) are well-versed in the language of sport compact. However, the new Yaris platform presented a new challenge: maximizing street performance from a sub-compact platform. "I wanted to build a micro car," says Daniel Ibarra, "that's where the trend is going these days."

Armed with just a little over 100hp, the Yaris doesn't offer much in terms of out-of-the-box performance. But that didn't stop Underground Performance from trying to tap into the potential of the 1.5L motor. A port-and-polish job was done to the head, throttle body and intake manifold to improve flow. An Injen intake beefed up the cool side, while a set of Megan Racing headers and Thermal cat-back helped with the exhaling process. Ibarra opted for the instant horsepower of a Nitrous Express system, while an upgraded ACT clutch transfers power to the front wheels. After the team's tinkering was all said and done, the Yaris produces an estimated 189hp at the wheels. That would make the 2,300lb hatchback a joy to drive.

When it was time to dress up the exterior, the Ibarra brothers were quick to call upon the styling experts at Kaminari USA. The Southern California-based manufacturer had just completed a brand new lip kit for the Yaris and couldn't wait to get it onto this hot hatch. Together with its reverse cowl hood and flush-mount deck wing, the micro machine took on an all-new



FOOTWEAR

Like Webster rocking a pair of Air Jordans, this little guy sports a pair of killer footwear. Shift KR316 wheels from Kyowa Designs measuring 18 inches across can be found at each corner, wrapped in 205/35-18 Toyo Proxes for optimum traction.

personality. Body work and paint were taken care of by Underground Performance, as was the fitting of the smoked taillights and purple under-body lighting kit. However, Modern Image Signworks in Huntington Beach, CA took care of all the vinyl graphics and accenting, while James Ibarra is credited for carefully applying the bright purple paint inside and out.

Like Webster rocking a pair of Air Jordans, this little guy sports a pair of killer footwear. Shift KR316 wheels from Kyowa Designs measuring 18 inches across can be found at each corner, wrapped in 205/35-18 Toyo Proxes for optimum traction. The thin five-spoke design is perfect for showing off the Wilwood brakes, as the four-piston calipers and

11.6-inch rotors are sure signs that Ibarra keeps this feisty hatch under control.

The Yaris sits atop its wheels and Sprint Performance springs. This combo isn't a show-only piece either, as the suspension blesses the diminutive Toyota with function along with style.

Inside, the Underground Performance crew performed the custom fiberglass treatment — adding life to the dash, pillars, door panels, centre console and rear quarter panels with the smooth and glossy material. A pair of MOMO N-51 seats helps hold the driver and shotgun passenger firmly in place, while the tunes from the custom stereo system keep them entertained. >>



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SHOW AND TELL

A pair of all-new Polk Audio prototype db SVC 12-inch subwoofers and matching C500.1 amplifiers lower the boom. For clear mids and highs, Polk Audio db6501 component speakers are powered by a C400.4 four-channel amp.



OWNER: DANIEL IBARRA
LOCATION: BAKERSFIELD, CA
VEHICLE: 2007 TOYOTA YARIS

ENGINE / PERFORMANCE

Port-and-Polished head, throttle body and intake manifold
Injen Technology intake
Megan Racing header
Thermal cat-back exhaust
Nitrous Express nitrous system
Nology Hotwires
ACT clutch

EXTERIOR

Kaminari body kit
Kaminari reverse cowl hood
Kaminari flush-mount deck wing
Smoked taillights
Purple under-body lighting kit
Body work and paint performed by Underground Performance
Graphics by Modern Image Signworks

WHEELS & TIRES

Kyowa Designs Shift KR316 wheels
- 18- x 7.5-inch
Toyo Proxes T1R - 215/35-18

SUSPENSION / BRAKES

Tokico shocks
Sprint Performance springs
Wilwood big brake kit (front)
- four-piston calipers
- 11.6-inch rotors

INTERIOR

Fibreglass dashboard and interior by Underground Performance
Suede shift boot
Suede e-brake boot
MOMO N-51 racing seats

AUDIO / MULTIMEDIA

Polk Audio C500.1 mono-block amplifiers
Polk Audio C400.4 four-channel amplifier
Polk Audio db SVC 12-inch subwoofers
Polk Audio db6501 component speakers
Polk Audio db651 coaxial system

They say that good things come in small packages, and this Yaris definitely fits the bill as it hauls around a pair of all-new Polk Audio prototype db SVC 12-inch subwoofers and matching C500.1 amplifiers to lower the boom. For the mids and highs, Polk Audio db-series component speakers powered by a C400.4 four-channel amplifier were chosen, along with a set of Polk Audio db651 coaxials.

Less than 30 days and \$40,000 later, Underground Per4mance had one of the country's coolest Toyota Yarises in their possession. It definitely sounds too good to be true, but Daniel Ibarra is quick to credit his build team and his sponsors for all their strong support. Thanks to Nology, Injen, Kaminari, Thermal, Sprint Performance, Hankook, Kyowa Designs, Polk Audio, MOMO USA, Nitrous Express, Meguiar's, Wilwood, Modern Image



Signworks, ACT and Tokico. With the skills to create a head-turner like this in just over three weeks, we can only imagine what the car would look like if Ibarra actually took his time. Keep an eye out for it in the Kaminari booth at SEMA 2007. **PBS**

THE ESSENTIALS