



Start a Team Checklist

Overview of Starting a Team

1. Create a *FIRST*® Account [register here](#)
2. Create a Team Profile by logging in to your new profile and selecting start a team you will need:
 - a. Your Information
 - b. Program Selection
 - c. Team Profile
 - d. School/Organization Information
 - e. Invite Primary Contacts
3. Enter Storefront
 - a. Pay for Season Registration (There is an [FTC Rookie Grant](#) available to qualifying teams, if you want to be considered for this grant you must apply before paying registration fee's)
4. Complete Youth Protection Screening (US/Canada Lead Coach/Mentor only)
5. Apply for grants, please check out our [grants page](#) for additional funding opportunities that may be available.
 - a. There is a **Rockwell Collins Grant** available to qualifying teams, if you want to be considered for this grant you should [apply here](#)
 - b. There is a **Newport News Shipbuilding Grant** exclusively for teams in the Hampton Roads area. If you would like to be considered please [apply here](#)
6. Purchase Product
7. Register for Kickoff [workshops](#) and Meet the field days
8. Reach out to your [Affiliate Partner](#) to Register for [local events](#). Please request an invoice promptly after completing steps 1-4 above.
9. Qualifying Tournaments are held from Mid-November to Mid-January at various locations around the state.
10. Teams pay a program fee of 300.00 and are guaranteed two plays from events selected on a preference list.
11. Review Available Resources on the [Team Management Resources](#) page. For a full walkthrough, check out our [Team Registration for Rookies](#).

Recommended Physical Resources (space/storage needs)

- Classroom (the ability to push tables/chairs out of the way) or equally sized room with open floor
- Countertops/tables to serve as workspace
- During practice, tape a 12 ft. (3.66 m) x 12 ft. (3.66 m) square on the ground to serve as a field
- Large Storage Cabinet (1 or 2, depending on how much material you have)
 - Should be able to lock
 - Look for cabinets that are roughly 6 ft. (1.82 m) tall and 3 ft. (0.91 m) wide

Safety Considerations

- Always keep a first aid kit in the workspace, including disinfectant and bandages. Bring it to events. Any accidents should be reported immediately to Mentors. Make sure there is a telephone in the workspace, in case of a more serious injury.
- Have a fire extinguisher in the workspace, and make sure that everyone knows where it is and how to use it.
- The workspace should be kept clean and uncluttered. Cords should be kept out of walking paths and tools and materials should be kept in a designated storage area when not in use.

Kit of Part Options (Product Purchase)

Teams can order their robot supplies in the Team Registration portal via the *FIRST* Tech Challenge Storefront. Registration is automatically added to your cart. You may enter the Storefront multiple times and purchase up to one item from each category. Awarded *FIRST* grants will appear in the Storefront and automatically deduct from the final total. **If you do not see a grant that you were expecting, please DO NOT check out.** Check again in a few days.

Categories	Set of Parts Name	Cost	Set Content
Teams may purchase ONE ONE of these Control & Communication Sets (<i>suggest option 2 for rookie teams</i>)	Control & Communication Set 1	\$199.95	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moto G phones (2) & covers (2) USB Hub Micro to USB OTG Cable (2) USB 2.0 A Male to Mini-B Cable
	Control & Communication Set 2	\$219.95	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moto G phones (2) & covers (2) USB Hub Micro to USB OTG Cable (2) USB 2.0 A Male to Mini-B Cable Logitech Gamepad (2)
Teams may purchase ONE Electronics Modules Set	Electronics Modules and Sensors Set	\$124.95	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> REV Robotics Expansion Hub Philips head screws (4pc) & nylock nuts (4pc) set Power Switch w/ bracket & XT to Tamiya adapter cable Color Sensor with cable Touch Sensor with cable Motor Power Cable (4)
Teams may purchase ONE Competition Set	TETRIX <i>FIRST</i> Tech Challenge Competition Set	\$529	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Storage bin and 843 heavy-duty pieces, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brackets, mounts, hard point connectors Structural channels, angles, and plates Wheels and gears Omni wheels Battery pack and charger Servos and DC Motors Fasteners and tools
	REV FTC Competition Set	379.95	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aluminum robot structure Metal and Plastic structural brackets DC motors and Smart Robot servos 3 types of servo attachments Motor and servo power/data cables Bearings and shafts Multiple wheel options (Omni, traction, intake) Sprockets and chain 7 sizes of gears New REV Building System parts! Fasteners and tools Slim Robot Battery and charger



Material Resources

Basic Tool List

- Dremel tool or disk sander
- Hex keys
- Hand drills
- Small screwdrivers
- Tape
- Tie wraps
- Wrench metric set
- Wrench SAE set
- Zip ties

Advance Tool List (building on the Basic Tool List. Some of these tools require a workshop to use)

- Allen wrenches/T Hex keys
- Ball hex screwdriver
- Band saw
- Bench grinder
- Belt sander
- Chain breaker
- Deburring tool
- Drill press (mini mill)
- Drum sander
- Glue station (only if there is an available ventilation method)
- Hack saw
- Hot air guns (for bending plastics)
- Jigsaw
- Metal file
- Needle nose pliers
- Nut driver
- Sheet metal bender
- Sheet metal brake
- Table/radial arm saw
- Tubing cutter
- Variable speed drill
- Vise
- Anderson Crimp tool

Electronics

- Laptop to run your [development tool](#)
- At least one power strip
- Spare batteries (recommended)
- Anderson Power Pole connectors (recommended)
- Spare Tamiya adapter cable (recommended)

Team Branding (optional but fun)

- Team shirts with team name and number
- Buttons to share with other teams as giveaways
- Poster materials or banner

Beyond the Robot: Online Resources

Overview Pages

FIRST® Webpage	www.firstinspires.org
FIRST® Tech Challenge main page	www.firstinspires.org/robotics/ftc
Regional Contacts Search Portal - Find your Regional FIRST contact.	http://www.firstinspires.com/node/2546
Game Materials - Includes all the season materials, including the Game Manuals, link to the Forum, Forum Answered Questions, Field instructions, and link to buy field element.	http://www.firstinspires.org/resource-library/ftc/game-and-season-info

Getting Started

Starting a Team Resources - Includes step-by-step resources for starting an FIRST Tech Challenge team.	http://www.firstinspires.org/node/5281
Fundraising Resources - Includes resources for budgeting and fundraising, including grants and resources from the FIRST and FIRST Tech Challenge Fundraising Toolkits.	http://www.firstinspires.org/node/5406
Resource Library - The location of all FIRST and FIRST Tech Challenge Resources. Organized in "articles", resources are grouped together by subject and can be saved to your personal Resource Library by clicking on the ♥ when signed in	http://www.firstinspires.org/node/1586

Team, Robots, and Technology!

Team Management Resources - Includes all the resources for Mentors and teams on running the team: the Mentor Manual, fundraising, training, Engineering Notebook, preparing for competition, Awards, and more.	http://www.firstinspires.org/node/5226
Robot Building Resources - Includes all the resources for building the robot, including the PushBot Build Guides, Robot Wiring Guide, PTC design resources, and new technology resources.	http://www.firstinspires.org/node/5181
Technology Resources - Includes all resources for the new Android-based technology, including programming resources, Troubleshooting Guides, link to the Forum, etc.	http://www.firstinspires.org/node/5291

Competition

Preparing for Competition Resources - Includes a checklist of items and resources to ensure your team is prepared for competition.	http://www.firstinspires.org/node/5261
Events Search Portal - Find local events (from tournaments to workshops and scrimmages).	http://www.firstinspires.org/team-event-search
FIRST Tech Challenge Dean's List - Every registered FIRST Tech Challenge Team is able to nominate 2 students (10 th or 11 th grade) to be recognized for their leadership and dedication to FIRST. Learn more about this amazing award!	http://www.firstinspires.org/robotics/ftc/deans-list
Volunteer Resources - Includes all volunteer training manuals and instructions for accessing the Schoology training.	http://www.firstinspires.org/node/5146
Super-Regional Championships - Information regarding the four U.S.-based Super-Regional Championships.	http://www.firstinspires.org/robotics/ftc/super-regional-championship-tournaments



Outreach and Social Media	
Outreach & Marketing Resources - Includes resources and links to resources, virtual badges, marketing materials and team recruitment resources.	http://www.firstinspires.org/node/5246
Links to Social Media - All FIRST and FIRST Tech Challenge Social Media pages.	http://www.firstinspires.org/node/4511
World Championship Results & Hall of Fame - Location of all previous World Championships winners.	http://www.firstinspires.org/node/5356

Beyond the Competition	
FIRST® Class — This curriculum provides authentic, real-world learning to students by bringing FIRST® Tech Challenge into the classroom. The curriculum is designed to be a stand-alone robotics/programming/engineering course for grades 7-12 but also follows a timeline to allow students to be competition ready if they choose.	http://info.firstinspires.org/ftccurriculumrequest
FIRST Diversity & Inclusion — FIRST® is committed to Diversity and Inclusion. Learn more about what this means for you and your team as well as gain access to free training, additional resources, and so much more!	https://www.firstinspires.org/about/diversityinclusion
FIRST Scholarships - Be proactive and start looking at over \$50 million in scholarship opportunities available!	http://www.firstinspires.com/scholarships
FIRST Alumni & Internships - FIRST participants can search out internships made available for students who have participated in high school level FIRST programs. Network on the FIRST Alumni page and ensure you are always connected even after graduating from FIRST Tech Challenge.	http://www.firstinspires.com/alumni

For the most up-to-date version of this list, check out our [Useful Links Blogpost](#).

Additional Blogposts that help new teams

- [Building Teams that Build Robots](#)
- [Engineering Notebook Overview](#)
- [How to Prepare for an Event](#)
- [Invisible Inequities Training: Toward a Bias-Free FIRST Front-Line?](#)
- [What to expect at a FIRST Tech Challenge event](#)

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