



Toyota Stars at Tokyo Auto Salon

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Small in size but big in attitude, a pumped-up, track-ready interpretation of the super-smart iQ city car leads a posse of tuned and tweaked Toyota concept and production cars at the Tokyo Auto Salon. The world's largest annual aftermarket parts show, taking place (14 to 16 January) gives leading tuning firms and custom car specialists the chance to demonstrate their engineering and design skills, from mild sports accoutrements to the wilder fringes of auto design.

The GRMN (Gazoo Racing tuned by MN) iQ Racing Concept is the latest interpretation of Toyota's smallest model by its motor sport competition partner. It's a stand-out model, with its deep front air dam, huge lower air intake and racing wheels, but it is not just about looks: fitted with a tuned- supercharged engine and a roll-cage, it's cut out for track action.

It has a strong heritage too: Gazoo's previous iQ concept car was given a limited production run in Japan that sold out immediately in 2009.

G Sports (G's) have also contributed to the Toyota presentation with Sports Concept version of Prius, with TRD adding an Auris GT Concept. As well as the cars, Toyota is hosting interactive events at the show, including forums with engineers and racing drivers and virtual driving competitions in Metapolis, an on-line community created by Gazoo Racing.

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