



BY JUSTIN CESLER
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CHRIS JOHNSON'S
SIMPLE '02 Z28
PROVES THAT A
WELL THOUGHT OUT
COMBINATION CAN
BE FASTER THAN THE
SUM OF ITS PARTS

If you read the wrong magazines, peruse the wrong forums, or spend too much time looking through parts catalogs, you may come away with the general consensus that every single piece of your car, whether modified or stock, is a horrible piece of junk that's seconds away from exploding. We've all been there, researching the next high-tech part

to buy when someone with a closet full of go-fast goodies, a drained bank account, and a car with enough parts to run 8's that actually runs 12's chimes in with, "That will never work! Those are junk and you can't ever go fast with them. My boy said..." This happens, all day, every day to every type of enthusiast. Sometimes, this terrible advice leads to spending thousands upon thousands of dollars

for a new engine only to find out it goes just a little faster than the "stock junk" and has oiling issues. For others, it can lead to part paralysis, a condition in which too many choices and too many opinions leads to never making a decision and instead deciding to just remain unhappy with your car, since everyone says it must be terrible.

Then, there are people like Chris

Johnson—the most rare breed—racers who believe in steadily tweaking a combination based on actual track data, empirical evidence, and time spent under the hood. Guys like Chris don't usually waste energy arguing with people on the internet or working two jobs just to pay for the newest part to come out in stores. Oh no, racers like Chris spend way too much time wrenching, tweaking,

tuning, and studying to do that. And it's that difference that allows Chris to run as fast as 10.08 at 131 mph on a 1.291 sixty-foot with a 346-cube LS1... with a stock rotating assembly...on motor...with a 4L60E...at 520-rwhp!

Yeah, Chris' car may look like a radical beast and it is certainly fast, but what makes this a *GMHTP* feature car and one of the most impressive LS1's in the country isn't what he has

SIMPLE PLANS
WICKED RESULTS