

7

# JUSTICE WHEELS

## HEADGASKET



**ICONS**  
SUPERPOWERED ROLEPLAYING  
COMPATIBLE

**INCLUDES ADVANCED  
VEHICLE RULES**

# HEADGASKET

(aka Darrell Springfield)

Prowess 6

Coordination 7

Strength 7

Intellect 7

Awareness 3

Willpower 3

Stamina 10

Determination 1 (if used as PC)

## Specialties

Computers Master

Electronics Master

Drive

Mechanics Master

## Powers

Life Support 9 (Cold, Breathing, Eating, Heat, Pressure, Radiation, Sleeping, Toxins, Vacuum)

Blast 5 - Radiation Optic Blast

Invulnerability 3

Interface 3

Fast Attack 1

Vehicle 5

## Qualities

Motivation : Raise as much heck as he can

Identity : Darrell Springfield, genius redneck delinquent

## Challenges

Personal : Grotesque, robotic appearance

Weakness : Being trapped in a robotic body is driving him crazy

Enemy : Professor Phineas Morph, his creator

Point Total 69

## Description

Darrell Springfield had a tremendous gift for engineering and machinery. However, he was limited from achieving much by his propensity for petty crimes. Kicked out of high school when he was 16 (for rigging the school's sprinkler system to



deluge the inside of the school with orange paint), Springfield spent his days tinkering in the local scrap yard or stealing cars and selling them to chop shops.

One day, Springfield tried to carjack a vehicle belonging to Professor Phineas Morph. Morph was a criminal himself — a supervillain who specialized in highly unethical and illegal biological experiments.

Morph fatally wounded Springfield and took him to his lab. There he transplanted Darrell's brain into a uranium-powered robotic body.

Professor Morph intended to use Springfield as a super-powered bodyguard and manservant. However, he didn't take into account the strength of Darrell's rebellious streak. The angry young man was able to overcome Morph's mental programming after just a few months through sheer rage-fueled willpower. He escaped from the evil scientist's lab and went on the run.



Realizing he had no chance at a real life, Darrell adopted the supervillain codename of Headgasket and became a full time meta-outlaw. While other supervillains concoct schemes for world domination or gaining wealth, Headgasket has one simple motivation: create as much chaos as he can. Springfield feels that he's been cheated by life and he wants revenge on the world for his pain.

With a customized monster truck that he built himself from salvaged junk, Headgasket conducts a reign of terror across the rural countryside. He raids small towns, bulldozes police stations, and trashes concert halls and National Guard armories, retreating to any nearby scrapyard when he's done to repair his truck and his own robotic shell.

Pursued by the military, police (and very likely by Dr. Morph as well), Headgasket's nihilism is driven by the feeling he's living on borrowed time. He knows that one day very soon he'll have to make a last stand against the authorities or the mad scientist who created him.

He doesn't fear that day. He merely hopes he'll go out in a blaze of glory that makes the news and is talked about for years afterward.

## **Headgasket's Monster 4x4**

Prowess 6

Coordination 4

Strength 5

Speed 4 (effectively Super-Speed 4)

Stamina 6

### **Extras**

Extra Passengers

Burrowing

Wall Crawling 4 - Clawed Tires

Invulnerability 1

Strike 3 – Skull-Shaped Steel Ramming Plate

### Adventure Hook

A well-known boy band with the name Five Guys Named Dave asks the heroes for protection when they are traveling through the local area.

Headgasket has a particular disdain for this group and has attacked several concert arenas where they were performing.

The cyborg supervillain has been seen recently in the region – and the band is scared that he'll try to ambush them while they're on the road. They offer to pay the PCs handsomely to provide security for their tour bus. The authorities have also encouraged the heroes to accept the job, as this would provide an excellent opportunity to capture Headgasket and end his crime wave.

The PCs can either be based on the tour bus or provide a security escort in their own vehicle(s).

Headgasket will attack the tour bus as it is passing through a suburb. He'll use his truck's Wall-Crawling power to disappear over houses and stores as he makes multiple passes at the bus.

He will start off with his radiation blast. After three or four attacks, he'll escalate to ramming attacks with his 4x4.

He will attempt to withdraw after

a) he's disabled the tour bus.

b) he or his vehicle have lost ½ of starting Stamina.

### Five Guys Named Dave Tour Bus Stats

Prowess 7

Coordination 3

Strength 7

Speed 3 (effectively Super-Speed 3)

Stamina 5

### Hero Variant

If you wanted to use Headgasket as a PC or a heroic NPC, his transformation resulted in Springfield having an epiphany about how he had wasted his life.

Realizing the folly of his ways has led him to this condition, Headgasket swears to use his new-found abilities for good.

He drifts across the countryside, hiding out in scrap yards by day and traveling by night, fighting crime where he finds it and moving on before the locals' understandable fear leads to a confrontation.

He has clashed with supervillains on numerous occasions. However, the news reports always get it wrong and paint him as a henchman or accessory. He accepts the bad reputation as part of his penance and he continues to try to do the right thing as best he can.

He is a misunderstood heroic monster, hated and feared by the world he protects.

## NEW POWER: Vehicle

Written by **Daniel Gallant** and **Mike Lafferty**  
Consultation and additional material by **Steve Kenson**.

### Vehicle

You have a vehicle. It could be a motorcycle, car, aircraft, hovercraft, airship, space fighter, or anything that can carry you. The base vehicle has the following characteristics:

- It can carry the pilot/driver plus one passenger.
- It has a Coordination, Strength, Prowess, and Stamina equal to your power level.
- It has a Speed equal to your power level. It can travel on land, in the water, in the air, or underground as if it had an appropriate movement power (Super-Speed, Swimming, Flight, or Burrow) at the same level as its Speed.

You also get a number of vehicle build points equal to twice your Vehicle power level. You may spend these points to add extra features to your vehicle. For each vehicle build point you spend, you may add one of the following:

- Add one to your vehicle's ability scores, including its Speed.
- Add one level of an appropriate power to your vehicle, or increase an existing power by one level. (This is similar to designing a superhero using the point buy system described in *ICONS*, p. 17.)
- Add space for five additional passengers.
- Add a remote control that allows you to summon and control your vehicle from a distance.
- Allow your Vehicle to transform into an alternate form, built as a separate vehicle at your power level minus 1. Your vehicle can have a maximum of two alternate forms in addition to its base form (for a total of three vehicle modes).

At GM's discretion, you may obtain additional vehicle build points by lowering one or more of the default values for your vehicle's ability scores, including its Speed.

A few notes on a vehicle's ability scores

- Stamina is a measure of a vehicle's structural integrity and (to some degree) the protection it provides its driver and passengers. When a vehicle's Stamina is reduced to zero, it is considered disabled and inoperable.
- Speed is the relative speed of the vehicle in relation to other vehicles. This provides a standard measure of speed across the various movement powers. This is intended for tests during chases.
- A vehicle's Strength is a measure of its towing and/or lifting capacity.
- A vehicle's Coordination is used for appropriate tests (such as piloting or driving) instead of the character's Coordination. It may be modified by an appropriate specialty such as Pilot.
- Generally, it's recommended that the vehicle's Coordination attribute also is used for attacking with vehicle-mounted weapons. However, at the GM's discretion, a character's Coordination can be used instead. A character's Coordination should be used for attacking from a vehicle with a weapon that is not mounted on the vehicle.
- A vehicle's Prowess is used for strictly physical attacks such as ramming during vehicle combat.

### Vehicles in Combat

In combat, a Vehicle acts as a partial shield for its driver and passengers. Any damage is absorbed by the vehicle's Stamina and not the characters inside. In order to hit a passenger or driver inside a vehicle, a successful called-shot maneuver (*ICONS*, p. 67) is necessary.

The benefit of any other defensive powers added onto the vehicle (such as Invulnerability, perhaps described as armor and bulletproof glass) or Force Field would be in addition to this default level of protection.

Some common sense is in order. A souped-up skateboard will not provide the same protection as an armored sports car, and the GM should feel free to waive this rule as she sees fit.

### Chasing Without a Vehicle

Characters with an appropriate movement power can take part in a chase. This is at the GM's discretion. We suggest using the level of the movement power as the Speed attribute for the purpose of the pursuit.

In the optional chase rules appendix there's a Speed bonus chart that can be handy when dealing with pursuits that involve vehicles or characters with different powers.

### Maneuvers in Vehicle Combat

On the ICONS [Truth and Justice wiki](#), Steve Kenson has written an article detailing how a character can (with a successful test) place a temporary aspect on another person or situation.

This makes a fun addition to vehicle-based combat. For example, the hero Inferno (in his customized, super-charged sports car, the Firestarter) is chasing the ice-based criminal Frostbite (who is in his modified hover-tank) through the streets of the city. Inferno attempts to use his car's flame throwers to add a "melted tank tread" aspect to Frostbite's tank. Inferno's player rolls a Coordination test and gets an effort of 10. Compared to Frostbite's difficulty of 7 (for Coordination 5 and Expert Driver), that is an outcome of 3, which is a major success. Frostbite's tank has a damaged tread for the rest of this chapter and Inferno gets a free tag for that aspect.

### Team Vehicle

A team can pool their Determination and buy a vehicle, Spending their collective Determination to buy the Vehicle power at a rate of 1 to 1.

### Chase Rules

The default recommendation for chase rules for ICONS is a Success Pyramid with tests based on relevant traits such as Speed or Coordination (factoring in Specialties like Piloting or Drive).

In a nutshell, a character or group of characters

would do a series of related tests in order to accumulate enough successes to equal a massive success (an effect of 5 or more) in order to catch up with a target or to escape from their pursuer.

Optionally, some Pyramid Test variations (like Balanced, Competitive, Fragile, and Triggered) for accidents, collisions, etc.) could be mixed in to add variety and customize the feel of the chase.

The following link provides more details about the [Success Pyramid and Pyramid Tests](#).

### Appendix: Optional Extra-Crunchy Chase Rules

These rules present a "crunchier" alternate set of chase rules for ICONS.

In a chase there are two individuals or groups, a Chaser and an Escapee. There is no question as to who is chasing whom. The Chaser wants to catch the Escapee, and the Escapee wants to get away.

In the cases where there is no reasonable way for a party without a vehicle or a movement power to take part in the chase (either pursuing or evading), then the party with the movement power simply escapes or catches up, depending on their intent. The goal of the Escapee is to increase the distance to 11 "zones," at which point, they get away.

Note that "zones" is an abstract unit and does not necessarily mean physical distance; it could also mean they are separated by city blocks, crates in a warehouse, asteroids, a sufficient number of twists and turns in a maze, crowds in a mall – whatever would be appropriate for the scene and the characters involved.

Before starting the chase, the GM should determine the starting distance in zones between the Chaser and the Escapee:

- Start with a base of 2.
- Add 1 if the Chaser was monologuing, blinded by a handful of sand, or otherwise distracted from the chase.

- Subtract 1 if the Escapee was distracted, prone, or otherwise disadvantaged when the chase started. This will yield a result from 1 to 3.

During each panel of a chase, the Chaser and the Escapee might take the following actions:

**1) Get Away** – The Escapee tries to increase the distance.

- First, test between the Escapee’s Coordination against the Chaser’s Coordination.
- If the Escapee wins, they can add their success (i.e., the difference between the two totals) to their Speed. If they lose, they subtract the difference between the two totals.
- Add the Speed of the Escapee to the distance, then subtract the Speed of the Chaser. This is the new distance. If it is 11 or more, the Escapee has successfully made a getaway.

**2) Trick** – The Escapee attempts to deceive and evade the Chaser.

- The Escapee rolls a test of their Vehicle power (or other movement power being used). The Chaser rolls a Coordination test.
- If the Escapee wins, add the level of the power used to the Escapee’s Speed.
- Next, add the new Speed of the Escapee to the

distance.

- Then subtract the Speed of the Chaser from the distance. If the new distance is 11 or more, the Escapee has successfully gotten away.

**3) Attack** – Either the Chaser or the Escapee makes a normal attack.

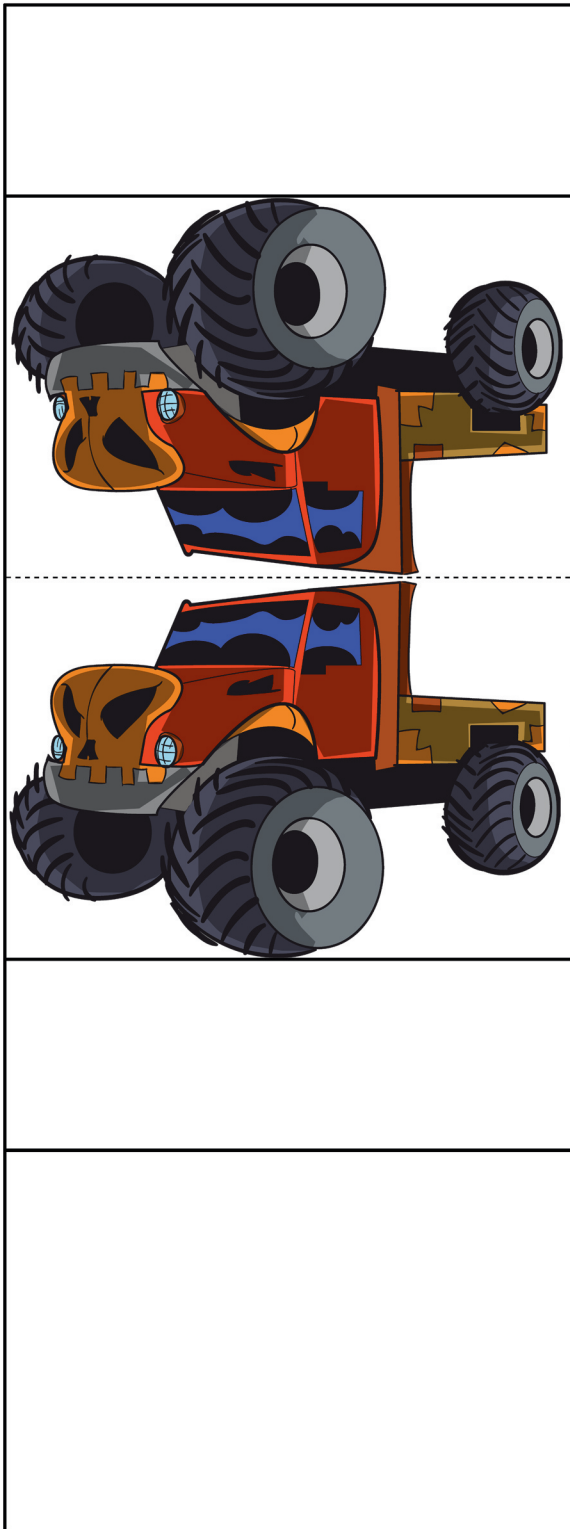
- Handle the attack per usual ICONS rules, adding an appropriate difficulty to reflect the conditions of the chase. If the other character survives and remains in the chase, proceed with the next step.
- Subtract 2 from the attacker’s Speed.
- Add the Speed of the attacker to the distance, then subtract the Speed of the defender.
- If the new distance number is 11 or more, the Escapee gets away.

**NOTE:** Modifications to Speed are only for that round.

**Optional: Relative Effectiveness of Powers**

Sometimes one power will have an advantage over another. The value (obtained from the table shown below) is a bonus available to the Chaser or Escapee and can be used once each turn as a bonus to Speed or Coordination.

	Escapee								
Chaser	Flight	Super Speed	Swinging	Teleportation	Burrowing	Dimension Travel	Leaping	Wall-Crawling	No Power
Flight	0	1	1	1	2	*	1	1	5
Super Speed	1	0	2	1	1	*	1	1	5
Swinging	1	2	0	1	1	*	0	0	5
Teleportation	1	1	1	0	1	*	1	1	5
Burrowing	2	1	1	1	0	*	1	2	5
Dimension Travel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leaping	1	1	0	1	1	*	0	0	5
Wall-crawling	1	1	0	1	2	*	0	0	5
No Power	5	5	5	5	5	*	5	5	0
	Bonus for Chaser	Bonus for Escapee	No Bonus			* = Escape is automatic			





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Justice wheels 7

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