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X4

A U S T R A L I A

GX550 OVERTRAIL TESTED

RHD '24 BRONCO DRIVEN

**GR SPORT & GO
COIL-CAB CUSTOMS**



JEE PAGE 66

V63 PATROL

BREAKS COVER

**NO V8 ENGINE BUT TURBO V6 POWER.
NOT HERE UNTIL 2026!**

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BLACK GROWLER

IF YOU'RE GOING TO SWAP FROM A DOUBLE-CAB UTE TO A 4X4 WAGON, YOU MIGHT AS WELL GO WITH THE BEST AVAILABLE. BRUCE HAS DONE JUST THAT AND EQUIPPED HIS GR SPORT 300 WITH THE BEST GEAR ON THE MARKET

ONE of the many great things about Toyota LandCruisers is that no sooner than a new one hits the market, LC enthusiasts will be modifying them and making them their own. With so much heritage behind the LandCruiser badge, those who own them will always return to the marque when it comes time for a new off-roader.

That wasn't quite the case for Bruce Stewart, the owner of this GR Sport. He'd come from 20 years of driving dual-cab utes but he grew up travelling in LandCruisers.

"I grew up camping and off-roading with my family in my old man's 55 and 60 Series LandCruisers, which led me to always want one myself," Bruce told us.

That time finally came with the launch of the 300 Series as his teenage kids had grown to a size that wasn't ideal for the cramped back seat of a ute.



drawer system from Beast Tourers. These Queensland-made drawer systems use lightweight Thermolite, which is claimed to be lighter than most commonly used materials without sacrificing strength.

To the side of the drawers sits a Dometic CFX 95L fridge on an MSA 4X4 fridge slide, while above there's a small oven to heat those tasty treats on the road. The neat table that folds down off the side of the fridge was custom made by the team at Bruce's business using stainless steel, and it makes food prep and unpacking the fridge easier.

The crew there also designed and fabricated a 105L stainless-steel water tank that sits in the rear floor well with a Shurflo pump feeding the outlet at the back and Topargee H2Flow Bluetooth flow meter.

Up top, an ARB Base Rack carries a 150W solar panel, Darche 180° awning and TREDS recovery boards, and still has space left to carry more gear when needed.

Bruce's game of Tetris continued when he went looking for somewhere to mount the ARB air compressor. It's now in the engine bay where it's out of the way and shares space with a pair of Deep Cycle Systems 90Ah lithium batteries that are controlled by a Victron management system.

The Toyota twin-turbo V6 diesel benefits from a Just Autos Stage 3 multi-mapping tune with an extra front-mount heat exchanger, Safari intake snorkel and three-inch Manta stainless-steel exhaust system. The custom tune proved positive with the big Cruiser spinning the rollers up to 745Nm between 3100 and 3400rpm, measured on the 35-inch Nittos.

There's no doubt there's a lot of gear in the Cruiser, but Bruce planned ahead for this by fitting a JAMCX 4200kg GVM upgrade before the vehicle was registered. Part of the hardware for this kit includes a replacement rear axle housing manufactured by JMACX using 6mm plate steel and custom axle tubes. The

A Dometic CFX 95L fridge rides on an MSA 4X4 fridge slide with a custom made drop down shelf to make life on the rear easier.

