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Mercedes-Benz: SL R129 Series 1989 To 2001



Synopsis

It's hard to believe, but the W129-series Mercedes-Benz SL was launched over 20 years ago. However, its timeless styling has kept it fresh and attractive in the eyes of a new generation of enthusiasts, as well as those returning to the car having owned one when they were still in the dealerships. A combination of superb original design and peerless engineering and build quality adds to the desirability of this series of classic German machines, and has ensured that many of these cars can still be seen in regular use today. Covering the SL's ever-changing specification, and its presence in many of the world's major markets is a huge task, but it's all presented here in definitive detail, along with stunning contemporary photography, in a volume that will readily grace any reference library shelf or connoisseur's coffee table. Two earlier books, also published by Veloce, and covering the W113 cars and the 107-series SL and SLC, act as perfect companions to this title, which takes the SL story up to 1989.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

'Although it's written in a casual style, this hardback is highly informative.' Auto Express. 'Covering the SL's ever-changing specification, and its presence in many of the world's major markets is a huge task, but it's all presented here in definitive detail, along with stunning contemporary photography, in a volume that will readily grace any reference library shelf or connoisseur's coffee table.' Classic Performance & Retro. 'One thing I particularly like about Long's books is that he looks at how these models were marketed and how well they succeeded in the UK, USA, Japan and Australia as well as Europe. He draws on magazine reports and road tests from all those countries

to illustrate his point ... if you are a Mercedes-Benz fan, and particularly if you own or are restoring an R 129 or are in the market for one, then this will tell you as much as you could ever want to know, including when the shape of the mirrors or bumpers changed and which metallic greens were used in which model year!' New Zealand Classic Car This impressive hardback book has 208 pages crammed with striking imagery that will make you yearn to own one even if you don't and be required reading if you are lucky enough to own one already. ... As well as details on the convoluted gestation of this important model you'll find plenty of statistics, specifications, production figures and colour schemes and all of this data helpfully sorted according to the market in which the model was sold ... Enjoy Big End

Born in Coventry, once the heart of the British motor industry, Brian Long has a passion for vintage and sporting machinery. A trained mechanical engineer and a long-term owner of both the MX-5 and rotary Mazdas, he has had a strong connection with Mazda products for well over a decade. Brian now lives just outside Tokyo, and spends much of his free time with Thoroughbred horses. He has had more than 70 books published, including many works on Japanese marques.

This is a very detailed and comprehensive look at the Mercedes-Benz R129 series SL roadsters. It is far more than just a coffee-table book, being packed with a much information about the cars over the entire model life and also featuring many beautiful colour photographs of the vehicles. The R129 series is described from inception to replacement, and is sat within the context of Mercedes-Benz's own history and the predecessor SL models. This book would suit anyone who owns, admires or is looking to buy one of these "modern classics, or simply to learn more in depth about Mercedes-Benz and one of its most important recent models. Overall the book is very enjoyable read, and an excellent reference guide to be used in the years to come.

For those of us who are fans of the renowned R129 Mercedes (built from approximately 1993-2002), this book is a treasure trove of information. Featured are production figures, available options, model and engine availabilities and year-to-year changes. The car was sold globally of course, and this book details sales and model/option availability of the car in various countries over the course of the R129's manufacture. Many great color photos are included, as is a history of the SL prior to the introduction of the R129, and a discussion of the folding hardtop R230 SL that followed it. This book is a must for serious students of the R129.

Having been an owner of 7 Mercedes-Benz cars and also having worked for MB dealerships in the Commercial vehicle sector for the last 40 years, I highly recommend this book to owners of the R129 series. It confirms everything I may have known on my own SL320 and more and is a valued treasure in my library. If you own one of these magnificent motor vehicles, then this publication, is a must to own. Gerald Stanley

Brian Long spent more time & effort on available options in Japan, Australia trim levels in different markets in different years than the car itself.

The book is ok. I was hoping for more detail on each year of the R 129, added details on AMG and Silver Arrow editions and better writing. Pricy for what you get, in my view.

Like all of Brian Long's books they are masterful additions to any Mercedes-Benz Library. He is at the top of his game now if the Dino book comes out I will really be thrilled. 10 stars to my friend in Japan a Mercedes-Benz owner enthusiast Mr Brian Long Sincerely Robert Geco USA

Has items and pictures not seen in other books has drawings and pictures not seen in other books. Could do without review of other models

Very concise Mercedes 129 History, Great

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