

Classic Mini Timeline

- 1913** William Morris built his first car – the Bullnose Morris - at Cowley, Oxford
- 1959** BMC launched the Mini designed by Alec Issigonis – 2 versions, Austin Seven built at Longbridge and Morris Mini Minor at Cowley
- 1961** Launch of Mini Cooper with 997cc engine, 55bhp, front disc brakes, two-tone paintwork, distinctive grille & bumpers at a price of £680
- 1962** BMC produced over 200,000 cars for the year – the rate continued for 15 years
- 1963-64** Mini Cooper S with 1071cc is launched with 7.5inch front disc brakes and other improvements such as more open oilways, larger oil pump, strengthened gearbox and increased top speed of 100mph. 0-60 took 13.5 seconds making it 10 seconds faster than the 948cc Austin-Healey Sprite MkII
- 1964** January saw Paddy Hopkirk win the Monte Carlo Rally in the 1,071cc Cooper S
- 1964** Mini Cooper S fitted with the new 1275cc version of A-series engine
- 1964** Dunlop created the new Mini SP41 tyre which was introduced to the 988 Cooper and improved both grip and handling. However, 6 months later, the interconnected Hydrolastic gas/fluid suspension system was introduced which only lasted until 1971 since it neither improved grip or handling
- 1965** Mini wins the Monte Carlo Rally for the 2nd time with Timo Makinen as driver
- 1965** First millionth Mini was produced, now being made in several overseas locations including Australia and Italy
- 1965** Mini Cooper received a 998cc engine
- 1965** Mini Moke was introduced

1965	Option of an automatic gearbox offered
1966	Monte Carlo Rally result sees Makinen, Aaltonen and Hopkirk in 1 st , 2 nd & 3 rd place however, the French were not happy with this and argued the Mini had not won since its lighting system contravened regulations
1967	Mini is 'official' Monte Carlo Winner for 3 rd time – however, many people still argue that it was the forth time having also won in 1966.
1967	Mark II Mini range with new radiator grilles, bigger rear windows & other cosmetic changes introduced at the Motor Show
1967	Standard models now available with 998cc engine as alternative to 848cc
1969	Cumulative sales of Mini passed two million.
1971	The Mini Cooper 1275cc S Mark III - the last model to be produced was discontinued
1972	Three million Minis in total had been produced
1973-74	Winter of discontent from December 1973 to March 1974. Between January 1974 and January 1975 petrol prices doubled and inflation pushed the price of a Mini above £1000 for the first time.
1975	Inflation hit 25% and unemployment was at its highest since 1940.
1976	Production of Mini reached four million
1978	Production slipped from 320,000 (1971) to below 200,000 for the first time in 17 years
1981	Production had crashed to less than 70,000 units

1984	Introduction of 12 inch wheels and front disc brakes for the first time on the standard model
1985	Sales figures rose from 1,000 cars to 12,000 in Japan helping Mini to achieve a production of 46,000 cars that year
1986	The five millionth Mini came off the Longbridge production line
1988	October 2 nd , Sir Alec Issigonis died
1989	Mini 30 Limited edition in Cherry red or black with birthday alloys
1990	Rover bring back Mini Cooper, first as limited edition, later as standard production model featuring many 1960's design additions such as two tone colour schemes & Minilite-style cast alloy wheels
1991	Original carburettor engine model replaced by fuel injection version
1991	First mini to be fitted with a catalytic converter
1991	1275cc engine from Mini Cooper fitted to standard Mini Saloon
1991	Successful recreation of the Cooper S
1992	Rover produced Mini convertible at £12,000 it was the most expensive Mini
1992-96	Limited edition (John Cooper) Mini Cooper 1.3Si with added performance kit
1995	Limited edition Mini Cooper S produced
1997	Modified models of Mini and Mini Cooper both with 1275cc A series with multi-point fuel injection and 63bhp costing £8995

1999 40th Anniversary Mini 40 limited edition model in white, red or blue

1999 Latest addition to the Cooper S family – the 1999 Mini Cooper S Works with 90bhp, 102mph and 0-60mph in 8.9 seconds