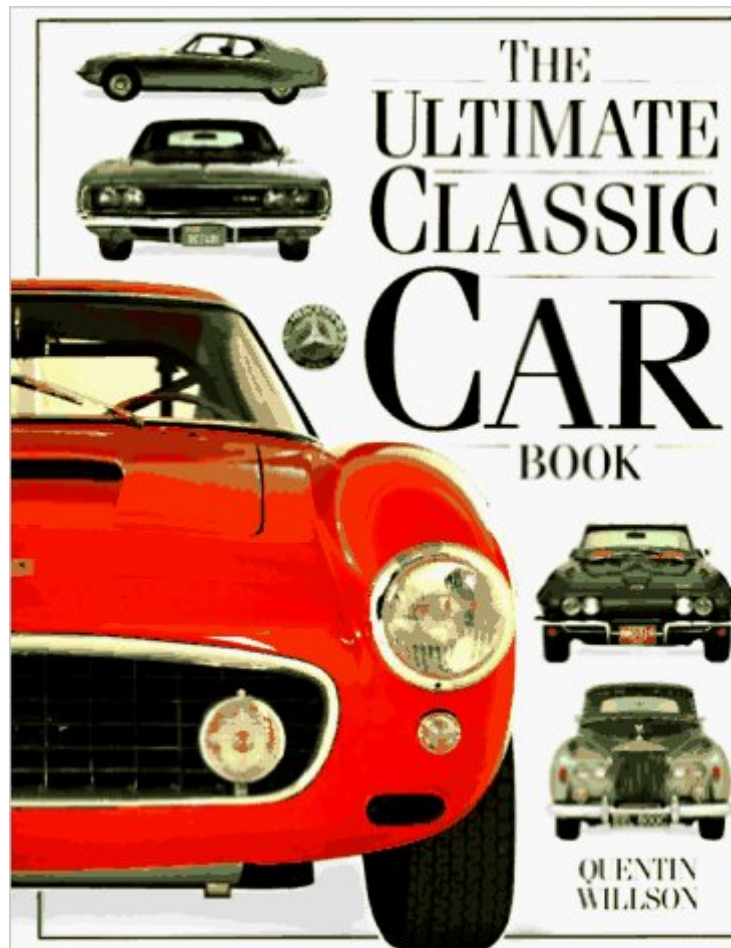


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# The Ultimate Classic Car Book



## Synopsis

Detailing more than one hundred classic cars with close-up gallery photographs, a comprehensive history highlights each model's production figures, competition successes, mechanical and body modifications, and more. 50,000 first printing.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 224 pages

Publisher: DK ADULT (September 9, 1995)

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Product Dimensions: 9.3 x 0.8 x 11.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.6 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (30 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #129,529 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #20 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Transportation](#) #33 in [Books > Engineering & Transportation > Automotive > Classic Cars](#) #972 in [Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation](#)

## Customer Reviews

I thoroughly enjoyed looking at everything contained in Quentin Wilson's "The Ultimate Classic Car Book," but what it contains doesn't even come close to earning it the title, "Ultimate." Don't get me wrong, it's a very good book and may well be worth your \$18 (or whatever you can get it for "Used"). But as a person who owns a classic car and has been active in classic car circles for several years, a book doesn't earn the "Ultimate" designation when it doesn't include the bullet-nosed 1950 or '51 Studebaker, a 1913 Stutz, the Tucker, a '41 Lincoln Zephyr, a '55 Plymouth Belvedere, a '57 Chevy Nomad, or several others widely recognized as classics. Yes, I realize that my little list there is heavily skewed to American cars, but Wilson's book is VERY heavily skewed to include more models than necessary from Rolls-Royce/Bentley, BMW, Datsun, MG, and a couple of others. Again, don't misunderstand -- those are all great cars that he has included. I simply don't think you can include so many of those, ignore other obvious classics that many of us would like to learn and see more about, and still call your book "Ultimate". I know I'm obsessing a bit, but if I only had \$20 to spend on such a book and bought it over the Internet, I would feel a little cheated upon seeing how much it leaves out. Just make sure you review it thoroughly above so that your expectations are on target.

A great book for any classic car fan. Quentin Wilson shows his love for all classic cars by including the best from Europe, America, Japan, and even Australia! Unlike other British authors, Wilson recognizes cars from around the world, not just roadsters from Europe. Chargers and AC Cobras mingle with Aston Martins, Holden FXs, and the ever popular Ferraris and Lamborghinis. I highly recommend this book.

What is a classic car? And which of them should be featured in a book titled the ULTIMATE CLASSIC CAR BOOK? The book claims to have "gathered the most desirable of the world's great cars" but of the hundreds of makes and models that the Classic Car Club of America recognizes as a classic ("a fine or distinctive automobile, either American or foreign built, produced between 1925 and 1948") not one is featured in ULTIMATE CLASSIC CAR. Not even the universally acclaimed Cord 810 Phaeton that American Heritage magazine selected as "The Single Most Beautiful American Car" is included. If your interest is vintage--from highly sought marquees such as Auburn, Franklin, Packard, Pierce-Arrow and Stutz to Detroit's most familiar icons such as the Ford Model T and A--you are out of luck. In fact, except for the 1934 Citroen Avant, no cars manufactured prior to World War Two are to be found in the book. If classic for you means muscle the ULTIMATE CLASSIC CAR BOOK has the Barracuda, Charger and GTO but omits the Challenger, Coronet, Cougar and many others. In 1990 Car and Driver magazine selected the ten best muscle cars of all time, but of the ten, only the Pontiac GTO makes it into the ULTIMATE CLASSIC CAR BOOK. Regardless of the model year or type of vehicle you will not find any AMC, Chrysler, De Soto, Kaiser, Lincoln, Mercury, Nash, Oldsmobile, or Studebaker cars profiled in the book. Of the 90 cars featured in ULTIMATE CLASSIC CAR only 16 are American made. Plymouth gets two pages for one of its cars, while Citroen gets ten. In the book's 224 pages only European sport cars are reasonably represented. Dorling Kindersley (DK) publishes many beautiful photograph filled books and ULTIMATE CLASSIC CAR is no exception--but this classic car book is far from being the ultimate and will surely disappoint anyone fascinated in America's great venerable cars.

A truly great book that captures the essence of the car industry so well. From the humble 2cv to the Ferrari 250 GT, the Cadillac Eldorado to the Bugeye Sprite, this book has it all. It shows what this industry is from the beginning to the present. If you don't have it already buy it, even just for the pictures, a masterpiece.

A great book, cars from all round the world, not just European snob cars. We need a follow up please, there are many more classic Australian and American cars that could be written about, and some more European of course.

It seems Quentin Willson has made the ideal coffee table book. The Ultimate Classic Car Book groups together all shapes and sizes of classic cars from DeLoreans to Datsuns and Vegas to Volkswagens, and all with original and beautiful photographs wrapped in concise and precise text equivalent to about a page of novel. Willson does a very consistent job of presenting each car with basic facts and statistics along side special traits or other interesting items that make each car unique. One example of an interesting fact is the mention of the "Autronic Eye" available as an option on the 1959 Cadillac convertible that would dim the headlights when an oncoming car approached. Willson also gives us insight into the cars by adding his own commentary. Examples of this can be found in his reference to the "Autronic Eye" as a mere marketing gimmick that never took off and his accusation that the stainless steel of the DeLorean was a "cynical marketing ploy." Even if you aren't interested in reading about the many classic cars of the world, this book is worth a purchase just for the full color meticulously crafted photographs and trivia. I would recommend The Ultimate Classic Car book to anyone interested in learning about automobiles of the past

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