



J2 TECHNICAL ARTICLE

Number 78

From Octagon Heaven

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Resource: Roger Thomas
Library MMM Register

THE QUESTION OF COLOR - THE LAST WORD ON COLOUR

Editorial note: The following comments are a summary of an article by Martin Brent who delved into factor records and came up with a good deal of information of M.G. colors.

It would appear that color scheme tended to apply to years running from Motor Show to Motor Show but there was a certain degree of continuity-----

--- One real standard finish was black!

--- Duotone finished cars were standard in 1931

--- For an extra payment for the customer's choice, special finishes could be gotten which allows the present day enthusiast to exercise a wide range of choice, all in the name of "special ordered".

--- Metallic paints were not authentic until 1938-39 and then only in gray.

Mr. Brent list the colors available as standard through each car Type. If you refer to Technical article number 6 (1932 J2) and number 15 (1933 & 1934 J2) you will have the correct lists.

THE M.G. CAR COMPANY LTD. DID NOT KEEP PAINT FORMULA RECORDS UNTIL 1938 per Mr. Brent findings.

On the back side are seven tables supplied by Mr. Brent. Note he did not include a table for the 1932 production but that is in article number 6.

The colors of the 1932 - 1934 standard production may or may not be the same as the colors of the 1938 , 1939, and 1945-54 tables.

Table A: 1933

Exterior	Body	Wings	Wheels	Upholsters	Roof Top, Rear Quarters (Closed Models)	Hood
Black/Green	Black	Black	Dublin Green	Apple Green	Ulster Green	Black
Black/Red	Black	Black	Saratoga Red	Deep Red	Carmine Red	Black
Black/Blue	Black	Black	Cambridge Blue	Cerulean Blue	Oxford Blue	Black
Ulster Green/Dublin Green	Dublin Green	Ulster Green	Dublin Green	Apple Green	Ulster Green	Green
Oxford Blue/Cambridge Blue	Cambridge Blue	Oxford Blue	Cambridge Blue	Cerulean Blue	Oxford Blue	Blue
Carmine Red/Saratoga Red	Saratoga Red	Carmine Red	Saratoga Red	Deep Red	Carmine Red	Red

Table B: 1936

	Front Wings	Running Board	Rear Wings	Bonnet Top	Body	Roof Top (Saloons)	Trunk (Saloons)	Moulding	Wire Wheels	Discs (if fitted)	Hood (Open Models)	Upholstery	Interior Lining
Abingdon Green Emgee Green	Emgee Green	Emgee Green	Emgee Green	Abingdon Green	Abingdon Green	Emgee Green	Emgee Green	Emgee Green	Silver	Abingdon Green	Grey Twill	Biscuit Brown	Fawn
Cream, Brown	Brown	Brown	Brown	Green Cream	Cream	Brown	Brown	Brown	Silver	Cream	Brown Twill	Biscuit Brown	Fawn
Maroon	Maroon	Maroon	Maroon	Maroon	Maroon	Maroon	Maroon	Maroon	Silver	Maroon	Red Twill	Deep Red	Grey
Abingdon Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Silver	Blue	Blue Twill	Saxe Blue	Grey
Black	Black	Black	Black	Black	Black	Black	Black	Black	Silver	Black	Black or any above	Any of above	Any of above

Table C: 1937

	Front Wings	Running Board	Rear Wings	Bonnet Top	Body	Roof Top (Saloons)	Trunk (Saloons)	Moulding	Wire Wheels	Discs (if fitted)	Hood (Open Models)	Upholstery	Interior Lining
Abingdon Green Emgee Green	Emgee Green	Emgee Green	Emgee Green	Abingdon Green	Abingdon Green	Emgee Green	Emgee Green	Emgee Green	Silver	Abingdon Green	Grey Twill	Biscuit Brown	Fawn
Cream	Cream	Cream	Cream	Cream	Cream	Cream	Cream	Cream	Silver	Cream	Red Twill	Red	Fawn
Maroon	Maroon	Maroon	Maroon	Maroon	Maroon	Maroon	Maroon	Maroon	Silver	Maroon	Red Twill	Deep Red	Grey
Abingdon Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Silver	Blue	Blue Twill	Saxe Blue	Grey
Peacock Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Silver	Blue	Blue Twill	Peacock Blue	Grey
Black	Black	Black	Black	Black	Black	Black	Black	Black	Silver	Black	Black or any above	Any of above	Any of above

Table D: 1950

Body Colour	Interior Colour
Black	Red, Beige or Green
M.G. Red	Red or Beige
Almond Green	Beige
Ivory	Red or Green
Clipped Blue	Beige
Sun Bronze	Red or Green
Autumn Red	Red or Beige

Table F: Continental Coupé

Body	Bonnet, Wings, Trunk, Roof Top & Rear Quarters	Wheels	Upholstery
Yellow	Black	Yellow	Tudor Brown
Black	Black	Black	Tudor Brown
Dublin Green	Black	Dublin Green	Apple Green
Saratoga Red	Black	Saratoga Red	Deep Red
Cambridge Blue	Black	Cambridge Blue	Cerulean Blue

Table E: 1953

Body Colour	Interior Colour
Black	Red or Green
M.G. Red	Red
Woodland Green	Green
Ivory	Red or Green
Silver Struck Grey	Red

Table G: Modern paint colour equivalents

Original Colour	Modern BMC equivalent	BMC Code
1938		
Abingdon Blue	Trafalgar Blue	BU.37
Peacock Blue	Dark Green	GN.12
Emgee Red	Renn Red	RD.14
Maroon	Embassy Maroon	RD.21
Cream	County Cream	YL.6
Black	Black	BK.1
Dublin Green	Racing Green	GN.23
Duo Green	Willow Green	GN.33
	Westminster Green	GN.32
1939		
Saxe Blue	Trafalgar Blue	BU.37
Metallic Grey	Regency Grey (Metallic)	GR.14
Coral Red	Renn Red	RD.14
Maroon	Embassy Maroon	RD.21
Light Grey	Drive Grey	GR.34
Black	Black	BK.1
Apple Green	Racing Green	GN.23
Duo-Green	Willow Green	GN.33
	Westminster Green	GN.32
1945-54		
Black	Black	BK.1
Autumn Red	Autumn Red	RD.6
Ivory	Cream Ivory	YL.5
Almond Green	Almond Green	GN.37
Sun Bronze	No equivalent colour available	
M.G. Red	Renn Red	RD.14
Clipped Blue	Clipped Blue	BU.14
Silver Struck Grey	Silver Struck Grey (Metallic)	GR.25
Woodland Green	Woodland Green (B.R.G.)	GN.29

A Question of Colour

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As stated previously, pre-war cars could be finished in any colour combination which the owner wished, and if therefore your car is not painted in one of the colours listed and you are worried about Concours so far as originality is concerned—don't. The general policy of Concours judges is to allow any colour that is in keeping with the age of the car. After all, you have to 'live it'!

* Also available in any blue matches the M.G. Green (GN.33) and M.G. Green (Metallic) GN.31
 † Approximate match only.