

1936 pontiac business coupe

1936 pontiac business coupe stands as a remarkable example of automotive design and engineering from the mid-1930s. This classic vehicle combines style, functionality, and performance, making it a prized possession among vintage car enthusiasts and collectors. The 1936 model year was significant for Pontiac as it showcased innovative features and a distinctive design that set it apart in the competitive automotive market. From its powerful engine options to its elegant body style, the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe continues to capture the attention of those interested in classic American automobiles. This article delves into the detailed history, design elements, mechanical specifications, and collectible value of the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe. Explore the comprehensive overview of this iconic car through the sections below.

- Historical Context of the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe
- Design and Styling Features
- Engine and Performance Specifications
- Interior and Comfort Details
- Market Reception and Legacy
- Collectibility and Restoration

Historical Context of the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe

The 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe was introduced during a transformative period in the American automotive industry. Pontiac, as a division of General Motors, was striving to establish itself as a maker of affordable yet stylish and reliable vehicles. The Business Coupe was part of Pontiac's lineup aimed at business professionals and small business owners who required a practical vehicle with a touch of sophistication.

Position Within the Pontiac Lineup

In 1936, Pontiac offered a range of body styles and models, but the Business Coupe was distinguished by its two-door configuration optimized for both business use and personal transportation. This model was designed to appeal to those who needed a car that could accommodate work-related activities

without sacrificing comfort or appearance.

Automotive Industry Trends in 1936

The mid-1930s saw automotive manufacturers focusing on improved aerodynamics, more powerful engines, and enhanced driver comfort. The 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe reflected these trends by incorporating streamlined design and mechanical advancements that aligned with consumer expectations of the era.

Design and Styling Features

The 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe is notable for its classic styling that blends functionality with elegance. Its design elements reflect the Art Deco influence prevalent in the 1930s, characterized by smooth curves, bold lines, and a balanced silhouette.

Exterior Design

The coupe features a sleek two-door body with a relatively compact frame that enhances maneuverability. Key exterior highlights include a prominent chromed grille, integrated fenders, and stylish running boards. The vehicle's paint options were available in a variety of colors that complemented the era's aesthetic preferences.

Body Construction and Dimensions

The body of the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe was built on a sturdy steel frame, ensuring durability and safety. Its dimensions provided a comfortable balance between interior space and overall vehicle size, making it suitable for urban and rural driving conditions alike.

- Length: Approximately 184 inches
- Width: Approximately 68 inches
- Wheelbase: Approximately 115 inches
- Weight: Around 3,000 pounds

Engine and Performance Specifications

The performance of the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe was powered by a robust engine configuration designed to deliver reliable and efficient driving. This model was equipped to meet the demands of both city streets and longer highway journeys.

Engine Type and Capacity

The 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe was fitted with a straight-eight engine, a hallmark of Pontiac's engineering excellence at the time. The engine displaced approximately 223 cubic inches and was capable of producing around 82 horsepower, providing a smooth and powerful driving experience.

Transmission and Drivetrain

The vehicle utilized a three-speed manual transmission, which was standard for the period. The drivetrain was rear-wheel drive, contributing to balanced vehicle dynamics and control. This combination ensured that the Business Coupe could handle various road conditions effectively.

- Straight-eight engine, 223 cubic inches
- 82 horsepower output
- Three-speed manual transmission
- Rear-wheel drive layout

Interior and Comfort Details

The 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe's interior was designed with both comfort and practicality in mind. It catered to drivers who required a functional workspace as well as a comfortable environment for travel.

Seating and Upholstery

The coupe typically seated two occupants in the front, with a focus on supportive and durable upholstery materials such as leather or high-quality fabric. The seats were designed to provide adequate comfort for extended driving periods.

Dashboard and Instrumentation

The dashboard layout was straightforward yet elegant, with easy-to-read gauges including speedometer, fuel level, and oil pressure indicators. Controls were ergonomically placed to ensure ease of operation, reflecting the practical needs of business users.

Market Reception and Legacy

The 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe was well-received in the marketplace, appreciated for its blend of style, performance, and value. It helped solidify Pontiac's reputation as a manufacturer of dependable and attractive automobiles during the challenging economic climate of the 1930s.

Consumer Appeal

Business owners and professionals favored the coupe for its practicality and distinctive look. The model's affordability, combined with its reliable mechanical design, made it a popular choice among middle-class buyers seeking a quality vehicle.

Impact on Pontiac's Brand Image

The success of the 1936 Business Coupe contributed to Pontiac's growing prominence within General Motors and the broader automotive market. It demonstrated the company's ability to produce vehicles that balanced innovation with accessibility.

Collectibility and Restoration

Today, the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe is a sought-after classic car among collectors and restorers. Its historical significance and unique design make it a valuable addition to vintage car collections.

Restoration Considerations

Restoring a 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe requires attention to both mechanical and aesthetic details. Original parts, including the straight-eight engine components and interior fittings, are highly prized. Preservation of the vehicle's authentic styling is essential to maintain its collectible value.

Factors Influencing Collectible Value

The collectible value of the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe depends on several factors:

- Originality of parts and finishes
- Condition of the engine and drivetrain
- Quality of restoration work
- Historical documentation and provenance
- Rarity of the specific model and body style

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the key features of the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe?

The 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe features a stylish two-door body, a six-cylinder engine, and a comfortable interior designed for business professionals seeking both utility and style.

How powerful is the engine in the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe?

The 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe is equipped with a 6-cylinder engine that produces around 82 horsepower, providing adequate performance for its time.

What makes the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe different from other models of the same year?

The Business Coupe was designed primarily for business use, featuring a two-door coupe body style with a focus on practicality and economy compared to other Pontiac models like the Deluxe or Sedan.

Is the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe considered a classic car?

Yes, the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe is considered a classic car and is prized by collectors for its vintage design and historical significance.

What kind of transmission does the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe have?

The 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe typically came with a 3-speed manual transmission, which was standard for vehicles of that era.

How rare is the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe today?

The 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe is relatively rare today due to its age and limited production numbers, making it a sought-after vehicle among classic car enthusiasts.

What is the approximate value of a 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe in good condition?

A 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe in good condition can range in value from \$20,000 to \$40,000, depending on its restoration, originality, and market demand.

Where can I find parts for restoring a 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe?

Parts for the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe can be found through classic car part suppliers, online forums, specialized vintage auto shops, and Pontiac enthusiast clubs.

What is the historical significance of the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe?

The 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe represents an important era in American automotive history, showcasing the transition to more stylish and practical vehicles for business use during the Great Depression.

Additional Resources

1. The Classic 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe: A Restoration Guide

This comprehensive guide walks you through the restoration process of the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe. From sourcing original parts to detailed mechanical repairs, it offers step-by-step instructions for enthusiasts looking to bring this vintage vehicle back to life. The book also includes historical photographs and maintenance tips to preserve the car's authenticity.

2. Timeless Elegance: The Story of the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe

Delve into the history and design innovations of the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe in this richly illustrated volume. The author explores Pontiac's role in the automotive industry during the 1930s and how this model stood out for

its blend of style and functionality. The book provides context on the economic and cultural environment that shaped its creation.

3. *Driving Through History: 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe Chronicles*

This narrative-driven book captures the experience of owning and driving a 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe through various eras. Featuring interviews with collectors and historians, it offers personal stories alongside technical insights. Readers gain an appreciation for the car's impact on American driving culture.

4. *1936 Pontiac Business Coupe: Specifications and Performance*

An in-depth technical manual focusing on the engineering and performance aspects of the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe. Detailed charts and diagrams explain the vehicle's engine, chassis, and suspension systems. This book is ideal for mechanics and enthusiasts seeking a thorough understanding of the car's mechanical design.

5. *Collector's Guide to the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe*

This guide is tailored for collectors interested in acquiring or valuing a 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe. It covers market trends, rarity factors, and tips for verifying authenticity. Additionally, it includes a directory of clubs, auctions, and resources for classic car collectors.

6. *Design and Aesthetics of the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe*

Explore the artistic and stylistic elements that define the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe. The author analyzes the car's body lines, interior features, and color schemes, placing them within the broader design trends of the 1930s. This book is perfect for design students and automotive historians alike.

7. *Maintaining Your 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe: Tips and Tricks*

This practical handbook provides essential maintenance advice for owners of the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe. Covering routine checks, troubleshooting common problems, and preserving vintage components, it helps keep the vehicle in excellent running condition. The book also emphasizes the importance of using period-correct materials.

8. *1936 Pontiac Business Coupe: A Photo Journey*

Featuring hundreds of high-quality images, this book visually documents the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe in various conditions and settings. From factory shots to restored models, it offers a visual appreciation of the vehicle's craftsmanship. The photo captions provide historical context and technical notes.

9. *The Legacy of Pontiac: Focusing on the 1936 Business Coupe*

This book places the 1936 Pontiac Business Coupe within the broader legacy of the Pontiac brand. It traces the evolution of Pontiac vehicles leading up to 1936 and the impact that model had on future designs. Readers gain insight into the brand's philosophy and its influence on American automotive history.

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