

The Italian Art and Design of the De Tomaso Mangusta: A Comprehensive Collector's Guide

The De Tomaso Mangusta is an automotive masterpiece that embodies the essence of Italian artistry and engineering. Designed by Giorgetto Giugiaro of Ghia, the Mangusta made its debut in 1966, captivating enthusiasts with its sleek and aggressive lines. This comprehensive collector's guide is an invaluable resource for anyone seeking to delve into the rich history, design, and engineering of this iconic Italian sports car.

Design



Bella Mangusta: The Italian Art and Design of the De Tomaso Mangusta by Dick Ruzzin

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
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The Mangusta's design is a testament to Giugiaro's brilliance. The sloping roofline, sharp angles, and retractable headlights create a distinctive and unforgettable silhouette. The long hood and short tail endow the car with a sense of dynamism, hinting at its impressive performance capabilities.

The interior of the Mangusta is equally striking. The cockpit is designed with the driver in mind, featuring a wrap-around dashboard and bucket seats. The use of high-quality materials, such as leather and wood, adds to the luxurious ambiance.

Engineering



The De Tomaso Mangusta's powerful Ford V8 engine

Under the Mangusta's sleek exterior lies an equally impressive engineering prowess. Its heart is a powerful 302 cubic inch Ford V8 engine, producing over 300 horsepower. The engine is coupled to a 5-speed ZF manual transmission, giving the Mangusta exceptional performance for its era.

The Mangusta's handling is sharp and responsive, thanks to its independent suspension and four-wheel disc brakes. The car's low center of gravity and balanced weight distribution ensure a stable and thrilling driving experience.

History



The De Tomaso Mangusta was produced from 1966 to 1971, with a total of just over 400 examples built. The car made a splash in the automotive world, participating in numerous races and achieving considerable success.

In 1971, De Tomaso introduced the Mangusta II, which featured several design changes and mechanical improvements. However, production ended shortly after due to financial challenges faced by the company.

Collecting



A De Tomaso Mangusta being auctioned

The De Tomaso Mangusta is a highly sought-after collector's item. Its rarity, coupled with its iconic design and impressive performance, makes it a prized possession for enthusiasts worldwide.

When collecting a Mangusta, it's essential to consider factors such as condition, rarity, and provenance. Original and unrestored examples are particularly valuable. It's also advisable to consult with experts and join collector's clubs to stay informed about the market and find reputable sellers.

The De Tomaso Mangusta is a timeless masterpiece that embodies the essence of Italian automotive excellence. Its striking design, impressive engineering, and rich history have made it an enduring symbol of automotive passion and artistry. Whether you're an avid collector or simply appreciate the beauty and engineering of classic cars, this comprehensive guide will provide you with an invaluable resource to explore the fascinating world of the De Tomaso Mangusta.

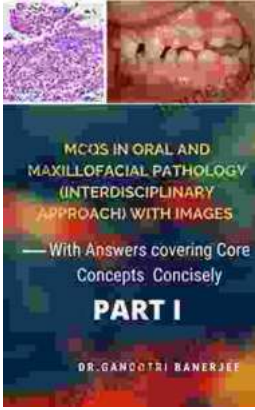


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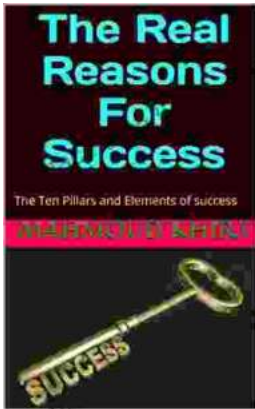
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