



The Definitive Guide to Gaydon Era Aston Martin

Book Review
by David Lewington

A buyer's and car enthusiast's guide. Tells you everything you need to know about Gaydon era – Vantage V8 and V12 – DB9 – DBS – Coupe – Roadster – Volante

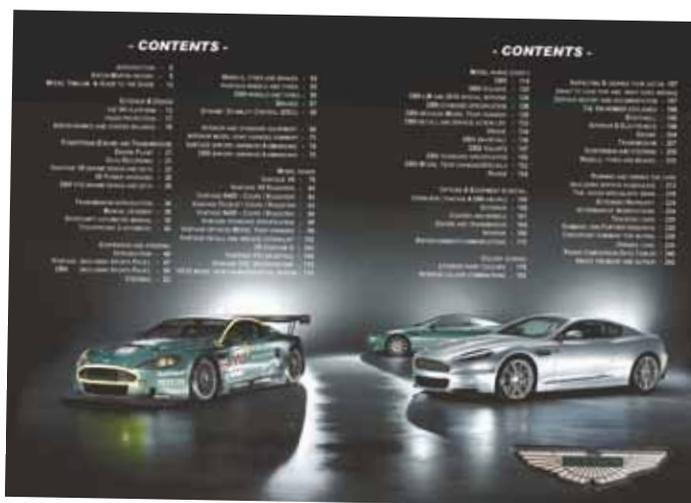
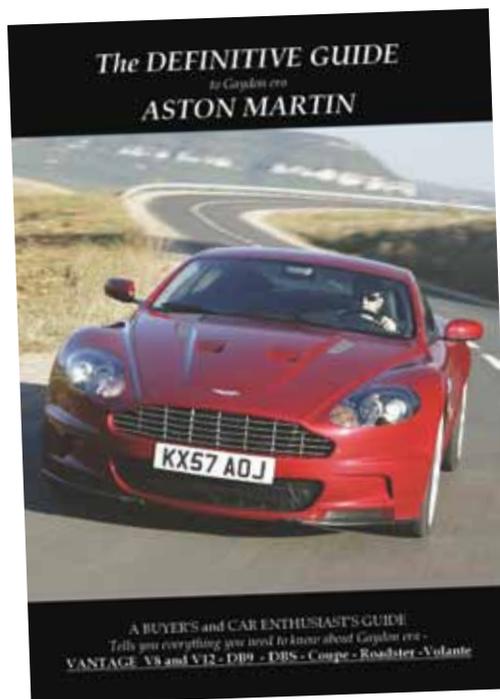
As the title suggests, this book sets out to be a definitive guide to all of the Astons produced at the Gaydon factory, and pretty much achieves this. Virtually identical in size to the recently published *DB7 to One-77* volume of the AMOC Register, the book is packed with photographs and information. You might even find that it is too packed, but that is ultimately a compromise between the size and cost of the finished product and the amount of information it contains. It complements part of the *DB7 to One-77* Register brilliantly, providing additional text and photographs to illustrate details on many of the models listed in the Register.

The book begins with technical details of the entire range, with illustrations and descriptions of the chassis, engines, transmission, suspension, wheels, tyres, brakes, equipment and dimensions. It then goes on to describe each model in detail, covering standard versus optional specification, model year changes, and recall notices (if any). The author then goes on to what to look for and what can go wrong, and then finally to running and owning the cars. A number of owners and specialists were asked for their views too.

It is hard to fault the book based on the amount of information it contains. It really is absolutely crammed with details about every Gaydon car, and as such should be considered an essential purchase for anyone considering buying one of these cars. Having been closely involved with the production of the Register I thought that I had read everything there was to read about the cars, but I still found plenty of new facts and figures in this book.

I did find myself somewhat confused by the references to Vantage V8 and Vantage V12, as I thought that the official name for these cars was V8 Vantage and V12 Vantage. The book is not consistent throughout in this respect, and the author explains that he had used these names because the cars have become so commonly known by the abbreviations AMV8 and VV12. And flicking through the book would be much easier if every page had the section name instead of just 'Aston Martin' in the header.

Overall a good book to add to the library and recommended if like me you cannot resist any book with Aston Martin in the title, or you have more than a passing interest in the Gaydon cars.



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