

Matra Sports Cars: Giants of the World Sportscar Championship









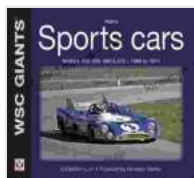


Matra, a pioneering French aerospace and automotive company, left an indelible mark on the world of motorsports in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Their sports car program produced some of the most innovative and successful racing machines ever created, including the legendary Ms620, Ms630, Ms650, Ms660, and Ms670.

The Ms620: A Formidable Debut

The Matra Ms620, introduced in 1966, was the company's first foray into sports car racing. It boasted a lightweight fiberglass body, a potent 3.0-liter V8 engine, and advanced aerodynamics. The car's innovative design and

impressive performance stunned the racing world, earning it victories at Le Mans and other prestigious events.



Matra sports cars: MS620, 630, 650, 660 & 670 – 1966 to 1974 (WSC Giants) by Ed McDonough

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 15534 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 174 pages
Lending	: Enabled



The Ms630: Taking it to the Next Level

Following the success of the Ms620, Matra unveiled the Ms630 in 1967. This evolution of the original car featured a more refined chassis, a more powerful 4.7-liter V8, and improved aerodynamics. The Ms630 dominated the 1967 World Sportscar Championship, winning five races and securing the championship title.

The Ms650: A Masterclass in Endurance

The Matra Ms650, introduced in 1969, was specifically designed for endurance racing. It featured a spacious cockpit, excellent fuel efficiency, and exceptional reliability. The Ms650 triumphed at the 24 Hours of Le Mans in 1972 and 1973, becoming one of the most successful endurance racing cars of all time.

The Ms660: A Return to Glory

After a brief hiatus, Matra returned to sports car racing in 1973 with the Ms660. This car incorporated the latest aerodynamic innovations and was powered by a Cosworth DFV V8 engine. The Ms660 won the 24 Hours of Le Mans in 1973 and 1974, cementing Matra's legacy as a force to be reckoned with in endurance racing.

The Ms670: Innovations and Triumphs

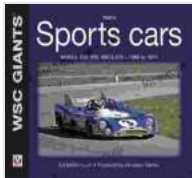
The Matra Ms670, the final car in the series, debuted in 1974. It featured an advanced composite chassis, a turbocharged 2.0-liter V6 engine, and a revolutionary "fan car" design. The Ms670 won the 12 Hours of Sebring and finished second at Le Mans, showcasing Matra's unwavering commitment to innovation and racing excellence.

The End of an Era

The 1970s oil crisis and changing racing regulations forced Matra to withdraw from sports car racing in 1974. However, the legacy of their extraordinary cars lives on. The Matra Ms620, Ms630, Ms650, Ms660, and Ms670 remain icons of sports car racing, admired for their stunning designs, groundbreaking innovations, and unparalleled achievements on the track.

Matra's sports cars from 1966 to 1974 were truly giants of the World Sportscar Championship. They revolutionized the sport with their innovative designs, powerful engines, and exceptional reliability. The Ms620, Ms630, Ms650, Ms660, and Ms670 remain etched in the annals of racing history, inspiring awe and admiration among enthusiasts worldwide. Their legacy

continues to inspire and motivate car designers and racing drivers to this day.



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