

1896 Ford Quadricycle Model



Manufacturing Information

Manufactured By Henry Ford with David Bell, James Bishop,

George Cato, and Edward Huff

Assembled At 58 Bagley Avenue, Detroit, Michigan

Model Production 1 (this model in 1896)

Annual Production 1 (this year, 2 more the following year)

Horsepower 4

Weight 500 pounds/230 kilograms

1898 Cost Unknown

Innovations

One of the early US automobiles

Proved that ethanol-based engines were viable for automobiles

Represents innovation in every sense of the word

Henry's First Car!

In 1896, Henry Ford completed his first vehicle, the "Quadricycle." The vehicle used four bicycle wheels and was powered by a two-cylinder engine that ran on ethanol. The tiny engine had a chain drive connected to the rear wheels. It was originally air cooled. After frequent over-heating problems, a water jacket was added to provide better cooling. The Quadricycle had two driving speeds, no reverse, no brakes, rudimentary steering ability and a doorbell button as a horn. The vehicle's maximum speed was about 20 mph. It took about two years to finally complete. On June 4, Henry took his first ride down the streets of Detroit on the Quadricycle at four o'clock in the morning.

Jerry Hammes

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