CLASSIC DRIVER

<u>Aston Martin Project One-77: Further Photo Revealed - Surprise</u> <u>Appearance at Paris Show</u>



The British company has issued a further teaser image of its 2009 700bhp supercar as well showing a prototype, quite literally 'under wraps', in Paris.

A spokesman for the company admitted that the decision to bring the exciting new GT to the French show was made relatively late in the day and subject to the strictest security. The car will be guarded 24/7 and is shrouded with a pin-stripe bespoke 'suit' that is sewn onto the car to prevent unauthorised viewing.





Just an element of the nose, grille and headlamp is visible, with a similar amount of 'leg' at the rear on occasional view.



The latest photograph from Gaydon shows the new car from a rear three-quarter angle. Despite the arty lighting, a clearly defined 'step' can be seen over the wide rear wheel arches, with a possibly pillarless side window treatment. The boot has a small aerodynamic lip and there's either a retractable bootlid spoiler – or space for just a wash bag as luggage...

Just behind the front wheels, aggressive air exits handle the 7.3-litre V12's heat and may form part of the 200mph car's aerodynamic package. The roof features a relief echoing the classic profile of an NACA duct.

It does look rather good.

Production will be limited to a maximum of 77 individually numbered examples, with deliveries expected to commence in the fourth quarter of 2009.

Touchtronic 2 and 2+2 for the DBS

The company has also announced that the range-topping DBS will not only be available as a conventional six-speed - as seen in the DB9 - automatic, but also in an optional 2+2 configuration. As standard, the £162,500 (\$269,000) car is a '2+0' manual with Touchtronic 2 adding a further £3000 (\$4000).

The 1000W Bang & Olufsen BeoSound system – developed exclusively for the DBS and previously an option – is now standard fitment, while new 10-spoke 20in forged aluminium wheels can be specified at extra cost. The weight-saving (8kg per corner) alloys feature a diamond-turned surface and are available in either silver or graphite

Text: Steve Wakefield

Photos: Aston Martin / Nanette Schärf

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