
1958 Austin-Healey Sprite

Lot sold	USD 0 GBP 0 (listed)	Drive	RHD
Year of manufacture	1958	Condition	Used
Mileage	1 mi / 2 km	Location	
Gearbox	Manual	Exterior colour	Other
Lot number	325	Car type	Other

Description

"Manufactured on 14th July 1958 with Chassis No AN5/2763, TCE 539 is a home market car and still carries its original registration number. It came to the current owners and restorers, Memory Lane Classics, who are fast developing a reputation as specialists in all things 'Frogeye' as a stalled restoration project consisting of a complete bodyshell and several boxes of parts.

All paint was completely removed from the shell and it was inspected for any damage and made good back to the original condition using British manufactured panels and repair sections seam-welded to form invisible repairs. The entire shell was then powder coated to ensure a rust-free future and painted in the original factory colour of Primrose Yellow.

All components were cleaned and inspected, all nuts, bolts and washers were discarded in favour of new. The back axle, differential and prop shaft were disassembled and inspected; all moving parts were replaced or re-engineered as required. The engine was stripped of all its components and sent away to specialist engineers, Ivor Searle, to be reconditioned and returned with a 12-month warranty. The gearbox was rebuilt using later generation parts to ensure a smoother gear change.

All the bumpers and other brightwork were sent off to Castle Chrome and the dashboard was rebuilt using recalibrated gauges. The carpets, seats and hood were all replaced with new. It was then converted to negative earth and a new wiring loom was fitted together with electronic ignition, electric fuel pump and alternator (in the guise of a dynamo) and the lights were improved to sealed beam halogen units. All brake components were replaced and the car was fitted with powder coated wheels and new tyres, including the spare.

The original nine stud windscreen was reconditioned and fitted with new glass and the side

stanchions were painted in the body colour as per early specification cars. Full details of the restoration project can be found in the history file. Complete with UK V5C registration document, 12-month MoT test certificate and a Heritage Certificate, this could not be built for this reserve and the quality and finish are outstanding."

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