5 collector cars to put into your garage this week

Lead
We've been scouring the Classic Driver Market all week to bring you the automotive crème de la crème. Here are five iconic classics to elevate any car collection.

Into the stratosphere

While we're not certain on the origins of the phrase "rally rocket", we'd bet good money on the term being coined to describe the wonderfully wedge-shaped Lancia Stratos. It wouldn't be too difficult to imagine someone strapping this 1974 Lancia Stratos to a booster rocket and firing it up into the final frontier. Built to Group 4 rally specification and updated to 2021 FIA historic rally standards, this Stratos is waiting for someone to hop in, fire up the ignition, and blast off down the nearest rally stage.

Twenty-twenty

This [1992 BMW M5](#) is a very rare beast indeed. Finished in a suitably shouty shade of Mugello Red, this is one of just 20 limited edition M5s built to celebrate BMW Motorsport's 20th anniversary. Each of them were individually numbered and fitted with a potent 3.8-litre straight six, the Nürburgring suspension package, and a number of desirable options you won't find anywhere else. Among these rare options are the Recaro SR sports seats, carbon interior trim, and that fantastic BMW M upholstery, which is possibly our favourite aspect of this super saloon. This example is likely to be the finest of its kind, having covered less than 3,000 miles since it left the factory. If the new M5 doesn't do it for you, then why not sample one of the best rides ever to wear the M badge.

Kamm tail titan

Here's a not-so-controversial statement: nothing looks better than a race car from the 60s. Don't believe us? Just look at this [1961 Alfa Romeo Giulietta Sprint Zagato Coda Tronca](#) and you'll see the light. Yes, the name is on the lengthy side, but if any car is deserving of a few extra syllables, it's this one. Originally delivered to Elio Zagato himself, this striking cam-tailed beauty boasts extensive period racing history, including a plethora of podium finishes in 1962 and 1963, as documented in the Automobile Club d'Italia's records. Complete with the correct Tipo 00120 1300cc engine, front disc brakes, and a five speed gearbox, now's your chance to enjoy one of the finest post-war Zagato Alfas in existence.

Cloclo's choice

Big Benzes have historically been the ride of choice for the rich, famous, and powerful, and this 1977 Mercedes 450 SEL 6.9 is no exception, having previously been owned by French super-star Claude Fancois. When it was released, the 450 SEL 6.9 had the largest engine produced in Europe since the second world war. However, a tank-sized V8 isn't the only thing this Merc has in common with war machines, because this limo is from the height of Mercedes' obsession with building bulletproof barges. In fact, this exact car even saved Claude Francois from an armed assault, dutifully blocking a number of bullets aimed at the French star. Recently mechanically restored by Kienle to the tune of over 70,000 euros, this is one luxo-barge you'll struggle to beat, no matter the budget.

Highland Green dream

Usually, Bullitt lookalikes can be a bit disappointing, using the bulk of their restoration budget to ape Steve McQueen's famous Mustang Fastback without any of the mechanical

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upgrades to match. This [1968 Ford Mustang Fastback](#), however, is anything but lacklustre. Fitted with a five speed manual mated to a 393 cubic inch Stroker small block V8, this Mustang easily has enough pace to justify the Bullitt name. Resprayed this year in the movie-accurate shade of Highland Green metallic by Spray Shack in Braintree, this Fastback also benefits from servo-assisted disc brakes all-round, and new five spoke Torque Thrust alloy wheels fitted with fresh rubber. So, if you want to feel like the King of Cool, your ride is ready and waiting.

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