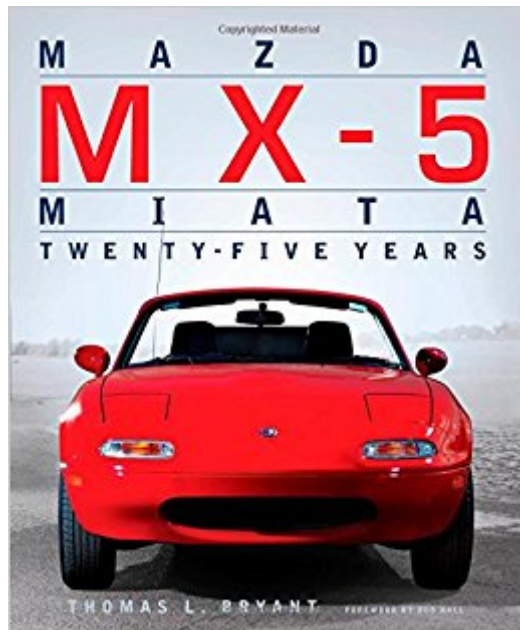




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Mazda MX-5 Miata: Twenty-Five Years



Synopsis

Celebrating a quarter century of the car that redefined its genre. The Mazda MX-5, (known as Miata in North America and Eunos Roadster in Japan), revolutionized the lightweight two-seater roadster market. By taking the front-engine, rear-wheel-drive layout of traditional British and Italian roadsters and combining it with the modern function and reliability for which Japanese cars were justly famous, Mazda created what many consider the perfect sports car. The MX-5 became the best-selling sports car of all time, selling over a million units worldwide. Customers proved that they hadn't lost their desire for simple, lightweight two-seat convertibles; they had simply lost their desire for unreliable, archaic European anachronisms that caught on fire as part of their charm. In 2009, English automotive critic Jeremy Clarkson wrote: "The fact is that if you want a sports car, the MX-5 is perfect. Nothing on the road will give you better value. Nothing will give you so much fun. The only reason I'm giving it five stars is because I can't give it 14." *Mazda MX-5 Miata: Twenty-Five Years* is a handsomely-illustrated coffee-table book celebrating Mazda's ground-breaking MX-5 Miata, the car that revolutionized the lightweight two-seater roadster market.

Book Information

Hardcover: 160 pages

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Customer Reviews

Thomas Bryant is an iconic journalist in the automotive industry. He is respected by manufacturers and revered by automotive journalists as a professional of the highest standards. He is a genuine aficionado of the business, and a recognized arbiter of what makes a car great. In addition to his former role at Road & Track as vice president and editor in chief, Tom's 36 years in the business include stints as editor of Pick Up Van & 4 Wheel Drive and Road & Track special publications.

Nice overview of the development of the NA Miata. NB and NC coverage is light at best. Several photos are transposed (disappointing to say the least). How the editors or Bryant did not catch this I will never understand, it's pretty obvious when the "DOHC" stamped on the engine is backwards. Some of the horsepower numbers quoted on the NC appear inaccurate. I think one photo is labeled completely wrong in the NB section where a date is given for a certain photograph, but the photo contains a bunch of NC model Miatas that would not have been released at the time. It's an OK read with some good pictures, but if you know the details of these cars you will quickly recognize that this appears hastily put together and shipped off to China for printing.

This is a coffee table type of enthusiast book that provides lots of well written commentary and anecdotal accounts of the design, development and evolution of the Mazda Miata over the past 25 years since the original NA through the NC along with some musings by the author about what the ND would bring (all ND details appear to be speculative at best since the book was released before the ND release announcement). There are some great stories about the people and the process that come together to create this beloved automobile; the quality of the paper, font and photography is good although many of the photos are recognizable for many enthusiasts who are already familiar with the history. Absolutely worth having to add to the growing collection of Miatabilia but I don't think any new ground was broken. 5 stars and a zoom zoom.

This is a very lightweight tribute to the fabulous Miata. The organization is somewhat haphazard, the significance of what a Miata was to the world in 1989 is downplayed and Bob Hall's role in the development is certainly not represented. This could have been the classic definition of 25 years of a sports car that actually works every day but it's not. Nor is it oriented towards the US enthusiast, entirely bypassing the likes of Keith Tanner and the Flyin Miata crowd that has done more for Miata's than most. Buy it for the pictures, ignore all the right hand drive ones if it bothers you, and wonder to yourself if this is the same Thomas Bryant that hit it out of the park with Road & Track all those years.

This was a gift to a Miata junkie. It's now his prized display piece.

If you own a late model Miata (NC) you will want this coffee table book. Lots of history and photos. Duplicates much of the Yamagauchi - Dinkle (sp?) book, but expands on everything, even the older

models.

A comprehensive history of the "mighty Miata" showing engineering details and changes made from year to year. The important "block" changes in the design that separate the models. Fun reading!

My Dad loved it! Perfect birthday gift for the Miata lover in your life.

Great photos and good information.

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