

# CLUTCH CULTURE

McLaren F1 Team  
Monaco Livery



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# CONTENTS



**06**    **EVOLUTION OF PERFORMANCE ELECTRONIC VEHICLES**  
Are EVs the future of motorsport?

**08**    **LEGENDARY CARS**  
Exploring the rich history of the BMW M3

**10**    **THE ART OF PITSTOPS**  
Breaking down speed and precision in Motorsports

**12**    **GARAGE TO GLORY**  
Story of the Iconic Scuderia Ferrari F1 team

**14**    **THROTTLE TALK**  
Breaking Stories in the World of Cars

**16**    **MOTORSPORT LEGENDS**  
Paying Tribute to Legendary Cars and People

# CLUTCH CULTURE



EVOLUTION OF PERFORMANCE  
ELECTRONIC VEHICLES:  
ARE EVs THE FUTURE OF MOTORSPORT?



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Electric vehicles (EVs) are transforming the landscape of high-performance cars and motorsports, evolving from eco-friendly alternatives to cutting-edge technological marvels. This revolution began with the Tesla Roadster in 2008, the first EV to showcase that electric cars could be fast, stylish, and desirable. Its combination of a 0-60 mph time of under 4 seconds and a 245-mile range set the stage for what EVs could achieve. Over the years, this foundation has propelled the rise of hypercars like the Rimac Nevera and groundbreaking projects like the McMurtry Spéirling, both of which demonstrate the immense potential of electrification in motorsports.



The Rimac Nevera stands as a testament to EV engineering, delivering 1,914 horsepower, a top speed of 258 mph, and a record-breaking 8.58-second quarter-mile time. Its advanced torque vectoring system offers precise handling, making it a serious contender among the fastest cars in the world. Meanwhile, the McMurtry Spéirling has taken the EV performance game to another level. With a fan-assisted downforce system and a compact design, the Spéirling shattered the Goodwood Festival of Speed hill climb record in 2022, proving that EVs can excel in agility and innovation, not just raw speed.

EV racing is also gaining traction, with Formula E leading the charge. Established in 2014, this all-electric championship showcases how EV technology thrives under competitive conditions. Formula E cars reach top speeds of 200 mph and feature regenerative braking systems that recover up to 40% of their energy during a race, emphasizing efficiency alongside speed. Supported by automotive giants like Porsche, Jaguar, and Nissan, Formula E not only delivers thrilling racing but also accelerates advancements in consumer EV technology.





However, internal combustion engine (ICE) motorsport is far from obsolete. Iconic series like Formula 1, the World Endurance Championship, and MotoGP continue to captivate audiences with their visceral sound, mechanical complexity, and unparalleled engineering challenges. ICE engines offer a sensory experience that many fans argue EVs cannot replicate, from the roar of a V10 engine to the dynamic challenges of fuel management during a race. Additionally, hybrid technology, as seen in F1 and Le Mans Hypercars, bridges the gap between ICE and EV by integrating electric components without sacrificing the excitement of traditional motorsport.



Despite these challenges, EVs offer undeniable advantages. They promote sustainability by reducing carbon emissions, lower operating costs, and foster technological innovation. Their quiet operation and modular electric drivetrains enable entirely new design possibilities, such as the Spéirling's fan-assisted aerodynamics, which would be impractical with an ICE setup. As battery technology continues to improve, EVs are poised to expand their role in both consumer markets and motorsports.

Still, ICE motorsports are unlikely to disappear anytime soon. The visceral thrill of combustion engines, combined with advancements in biofuels and synthetic fuels, ensures a sustainable path for ICE vehicles in racing. This coexistence offers the best of both worlds: EVs pushing the boundaries of innovation and ICE vehicles preserving the traditions and sensory experiences that motorsport fans adore.



While EVs are carving out their space in motorsports, challenges remain. Limited battery range, high weight, and the need for robust charging infrastructure pose hurdles for widespread EV adoption in endurance racing. Moreover, the cultural attachment to ICE motorsport runs deep. Fans of classic races like the 24 Hours of Le Mans or the Monaco Grand Prix cherish the history, tradition, and sensory thrill that only ICE engines can provide.

The automotive world is at an exciting crossroads. While EVs like the Tesla Roadster, Rimac Nevera, and McMurtry Spéirling lead the charge toward a sustainable future, the enduring appeal of ICE engines ensures their presence on the racetrack for years to come. Together, they create a diverse motorsport landscape where tradition meets innovation, offering something for every kind of enthusiast. Whether it's the silent, futuristic hum of an EV or the thunderous roar of an ICE engine, the race for performance and excitement is far from over.







## LEGENDARY CARS

### BMW M3

The BMW M3 is more than a car; it's a living legend, a benchmark in performance engineering born from the crucible of motorsport. Introduced in 1986 as a homologation special for Group A touring car racing, the E30 M3 was designed with one purpose: to dominate on the track. Its boxy yet aerodynamic design, flared wheel arches, and high-revving 2.3-liter S14 inline-four engine were not just for show—they were engineered to excel in touring car championships. With a perfect 50:50 weight distribution, razor-sharp handling, and motorsport-grade reliability, the E30 M3 quickly amassed victories, including wins in the Deutsche Tourenwagen Meisterschaft (DTM) and other European racing circuits. The E30 remains a cultural and performance icon, celebrated for its purity and driver-centric design.

As the M3 evolved, each new generation pushed the envelope, introducing groundbreaking technology while staying true to its roots.

The E36 M3, launched in 1992, marked a shift toward more refined performance. Its larger, naturally aspirated inline-six engine offered smoother power delivery and greater everyday usability, broadening the car's appeal beyond racing enthusiasts. While it wasn't designed with the same raw focus as the E30, the E36 set new benchmarks for the balance of comfort and capability, earning its place as a versatile sports car for the road and track.

The E46 M3, introduced in 2000, is often regarded as the pinnacle of the M3 lineage. Featuring the legendary S54 3.2-liter inline-six engine, it delivered 333 horsepower and a screaming 8,000 RPM redline, creating an intoxicating blend of power and precision. Its design, with muscular lines and a timeless silhouette, remains iconic. The E46 also introduced the track-focused CSL (Coupe Sport Lightweight) variant, which shaved off weight with carbon-fiber body panels and removed unnecessary luxuries to deliver a raw, exhilarating driving experience. The CSL's razor-sharp handling and astonishing performance made it an instant classic, solidifying its place as one of the most desirable M3s ever built.



The subsequent generations continued the tradition of innovation. The E92 M3, released in 2007, took a bold step by introducing a 4.0-liter V8 engine, a first for the M3. With 414 horsepower and a spine-tingling exhaust note, the E92 balanced brute force with finesse, offering drivers a thrilling yet refined experience. Its track-ready counterpart, the GTS, featured a larger engine, stripped-down interior, and enhanced aerodynamics, keeping the motorsport spirit alive. In 2014, the M3 returned to its inline-six roots with the F80 generation, now turbocharged for the first time. This shift to forced induction sparked debates among purists but ushered in a new era of performance. The twin-turbo S55 engine delivered 425 horsepower and immense torque, redefining the car's capabilities while retaining its precise handling dynamics. The F80 also introduced advanced technologies like adaptive suspension and customizable driving modes, blending performance with modern convenience.



The current G80 M3, launched in 2020, represents the most advanced and powerful M3 to date. With up to 503 horsepower in the Competition variant, available xDrive all-wheel drive, and cutting-edge technology, it pushes boundaries while maintaining the M3's core philosophy: a driver-focused performance machine. While its bold design has sparked controversy, there's no denying its capability, with lap times and driving dynamics that rival supercars.

Throughout its history, the M3 has remained deeply connected to motorsport. From its early days in DTM to its presence in modern racing series, the M3 has proven its worth on tracks worldwide. Each generation carries lessons learned from racing, translating them into cars that excel both on the road and on the circuit.

What truly sets the BMW M3 apart is its versatility. It's a car that can dominate a track day, yet effortlessly transition to daily driving duties. Its ability to blend cutting-edge innovation with timeless design and thrilling performance makes it the ultimate driving machine. From the raw, uncompromising E30 to the technological powerhouse G80, the M3's legacy is one of constant evolution, staying true to its roots while embracing the future. Whether you're chasing apexes or cruising a winding mountain road, the BMW M3 is a car that continues to inspire passion and define excellence.





# THE ART OF PIT STOPS

## BREAKING DOWN PRECISION AND SPEED IN MOTORSPORT



Pit stops are the heartbeat of motorsport, where precision, speed, and teamwork combine to create race-defining moments. Across disciplines like Formula 1, NASCAR, and endurance racing, the art of the pit stop is a spectacle of engineering and strategy. While the basic objective—changing tires, refueling, or fixing mechanical issues—is universal, the techniques and tactics vary, reflecting the unique demands of each racing format.

In Formula 1, pit stops are an extraordinary display of coordination and speed. The 20-person crew operates with surgical precision, executing tasks like tire changes and wing adjustments in seconds. In 2023, McLaren set a new benchmark for speed with a 1.8-second pit stop at the Qatar Grand Prix, showcasing how far the sport has pushed the limits of efficiency. Every crew member has a specialized role, from wielding wheel guns to managing the car's jacks, and they practice relentlessly to eliminate even the smallest inefficiencies. A flawless stop can gain crucial track position, but a mistake—like a misaligned wheel—can cost a race or incur penalties. Strategy is integral, as teams must decide when to pit based on tire degradation, track conditions, and traffic, with split-second calls often determining the outcome.

In NASCAR, pit stops reflect a different style of racing. Limited to five crew members over the wall, NASCAR pit stops emphasize raw efficiency and versatility. The crew performs multiple tasks, including tire changes, refueling, and adjustments, in around 10-12 seconds. Unlike F1, manual hydraulic jacks are used, requiring immense strength and precision. Strategy plays a central role, particularly during caution periods when teams can stop without losing as much track position. Errors, such as speeding in the pit lane or improper lug nut fastening, can result in costly penalties, adding pressure to an already intense environment.

Endurance racing, such as the 24 Hours of Le Mans, takes a different approach to pit stops, prioritizing consistency and reliability over outright speed. These stops often include tire changes, refueling, driver swaps, and occasional repairs, with each stop lasting anywhere from 30 seconds to several minutes. The challenge lies in managing these stops effectively over long durations without compromising performance. Teams must carefully plan their pit strategies to balance speed, fuel economy, and mechanical integrity, ensuring the car can withstand the grueling demands of endurance racing.



What unites pit stops across these disciplines is teamwork. The synchronization between driver, pit crew, and engineers is paramount. Technology has played an increasing role, with advanced tools and software optimizing strategies and execution. Yet, at its core, the pit stop remains a human-driven spectacle where skill and coordination reign supreme.

Whether it's the lightning-fast precision of Formula 1, the rugged efficiency of NASCAR, or the calculated reliability of endurance racing, pit stops highlight the intersection of innovation and teamwork. They are not just a feature of motorsport—they are its essence, where races can be won or lost in the blink of an eye.



Scuderia Ferrari is not just a Formula 1 team; it's the embodiment of passion, heritage, and motorsport excellence

## CHARLES LECLERC MONZA GRAND PRIX 2024





# GARAGE TO GLORY SCUDERIA FERRARI FORMULA 1



Scuderia Ferrari is not just a Formula 1 team; it's the embodiment of passion, heritage, and motorsport excellence. Founded by Enzo Ferrari in 1929 as Alfa Romeo's racing arm, Ferrari soon became a standalone icon. When Formula 1 began in 1950, Scuderia Ferrari was ready, becoming the only team to participate in every season to date. Their first F1 victory came in 1951 at the British Grand Prix, with José Froilán González defeating Alfa Romeo, Ferrari's former ally. A year later, Alberto Ascari claimed Ferrari's first Drivers' Championship in 1952, repeating his triumph in 1953, cementing the team's legendary status. The scarlet cars quickly became symbols of speed and innovation, captivating fans worldwide.



Ferrari's history has seen incredible peaks and daunting challenges. The 1970s were defined by Niki Lauda's heroics. With championship victories in 1975 and 1977, Lauda's resilience, especially after his near-fatal crash in 1976, remains one of F1's most inspiring tales. The team's constructors' dominance in the mid-70s solidified its reputation as a powerhouse. However, the 1980s and early 1990s were turbulent times. Ferrari faced reliability issues and fierce competition from McLaren and Williams. Despite a title drought, the tifosi—Ferrari's ardent fanbase—remained unwavering in their support, embodying the team's indomitable spirit.

A resurgence began with Michael Schumacher's arrival in 1996. Under the leadership of Jean Todt, Ross Brawn, and Rory Byrne, Ferrari transformed into an unbeatable force. From 2000 to 2004, Schumacher clinched five consecutive Drivers' Championships, while Ferrari captured six straight Constructors' titles starting in 1999. This golden era set new benchmarks in Formula 1, showcasing unparalleled dominance through teamwork and innovation.





The post-Schumacher years have been a mix of promise and rebuilding. Kimi Räikkönen’s dramatic 2007 championship victory offered hope, but Ferrari has since faced formidable competition from teams like Red Bull Racing and Mercedes-AMG. Despite challenges, Ferrari remains a perennial contender, demonstrating a relentless drive to return to the pinnacle of F1. In 2024, Ferrari made headlines by signing seven-time world champion Lewis Hamilton for 2025 onwards. This bold move symbolized their unyielding ambition to reclaim dominance, blending Hamilton’s expertise with Ferrari’s legendary legacy.

Beyond the accolades, Scuderia Ferrari represents a cultural phenomenon. Their iconic red cars and roaring engines have made them synonymous with motorsport. Maranello, Ferrari’s headquarters, is a pilgrimage site for fans, standing as a testament to its enduring appeal. As Formula 1 transitions into the hybrid era, Ferrari embraces sustainability while staying true to its mission of winning. From its roots in a small Italian garage to its place as the most iconic name in motorsport, Scuderia Ferrari’s journey is a testament to relentless innovation, excellence, and the unbreakable bond it shares with fans across generations.





# THROTTLE TALK

## BREAKING STORIES IN THE WORLD OF CARS

Aston Martin has introduced the Valhalla, a hybrid supercar boasting over 1,000 horsepower and a top speed of 217 mph. Priced at £850,000, production is limited to 999 units, with deliveries expected to begin in mid-2025. The Valhalla features a 4.0-liter AMG V8 engine and advanced hybrid technology, positioning it as a formidable competitor in the supercar segment.



Chinese automaker Nio is set to unveil a new budget electric vehicle under the sub-brand Firefly, aimed at competing with Tesla's entry-level models. The city-style hatchback will be showcased on December 21 during Nio Day in Guangzhou, China. Featuring a large central infotainment screen and digital instrument cluster, the Firefly is expected to debut in China before eventually reaching Europe.



Toyota is confronting a class-action lawsuit in the United States over alleged engine defects in 2022-2024 Tundra and Tundra Hybrid models, with claims of engine stalling and potential failures. Additionally, the automaker is under scrutiny following incidents where GR Corolla vehicles caught fire, leading to total losses. Owners report that Toyota denied warranty claims, citing reasons such as vehicle abuse and improper tire ratings. These issues have raised concerns about Toyota's quality control and customer service practices.

The fourth quarter of 2024 has been vibrant for the automotive industry, with notable launches including the Hyundai Ioniq 9, a luxury electric SUV aimed at the high-end market, and Nio's budget-friendly EV under the Firefly sub-brand, set to rival Tesla's entry-level offerings. These releases highlight the industry's shift towards electric mobility and increased competition in various market segments.

Volkswagen is recalling 4,616 vehicles in the United States due to concerns over high-voltage battery overheating, which poses a fire risk. The recall affects 2022-2023 Audi Q5 SUVs and 2022 Audi A7 plug-in hybrids. Dealers will install advanced diagnostic software to address the issue, with the remedy expected to be available by the second quarter of 2025.





Mahindra has launched its latest electric vehicle, the eXUV400, marking a significant step in the company's commitment to sustainable mobility. The eXUV400 features a range of up to 456 km on a single charge and advanced connectivity options. Priced competitively, it aims to attract urban commuters seeking eco-friendly transportation solutions. The launch underscores Mahindra's dedication to expanding its electric vehicle portfolio in the growing EV market.



Lamborghini has announced a delay in the release of its first all-electric vehicle, the Lanzador, now scheduled for 2029. The decision reflects concerns about market readiness and the current demand for electric cars in the luxury segment. In the interim, Lamborghini will focus on hybrid models, including the Urus SE SUV and Revuelto supercar, as transitional solutions towards full electrification.

Hyundai has unveiled the Ioniq 9, a luxurious electric SUV set to rival premium brands like Range Rover. Introduced at the Los Angeles Motor Show, the Ioniq 9 features three powertrain options, a spacious cabin, and advanced comfort technologies. With prices starting around £60,000, it is positioned to attract customers of brands like Audi and BMW. The Ioniq 9 is expected to launch in the U.S. and Korean markets in early 2025, followed by a mid-2025 UK release.



The Mini Cooper has been awarded the 'Sun Car of the Year,' impressing automotive enthusiasts and experts with its sharp redesign and exceptional handling. The latest iteration of this iconic vehicle combines classic charm with modern advancements, offering a compelling choice for drivers seeking both style and performance. This accolade underscores the Mini Cooper's enduring appeal and its ability to innovate while maintaining its distinctive character.

# MOTORSPORT LEGENDS



**JUAN MANUEL FANGIO**

He is not just a champion; he is a pioneer who changed Formula One forever. In the world of motorsport, Fangio remains "El Maestro," an enduring beacon of inspiration for future legends.



# MOTORSPORT LEGENDS

## JUAN MANUEL FANGIO

Juan Manuel Fangio, born on June 24, 1911, in Balcarce, Argentina, is not just a name in motorsport; he is a legend whose spirit ignites the hearts of racing enthusiasts worldwide. Revered as one of the greatest drivers in Formula One history, Fangio's career from 1950 to 1958 is a testament to extraordinary talent and unyielding determination. Fangio's journey began in the late 1930s on the dusty roads of Argentina, where he transformed fear into exhilaration. By 1941, he had clinched the National Championship, proving his destiny for greatness. After World War II, with government support, he ventured to Europe, entering the inaugural Formula One season with Alfa Romeo in 1950. Fangio's reign from 1954 to 1957 was nothing short of legendary. Driving for Maserati, Mercedes-Benz, and Ferrari, he secured four consecutive championships. His driving style—an exquisite blend of precision and strategy—left spectators breathless. With a winning percentage of 46.15%, his victories were moments of sheer brilliance.

The unforgettable drive at Nürburgring in 1957 epitomizes his greatness; after a slow pit stop, he rallied back to win—a testament to his indomitable spirit. Beyond his racing prowess, Fangio was known for his humility and sportsmanship, mentoring younger drivers and celebrating the true spirit of competition.

Juan Manuel Fangio passed away on July 17, 1995, but his legacy endures. He is not just a champion; he is a pioneer who changed Formula One forever. In the world of motorsport, Fangio remains "El Maestro," an enduring beacon of inspiration for future legends.





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From rare classics to cutting-edge supercars,  
each issue is your ultimate guide to the world of  
motoring passion.

