[Template:About](/wiki/Template:About" \o "Template:About) [Template:Use dmy dates](/wiki/Template:Use_dmy_dates) [Template:Infobox company](/wiki/Template:Infobox_company)

**Mercedes-Benz** ([Template:IPA-de](/wiki/Template:IPA-de)) is a global automobile manufacturer and a division of the German company [Daimler AG](/wiki/Daimler_AG). The brand is known for [luxury vehicles](/wiki/Luxury_vehicle), buses, [coaches](/wiki/Coach_(vehicle)), and trucks. The headquarters of Mercedes-Benz is in [Stuttgart](/wiki/Stuttgart), [Baden-Württemberg](/wiki/Baden-Württemberg), Germany.

The name first appeared in 1926 under [Daimler-Benz](/wiki/Daimler-Benz), but traces its origins to [Daimler-Motoren-Gesellschaft's](/wiki/Daimler-Motoren-Gesellschaft) 1901 [Mercedes](/wiki/Mercedes_(car)) and to [Karl Benz's](/wiki/Karl_Benz) 1886 [Benz Patent-Motorwagen](/wiki/Benz_Patent-Motorwagen), which is widely regarded as the first gasoline powered [automobile](/wiki/Automobile). Mercedes-Benz's slogan is "The Best or Nothing". Mercedes-Benz is one of the most recognized automotive brands worldwide.[[1]](#cite_note-1)

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## History[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=1)]

[thumb|upright|](/wiki/File:Carl-Benz_coloriert.jpg)[Karl Benz](/wiki/Karl_Benz). Benz made the 1886 [Benz Patent Motorwagen](/wiki/Benz_Patent_Motorwagen), which is widely regarded as the first automobile. [thumb|upright|](/wiki/File:Gottlieb_Daimler_1890s2.jpg)[Gottlieb Daimler](/wiki/Gottlieb_Daimler), Founder of [Daimler-Motoren-Gesellschaft](/wiki/Daimler-Motoren-Gesellschaft). Mercedes-Benz traces its origins to [Karl Benz's](/wiki/Karl_Benz) creation of the first [petrol](/wiki/Petrol_engine)-powered car, the [Benz Patent Motorwagen](/wiki/Benz_Patent_Motorwagen), financed by [Bertha Benz](/wiki/Bertha_Benz)<ref name=EAHF>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> and patented in January 1886,<ref name=MBoverview>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> and [Gottlieb Daimler](/wiki/Gottlieb_Daimler) and engineer [Wilhelm Maybach's](/wiki/Wilhelm_Maybach) conversion of a stagecoach by the addition of a petrol engine later that year. The [Mercedes](/wiki/Mercedes_(car)) automobile was first marketed in 1901 by Daimler-Motoren-Gesellschaft. (Daimler Motors Corporation). [Emile Jellinek](/wiki/Emile_Jellinek), an Austrian automobile entrepreneur who worked with DMG created the trademark in 1902, naming the 1901 Mercedes 35hp after his daughter [Mercedes Jellinek](/wiki/Mercedes_Jellinek). The first Mercedes-Benz [brand name](/wiki/Brand_name) vehicles were produced in 1926, following the merger of Karl Benz's and Gottlieb Daimler's companies into the Daimler-Benz company.<ref name=MBoverview/><ref name=Markenregister/> On 28 June, 1926, Mercedes Benz was formed with the merger of Karl Benz and Gottlieb Daimler's two companies. Throughout the 1930s, Mercedes-Benz produced the [770](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_770) model, a car that was popular during Germany's [Nazi](/wiki/Nazi_Germany) period. [Adolf Hitler](/wiki/Adolf_Hitler) was known to have driven these cars during his time in power, with [bulletproof](/wiki/Bulletproof) windshields.[[2]](#cite_note-2) Most of the surviving models have been sold at auctions to private buyers. One of them is currently on display at the [War Museum](/wiki/Canadian_War_Museum) in [Ottawa](/wiki/Ottawa), [Ontario](/wiki/Ontario). The pontiff's [Popemobile](/wiki/Popemobile) has often been sourced from Mercedes-Benz.[[3]](#cite_note-3) Mercedes-Benz has introduced many technological and safety [innovations](/wiki/#Innovations) that later became common in other vehicles.[[4]](#cite_note-4) Mercedes-Benz is one of the best-known and established automotive brands in the world.

For information relating to the famous three-pointed star, see under the title [Daimler-Motoren-Gesellschaft](/wiki/Daimler-Motoren-Gesellschaft) including the merger into Daimler-Benz.

## Subsidiaries and alliances[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=2)]

As part of the Daimler AG company, the Mercedes-Benz Cars division includes Mercedes-Benz and [Smart](/wiki/Smart_(automobile)) car production.[[5]](#cite_note-5)

### Mercedes-AMG[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=3)]

[Mercedes-AMG](/wiki/Mercedes-AMG) became a majority owned division of Mercedes-Benz in 1999.[[6]](#cite_note-6) The company was integrated into DaimlerChrysler in 1999,[[7]](#cite_note-7) and became Mercedes-Benz AMG beginning on 1 January 1999.[[8]](#cite_note-8)

### Maybach[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=4)]

Daimler's ultra-luxury brand [Maybach](/wiki/Maybach) was under Mercedes-Benz cars division until 2013, when the production stopped due to poor sales volumes. It now exists under the Mercedes-Maybach name, with the models being ultra-luxury versions of Mercedes cars, such as the 2016 Mercedes-Maybach S600.

## Production[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=5)]

### Factories[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=6)]

Beside its native Germany, Mercedes-Benz vehicles are also manufactured or assembled in:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Sovereign state** | **Continent** | **Note** |
| [Algeria](/wiki/Algeria) | [Africa](/wiki/Africa) | Manufactures Busses and Trucks in cooperation with [SNVI](/wiki/SNVI) ([Actros](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_Actros) , [Zetros](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_Zetros), [Unimog](/wiki/Unimog), and [G-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_G-Class), Sprinter). |
| [Argentina](/wiki/Argentina) | [South America](/wiki/South_America) | Daimler > Company > Daimler Worldwide > South America]. Daimler. Retrieved on 16 July 2013. [Template:Wayback](/wiki/Template:Wayback)</ref> |
| [Austria](/wiki/Austria) | [Europe](/wiki/Europe) | [G-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_G-Class)[[9]](#cite_note-9) |
| [Bosnia and Herzegovina](/wiki/Bosnia_and_Herzegovina) | [Europe](/wiki/Europe) |  |
| [Brazil](/wiki/Brazil) | South America | Manufactures trucks and buses. Established in 1956. The A-Class (W168) was produced from 1999 to 2005 and the C-Class was produced until 2010 as well.[[10]](#cite_note-10) |
| [Canada](/wiki/Canada) | [North America](/wiki/North_America) |  |
| [Colombia](/wiki/Colombia) | [South America](/wiki/South_America) | Assembly of buses, Established in [Soacha](/wiki/Soacha) 2012 and [Funza](/wiki/Funza) 2015 |
| [China](/wiki/China) | [Asia](/wiki/Asia) |  |
| [Egypt](/wiki/Egypt) | [Africa](/wiki/Africa) | Via [Egyptian German Automotive Company](/wiki/Egyptian_German_Automotive_Company) E-Class, C-Class and GLK |
| [Finland](/wiki/Finland) | Europe | New A-series (W176) is manufactured in [Uusikaupunki](/wiki/Uusikaupunki) since late 2013, being the first M-B passenger car ever built in that country |
| [Hungary](/wiki/Hungary)[[11]](#cite_note-11) | Europe |  |
| [Jordan](/wiki/Jordan) | Asia | Buses company factory, Elba House, Amman. |
| [India](/wiki/India) | Asia | Bangalore (R&D). Pune ([Passenger cars](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_India)).[[12]](#cite_note-12) Chennai ([Daimler India Commercial Vehicles Pvt. Ltd.](/wiki/Daimler_India_Commercial_Vehicles_Pvt._Ltd.)) - Buses, Trucks & Engine Manufacturing unit. |
| [Indonesia](/wiki/Indonesia)[[13]](#cite_note-13) | Asia / [Australia](/wiki/Australia_(continent)) |  |
| [Iran](/wiki/Iran) | Asia | Not since 2010[[14]](#cite_note-14) |
| [Malaysia](/wiki/Malaysia) | Asia | Assembly of C, E and S class vehicles by [DRB-HICOM](/wiki/DRB-HICOM). |
| [Mexico](/wiki/Mexico) | North America | Mercedes-Benz Mexico fully manufactures some Mercedes and Daimler vehicles completely from locally built parts (C-Class, E-Class, M-Class, International trucks, [Axor](/wiki/Axor), [Atego](/wiki/Atego), and Mercedes Buses), manufactures other models in complete knock down kits (CL-Class, CLK-Class, SL-Class, SLK-Class) and manufactures a select number of models in semi knockdown kits which use both imported components and locally sourced Mexican components (S-Class, CLS-Class, R-Class, GL-Class, Sprinter). |
| [Nigeria](/wiki/Nigeria) | [Africa](/wiki/Africa) | Assembly of buses, trucks, utility motors and the Sprinter van[[15]](#cite_note-15) |
| [Philippines](/wiki/Philippines) | Asia |  |
| [Russia](/wiki/Russia) | [Eurasia](/wiki/Eurasia) | Joint venture Mercedes-Benz Car Trucks Vostok in [Naberezhnye Chelny](/wiki/Naberezhnye_Chelny) (jointly [Kamaz](/wiki/Kamaz)). Available in trucks [Actros](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_Actros), [Axor](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_Axor), multi-purpose auto four wheel drive medium trucks [Unimog](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_Unimog). Mercedes-Benz Sprinter Classic is also produced in Russia. |
| [Serbia](/wiki/Serbia) | Europe | [FAP](/wiki/Fabrika_automobila_Priboj) produces Mercedes-Benz trucks under license. |
| [Spain](/wiki/Spain) | Europe | Factory at [Vitoria-Gasteiz](/wiki/Vitoria-Gasteiz) Mercedes-Benz Vito, Viano and V-Class have been built there. |
| [South Africa](/wiki/South_Africa)[[16]](#cite_note-16) | [Africa](/wiki/Africa) | the factory housed in the province of Gauteng in the Johannesburg region makes the sedan which is popular in the country as a car of people in the upper class |
| [South Korea](/wiki/South_Korea) | Asia | Mercedes-Benz [Musso](/wiki/Ssangyong_Musso) and [MB100](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_MB100) models manufactured by [SsangYong Motor Company](/wiki/SsangYong_Motor_Company). |
| [Thailand](/wiki/Thailand) | Asia | Assembly of C, E and S class vehicles by the Thonburi Group[[17]](#cite_note-17) |
| [Turkey](/wiki/Turkey) | Eurasia | Mercedes-Benz Türk A.Ş.[[18]](#cite_note-18) |
| [United Kingdom](/wiki/United_Kingdom) | Europe | The [SLR](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_SLR_McLaren) sports car was built at the [McLaren Technology Centre](/wiki/McLaren_Technology_Centre) in [Woking](/wiki/Woking). [Brackley](/wiki/Brackley), Northamptonshire, is home to the [Mercedes Grand Prix](/wiki/Mercedes_Grand_Prix) factory, and [Brixworth](/wiki/Brixworth), Northamptonshire is the location of [Mercedes-Benz HighPerformanceEngines](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_HighPerformanceEngines) |
| [United States](/wiki/United_States) | North America | The Mercedes-Benz GLE-Class Sport Utility and the full-sized GL-Class Luxury Sport Utility Vehicle are all built at the [Mercedes-Benz U.S. International](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_U.S._International) production facility near [Tuscaloosa](/wiki/Tuscaloosa,_Alabama), Alabama.[[19]](#cite_note-19) Trucks (6,000 per year in the early eighties) were once assembled in [Hampton, VA](/wiki/Hampton,_VA).<ref name=Baldwin>[Template:Citation](/wiki/Template:Citation)</ref> |
| [Vietnam](/wiki/Vietnam) | Asia | Assembly of E-Class, C-Class, S-Class, GLK-Class and Sprinter. Established in 1995.<ref name=vietnam\_production>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> |

### Quality rankings[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=7)]

Since its inception, Mercedes-Benz had maintained a reputation for its quality and durability. Objective measures looking at [passenger vehicles](/wiki/Passenger_vehicles), such as [J. D. Power](/wiki/J._D._Power) surveys, demonstrated a downturn in reputation in these criteria in the late 1990s and early 2000s. By mid-2005, Mercedes temporarily returned to the industry average for initial quality, a measure of problems after the first 90 days of ownership, according to J. D. Power.[[20]](#cite_note-20) In J. D. Power's Initial Quality Study for the first quarter of 2007, Mercedes showed dramatic improvement by climbing from 25th to 5th place and earning several awards for its models.[[21]](#cite_note-21) For 2008, Mercedes-Benz's initial quality rating improved by yet another mark, to fourth place.<ref name=2008jdpower>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> On top of this accolade, it also received the Platinum Plant Quality Award for its Mercedes’ Sindelfingen, Germany assembly plant.<ref name=2008jdpower/> J. D. Power's 2011 US Initial Quality and Vehicle Dependability Studies both ranked Mercedes-Benz vehicles above average in build quality and reliability.[[22]](#cite_note-22)[[23]](#cite_note-23) In the 2011 UK J. D. Power Survey, Mercedes cars were rated above average.[[24]](#cite_note-24) A 2014 [iSeeCars.com](/wiki/ISeeCars.com) study for Reuters found Mercedes to have the lowest vehicle recall rate.[[25]](#cite_note-25)

## Models[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=8)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [thumb|](/wiki/File:Mercedes-Benz_A_200_AMG_Line_(W_176)_–_Frontansicht,_25._Mai_2013,_Hilden.jpg)[Mercedes-Benz A-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_A-Class) (compact) [thumbnail|](/wiki/File:Mercedes-Benz_B_200_CDI_Sport-Paket_(W_246)_–_Frontansicht,_21._April_2014,_Düsseldorf.jpg)[Mercedes-Benz B-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_B-Class) (Tourer) [thumb|](/wiki/File:Mercedes-Benz_C_220_BlueTEC_Exclusive_(W_205)_–_Frontansicht,_12._Juli_2014,_Düsseldorf.jpg)[Mercedes-Benz C-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_C-Class) ([D-segment](/wiki/D-segment)) [thumb|Mercedes-Benz E 220 CDI Elegance (W 212, Facelift) – Frontansicht, 30. August 2014, Düsseldorf|](/wiki/File:Mercedes-Benz_E_220_CDI_Elegance_(W_212,_Facelift)_–_Frontansicht,_30._August_2014,_Düsseldorf.jpg)[Mercedes-Benz E-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_E-Class) ([Executive car](/wiki/Executive_car)) [thumb|](/wiki/File:2014_Mercedes-Benz_S550_(US)_lwb.jpg)[Mercedes-Benz S-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_S-Class) (luxury sedan) [thumb|](/wiki/File:Mercedes-Benz_SL_500_BlueEFFICIENCY_Sport-Paket_AMG_(R_231)_–_Frontansicht,_8._August_2012,_Velbert.jpg)[Mercedes-Benz SL-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_SL-Class) ([Grand Tourer](/wiki/Grand_Tourer)) [thumb|](/wiki/File:Mercedes-Benz_SLS_AMG_(C_197)_–_Frontansicht_geöffnet,_10._August_2011,_Düsseldorf.jpg)[Mercedes-Benz SLS](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_SLS) AMG ([supercar](/wiki/Supercar)) [thumb|](/wiki/File:Mercedes-Benz_GLC_220_d_4MATIC_AMG_Line_(X_253)_–_Frontansicht,_13._Februar_2016,_Velbert.jpg)[Mercedes-Benz GLC-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_GLC-Class) ([SUV](/wiki/SUV)) [thumb|](/wiki/File:2016_Mercedes-Benz_GLE_350d_(W166)_4MATIC_wagon_(2016-03-05)_01.jpg)[Mercedes-Benz GLE-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_GLE-Class) (luxury [SUV](/wiki/SUV))

### Current model range[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=9)]

Mercedes-Benz offers a full range of passenger, light commercial and heavy commercial equipment. Vehicles are manufactured in multiple countries worldwide. The [Smart](/wiki/Smart_(automobile)) [marque](/wiki/Marque) of [city cars](/wiki/City_car) are also produced by Daimler AG.

* [A-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_A-Class) – [Hatchback](/wiki/Hatchback)
* [B-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_B-Class) – [Multi Purpose Vehicle](/wiki/Multi_Purpose_Vehicle) (MPV)
* [C-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_C-Class) – [Saloon](/wiki/Saloon_(automobile)), [Estate](/wiki/Estate_car), [Coupé](/wiki/Coupé) and [Cabriolet](/wiki/Cabriolet) [CLA-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_CLA-Class) – 4 Door Coupé and Estate
* [CLS-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_CLS-Class) – 4 Door Coupé and Estate
* [E-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_E-Class) – Saloon, Estate, Coupé and [Cabriolet](/wiki/Cabriolet)
* [G-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_G-Class) – [Sports Utility Vehicle](/wiki/Sports_Utility_Vehicle) (SUV)
* [GLA-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_GLA-Class) – Compact Sports Utility Vehicle (SUV)/ Crossover
* [GLC-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_GLC-Class) – Sports Utility Vehicle (SUV)
* [GLE-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_GLE-Class) – Sports Utility Vehicle (SUV)
* [GLS-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_GL-Class) – Large Sports Utility Vehicle (SUV)
* [S-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_S-Class) – Luxury Saloon, Coupé & Cabriolet
* [SL-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_SL-Class) – Grand Tourer
* [SLC-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_SLK-Class) – Roadster
* [V-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_V-Class) – Multi Purpose Vehicle (MPV)/ Van
* [AMG GT](/wiki/Mercedes-AMG_GT) – Sports car/ Supercar

#### Vans[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=10)]

[thumb|](/wiki/File:Mercedes-Benz_Sprinter_Kastenwagen_313_CDI_(W_906,_Facelift)_–_Frontansicht,_8._September_2013,_Bösensell.jpg)[Mercedes-Benz Sprinter](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_Sprinter) Mercedes-Benz produces a range of vans; [Citan](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_Citan) (a [rebadged](/wiki/Rebadging) version of the [Renault Kangoo](/wiki/Renault_Kangoo)), [Vito](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_Vito) and [Sprinter](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_Sprinter).

#### Trucks[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=11)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [thumb|](/wiki/File:Zetros_Schneepflug.JPG)[Mercedes-Benz Zetros](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_Zetros) used for snowplowing [thumb|](/wiki/File:S404-300TDI-erg-chebbi.jpg)[Unimog](/wiki/Unimog), a famous allround vehicle by Mercedes-Benz Mercedes-Benz Trucks is now part of the Daimler Trucks division, and includes companies that were part of the DaimlerChrysler merger. Gottlieb Daimler sold the world's first truck in 1886.[[26]](#cite_note-26) The first factory to be built outside Germany after WWII was in Argentina. It originally built trucks, many of which were modified independently to buses, popularly named [Colectivo](/wiki/Colectivo). Today, it builds buses, trucks and the Sprinter van.[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

#### Buses[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=12)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) Mercedes-Benz produces a wide range of buses and coaches, mainly for Europe and Asia. The first model was produced by Karl Benz in 1895.

### Significant models produced[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=13)]

[Template:Colbegin](/wiki/Template:Colbegin)

* 1928: [SSK racing car](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_SSK)
* 1930: [770 "Großer Mercedes" state and ceremonial car](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_770)
* 1934: [500 K](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_500_K)
* 1936: [260 D World's first diesel production car](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_260_D)
* 1936: [170](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_W136)
* 1938: [W195 Speed Record-breaker](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_W195)
* 1939: [320A A military vehicle](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_320A)
* 1951: [300](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_Type_300), known as the "Adenauer Mercedes"
* 1953: ["Ponton" models](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_Ponton)
* 1954: [300SL "Gullwing"](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_300SL)
* 1956: [190SL](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_190SL)
* 1959: ["Fintail" models](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_Fintail)
* 1960: [220SE Cabriolet](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_W111)
* 1963: [600 "Grand Mercedes"](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_600)
* 1963: [230SL "Pagoda"](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_W113)
* 1965: [S-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_S-Class)
* 1966: [300SEL 6.3](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_300SEL_6.3)
* 1968: [W114 "new generation" compact cars](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_W114)
* 1969: [C111 experimental vehicle](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_C111)
* 1972: [W107 350SL](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_W107_350SL)
* 1974: [450SEL 6.9](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_450SEL_6.9)
* 1977: [W123](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_W123)- Mercedes' first station wagon
* 1978: [300SD](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_W116) - Mercedes' first turbo diesel
* 1979: [500SEL](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_W126) and [G-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_G-Class)
* 1983: [190E 2.3–16](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_190E_2.3-16)
* 1989: [300SL, 500SL](/wiki/SL-Class)
* 1990: [500E](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_W124)
* 1991: [600SEL](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_W140)
* 1993: [C-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_C-Class)
* 1995: [C43 AMG](/wiki/C43_AMG)
* 1995: [SL73 AMG](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_SL-Class#AMG), 7.3 [V12](/wiki/V12_engine) 1996: [SLK](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_SLK)
* 1997: [A-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_A-Class) and [M-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_M-Class)
* 2004: [SLR McLaren](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_SLR_McLaren) and [CLS-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_CLS)
* 2007: [BlueTec](/wiki/BlueTec) E320, GL320 Bluetec, ML320 Bluetec, R320 Bluetec
* 2010: [SLS AMG](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_SLS_AMG)
* 2013: [CLA-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_CLA-Class)
* 2016: [Template:AMG GT](/wiki/Template:AMG_GT)

[Template:Colend](/wiki/Template:Colend) The [Mercedes-Benz 600](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_600) or 600S Pullman Guard limousines offer the option of armour-plating and have been used by diplomats worldwide.[[27]](#cite_note-27)

### Car nomenclature[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=14)]

Until 1994, Mercedes-Benz utilized an alphanumeric system for categorizing their vehicles, consisting of a number sequence approximately equal to the engine's displacement in liters multiplied by 100, followed by an arrangement of alphabetical suffixes indicating body style and engine type.

* "C" indicates a coupe or cabriolet body style (for example, the CL and CLK models, though the C-Class is an exception, since it is also available as a sedan or station wagon).
* "D" indicates the vehicle is equipped with a diesel engine.
* "E" (for "Einspritzung") indicates the vehicle's engine is equipped with petrol [fuel injection](/wiki/Fuel_injection). In most cases (the [600](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_600) limousine and Mercedes E-Class being the exceptions), if neither "E" or "D" is present, the vehicle has a petrol engine with a carburettor.
* "G" was originally used for the [Geländewagen](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_G-Class) off-road vehicle, but is now applied to Mercedes SUVs in general (for example, the GLA and GLK).
* "K" was used in the 1930s, indicating a supercharger ("Kompressor") equipped engine. Two exceptions : the SSK and CLK, where K indicates "Kurz" (short-wheelbase).
* "L" indicates "Leicht" (lightweight) for sporting models, and "Lang" (long-wheelbase) for sedan models.
* "R" indicates "Rennen" (racing), used for racing cars (for example, the [300SLR](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_300SLR)).
* "S" Sonderklasse "Special class" for flagship models, including the S-Class, and the SL-Class, SLR McLaren and SLS sportscars.
* "T" indicates "Touring" and an estate (or station wagon) body style.

Some models in the 1950s also had lower-case letters (b, c, and d) to indicate specific trim levels. For other models, the numeric part of the designation does not match the engine displacement. This was done to show the model's position in the model range independent of displacement or in the price matrix. For these vehicles, the actual displacement in liters is suffixed to the model designation. An exception was the [190-class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_W201) with the numeric designation of "190" as to denote its entry level in the model along with the displacement label on the right side of the boot (190E 2.3 for 2.3-litre 4-cylinder petrol motor, 190D 2.5 for 2.5-litre 5-cylinder diesel motor, and so forth). Some older models (such as the SS and SSK) did not have a number as part of the designation at all.

For the 1994 model year, Mercedes-Benz revised the naming system. Models were divided into "classes" denoted by an arrangement of up to three letters (see "Current model range" above), followed by a three-digit (or two-digit for AMG models, with the number approximately equal to the displacement in litres multiplied by 10) number related to the engine displacement as before. Variants of the same model such as an estate version or a vehicle with a diesel engine are no longer given a separate letter. The SLR, SLS and GT supercars do not carry a numerical designation.

Today, many numerical designations no longer reflect the engine's actual displacement but more of the relative performance and marketing position. Despite its engine displacement in two litres, the powerplant in the A45 AMG produces 355 brake horsepower so the designation is higher as to indicate the greater performance. Another example is the E250 CGI having greater performance than the E200 CGI due to the different engine tuning even though both have 1.8-litre engines. From the marketing perspective, E200 seems more "upscale" than E180. Recent AMG models use the "63" designation (in honor of the 1960s 6.3-litre [M100](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_M100_engine) engine) despite being equipped with either a 6.2-litre ([M156](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_M156_engine)) or 5.5-litre ([M157](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_M278_engine)) engine.

Some models carry further designations indicating special features:

* "[4MATIC](/wiki/4MATIC)" indicates the vehicle is equipped with [all-wheel-drive](/wiki/Four-wheel_drive).
* "[BlueTEC](/wiki/BlueTec)" indicates a diesel engine with [selective catalytic reduction](/wiki/Selective_catalytic_reduction) exhaust aftertreatment.
* "BlueEFFICIENCY" indicates special fuel economy features (direct injection, [start-stop system](/wiki/Start-stop_system), aerodynamic modifications, etc.)
* "CGI" (Charged Gasoline Injection) indicates [direct gasoline injection](/wiki/Direct_fuel_injection).
* "CDI" (Common-rail Direct Injection) indicates a [common-rail](/wiki/Common_rail) diesel engine.
* "Hybrid" indicates a petrol- or diesel-electric [hybrid](/wiki/Hybrid_vehicle).
* "NGT" indicates a natural gas-fueled engine.
* "Kompressor" indicates a [supercharged](/wiki/Supercharger) engine.
* "Turbo" indicates a [turbocharged](/wiki/Turbocharger) engine, only used on A-, B-,E- and GLK-Class models.
* "AMG Line" indicates the interior or engine, depending which car, has been fitted with the luxuries of their AMG sports cars

Model designation badges can be deleted at the request of the customer.

#### 2015 and beyond[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=15)]

Rationalisation of the model nomenclature was announced in November 2014 for future models.[[28]](#cite_note-28)[[29]](#cite_note-29) The changes consolidate many confusing nomenclature and their placements in the model range such as CL-Class is now called the S-Class Coupé. The naming structure is divided into four categories: core, off-road vehicle/SUV, 4-door coupé, and roadster. **AMG GT**, and **V-Class** are unaffected by the change.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Core** | **Off-Road Vehicles/SUV** | **4-Door Coupé** | **Roadster** |
| **A** | **GLA** | **CLA** |  |
| **B** |  |  |
| **C** | **GLC** (GLK) |  | **SLC** (SLK) |
| **E** | **GLE** (ML) | **CLS** |  |
| **S** | **GLS** (GL) | **SL** |
| align=center [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | **G** | align=center [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | align=center [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) |

Note: The CLA is positioned between the A- and B-Class models, while the CLS sits between the E- and S-Classes.

In addition to the revised nomenclature, Mercedes-Benz has new nomenclature for the drive systems.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Current** | **New** | **Example** |
| Natural Gas Drive | **c for "compressed natural gas"** | B 200 c |
| BlueTec CDI | **d for "diesel"** | E 350 d GLA 200 d |
| PLUG-IN HYBRID Electric Drive | **e for "electric"** | S 500 e B 250 e |
| Fuel Cell | **f for "fuel cell"** | B 200 f |
| HYBRID BlueTEC HYBRID | **h for "hybrid"** | S 400 h E 300 h |
| **4MATIC** | align=center [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | E 400 4MATIC |

The revised A45 AMG for 2016 model year on has shifted the model designation to the right side while AMG is on the left side.[[30]](#cite_note-30) This trend commenced with Mercedes-Maybach with MAYBACH on the left and S500/S600 on the right.[[31]](#cite_note-31)

### Environmental record[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=16)]

Mercedes-Benz has developed multi [concept cars](/wiki/Concept_vehicle) with alternative propulsion, such as hybrid-electric, fully electric, and fuel-cell [powertrains](/wiki/Powertrain). At the 2007 [Frankfurt motor show](/wiki/Frankfurt_motor_show), Mercedes-Benz showed seven hybrid models, including the F700 [concept car](/wiki/Concept_vehicle), powered by a hybrid-electric drivetrain featuring the [DiesOtto](/wiki/DiesOtto) engine.[[32]](#cite_note-32)[[33]](#cite_note-33) In 2009, Mercedes-Benz displayed three [BlueZERO](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_BlueZERO) concepts at the [North American International Auto Show](/wiki/North_American_International_Auto_Show). Each car features a different powertrain - battery-electric, fuel-cell electric, and gasoline-electric hybrid.[[34]](#cite_note-34)[[35]](#cite_note-35) In the same year, Mercedes also showed the Vision S500 PHEV concept with a [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) [all-electric range](/wiki/All-electric_range) and [Template:CO2](/wiki/Template:CO2) emissions of 74 grams/km in the [New European Driving Cycle](/wiki/New_European_Driving_Cycle).[[36]](#cite_note-36) Since 2002, Mercedes-Benz has developed the [F-Cell](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_F-Cell) fuel cell vehicle. The current version, based on the B-Class, has a 250-mile range and is available for lease, with volume production scheduled to begin in 2014. Mercedes has also announced the [SLS AMG E-Cell](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_SLS_AMG), a fully electric version of the SLS sports car, with deliveries expected in 2013.[[37]](#cite_note-37) The [Mercedes-Benz S400 BlueHYBRID](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_S400_BlueHYBRID)[[38]](#cite_note-38) was launched in 2009, and is the first production automotive hybrid in the world to use a [lithium-ion battery](/wiki/Lithium-ion_battery).[[39]](#cite_note-39)[[40]](#cite_note-40)[[41]](#cite_note-41) In mid-2010, production commenced on the [Vito E-Cell](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_Vito) all-electric van. Mercedes expects 100 vehicles to be produced by the end of 2010 and a further 2000 by the end of 2011.[[42]](#cite_note-42) In 2008, Mercedes-Benz announced that it would have a demonstration fleet of small electric cars in two to three years.[[43]](#cite_note-43) Mercedes-Benz and Smart are preparing for the widespread uptake of electric vehicles (EVs) in the UK by beginning the installation of [recharging points](/wiki/Recharging_point) across their [dealer](/wiki/Car_dealership) networks. So far 20 [Elektrobay](/wiki/Elektrobay) recharging units, produced in the UK by Brighton-based [Elektromotive](/wiki/Elektromotive), have been installed at seven locations as part of a pilot project, and further expansion of the initiative is planned later in 2010.[[44]](#cite_note-44) In the United States, Mercedes-Benz was assessed a record US$30.66 million fine for their decision to not meet the federal [corporate average fuel economy](/wiki/Corporate_average_fuel_economy) standard in 2009.[[45]](#cite_note-45) Certain Mercedes-Benz cars, including the S550 and all AMG models sold in the United States, also face an additional [gas guzzler tax](/wiki/Energy_Tax_Act).[[46]](#cite_note-46) However, newer AMG models fitted with the [M157](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_M278_engine) engine will not be subject to the gas-guzzler tax, due to improved fuel economy,[[47]](#cite_note-47) and newer models powered by the [M276](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_M276_engine) and [M278](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_M278_engine) engines will have better fuel economy. In 2008, Mercedes also had the worst [Template:CO2](/wiki/Template:CO2) average of all major European manufacturers, ranking 14th out of 14 manufacturers.[[48]](#cite_note-48) Mercedes was also the worst manufacturer in 2007 and 2006 in terms of average [Template:CO2](/wiki/Template:CO2) levels, with 181 g and 188 g of [Template:CO2](/wiki/Template:CO2) emitted per km, respectively.[[49]](#cite_note-49)

### Bicycles[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=17)]

Mercedes-Benz Accessories GmbH introduced three new bicycles in 2005,[[50]](#cite_note-50) and the range has developed to include the patent pending Foldingbike in 2007.[[51]](#cite_note-51) Other models include the Mercedes-Benz Carbon Bike,[[52]](#cite_note-52) Trekking Bike,[[53]](#cite_note-53) Fitness Bike[[54]](#cite_note-54) and the Trailblazer Bike.[[55]](#cite_note-55)

## Motorsport[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=18)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [thumb|A DMG](/wiki/File:Mercedessimplex1.jpg) [Mercedes Simplex](/wiki/Mercedes_Simplex) 1906 in the [Deutsches Museum](/wiki/Deutsches_Museum)

The two companies which were merged to form the *Mercedes-Benz* brand in 1926 had both already enjoyed success in the new sport of [motor racing](/wiki/Auto_racing) throughout their separate histories. A single Benz competed in the world's first motor race, the [1894 Paris–Rouen](/wiki/Paris–Rouen_(motor_race)), where Émile Roger finished 14th in 10 hours 1 minute. Throughout its long history, the company has been involved in a range of motorsport activities, including [sports car racing](/wiki/Sports_car_racing) and [rallying](/wiki/Rally_racing). On several occasions Mercedes-Benz has withdrawn completely from motorsport for a significant period, notably in the late 1930s, and after the [1955 Le Mans disaster](/wiki/1955_Le_Mans_disaster), where a [Mercedes-Benz 300 SLR](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_300_SLR) rammed another car (An Austin-Healey), took off into the stands, and killed more than 80 spectators. [Stirling Moss](/wiki/Stirling_Moss) and co-driver [Denis Jenkinson](/wiki/Denis_Jenkinson) made history by winning the 1955 [Mille Miglia](/wiki/Mille_Miglia) road race in Italy during a record-breaking drive with an average speed of almost 98 mph in a [Mercedes-Benz 300 SLR](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_300_SLR).[[56]](#cite_note-56) Although there was some activity in the intervening years, it was not until 1987 that Mercedes-Benz returned to front line competition, returning to Le Mans, [Deutsche Tourenwagen Meisterschaft](/wiki/Deutsche_Tourenwagen_Meisterschaft) (DTM), and [Formula One](/wiki/Formula_One) with [Sauber](/wiki/Sauber). The 1990s saw Mercedes-Benz purchase British engine builder [Ilmor](/wiki/Ilmor) (now [Mercedes-Benz High Performance Engines](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_High_Performance_Engines)), and campaign [IndyCars](/wiki/IndyCar_Series) under the [USAC](/wiki/United_States_Automobile_Club)/[CART](/wiki/Champ_Car) rules, eventually winning the [1994 Indianapolis 500](/wiki/1994_Indianapolis_500) and [1994 CART IndyCar World Series](/wiki/1994_CART_World_Series_season) Championship with [Al Unser, Jr.](/wiki/Al_Unser,_Jr.) at the wheel. The 1990s also saw the return of Mercedes-Benz to GT racing, and the [Mercedes-Benz CLK GTR](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_CLK_GTR), both of which took the company to new heights by dominating the FIA's GT1 class.

Mercedes-Benz is currently active in four motorsport categories, [Formula Three](/wiki/Formula_Three), [DTM](/wiki/Deutsche_Tourenwagen_Masters), [Formula One](/wiki/Formula_One) and [GT3](/wiki/GT3).

### Formula One[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=19)]

[thumb|The](/wiki/File:Mercedes_duo_2013_Malaysia.jpg) [Mercedes-Benz Formula One team](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_in_Formula_One) at the [2013 Malaysian Grand Prix](/wiki/2013_Malaysian_Grand_Prix) [Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) Mercedes-Benz took part in the world championship in 1954 and 1955, but despite being successful with two championship titles for [Juan-Manuel Fangio](/wiki/Juan-Manuel_Fangio),[[57]](#cite_note-57) the company left the sport after just two seasons. Fangio is considered by many to be the best F1 driver in history.[[58]](#cite_note-58) Mercedes-Benz returned as an engine supplier in the 1990s and part-owned [Team McLaren](/wiki/Team_McLaren) for some years, to which it has supplied engines engineered by [Ilmor](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_HighPerformanceEngines)[[59]](#cite_note-59) since 1995. This partnership brought success, including drivers championships for [Mika Häkkinen](/wiki/Mika_Häkkinen) in 1998 and 1999, and for [Lewis Hamilton](/wiki/Lewis_Hamilton) in 2008, as well as a constructors championship in 1998. The collaboration with McLaren had been extended into the production of roadgoing cars such as the [Mercedes-Benz SLR McLaren](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_SLR_McLaren).

In 2007, McLaren-Mercedes was fined a record US$100 million for stealing confidential Ferrari technical data.[[60]](#cite_note-60) In 2009, [Ross Brawn's](/wiki/Ross_Brawn) newly conceived Formula One team, [Brawn GP](/wiki/Brawn_GP) used Mercedes engines to help win the constructor's championship, and [Jenson Button](/wiki/Jenson_Button) to become champion in the F1 drivers' championship. At the end of the season, Mercedes-Benz sold its 40% stake in McLaren to the McLaren Group and bought 70% of the Brawn GP team jointly with an Abu Dhabi-based investment consortium. Brawn GP was renamed [Mercedes GP](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_in_Formula_One) for the 2010 season and is, from this season on, a works team for Mercedes-Benz. As of 2015, the company currently provides engines to the [Williams F1 Team](/wiki/Williams_F1_Team), [Sahara Force India F1 Team](/wiki/Sahara_Force_India) and the [Lotus F1 Team.](/wiki/Lotus_F1)

In 2014, Mercedes clinched its first F1 Constructor's title with drivers [Lewis Hamilton](/wiki/Lewis_Hamilton) and [Nico Rosberg](/wiki/Nico_Rosberg) with 3 races to go, after dominating much of the season. Mercedes repeated its dominance in 2015 in similar fashion, losing only 3 races out of 19 once again.

## Logo history[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=20)]

In June 1909, Daimler-Motoren-Gesellschaft (DMG) registered both a three-pointed and a four-pointed star as trademarks, but only the three-pointed star was used. To DMG, the star symbolized Adolf Daimler's aims for universal motorization: on land, water and in the air.[[61]](#cite_note-61)<gallery> File:Mercedes benz logo 1902.png|1902-1909 File:Mercedes benz logo 1909.png|1909-1916 File:Mercedes benz logo 1916.png|1916-1926 File:Mercedes benz logo 1926.png|1926-current File:Mercedes-Benz free logo.svg|1980-current File:Mercedes\_benz\_logo1989.png|1990-current </gallery>

## Noted employees <!-- (selection) -->[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=21)]

* [Paul Bracq](/wiki/Paul_Bracq) – major designer of automobiles in the 20th century
* [Béla Barényi](/wiki/Béla_Barényi) – car safety pioneer (rigid passenger safety shell), joined Daimler-Benz in 1937[[62]](#cite_note-62)\* [Wilhelm Maybach](/wiki/Wilhelm_Maybach) – automotive pioneer, first met Gottlieb Daimler in 1865[[63]](#cite_note-63)\* [Ferdinand Porsche](/wiki/Ferdinand_Porsche) – founder of Porsche, joined Mercedes in 1923 and developed the [Kompressor](/wiki/Kompressor_(Mercedes-Benz)) [[64]](#cite_note-64)\* [Bruno Sacco](/wiki/Bruno_Sacco) – joined Daimler-Benz as a designer in 1958. Head of Design in 1975, retired in 1999[[65]](#cite_note-65)\* [Rudolf Uhlenhaut](/wiki/Rudolf_Uhlenhaut) – joined Daimler-Benz in 1931, his designs included the [Silver Arrows](/wiki/Silver_Arrows), the [300 SL](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_300SL) and [300SLR](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_300_SLR)[[66]](#cite_note-66)\* [Adolf Eichmann](/wiki/Adolf_Eichmann) – former Nazi criminal. Worked in Argentina's factory after WWII[[67]](#cite_note-67)\* [Rudolf Caracciola](/wiki/Rudolf_Caracciola) – one of the greatest GP drivers in history drove MB [Silver Arrows](/wiki/Silver_Arrows) in competition.
* [Josef Ganz](/wiki/Josef_Ganz) - Technical consultant and "Godfather" of the \*[Mercedes-Benz W136](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_W136), with the revolutionary Independent suspension, [Swing axle](/wiki/Swing_axle) layout.
* [Juan Manuel Fangio](/wiki/Juan_Manuel_Fangio) - Five time Formula 1 World Champion, honorary president of Mercedes-Benz Argentina from 1987 until his death in 1995.
* [Michael Schumacher](/wiki/Michael_Schumacher) - Seven time [Formula 1](/wiki/Formula_1) World Champion, drove for Mercedes in the [World Endurance Championship](/wiki/World_Sportscar_Championship) in the 80s and then in their [Formula One Team](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_in_Formula_One) from [2010](/wiki/2010_Formula_One_Season) till [2012](/wiki/2012_Formula_One_season).

## Innovations[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=22)]

Numerous technological innovations have been introduced on Mercedes-Benz automobiles throughout the many years of their production, including:

* The [internal combustion engine](/wiki/Internal_combustion_engine) automobile was developed independently by Benz and Daimler & Maybach in 1886
* Daimler invented the honeycomb radiator of the type still used on all water-cooled vehicles today
* Daimler invented the float [carburetor](/wiki/Carburetor) which was used until replaced by [fuel injection](/wiki/Fuel_injection)
* The "drop chassis" – the car originally designated the "Mercedes" by Daimler was also the first car with a modern configuration, having the carriage lowered and set between the front and rear wheels, with a [front engine](/wiki/Front-engine_design) and [powered rear wheels](/wiki/Rear-wheel_drive). All earlier cars were "horseless carriages", which had high centres of gravity and various engine/drive-train configurations
* The first passenger road car to have [brakes](/wiki/Brake) on all four wheels (1924)[[68]](#cite_note-68)\* In 1936, the [Mercedes-Benz 260 D](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_260_D) was the first diesel powered passenger car.
* Mercedes-Benz were the first to offer direct fuel injection on the [Mercedes-Benz 300SL](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_300SL) Gullwing
* The "safety cage" or "[safety cell](/wiki/Automobile_safety)" construction with front and rear [crumple zones](/wiki/Crumple_zones) was first developed by Mercedes-Benz in 1951. This is considered by many as the most important innovation in automobile construction from a safety standpoint[[4]](#cite_note-4)[Template:Verify source](/wiki/Template:Verify_source)
* In 1959, Mercedes-Benz patented a device that prevents drive wheels from spinning by intervening at the engine, transmission, or brakes. In 1987, Mercedes-Benz applied its patent by introducing a [traction control system](/wiki/Traction_control_system) that worked under both braking and acceleration
* an Anti-Lock Brake system (ABS) was first offered on the W116 450SEL 6.9. They became standard on the W126 S-Class starting production in 1979 and first sold in most markets in 1980.
* [Airbags](/wiki/Airbag) were first introduced in the European market, beginning with model year 1981 S-Class.
* Mercedes-Benz was the first to introduce pre-tensioners to [seat belts](/wiki/Seat_belt) on the 1981 S-Class. In the event of a crash, a pre-tensioner will tighten the belt instantaneously, removing any 'slack' in the belt, which prevents the occupant from jerking forward in a crash
* In September 2003, Mercedes-Benz introduced the world's first seven-speed [automatic transmission](/wiki/Automatic_transmission) called '[7G-Tronic'](/wiki/7G-Tronic)
* [Electronic Stability Programme](/wiki/Electronic_stability_control) (ESP), [brake assist](/wiki/Brake_assist),[[69]](#cite_note-69) and many other types of safety equipment were all developed, tested, and implemented into passenger cars – first – by Mercedes-Benz. Mercedes-Benz has not made a large fuss about its innovations, and has even licensed them for use by competitors – in the name of improving automobile and passenger safety. As a result, crumple zones and anti-lock brakes (ABS) are now standard on all modern vehicles.[[4]](#cite_note-4)[Template:Verify source](/wiki/Template:Verify_source)

[thumb|Mercedes M156 engine](/wiki/File:Mercedes-Benz_M156_Engine_02.JPG)

* The [(W211) E320 CDI](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_W211) which has a [variable geometry turbocharger](/wiki/Variable_geometry_turbocharger) (VGT) 3.0-litre [V6](/wiki/V6_engine) [common rail](/wiki/Common_rail) diesel engine (producing [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert)), set three world [endurance](/wiki/Endurance) records. It covered [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) in a record time, with an average speed of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert). Three identical cars did the endurance run (one set above record) and the other two cars set world records for time taken to cover [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) and [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) respectively. After all three cars had completed the run, their combined distance was [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) (all records were FIA approved).[[70]](#cite_note-70)[Template:Clarify](/wiki/Template:Clarify)
* Mercedes-Benz pioneered a system called [Pre-Safe](/wiki/Pre-Safe) to detect an imminent crash – and prepares the car's safety systems to respond optimally. It also calculates the optimal braking force required to avoid an accident in emergency situations, and makes it immediately available for when the driver depresses the brake pedal. Occupants are also prepared by tightening the seat belt, closing the sunroof and windows, and moving the seats into the optimal position.
* At 181 horsepower per litre, the M133 engine installed in Mercedes-Benz A45 AMG is the most powerful series production four-cylinder turbocharged motor (as of June 2013) and has one of the highest power density for a passenger vehicle.[[71]](#cite_note-71)

Half a century of vehicle safety innovation helped win Mercedes-Benz the Safety Award at the 2007 *What Car?* Awards.[[68]](#cite_note-68)

### Robot cars[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=23)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) In the 1980s, Mercedes built the world's first robot car, together with the team of Professor [Ernst Dickmanns](/wiki/Ernst_Dickmanns) at [Bundeswehr University Munich](/wiki/Bundeswehr_University_Munich).[[72]](#cite_note-72) Partially encouraged by Dickmanns' success, in 1987 the European Union's [EUREKA](/wiki/EUREKA) programme initiated the [Prometheus Project](/wiki/EUREKA_Prometheus_Project) on autonomous vehicles, funded to the tune of nearly €800 million. A culmination point was achieved in 1995, when Dickmanns' re-engineered autonomous [S-Class](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_S-Class) Mercedes took a long trip from [Munich](/wiki/Munich) in Bavaria to [Copenhagen](/wiki/Copenhagen) in Denmark, and back. On highways, the robot achieved speeds exceeding [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) (permissible in some areas of the German [Autobahn](/wiki/Autobahn)). The car's abilities has heavily influenced robot car research and funding decisions worldwide.

As for the future of Mercedes-Benz Robot Cars, in October 2015, the company introduced the Vision Tokyo, a five-seat electric van powered by a hybrid hydrogen fuel-cell systerm. The super-sleek van is touted as "a chill-out zone in the midst of megacity traffic mayhem." [[73]](#cite_note-73)

## Tuners[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=24)]

Several companies have become [car tuners](/wiki/Car_tuner) (or modifiers) of Mercedes Benz, in order to increase performance and/or luxury to a given model.

[AMG](/wiki/Mercedes-AMG) is Mercedes-Benz's in-house performance-tuning division, specialising in high-performance versions of most Mercedes-Benz cars. AMG engines are all hand-built,[[74]](#cite_note-74) and each completed engine receives a tag with the signature of the engineer who built it. AMG has been wholly owned by Mercedes-Benz since 1999.[[75]](#cite_note-75) The 2009 [SLS AMG](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_SLS_AMG), a revival of the 300SL Gullwing, is the first car to be entirely developed by AMG.

There are numerous independent tuners including [Brabus](/wiki/Brabus), [Carlsson](/wiki/Carlsson_(car_company)), [Kleemann](/wiki/Kleemann) and [Renntech](/wiki/Renntech).

## Sponsorships[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=25)]

[thumb|right|150px||Mercedes-Benz is sponsoring the German national football team.](/wiki/File:Mario_Götze,_Germany_national_football_team_(02).jpg) In [football](/wiki/Association_football), Mercedes-Benz sponsors [Germany National Football Team](/wiki/Germany_National_Football_Team). Mercedes-Benz sponsors [Bundesliga](/wiki/Fußball-Bundesliga) club [VfB Stuttgart](/wiki/VfB_Stuttgart) and provides the naming rights for their stadium, the [Mercedes-Benz Arena](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_Arena_(Stuttgart)). The company also holds the naming rights to the [Mercedes-Benz Superdome](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_Superdome) in [New Orleans](/wiki/New_Orleans), [Louisiana](/wiki/Louisiana).[[76]](#cite_note-76) On August 24, 2015, Mercedes-Benz was announced as the naming rights sponsor for the [Atlanta Falcons'](/wiki/Atlanta_Falcons) new home [Mercedes-Benz Stadium](/wiki/Mercedes-Benz_Stadium), (Mercedes-Benz moved their US headquarters to the Atlanta area) scheduled to open in 2017.<ref name=MB\_Stadium\_Atlanta>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref>

## See also[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=26)]

[Template:Portal](/wiki/Template:Portal)

* [Bertha Benz](/wiki/Bertha_Benz)
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