

Model years for the Volkswagen Thing



Classic Volkswagen models have evolved over the years, with most changes being made on fixed dates. The model year precedes the calendar year: a car built in October 1972 is a 1973 model (the model change took place on August 1, 1972).

Vehicle registration documents indicate the year of first registration, which is not the exact year of manufacture. A car purchased in January 1973 may have been in the showroom for eight months, so it was built around May 1972. If you order parts, it is important to know the period of manufacture of your car so that you do not order parts that are not suitable for your classic VW.

Please note: our list of chassis numbers, also known as vehicle identification numbers (VIN), assumes that your car still has all its original technical specifications. This list is provided as an additional service and does not give rise to any rights.

Select the list that corresponds to your Volkswagen model, then look for the chassis number, which can be found on the registration documents. If these are not available, the chassis number is stamped on the chassis under the rear seat.

Volkswagen Thing model years

model year	date	chassis number	model year	date	chassis number
1970	01/08/1969	180 2151 344	1978	01/08/1977	188 2001 001
	31/12/1969	180 2473 153		31/08/1977	188 2001 833
	31/07/1970	180 3100 000		30/09/1977	188 2001 879
1971	01/08/1970	181 2000 001		31/10/1977	188 2001 927
	31/12/1970	181 2518 855		30/11/1977	188 2026 909
	31/07/1971	181 3200 000		31/12/1977	188 2026 985
1972	01/08/1971	182 2000 001		31/01/1978	188 2026 999
	31/12/1971	182 2482 841		31/03/1978	188 2029 057
	31/07/1972	182 3200 000		30/04/1978	188 2029 100
1973	01/08/1972	183 2000 001		31/05/1978	188 2029 128
	28/02/1973	183 2346 525		30/06/1978	188 2029 144
	31/05/1973	183 2883 925		31/07/1978	188 2032 030
	31/07/1973	183 3021 910	1979	31/08/1978	188 2048 553
	30/09/1973	183 3026 058		31/01/1979	189 2006 423
1974	01/10/1973	184 2000 001		28/02/1979	189 2006 426
	31/01/1974	184 2219 789		31/03/1979	189 2015 020
	30/09/1974	184 2818 496		30/04/1979	189 2015 064
1975	01/10/1974	184 2818 497		31/05/1979	189 2140 316
	31/12/1974	184 2818 972		30/06/1979	189 2140 339
	31/01/1975	185 2170 188		31/07/1979	189 2140 346
1976	30/04/1976	186 2115 382		31/08/1979	189 2140 350
	31/07/1976	186 2115 959		30/09/1979	189 2140 375
1977	01/08/1976	187 2000 001		31/10/1979	189 2140 442
	31/10/1976	187 2008 717		30/11/1979	189 2140 453
	31/12/1976	187 2008 857		31/12/1979	189 2140 459
	31/01/1977	187 2008 863			
	28/02/1977	187 2008 910			
	31/03/1977	187 2008 959			
	30/04/1977	187 2082 808			
	31/05/1977	187 2082 827			
	30/06/1977	187 2082 861			
	31/07/1977	187 2082 862			

Engine codes for the Volkswagen Thing



It is important to know which engine is installed when you want to order parts for that engine. Not every 1200 Volkswagen Thing has a 1200 cc engine. A lot of engines are interchangeable, often without modifications to the chassis or bodywork, so the odds are high that you have a different engine in the back of your car. Either a bigger displacement engine or an engine from another year.

If at one point the engine was replaced by a rebuilt engine, the letter combination can be different (if it has an engine number at all). Please ask the supplier for the exact year of manufacture and displacement, as they tend to use their own letter/digit combinations.



From the engine number you can determine what type of engine it is and the displacement of the engine.

The first letter(s) determine the displacement and the type of engine. The following numbers indicate the built year.

Engines up through 31.7.1965 did not have letters included in the engine number, for those engines we can only supply you the built year.

Volkswagen Type 1 engines

engine code	capacity (cc)	kW	hp	Built Years	
				from	until
1-0 020 000 => 1-0695 282	1131	18	25	1943	31/12/1953
1-0 945 526 => 4 050 000	1200	22	30	31/12/1954	31/07/1965
D	1200	25	34	01/08/1965	31/12/1985
E	1300	27	37	01/08/1965	31/07/1970
F	1300	29	40	01/08/1965	31/07/1970
AC	1300	29	40	01/08/1970	31/07/1975
AB	1300	32	44	01/08/1970	31/07/1973
AR	1300	32	44	01/08/1973	31/07/1975
L	1500	29	40	01/08/1966	31/07/1970
H	1500	32	44	01/08/1966	28/02/1971
AG	1600	32	44	01/08/1970	31/12/1975
AF	1600	33	46	01/08/1970	30/09/1992
B	1600	34	47	01/08/1969	31/07/1970
AH	1600	35	48	01/08/1971	31/07/1974
AE	1600	35	48	01/08/1970	31/12/1972
AL	1600	35	48	28/02/1973	31/12/1978
AM	1600	35	48	28/02/1973	30/09/1974
AD	1600	37	50	01/08/1970	31/07/1973
AS	1600	37	50	01/08/1973	31/12/1979
AJ	1600	34	50	01/08/1974	31/01/1980
ACD	1600	34	50	01/10/1992	31/07/2003