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**1939 MG YA  
Owned by  
Roger Colyer**



The prototype Y Type was constructed in 1939 with an intended launch at the Earls Court Motor show the following year. However, as a result of the outbreak of the Second World War it was a further eight years before production commenced. The MG Y Type was primarily a Morris 8 Series E (which itself was launched in 1939) although the front and rear ends were changed by MG designers.

When the car was launched the MG sales literature stated "A brilliant new Member of the famous MG breed and went on sale in 1947". The UK price of the car was £525 ex works plus purchase tax of £146.11.8d so it was at the top end of the price range for this size of car although having said this there is a lot of walnut in the cabin, on the fascia as well as door caps so it was a premium vehicle.

Despite its age (now 69 years) the car nonetheless has a very modern feel with independent front suspension and efficient brakes, moreover, the colour of this one is very much 'of the moment' with many admirers being surprised to learn that it is an original metallic finish called Sun Bronze. The car also features the 'Jack-All' system so the car can be lifted by hydraulic jacks at each corner by means of a lever situated in the engine compartment.

Although I am a long standing MG owner, I have only had the Y for about four years; it has been used by me mainly here in Jersey where its narrow dimensions make ideal for negotiating many of the islands country roads, a feature of many of the club's monthly Sunday runs. I have also used it on rallies in France most recently the Coupe Florio in St Brieuc Brittany where it coped well with a longish run on the dual carriageway. Overall the MG Y is an enjoyable car to own and run.

*Roger driving the  
MG YA with my  
step-dad Karl as  
his passenger*

