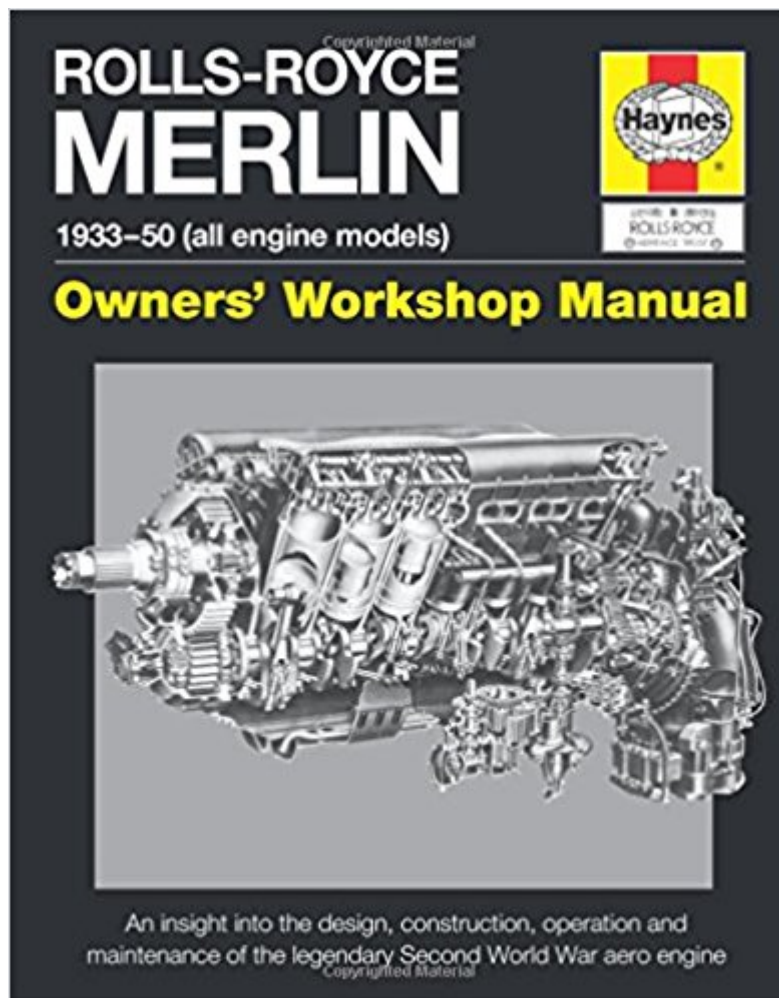


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Rolls-Royce Merlin Manual - 1933-50 (all Engine Models): An Insight Into The Design, Construction, Operation And Maintenance Of The Legendary World War 2 Aero Engine (Owners' Workshop Manual)





Synopsis

The Rolls-Royce Merlin liquid-cooled V-12 piston aero engine is considered an icon of British engineering with a worldwide recognition. It was one of the most successful aircraft engines of the Second World War period and its incremental development ran hand in hand with that of the legendary Supermarine Spitfire to which it was fitted from the very beginning. From its genesis in the 740hp PV-12 engine that was first flown in 1935, the Merlin went through rapid development during the war years until in its ultimate version, the Merlin 130 series designed specifically for the de Havilland Hornet, it produced over 2,600hp. Merlin engines powered many more of the best-known Allied combat aircraft of the war including the Hawker Hurricane, Boulton Paul Defiant, P-51 Mustang, Avro Lancaster, Handley Page Halifax, and the de Havilland Mosquito. Many variants of Merlin were built by Rolls-Royce at their factories in Derby, Crewe and Glasgow, as well as by Ford of Britain at their Trafford Park factory near Manchester. The Packard V-1650 was a license-built version of the Merlin made in the United States. When Merlin production finally ceased in 1950, almost 150,000 engines had been delivered.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Ian Craighead is Head of Corporate Heritage at Rolls-Royce and the Chief Executive of the Rolls-Royce Heritage Trust.

I'd like to point out first that this book is not an ultra-detailed mechanical study of a single Merlin engine, based on a complete strip-down and rebuild. That said, it IS a very nicely done look at this iconic British aircraft engine. In the first half, Ian Craighead, the current Chief Executive of the Rolls-Royce Heritage Trust, traces the development of the Merlin from the first Rolls-Royce racing engines, its selection as the engine for the Hurricane and Spitfire, and its rapid development during World War II. The second half focuses mainly on the mechanical aspects of the Merlin, including sections describing the anatomy of the Merlin III, disassembling the engine and restoring it to flight, wartime maintenance and troubleshooting, and the offshoot Griffon engine. I'm genuinely surprised how much material was squeezed into this book while still giving it room to breathe. I was dreading that it would be a shallow Rolls-Royce-licensed puff piece... but despite being only 157 pages long, it feels genuinely well-rounded, enjoyable, and detailed without being suffocatingly so. The book's format makes good use of sidebars and asides to avoid interrupting the flow of the text, featuring short biographies of key figures in the Merlin's development, descriptions of engine basics (i.e, the importance of the supercharger, how the four-stroke cycle works, etc.), and brief histories of the major Merlin factories. The overall quality of the photographs and diagrams is quite good. I'm frequently amazed that, in the midst of World War II, British draughtsmen were able to deliver such beautiful, intricately detailed technical diagrams. I'd be tempted to give this book five stars if it lived up to it's title, but as it is, it's a little too heavy on the "famous people and important events" side of the Merlin to be a really detailed technical study of the engine. I was disappointed at first, but this "manual" grew on me fairly quickly when I found it provided a readable overview of the Merlin's development and wartime evolution. Packard also gets their due, and the author even admits that the V-1650 may have been a slightly better engine than the 60-series Merlins, and that British factories alone could not have kept up with wartime demand. This isn't a masterpiece by any stretch (I haven't bought a Haynes title in some time that I'd give five stars to), and I'm pretty sure it's not the most detailed technical work on the Merlin currently available. As Haynes' first title on an aircraft engine, it's a surprisingly solid work, and I recommend it to anyone curious about the development and inner workings of the Merlin.

Had the chance to work on the Merlin and wanted some additional info and background. This book provides that and has some amazing insightful history on this great Rolls Royce designed motor. The Hydro Plane Museum, in Seattle Washington, uses the tank version of this motor in the Pay n Pak, Thunder boat, Hydroplane. This manual gives a print out of the tank it was used in. The Merlin Griffen motor, Tank version rotates in the opposite direction of the bird version...fun stuff and

real interesting for anyone who loves to go fast and wants a history of the brilliance of WWII enthusiasm, which made the spitfire war bird. The fastest and greatest altitude climber of its time. Two speed turbo...fast and faster, four valve heads, 16 cylinders. If you want to see where all the modern tech came from for today's autos you'll suddenly realize the tech was out for decades before we ever got hold of it for the common man. Great read and technical time line, so informative and fun to look at.

pleased with purchase

Nice product.

Very interesting read as it goes back into the history of motors and contributors to the most recent iterations of the engine. If you like engines, like I do, you will enjoy reading this book. Many great illustrations and pictures as well!

Great book for the price, provides a lot of information on this great series of engines. However, the sub-title is a bit misleading as this book really is not a Workshop Manual.

Very pleased!

I always wondered what made up the Merlin engine. Well, It's not simple, but this book explains it all with a lot of info and photos.

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