

Chrysler Crown Engines

The venerable Crown has been around since 1930. The first model was the KM. It was 190 cubic inches and produced, by the standards then, seventy horsepower at 3200 RPM. Over the years that engine has evolved until about 1957, when it produced 135 horsepower and was referred to, as the "hot rod engine".

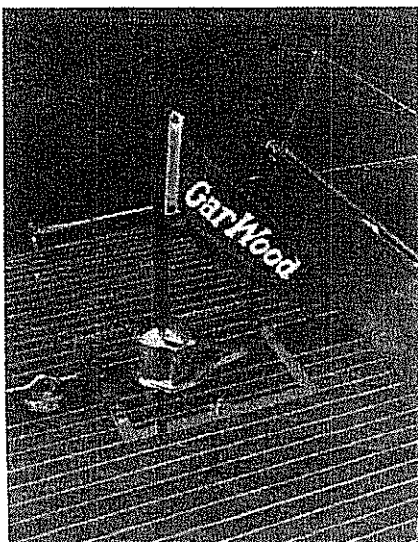
I found this bit of wisdom, because last summer I bought a boat with the intention of playing with the wood, doing some sacrilegious things to it. And it had one of those hot rod Crowns. Immediately I tried to get some information on the engine. The best I got was a blank stare and an "I don't know". Another was, "they stamp the date of manufacture on the engine mounts". I looked, but it wasn't on the engine mounts. Also, the horsepower ranged from 90 to 145, according to other hearsay.

Things like that never daunt me, just make me curious. Finally, after several months of blank stares, and more folklore, I figured the Chrysler Marine Corporation ought to know their own past history. So, in a moment of weakness, and fearing the wrath of my wife when she sees the phone bill, I called back East. I got a hold of a really nice guy but I discerned he had to be bribed some way or another to find out what I wanted to know. The best thing that I could come up with, was that I would promise to put into print all of the information that he could give me, and as a result I could get those boat restorers off his back. He liked it, and said that he would send me the information. A week later it came in the mail and every question I had ever had about models, serial numbers, and sizes blissfully gazed up at me.

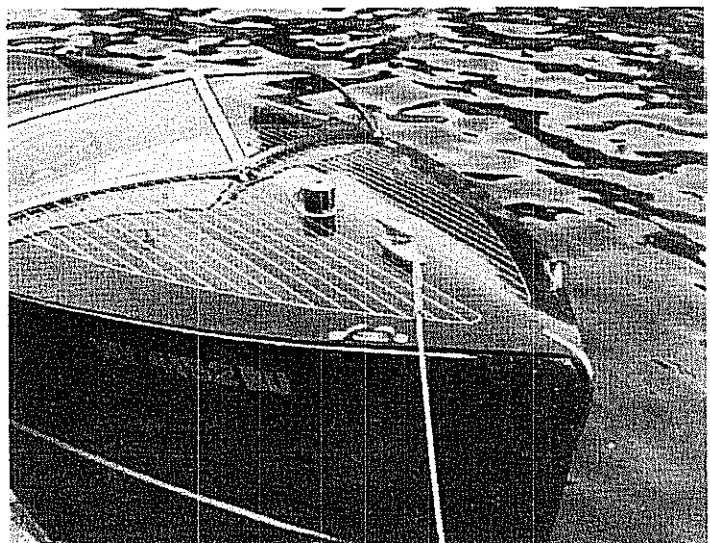
My eyes glazed over when I realized that I had twenty pages of discontinuous information about every engine Chrysler built between the twenties and about 1960. So, one Saturday morning "me an my PC" went to work and you now have information on dating Crowns. Some Saturday in the future, I will pull all the information together on the other engines and put it into a future issue of the Gar Wood Newsletter.

About that boat, I sold it to one of the local ACBS club members who didn't have a boat, and wanted one. Now we have another classic runabout in the original condition it started life with. Several months later, I stumbled over an older boat that had a Crown in it. I bought it, and figured that I had all the information that I needed about Crowns. But a few months later, when exploring that boat we found the model number. The model number said a Fireball was the original engine, not a Crown. Well, I have a Crown, but now I'm chasing Fireballs. I guess I'm lucky, I don't have to chase Phantoms like some others I know.

-Garret



Gar Wood Burgee



1939 19' Runabout

Chrysler Crown Engines

Model & MBNo	CID	Bore X Stroke	Hp (rated)	Build dates	Serial Nos.	
KM E6007	190	3-1/8 x 4-1/8	70 @ 3200	6/23/30 4/14/31	KM-196 KM-1552	1,356
CM E10092M	217	3-1/4 x 4-3/8	75 @ 3200	4/9/31 10/24/32	CM-1001 CM-1401	400
CI E10093M	224	3-1/4 x 4-1/2	85 @ 3200	11/25/32 4/20/34	CIM-1001 CIM-1242	241
CA E23109M	242	3-3/8 x 4-1/2	93 @ 3200	5/2/34 3/9/36	CAM-1301 CAM-1856	555
M1 E36878M	242	3-3/8 x 4-1/2	93 @ 3200	3/26/36 10/30/36	M1-2002 M1-2348	346
M2 E42089M	242	3-3/8 x 4-1/2	97 @ 3200	12/8/36 11/18/41	M2-3002 M2-7090	4,088
M7 E58280M	250.6	3-7/16 x 4-1/2	115 @ 3200	6/27/41 1/30/48	M7-6401 M7-34664	28,263
M10 E58280M	250.6	3-7/16 x 4-1/2	115 @ 3200	11/11/43 8/28/44	M10-1001 M10-1367	366
M-27 E96762M	250.6	3-7/16 x 4-1/2	115 @ 3200	5/2/47 2/16/49	M27-1001 M27-7372	6,371
M-27 E99536M	250.6	3-7/16 x 4-1/2	115 @ 3200	2/9/49 1/21/50	M27-10001 M27-11357	1,356
M-47 E398M	250.6	3-7/16 x 4-1/2	115 @ 3200	12/13/49 10/25/55	M47-1001 M47-11526	10,525 *
M-47-S E768M	250.6	3-7/16 x 4-1/2	125 @ 3600	12/13/49 10/25/55	M47S-1001 M47S-11526	10,525 *
M-47 E398M	265	3-7/16 x 4-3/4	125 @ 3600	4/20/55 2/27/57	M47-20001 M47-24400	4,399 *
M-47-S E768M	265	3-7/16 x 4-3/4	135 @ 3600	4/20/55 2/27/57	M47S-20001 M47S-24400	4,399 *
M47-3 E398M	265	3-7/16 x 4-3/4	125 @ 3600	2/14/57	M47-3-30001	
M47S-3 E768M	265	3-7/16 x 4-3/4	135 @ 3600	2/14/57	M47S-3-30001	
M47-4 E-4901-M	265	3-7/16 x 4-3/4	125 @ 3600	5/17/59	62184	

MBNo Marine Block Number, * - ?