

How to Guestimate the Year of Manufacture of a 20hp

Many changes were introduced during the period of manufacture of the 20hp, ie 1922-1929. Some of these can be seen by the outward visual appearance, some by looking into the cabin and some from looking at the engine. It is not always clear exactly when certain changes were made. On the production line, components were provided in batches of 10 or more, and one batch was used up before being replaced by a batch of modified components. In addition chassis sometimes had to be sent back in the production line for adjustments or modifications to be made. During this process they might have been fitted with “out of sequence” components. In addition certain cars were fitted experimentally with modified components prior to their general introduction. Finally, some modified components were fitted by special request of the purchaser.

Note: Listed below are only those changes that can be observed by visual inspection of the exterior, inside the cabin or under the bonnet. The information was gained from John Fasal’s book, the RROC Australia web site and Rolls-Royce technical literature, plus personal communications.

If anyone can provide further information, or correct information given below, please make contact via the Contact Us facility.

	Outward appearance	Inside cabin	Engine inspection
Oct 1922 Public launch			
June 1923			From 75AO-9 Standby magneto available. Coil relocated to timing case
Sept 1923	From GA12 Nickel rad shutters replaced black enamel Sharp edged rad replaced round edged rad		
Oct 1923			From GF70 Engine torque reaction dampers fitted
Nov 1923	From GH58 Lucas R55 headlights changed to RB60 (RB65)		
Jan 1924		From GAK32 Handbrake lever moved to driver’s side	From GAK8 Taller ignition coil.
Sept 1924			From GDK16 Barrel-shaped carb intake

March 1925	From about GNK55 Integrated shutters. Chassis tie rods		
July 1925	From about GPK1 4-wheel brakes Track increased 54" to 56" Front double shackle	From about GPK55 Gear lever moved to right	
Sept 1926	From GMJ1 Well-base wheels standard, 525-21" Front hydraulic shocks		From about GMJ1 Round base coil
Jan 1927	From GHJ72 New steering box with outside drop arm		From GHJ1 Autovac restrictor valve
June 1927	From GRJ1 3-pronged starting handle		
Sept 1927			From GUY61 Zenith petrol filter fitted to bulkhead
Oct 1927	From GXL1 New design petrol tank Screw-on petrol cap		From GXL1 Modified exhaust manifold (flat hot spot connection)
Dec 1927	From GYL1 Rear hydraulic shocks		
Sept 1928		From GFN1 Mixture control on steering column	
Oct 1928	From GFN71 Vertical radiator shutters 600-20" wheels		
Nov 1928	From GLN22 2" wider & 3/4" higher scuttle, 1 1/2" higher radiator		
Jan 1929			From GEN41 External oil pipe from front to rear under manifolds
April 1929			From GVO11 Partial central lube Enots petrol filter