

ENGINE SERIAL NUMBERS

The engine number was also the serial number of the car. Engines were numbered when they were completed, and for the most part went into a chassis within a day or so. However, some engines were assembled and numbered at branch assembly plants. Highland Park would ship a block of engine-number records to an assembly plant and these engines might be made weeks or months afterwards. Consequently, engine numbers can only be used to date the "engine" NOT the car.

It might be interesting to note that Ford claims to have built fifteen million Model T cars; this figure based on the number of engines. Records show, however, that a good many engines were made which did not go into a car, perhaps being for replacement or other use. Fifteen million, of course, is an approximate figure. Add the thousands of cars made in Canada, which are not included in the U.S. serial numbers, and the fifteen million is a reasonably safe number. (Canadian serial numbers, beginning about 1913, generally begin with a "C" and were not a part of the U.S. count. Prior to 1913 Canada used U.S. engine numbers.)

A comprehensive *daily* serial number list, with many notes, is included in the book, *Model T Ford*. That list is about 150 pages long, much too large to make available on this site.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1908*												
Start #										1	12	102
End #										11	101	309
1909*	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Start #	310	647	1053	2026	2692	4037	5981	8108	9841	11149	12406	13133
End #	646	1052	2025	2691	4036	5980	8107	9840	11148	12405	13132	14161
1910*	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Start #	14162	15501	16601	19701	23101	26501	29501	30201	31001	31901	32501	33701
End #	15500	16600	19700	23100	26500	29500	30200	31000	31900	32500	33700	34900

1911*	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Start #	34901	37001	40001	45001	50801	57201	60501	62101	66701	69877	83101	86301
End #	37000	40000	45000	50800	57200	60500	62100	66700	69876	83100	86300	88900

1912**	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Start #	88901	92001	95901	103801	112901	123801	132001	139701	144501	157425	B series	B series
End #	92000	95900	103800	112900	123800	132000	139700	144500	157424	B series	B series	183563

* Numbers shown are based on the dates of sale, not of manufacture.

** The actual dates of manufacture of engines before 1913 have yet to be discovered. The numbers shown are based on the dates of the sale of the engine/automobile. From the available data it appears that engines were installed in cars, or sold as engines only, in numerical order until summer of 1912. In late 1912, however, engines were assembled and numbered, and then stored for later installation. Consequently serial numbers and dates are no longer in order.

In the summer and early fall of 1912 engines were made in a separate plant (only known as "Detroit" in the records, and these engines were given "B" numbers 1 through 12,247. These B-series engines were installed in random order beginning in October and ending in December 1912. To add to the confusion, there is a gap in the regular serial number sequence of 12,247 numbers, somewhere between 157,425 and 170,000. We have found no evidence of engine numbers in the 158,000 to 169,000 range. During these three months, a mixture of the B-numbers and the regular numbers were used and by the end of December all the B-numbers were used.

It appears that the engines of this period were warehoused and removed at random, sort of a last in, first out sequence. For example, B-numbers in the B-1,000 to B8,000 range were used in October, B-7 to B-12,000 in November, and B-5,000 to B-12,000 in December.

Ford's records show 157,425 as the first number of fiscal 1913 (October 1, 1912), yet cars with engines in the 153,000 to 157,000 range were sold in October (in addition to the "B" engines). 169,### to 173,### in November, and 169,### to 183,563 in December.

1913	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Start #	183564	200994	218240	239152	260202	281652	302916	320616	336401	348736	364898	382798
End #	200993	218239	239151	260201	281651	302915	320615	336400	348735	364897	382797	408347

1914	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Start #	408348	436568	461018	487283	506823	526041	540851	550939	569239	591736	617536	636736
End #	436567	461017	487282	506822	526040	540850	550938	569238	591735	617535	636735	656063
1915	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Start #	656064	680349	706624	737939	773491	805841	839926	856514	881064	914027	949226	986061
End #	680348	706623	737938	773490	805840	839925	856513	881063	914026	949225	986060	1028313
1916	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Start #	1028314	1071929	1119004	1169024	1219574	1273414	1328149	1362990	1400914	1452214	1510399	1569777
End #	1071928	1119003	1169023	1219573	1273413	1328148	1362989	1400913	1452213	1510398	1569776	1614516
1917	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Start #	1614517	1679592	1739907	1812014	1888044	1968620	2044132	2113502	2162889	2231010	2310410	2383952
End #	1679591	1739906	1812013	1888043	1968619	2044131	2113501	2162888	2231009	2310409	2383951	2449179
1918	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Start #	2449180	2503205	2558190	2611440	2657480	2700790	2735680	2756252	2774622	2787822	2792307	2805098
End #	2503204	2558189	2611439	2657479	2700789	2735679	2756251	2774621	2787821	2792306	2805097	2831426
1919	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Start #	2843127	2880167	2933047	2997147	3067737	3139952	3210842	3277852	3346877	3429402	3515432	3587997
End #	2880166	2933046	2997146	3067736	3139951	3210841	3277851	3346876	3429401	3515431	3587996	3659971
1920	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Start #	3659972	3743077	3817077	3910002	3969152	4055282	4141452	4233352	4329902	4426387	4526542	4617929
End #	3743076	3817076	3910001	3969151	4055281	4141451	4233351	4329901	4426386	4526541	4617928	4698419
1921	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Start #	Closed	4698420	4736432	4810015	4907506	5008006	5114534	5223136	5337546	5447817	5529520	5602302
End #		4736431	4810014	4907505	5008005	5114533	5223135	5337545	5447816	5529519	5602301	5638071

1922	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Start #	5638072	5683809	5737279	5812609	5922969	6058672	6199797	6334197	6473197	6582725	6713882	6844682
End #	5683808	5737278	5812608	5922968	6058671	6199796	6334196	6473196	6582724	6713881	6844681	6953071

1923	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Start #	6953072	7084226	7217972	7386112	7564112	7738373	7927375	8122675	8311582	8477682	8664282	8843066
End #	7084225	7217971	7386111	7564111	7738372	7927374	8122674	8311581	8477681	8664281	8843065	9008371

1924	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Start #	9008372	9232672	9427722	9622522	9814522	9984772	10126472	10266472	10404822	10560822	10734506	10886260 HP
									10566001	10566010	10764952	10863731 Rouge
End #	9323671	9427721	9622521	9814521	9984771	10126471	10266471	10404821	10560821	10734505	10886259	10999000 HP
:									10566009	10764951	10863730	10944033 Rouge

1925	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Start #	10998001											
	10994034	11135309	11302020	11477656	11668648	11869208	12062487	12222529	12290761	12399497	12621502	12823127 Rouge
End #	11066938		(End of Highland Park engine production)									
	11135308	11302019	11477655	11668647	11869207	12062486	12222528	12290760	12399496	12621501	12823126	12990076

Beginning in September 1924 Ford began producing engines at the then-new River Rouge plant. Initially Highland Park would send the Rouge a block of engine-number records and these numbers appeared on engines built at the Rouge. As Rouge production climbed, Highland Park's declined and as the Rouge became the primary source they would send blocks of number records back to Highland Park. The result of these two production sites was that there is no real numerical sequence in engine numbers between September 1924 and February 1925. The daily serial number lists published in *Model T Ford, the Car That Changed the World* shows the days on which certain engines were produced but this abbreviated listing does not.

1926	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Start #	12990077	13138676	13286290	13454890	13619706	13769815	13912755	14049030	14194490	14331153	14472254	14577136

End # 13138675 13286289 13454889 13619705 13769814 13912754 14049029 14194489 14331152 14472253 14577135 14619254

1927	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Start #	14619255	14698503	14762946	14851446	14927496	15007033	15016375	15023925	15034670	15047410	15059397	15068958
End #	14698502	14762945	14851445	14927495	15007032	15016374	15023924	15034699	15047409	15059396	15068957	15076231

Model T number 15,000,000 was assembled May 26, 1927.