

Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Spidey - 2010/01/21 21:25

Okay, with some of the Toyota limited editions, there is a lot of info and some rumour, so the following is as best as I could research.

Note - if you suffer from Arachnophobia, then read no further

http://www.mrtwee.nl/IMAGES/blueprint_side.gif

First of all - TRD Japan was basically a division of Toyota TechnoCraft (TTC). Only a little English on the TTC site :(

TTC site

In 1996, TTC commissioned 88 (or 91 depending on source) mk2 SW20 Spiders - these were basically cars that came off the Production line (assuming the T-bars with extra strengthening in the chassis) and were modified manually into SW20 Spiders. So, they were in fact factory Spiders.

Reportedly, approx 20 of the 88 were manuals and the rest were auto boxes. One or two were rumoured to be factory turbos (gen3 3S-GTE) and the rest were NA (Gen3 3S-GE). But it seems some were built right up to July 1996 and so, there are some very rare Beams SW20 Spiders out there :)

Of the original 88, 1 is in Ireland (me :)) and afaik 4 in UK, 1 in the Netherlands, 1 in France and 2 in Germany. The rest reside mostly in Japan (there was an owners club there called the Open Car Army! Open Carm Army site (Japanese))and hong Kong with a few in the US.

Most of the Spiders came in Lucerne Silver with a blue side moulding (a few came in red, mica orange, white and black that I have seen), standard rev4 wheels and no wing. Aside from expected chassis strengthening, the body panels were mostly standard with the engine lid being custom made for the Spiders.

<http://i130.photobucket.com/albums/p242/fastmr2/MR2/Spider/Spider3.jpg>

The hood was vinyl and had to be manually removed - it could then be folded and fitted in the boot.

<http://www.mrtwee.nl/IMAGES/spiderroof1.jpg>

Interior didn't receive any special treatment with just blue cloth seats/doorcards.

http://i149.photobucket.com/albums/s41/rwilson_ie/P1040347.jpg

Some original pics from mags and the factory production

<http://www.mrtwee.nl/IMAGES/spiderart1a.jpg>

http://www.mrtwee.nl/IMAGES/tn_brochure1.jpg

<http://www.mrtwee.nl/IMAGES/folder6.jpg>

http://www.mrtwee.nl/IMAGES/tn_folder1.jpg

http://www.mrtwee.nl/IMAGES/tn_folder.jpg

And for those that can read Japanese ...

http://www.mrtwee.nl/IMAGES/SpiderArticle05_tn.jpg

http://www.mrtwee.nl/IMAGES/SpiderArticle01_tn.jpg

Original Pricing in Japan

http://www.mrtwee.nl/IMAGES/Spiderprijslijst_tn.jpg

http://www.mrtwee.nl/IMAGES/spiderspecs1_tn.jpg

This next one seems to rate the Spider at 200ps - that would be the Beams motor ... I heard two different stories - one was that they were all made in 1996. The other was that most were made in 1996 but they were made up til 99, meaning there could be a few Beams versions out there. Actually, as I write this article, I've found more sites that say they were built from Feb 1996 til July 99.

<http://www.mrtwee.nl/IMAGES/spiderspecs.jpg>

The Spiders being built at the Toyota Technocraft factory

http://www.mrtwee.nl/IMAGES/Spiderfactory1_tn.jpg

http://www.mrtwee.nl/IMAGES/Spiderfactory2_tn.jpg

http://www.mrtwee.nl/IMAGES/Spiderfactory3_tn.jpg

One of the Japanese guys laughing, thinking to himself "They should have spent a bit more money and made a proper roof" !

http://www.mrtwee.nl/IMAGES/Spiderfactory4_tn.jpg

http://www.mrtwee.nl/IMAGES/Spiderfactory5_tn.jpg

And a few pics of SW20 Spiders which people have modified.

<http://www.mrtwee.nl/thumbnail/mrspider3.jpg>

<http://www.mrtwee.nl/thumbnail/mrspider6.jpg>

Clean Toms kitted 2 :)

<http://www.mr2ownersclub.com/mrspider/images/hkmr2club-30.jpg>

3 Spiders together - might give you Aracnaphobia

<http://www.mr2ownersclub.com/mrspider/images/lineup.jpg>

The Mica Orange Spider appears to have the Beams lump - so, maybe that proves they were made past 1996

<http://www.mr2ownersclub.com/mrspider/images/korin03.jpg>

I normally don't like this kit but I think it might nearly pull it off - wouldn't get that myself though !

<http://www.mr2ownersclub.com/mrspider/images/pochiq02s.jpg>

<http://www.mr2ownersclub.com/mrspider/images/pochiq01s.jpg>

<http://www.mr2-spider.co.uk/Nean%20osr.jpg>

<http://www.mr2-spider.co.uk/spider-white-98-00.jpg>

TRD widebody Spider ... photoshop ??????

<http://www.mr2-spider.co.uk/trd2000gt-spider2.jpg>

http://i149.photobucket.com/albums/s41/rwilson_ie/P1040335.jpg

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Re:Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by mnixon - 2010/01/21 21:47

Good write up Rob.

Were the spiders made from new cars or were they offered as a conversion, like the way TRD took in cars that people already owned to do the widebody conversion. I'm sure they were all new cars but the only reason i ask is that in the picture there where the workers are working on the car, the rear lights have the black trim faded and it has part blue/ part black side mouldings :huh: any ides??!

p.s. good call on spraying the side strips silver on your car, looks much better when you see it compared to a car that still has the blue strips B)

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Re:Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Spidey - 2010/01/21 21:52

I originally thought they were all new/made in 1996. But then after seeing the Beams engined one and as you say, faded trim etc.

I'd guess that most were made in 1996 and then it was offered as a conversion option up til July 1999.

I can't find anything definitive on it - prob has to go down as myth !

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Re:Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Quandry - 2010/01/21 22:00

Spidey wrote:

I originally thought they were all new/made in 1996. But then after seeing the Beams engined one and as you say, faded trim etc.

I'd guess that most were made in 1996 and then it was offered as a conversion option up til July 1999.

I can't find anything definitive on it - prob has to go down as myth !

Where are the MythBusters when you need them! :cheer:

Good write up Spidey, Karma click 4 you!!

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Re:Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Quandry - 2010/01/22 14:41

Saw this Spider pic on Speedhunters:

<http://ll.speedhunters.com/u/f/eagames/NFS/speedhunters.com/Images/Mike%20Garrett/1June/preview/sw.jpg>

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Re:Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Quandry - 2010/09/01 09:39

Good link here of Spider pics: <http://picasaweb.google.com/wdstrongjr/MRSpider?feat=directlink>

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Re:Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by SWAGGER - 2010/09/01 11:04

Excellent write up Spidey, loads of questions answered there!

Very interesting and nice to see you have such a rare beastly ;)

Not liking the blue strips at all, much better colour coded and with regard to the Veilside kit, shouldn't be on any car bigger than 1:24 scale :laugh:

The TRD kitted one looks genuine enough, just a shitty quality pic IMO.

Fair play and KC+1 at ya!

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Re:Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Quandry - 2011/06/20 12:38

Hey Spidey, FlashHarry gave me this animated gif for you. So here it is:

<http://i68.photobucket.com/albums/i2/jeffreyduckworth/014.gif>

:)

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Re:Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by dan - 2011/06/20 13:42

Quality write up Spidey! Some great info in there!

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Spidey - 2011/06/22 15:50

Ta, Quandry

Cheers, Dan

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Punky1968 - 2011/06/22 17:49

Great article Spidey. You've been KC'ed.....

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Infamous - 2011/06/22 18:41

Made for an interesting read!

Cheers Spidey, KC coming your way.

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Infamous - 2011/06/24 15:54

Saw this and thought of this thread spidey B)

Connect 4 :huh:

<http://www.nvicars.co.uk/Stock/4%20TOPLESS%20SPIDERS%201%20L.jpg>

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Spidey - 2011/06/25 09:06

Infamous wrote:

Saw this and thought of this thread spidey B)

Connect 4 :huh:

<http://www.nvicars.co.uk/Stock/4%20TOPLESS%20SPIDERS%201%20L.jpg>

Yeah, Tom at NVI cars imported and owns them. Bit of a fanatic !!!

Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Infamous - 2011/08/30 01:03

I came across this link tonight.

I think most of it is already on here but I thought I'd share it for future reference anyways :)

<http://www.mrtwee.nl/MyMR2.htm>

Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Quandry - 2011/08/30 08:20

Nice link, that's a great resource. KC!

Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Spidey - 2011/08/30 08:30

He is the same guy that has the huge collection of MR2 models

<http://www.mrtwee.nl/MR2Models.htm>

!!!

Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by dshamrock2000 - 2011/08/30 08:54

An MR2.ie anniversary watch would go well in his collection :)

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Peerke - 2011/09/02 19:16

Nice article Spidey.

One question: Are You sure that There are a few in the US?

Because it's difficult (or impossible) to import a RHD car in the US, or am I wrong?

I informed on a US forum about people who own a MR Spider in the US, they told me there aren't Spiders in the US.

Just like to know where the Spiders are now and how many there are left.

I also know that there are 2 Spiders in Switzerland. (one in a Toyota museum)

1 in New Zealand, 1 in Malaysia, 1 in Hong Kong, 1 in Australia.

And still, 1 in the Netherlands, 1 in France, 2 in Germany (for sale)

Greetings from www.mrspider.nl

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Spidey - 2011/09/02 19:29

Hi

I got some of it from your site - great resource for the SW20 Spider :yes:

And a big welcome to MR2.ie :)

I know that some states are easier to import than others - Florida being one of them. A guy in Canada has recently imported a Spider. This is also another route which does make it easier to get into the US.

The reason I said there was "a few" in the US was due to heresay on the US forums. I will try get some firmer numbers on MR Spiders in the US and post up.

Have you any plans for any modifications for yours ? or just enjoying driving it.

If you ever come over to Ireland, post up and we can arrange a meet.

Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Peerke - 2011/09/02 19:34

Also interesting: an email from a Japanese guy who was a MR2 owner and fan.

He answered a few questions, for me a few years ago, after informing at TCC.

"So,the answer of the your question,

MR spider have three models

first(MR2 third model)feb/1996~jun/1996 output 74
second(MR2 forth model)jun/1996~dec/1998 output 7
third(MR2 last model)dec/1998~aug/1999 output 8

Prototype 3 totalproducts 92
You're right!!

and then
the first picture is records of first(new car) registration date.

8 is japanese era , named HEISEI.
This year is HEISEI 19.

HEISEI 8 year is 1996.
that means...
The first registration of this car is April 25, 1996.
It's a first model.

second picture is the date of the periodic inspection.

One month check is HEISEI 8,,June 22 , 1996.
Six month check is HEISEI 9,,march 19 , 1997.

As above.
Is there the information that you want to know elsewhere?

bye for now

yukihisa"

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Peerke - 2011/09/04 10:43

@ Spidey: I have no more plans for modifications. I try to keep it like he is now.

I think its too far for driving but if I come to Ireland I will let You know.

=====
Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Spidey - 2011/09/14 19:32

Peerke wrote:

Also interesting: an email from a Japanese guy who was a MR2 owner and fan. He answered a few questions, for me a few years ago, after informing at TCC.

"So, the answer of your question,

MR spider have three models

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Six month check is HEISEI 9,, March 19, 1997.

As above.
Is there the information that you want to know elsewhere?

bye for now

yukihisa"

Great information there !! - in all the years, I never heard any breakdown on the production dates. Anything I heard was rumour and "legend"!

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Infamous - 2011/10/28 17:16

There is a spider currently up for auction in Japan.

It has some crazy body parts added on.

http://www.japaneseusedcars.com/auction/allday/detail_toyota-AuctionNo-FUN1596.html

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Radical Lanzar - 2011/11/05 10:49

That softtop is stupid, pure and simple. When it's hidden like a good boy, the SW20 Spider has lines and curves in all of the right places. I wouldn't mind owning one for some eye candy.

=====

Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Spanky - 2011/11/05 14:54

Radical Lanzar wrote:

That softtop is stupid, pure and simple. When it's hidden like a good boy, the SW20 Spider has lines and curves in all of the right places. I wouldn't mind owning one for some eye candy.

I take it stupid is good :blink:

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Radical Lanzar - 2011/11/05 15:23

If you want your car to wear a hat, be my guest.

=====

Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Spanky - 2011/11/07 13:20

Radical Lanzar wrote:

If you want your car to wear a hat, be my guest.

Mine has a 'hard' hat (as I presume yours does too). The soft top is a very similar shape to the hard.

Strange comments :unsure:

Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Spidey - 2011/11/07 15:20

Radical Lanzar wrote:

That softtop is stupid, pure and simple.

I own one and its not my favourite part of the car. However, not quite sure i'd call it stupid.

If you can come up with something, please do post up your design :)

=====

Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Radical Lanzar - 2011/11/07 22:51

Well, as it just so happens, I am a web developer and I understand the logistics of modding body parts from video games. Aka with the proper resources I could make that a reality.

I'm thinking a more modern design, pays homage to the MR2, but even more taugth lines. We're going to need a hard top that is retractable into the back.

Anyone got some extra money?

And Spidey, I do love the SW20 Spider. I love it even more when I found out it was NOT infact a modded MR-S.

That raincoat the MRS wears is still stupid.

=====

Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Spidey - 2011/11/10 09:14

I'm afraid i don't have any extra money :(

a newly designed MR Spider with retractable hardtop would be great.

But, with Toyota having to modify the existing SW20, they were very restricted with what they could do in terms of creating a Spider.

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Infamous - 2011/11/10 11:09

Infamous wrote:

There is a spyder currently up for auction in Japan.

It has some crazy body parts added on.

<http://www.japaneseusedcars.com/>

That one I posted about is up for auction again!

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by jamesdf - 2012/05/16 20:17

Cool! I never knew these even existed!! Nice 1 lad!! :)

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Infamous - 2012/05/25 04:29

Another random link I found related to spiders...

<http://www.mr2-spider.co.uk/gallery.htm>

I think its all here already but thought I'd add it for reference anyways.

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by mr_spider - 2012/12/03 11:27

Having owned one for nine years now B) info on this car is still hard to find

About eight years ago I came across a list on open car army site of total numbers of cars and colours

This info is not found now !!! Number of cars 91 including 2 prototypes colours 87silver 1 red 1white 2 mica orange

Love this car with and without hood in place

Thanks for info I have found on this site. any info is good

=====

Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Infamous - 2013/01/08 00:44

Spider for sale \$20k USD

<http://exchange.goo-net.com/usedcars/TOYOTA/MR2/700090252020110912003/index.html>

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Quandry - 2013/01/08 10:14

Shame it's n/a... if only I could find a Turbo charged Spider, it would be worth much much more ;)

=====

Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Spidey - 2013/01/08 10:23

Quandry wrote:

Shame it's n/a... if only I could find a Turbo charged Spider, it would be worth much much more ;)

And it would be really worth a fortune if it had a mohair hood with a non-working St205 chargecooler.

=====

Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by slipsliderg - 2013/01/08 10:39

Quandry wrote:

Shame it's n/a...

Ehhh, less trolling you two, they only came in N/A guise from the factory :P

=====

Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Quandry - 2013/01/08 14:30

hehe :) btw, not sure if these videos made it in to the spider thread yet so here it is for posterity!!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NefcsUW19Bc&list=UU3CXJIWaf39qtbbXEDb2fXQ&index=25>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Jzkt4O2OYk&list=UU3CXJIWaf39qtbbXEDb2fXQ&index=24>

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Infamous - 2013/01/17 09:07

Keith Tau decided to break a spider... wtf?!

Unless this suffered serious non repair accident damage why would you do this?!

The only thing slightly amusing about this is the price

<http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/281049105127>

p.s. sorry spidey, you might want to avert your eyes now!

=====

Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Spidey - 2013/01/17 09:09

Infamous wrote:

p.s. sorry spidey, you might want to avert your eyes now!

Its alright - mine's that bit more rare now ! :)

=====

Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Quandry - 2013/01/17 17:48

Surely that will sell as a whole car? someone will see that and want it, although at the price he is asking I can see why it would be hard to find a buyer.

Anyway the stuff Keith sells is allways AAAAAAAAA+++++++ condition otherwise he makes it very clear in his ads.

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Infamous - 2013/01/17 18:33

Yeah I agree about Keith stocking good products, he always has pretty rare parts about him as well but I just thought this was crazy, I mean with so few of them made, parting this out would be the very last option, i.e. beyond repair.

=====

Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Infamous - 2013/01/28 21:31

http://i276.photobucket.com/albums/kk13/juanchaihk/Hong%20Kong%20Car%20Spotting/toy_mr2spider_00a.jpg

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Infamous - 2013/05/16 20:38

Spider up for sale on pistonheads...

<http://www.pistonheads.com/classifieds/used-cars/toyota/mr2/rare-toyota-mr-spider/1351199>

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by sergy355 - 2013/05/25 14:56

hi lads

i am from the uk i have a mrspider in silver never been used in rain or snow
16000 kilometers on clock yes 16000 only its a 1996 plate
may be for sale for right money its a manual version with trd ss exhaust
pics up later
serge

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Infamous - 2013/05/27 18:55

<http://i42.photobucket.com/albums/e306/Redlyne/banzai-34-2.jpg>

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Infamous - 2013/07/09 16:54

New vs. OLD

https://fbcdn-sphotos-d-a.akamaihd.net/hphotos-ak-prn1/1013520_10151568678949582_328695904_n.jpg

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Peerke - 2013/11/04 11:20

Old is more beautiful IMHO.

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Infamous - 2013/11/19 21:08

Another spider at auction...

<http://www.goo-net-exchange.com/usedcars/TOYOTA/MR2/700090252020110912003/index.html>

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Infamous - 2013/12/30 01:40

This car is checking all the rare options,
Rev5 Spider with beams heart and auto box...

<http://www.mr2-centrum-europa.de/Images/3/3%20roter%20TRD%20Spider/album/index.html>

=====

Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Infamous - 2014/06/23 01:24

Another Spider up for sale, body styling isn't to my taste but each to their own I guess...

http://www.autotrader.co.uk/classified/advert/201406215207244/sort/default/make/TOYOTA/model/MR2/postcode/kt66re/radius/1500/onesearchad/used%2Cnearlynew%2Cnew/engine-size-cars/2l_to_2-5l/advert-type/featured-listing/dealer/689070/usedcars?logcode=flp

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Spidey - 2014/06/23 09:04

Infamous wrote:

Another Spider up for sale, body styling isn't to my taste but each to their own I guess...

http://www.autotrader.co.uk/classified/advert/201406215207244/sort/default/make/TOYOTA/model/MR2/postcode/kt66re/radius/1500/onesearchad/used%2Cnearlynew%2Cnew/engine-size-cars/2l_to_2-5l/advert-type/featured-listing/dealer/689070/usedcars?logcode=flp

How do you find all these ?? :)

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by Infamous - 2014/06/23 15:59

I spend way too much time browsing auction sites and used car sites.

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Re: Info / History of the TRD SW20 Spider

Posted by spla300 - 2014/06/23 20:56

Infamous wrote:

I spend way too much time browsing auction sites and used car sites.

keep an eye out for an rx7 fd for me if ya dont mind then, something cheap that needs an engine rebuild.

I need an rx7 in my life :D

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