



THE "WORKS" FORD ESCORT

The "Works" Ford Escort 1968-1979 (Cars depicted in painting)

XOO 355F. The mark 1 Escort twin cam had its international debut in competition on the 1968 San Remo rally, Driven by Ove Anderson and John Davenport.

The cars were built at the Halewood plant and used and used the twin cam engine from the Lotus Cortina and initially used most of the other mechanical components. Note the square headlights of the early production cars. The first rallying success however went to XOO 262F on the 1968 Circuit Ireland driven by Roger Clark and Jim Porter.

FEV 1H. The mark 1 RS1600 Escort depicted here on the 1970 Daily Mirror World Cup Rally. These cars were fitted with 1835cc pushrod engines to enable servicing and repair to be carried out in remote areas of the route. Driven to victory by Hannu Mikkola and Gunnar Palm the car inspired the production model known as the "Mexico".

LVX 942J. The "Esso Blue" Uniflow RS1600 Escort was driven to numerous victories by Roger Clark and featured a 2 Litre Light alloy engine for the first time. The partnership of Roger Clark and Tony Mason gave the Escort its first RAC Rally victory in 1972.

The "Works" seldom entered circuit racing cars officially, preferring to put development of these cars in the hands of teams such as Broadspeed, and Alan Mann Racing. The German team of Zakspeed is shown here.

PVK 445M. The RS2000 was probably the most popular of the street based cars, being less sophisticated and thus easier to dealer service. Built by AVO the initial 2000 cars all went to Germany in an effort to achieve homologation as a standard Group 1 Touring car. The car shown was 1 of 2 which dominated the Avon Tour of Britain rally driven by the winner Roger Clark and second place man Gerry Marshall.

HHJ 700N. Mark 2 RS1800 of Roger Clark used a 16 valve Cosworth designed engine, This car won the Granite City Rally first time out and also numerous other events in its distinguished career. Sponsored by Cossak. The decals changed from white to black as shown opposite LAR 501P and was also used on POO 505R driven by Riger Clark and Sturart Pegg to victory on the 1976 RAC Rally.

ONX 431P. The Mark 2 RS2000 (shovel Nose) Escort shown here driven by Ari Vatanen on the 1976 Avon Tour of Britain Co driven by Peter Bryant, The Allied Polymer livery was also used on his RS1800 campaigned during the same year.

Ford often loaned cars to drivers such as Russell Brookes / John Brown. Also works specification cars (replicas) were built and campaigned by teams such as David Sutton using components supplied by AVO to works specification.

WTW 569S. Hannu Mikkola and Arne Hertz winning the 1979 RAC Rally making that eight successive victories by the Ford Escort. The also clinched the World Championship of makes for that year providing a worthy swansong for the all conquering "Works Ford Escort".