

1.5 Millionth Corvette Rolls Out

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Showing that when General Motors gets it right, it *really* gets it right, Chevrolet just rolled out the 1.5 *millionth* Corvette. And just like the first Corvette to roll off the line in 1953, the latest one to emerge from the factory in Bowling Green, Ky., is white with a red interior.

The Corvette is the only real sports car America has produced. Say what you want about the Viper (like, say, it's an amazing engine in a mediocre chassis) or the Shelby Cobra (which stuffed an American engine in a British chassis, so it doesn't really count as American), but when you say "American sports car" you are essentially saying 'Corvette'.

The 1.5 millionth Corvette rolled off the line on May 28, but GM didn't announce it until Monday. The first Corvette was built on June 30, 1953 — something [we noted in our "Day In Tech"](#) feature marking the car's 53rd anniversary — and hit the half-million mark in 1977. Number one million left Bowling Green in 1992.

"The 1.5 millionth Corvette is a great example of how Chevy is America's brand," Karen Rafferty, Chevrolet product marketing director, said in perfect PR-speak. "For nearly 60 years we have built America's sports car and this milestone is a solid proof point,"

We here at Autopia definitely agree. Indeed, the strongest argument against getting a Vette is the

reputation many owners have for being Al Bundy-types with lots of money but no social, or driving, skills. This is pretty much untrue. We've spent a lot of time around Corvettes and their owners at race tracks and club events, and they've all been pretty good people. And besides, their cars are a blast to drive.

Photo: General Motors
