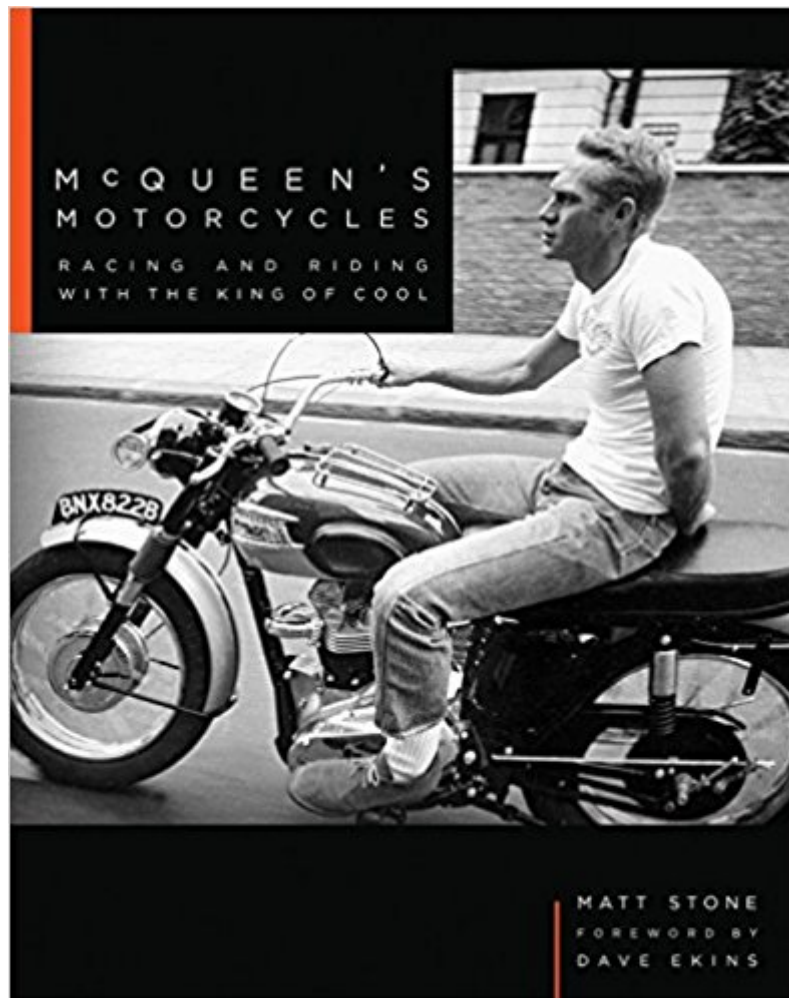




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# McQueen's Motorcycles: Racing And Riding With The King Of Cool



## Synopsis

The long-departed Steve McQueen is still the coolest man on two wheels. Even thirty years after his death, Steve McQueen remains a cultural icon. His image continues to appear in advertising and pop culture and his fan base spans from car lovers to racing enthusiasts to motorcycle obsessives. In his movies, McQueen's character always had an envy-inducing motorcycle or car, but in his personal life, motorcycles were always McQueen's first true love.

McQueen's Motorcycles focuses on the bikes that the King of Cool raced and collected. From the first Harley McQueen bought when he was an acting student in New York to the Triumph "desert sleds" and Huskys he desert raced all over California, Mexico, and Nevada, McQueen was never without a stable of two wheelers. His need for speed propelled him from Hollywood into a number of top off-road motorcycle races, including the Baja 1000, Mint 400, Elsinore Grand Prix, and even as a member of the 1964 ISDT team in Europe. Determined to be ahead of the pack, McQueen maintained his body like it was a machine itself. He trained vigorously, weight lifting, running, and studying martial arts. Later in his life, as he backed away from Hollywood, his interests turned to antique bikes and he accumulated an extensive collection, including Harley-Davidson, Indian, Triumph, Brough Superior, Cyclone, BSA, and Ace motorcycles. Today, McQueen still has the Midas touch; anything that was in the man's possession is a hot commodity. McQueen's classic motorcycles sell for top dollar at auctions, always at a multiple of what the same bike is worth without the McQueen pedigree. McQueen's Motorcycles reveals these highly sought-after machines in gorgeous photography and full historical context.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 160 pages

Publisher: Motorbooks (January 15, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0760351759

ISBN-13: 978-0760351758

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.8 x 11.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 13 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #90,070 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in Books > Arts & Photography > Vehicle Pictorials > Motorcycles #2 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Automotive > Motorcycles > History #95 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > History

## Customer Reviews

"the motorbike icon is brought back to life in this book with superb stories and plenty of emotive pictures" - Auto Express  
"This is a good read and even better to flick through slowly, and to dream." - Bill Noyce, Ride  
"the text is detailed and entertaining" - Octane

Matt Stone (Glendale, CA), former executive editor of Motor Trend magazine, has been a professional automotive journalist and photographer since 1985. He is the author and photographer of several books, including Motorbooks's best-selling *My First Car* (2011), *365 Cars You Must Drive* (2006), and *McQueen's Machines* (2010). He is the co-author, with Preston Lerner, of *Winning: The Racing Life of Paul Newman* (2009, 2014) and *History's Greatest Automotive Mysteries, Myths, and Rumors Revealed* (Motorbooks, 2013, 2014). [www.mattstonecars.com/bio.html](http://www.mattstonecars.com/bio.html)

If your a Steve McQueen fan you'll surly enjoy it. If your a racer or bike enthusiast, you might find some of the terms and descriptions of technical items wanting, even trite. A good book, just not great. Wade

There are several excellent Steve McQueen photo retrospectives, all of which I recommend. This book " McQueens Motorcycles " joins them. Great photos and information .... anyone who owns a Triumph motorcycle ( and I do ) will love the confirmation that Triumph motorcycles are the best.! Great insight into his motorcycle riding in and away from the movie set. If you are a McQueen fan and Triumph bike person you will love this book, enjoy...

Great pictures of bikes with McQueen.

Anything Mcqueen

perfect

'McQueen's Motorcycles' is very similar to 'McQueen's Machines', so those who have that book know what to expect. I have not yet read the entire book, but it is thoughtfully put together with classy design, and plenty of technical jargon in the text. A lot of information has already been covered elsewhere. But if you're a fan, you've probably started to notice that it isn't easy coming up

with new material on an icon that has been gone for over three decades. The search (at least for me) then becomes finding those extra little pieces of info that add to the big picture, whether information or photographs. Some of the photos used in this book have been used quite a bit, and will be familiar. Several I had not seen before, including a number of pictures of Steve's bikes taken more recently (it is nice to see clean detailed pictures, and get information on the bike's owners and whereabouts). One thing this book is not about, which Matt Stone makes very clear in the Introduction, is gossip. This is not about McQueen's flings or lifestyle, although some elements are inevitably mentioned. This book is purely about a man who loved motorcycles, owned many of them, and rode like there was no tomorrow. From his first bike on, every major (or minor) interaction with a motorcycle seems to be covered here. Steve's brief employment at a motorcycle repair shop, his experience on The Great Escape, and the ISDT are all covered, and much more. A lot of work, love and care went into making this book, and it shows. I think this book would be a suitable gift for any motorcycle aficionado, whether a McQueen fan or not. And it is handsome enough to leave out as a coffee table book.

Definitely not enough or no pictures at all of Steve McQueen during his favourite motorcycle occupation : the desert races. Still a valuable book for a motorcycle enthusiast and Steve McQueen fan.

The book's material is fantastic. Physical condition of book better than stated by seller. Item came faster than expected and in better condition than advertised. Great Seller and book is a must for any one interested in McQueen or classic machinery that he owned and road. Thank You.

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