



**The Frontline MGA  
Factory Edition:  
redefining the golden  
age of British sports  
cars**

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## **Introducing the all-new Frontline MGA: Retreading the footsteps of sports car heavyweights and developing a restomod that's lighter than the original**

For over three decades, Frontline Cars (Frontline) has been at the forefront of reengineering British motoring classics, redefining what's possible with heritage sports cars. Following the critical acclaim of the wide-body, V8-powered LE60 and various Factory Editions that laid before them during Frontline's 30-plus-year legacy, all have demonstrated the fusion of classic design with modern performance. Today, the Abingdon-based coachbuilder is embarking on its most ambitious restomod yet: the MGA Factory Edition by Frontline, which is not only lighter than the original but has the famed and favoured Mazda-derived Frontline running gear and creature comforts.

The MGA holds a special place in the history of British sports cars. Launched 70 years ago, in 1955, it was a revolutionary step forward for MG, introducing sleek, aerodynamic styling and a more dynamic driving experience compared to its predecessors. Instantly adored by enthusiasts worldwide, the MGA became one of the most exported British cars of its time, proving particularly successful further from home, in the USA and Australia. However, despite its beauty and charm, the original MGA always had untapped potential, limited by the technology of its era.

With its expertise in refining MGs, Frontline saw the MGA as the perfect canvas for its next evolution. The company's restomodded MGA will build upon the car's timeless design while introducing the power, precision, and drivability that modern enthusiasts demand. Available in both roadster and coupé form, the Frontline MGA will give drivers the choice between the purity of open-top motoring or the enclosed refinement of a fixed-head design.

"The MGA was the natural next step for us," explains Tim Fenna, Founder and Chief Engineer of Frontline Cars. "It's an icon of British motoring, but one that was always crying out for more performance and refinement. With our experience from the LE60 and previous Frontline Factory Editions, we knew we could take the MGA to another level – and sought to preserve the best bits, enhance the elements that were feeling a bit 1950s, and at the same time, setting ourselves the challenge of making it lighter than the original."

The decision to launch the Frontline MGA also marks a strategic expansion for the company. With a growing international audience, particularly in the USA and Australia – two regions where the original MGA was most celebrated – Frontline aims to bring its world-class craftsmanship to an even wider group of collectors and driving enthusiasts. Each MGA Factory Edition by Frontline will be available in right-hand drive and left-hand drive for enthusiasts in key markets.

### **Honouring heritage, redefining performance: The Frontline philosophy**

Frontline has always balanced its deep respect for MG's storied history with a forward-thinking approach to engineering. While the company remains dedicated to preserving the soul of these classic machines, it does so with a vision firmly set on the future of motoring. After all, the MGA was the last vehicle to be created by Cecil Kimber, MG's founder.

Since its inception in 1991, Frontline has been committed to breathing new life into MG's most iconic models. Based in Abingdon, Oxfordshire – just a stone's throw from MG's original factory – the company has remained deeply connected to the brand's rich heritage. Over the past three decades, it has built a reputation for combining traditional craftsmanship with modern engineering, creating cars that retain their classic charm while delivering exhilarating, contemporary performance.

At the heart of Frontline's philosophy is a commitment to precision craftsmanship. Every vehicle is built by hand, seamlessly blending state-of-the-art automotive technology with meticulous attention to detail. This dedication ensures that each car remains true to its roots while benefiting from modern materials, enhanced performance, and a level of refinement that its original designers could scarcely have imagined.

Frontline's deep understanding of MG's legacy extends beyond its road cars to its motorsport heritage. The company's engineers draw inspiration from MG's racing pedigree, refining every aspect of its cars to deliver a driving experience that is engaging, rewarding, and truly exhilarating. This approach ensures that while Frontline's creations may look familiar, they drive in a way that feels entirely new.

Tim Fenna, Founder and Chief Engineer, expands on this ethos: "We see ourselves as both historians and innovators. Our job is to honour the past while pushing these cars into a new era. The MGA was an obvious choice for us – not just because of its beauty, but because of what it represents. It was a car that signified a new chapter for MG in the 1950s, and now we're giving it a new chapter for the modern age."

## **Why the MGA is Frontline's next great icon**

The MGA was born out of necessity. By the early 1950s, MG's ageing T-series sports cars were struggling to keep pace with the competition, and rival British manufacturers were pushing ahead with more modern designs. To remain relevant, MG needed a bold new direction. Inspired by the sleek, streamlined Le Mans racers of the era, MG's design chief, Syd Enever, developed a radical new body shape – lower, more aerodynamic, and unlike anything the company had produced before. When the MGA was unveiled in 1955, it immediately captured the imagination of driving enthusiasts worldwide. Now, as we celebrate the MGA's 70th anniversary, Frontline is paying tribute to this legendary machine by blending timeless aesthetics with cutting-edge engineering. With precision craftsmanship and modern performance enhancements, Frontline ensures that the MGA's legacy not only endures but thrives - allowing a new generation of drivers to experience the exhilaration of a true classic, reimagined for the roads of today and tomorrow.

But the MGA wasn't all about looks – it was a true performer. It made its debut at Le Mans, proving its endurance racing credentials before entering full-scale production. With a low-slung chassis, independent front suspension, and advanced aerodynamics, it was leagues ahead of its predecessors in terms of handling and refinement. Over its seven-year production run, the MGA evolved through multiple iterations, from the 1500 to the high-performance Twin Cam and the refined MGA 1600. By the time production ended in 1962, more than 100,000 MGAs had been built, cementing its place as one of the most successful British sports cars of all time.

Beyond its commercial success, the MGA played a significant role in shaping the identity of MG as a global sports car manufacturer. It was one of the first MG models to truly break into the North American market, where its blend of affordability, style, and driving excitement won over thousands of enthusiasts. The MGA became synonymous with open-top motoring and weekend racing, driven by amateur competitors on circuits and winding backroads alike. Its influence extended far beyond its own production years, setting the foundation for future MG models and reinforcing the brand's reputation as a maker of lightweight, driver-focused sports cars.

So why has Frontline chosen the MGA as its next project? According to Tim Fenna, Founder and Chief Engineer, the answer is simple: "The MGA is one of the most beautiful British sports cars ever made. But beneath that beauty, there was always untapped potential. The laggy engine and running gear, the leaf suspension, the list goes on... Our goal was to take that stunning design and engineer it to perform at a level that finally matches its looks, bringing the MGA's full potential to life like never before."

### **Precision engineering: Performance, power and dynamics**

Every great sports car starts with an exceptional powertrain, and the Frontline MGA is no exception. Built on Frontline's extensively refined powertrain formula, honed through hundreds of Factory and Bespoke editions and celebrated by enthusiasts and media worldwide; it provides the perfect foundation for enhancing the engine and gearbox.

At its heart lies a choice of two bespoke engines: a 2.0-litre, 225-bhp Duratec engine with 241 Nm of torque, or a more potent 2.5-litre Duratec engine producing 290 bhp and 330 Nm of torque. Both are naturally aspirated, high-revving, and engineered for maximum driver engagement. Each engine features individual throttle bodies, a modern ECU, stainless exhaust and precision-tuned camshafts, resulting in a responsive, linear power delivery that feels alive in every gear. The power output represents a significant leap, with the entry-level 2.0-litre engine offering 153 bhp more than the original MGA 1500.

Paired with a five-speed Mazda gearbox, the driving experience is as engaging as it is refined. A limited-slip differential ensures optimal traction, while the lightweight body – 85 kg lighter than the original MGA 1500 – enhances agility without compromising structural rigidity. Weighing just 815 kg, the MGA boasts a power-to-weight ratio that rivals contemporary sports cars, with each variant (2.0-litre or 2.5-litre) capable of reaching 0-60 mph in less than 5 seconds.

Handling has been radically improved, with a fully adjustable five-link rear suspension from best-in-class UK-based supplier, Nitron, who Frontline has been working with since 2005. Replacing the original leaf-spring setup, allowing for increased stability and ride comfort, the new suspension is fully customisable, although Frontline will provide a Bespoke set-up from the factory, using their extensive experience not only with MGs but also with Nitron's Frontline-optimised suspension set-up. The specific MGA set up will have optimised spring rates, camber and caster for road driving, and can be individually tuned by the Frontline team. Since 2005 Frontline has supplied, built and added this specific suspension kit to over 2,000 MGs and counting.

The front suspension has also been reworked with telescopic dampers, ensuring precise control over body movement and cornering. Further enhancing the steering experience, the Frontline MGA comes equipped with electronic adjustable power steering as standard, allowing drivers to fine-tune the level of assistance to their preference.

Braking power has been significantly upgraded, with four-piston alloy front callipers paired with ventilated discs, while the rear features two-piston callipers for balanced, confidence-inspiring deceleration. Retaining the charm of the original, Frontline has kept the fly-off handbrake, a nod to its past, yet connected to modern brakes.

The MGA will be available with 15-inch wire wheels, maintaining its period-correct charm while accommodating modern high-performance Continental UltraContact tyres. An optional Dunlop-style alloy wheel setup provides a sportier alternative, reducing unsprung mass and further sharpening the car's handling characteristics.

The Frontline MGA's lightweight construction, modern suspension technology, and expertly calibrated drivetrain elevate it beyond a simple restomod – it is a fully realised modern performance machine with the heart of a classic.

The chassis features a fully adjustable five-link rear suspension and a reworked front setup, utilising telescopic dampers for precise, controlled handling. With the addition of modern braking technology – including four-piston front and two-piston alloy rear brakes – the Frontline MGA offers the kind of stopping power that its 1950s counterpart could only dream of.

“The original MGA was a joy to drive, but this is something else entirely,” says Fenna. “We’ve taken a car that was already ahead of its time in terms of design and re-engineered it from the ground up to create something truly special. Every aspect has been scrutinised and refined, from the precision machining of bespoke Frontline components to the integration of cutting-edge suspension and drivetrain technology. Our approach has always been rooted in engineering excellence, ensuring that each car delivers an exhilarating, responsive driving experience. Working with top suppliers and specialists has allowed us to push the boundaries of what is possible while maintaining the spirit and essence of the original MGA. This is the culmination of years of expertise, research, and passion,” says Fenna. “We’ve dialled in the handling to create an experience that’s as engaging as any modern sports car while maintaining that classic roadster feel.”



Vehicle model donor car	1950s MG MGA
Wheel / tyre	15-inch 72 spoke wire wheels with Continental UltraContact tyres or Dunlop-style wheels (185 front – 185 rear)
Fuel tank	45 litres
Vehicle weight	815 kg (dry)
Suspension	Five-link coilover rear, telescopic front – both with Frontline fully adjustable Nitron dampers
Axle	Limited-slip differential with uprated shafts and bearings
Brakes	Frontline four-piston alloy front brakes and two-piston alloy rear brakes
Gearbox	Five-speed Mazda gearbox
Wheelbase length	2,388 mm
Wheelbase width	1,473 mm

2.5-litre engine:

Power (bhp)	290 @ 7,100rpm
Torque	330n/m @ 4,200
0-60 mph	4.1 seconds
Max. rpm	7,500rpm
Power-to-weight	353bhp/tonne
Top speed	155

2.0-litre engine:

Power (bhp)	225 @ 7,200rpm
Torque	241n/m @ 4,500
0-60 mph	4.8 seconds
Max. rpm	7,750rpm
Power-to-weight	276bhp/tonne
Top speed	155mph

### **The classic low-lined styling enhanced by Frontline's impeccable design cues**

The Frontline MGA stays true to the original's timeless design while introducing thoughtful refinements that enhance both its looks and performance. Unlike other Frontline Factory Editions, which use an MGB as a donor and a heritage shell for the finished product, the MGA goes through a painstaking body restoration process to ensure every surface, shut line and superficial blemish is perfected to provide the canvas for the customer. This also extends to the re-chroming or removal of the bumpers. Preserving the donor vehicle, which can be a roadster or fixed-head coupé, in right- or left-hand configuration, the only real differences on the outside, from an original, are thoughtful tweaks like the brightwork featuring a Frontline logo – a first for any Factory Edition – and modern LED and crystal headlights, eliminating the traditional sidelights for a cleaner, more contemporary look. Each headlamp proudly features a custom Frontline logo, serving as a signature touch that subtly marks this as a bespoke, hand-built creation. These LED lights not only enhance visibility but also add a modern edge to the car's classic front fascia.

With the demonstrator model finished in 'Best of British' British Racing Green, a colour perfected by Frontline's team, it perfectly highlights the MGA's flowing lines and purposeful stance. Like with any Frontline build, colour is just one of the many bespoke specification choices that the customer can choose, with the journey starting from Frontline's specification lounge, on-site at the company's Oxfordshire-based HQ, or via online meeting with spray-outs and leather samples available to be sent around the world.

Each Factory Edition will be made to order, with the customer able to specify their build down to the colour and material of the carpets. Trimmed entirely in-house, by a team of best-of-the-best artisans, the team will work with the customer on the right materials for each application, ensuring that durability and luxury of the bespoke interior exceeds expectations.

The interior is just as customisable, allowing you to tailor every detail to your personal taste and driving style. Whether you prefer the timeless elegance of a traditional leather-trimmed interior, showcasing classic British craftsmanship, or the modern sophistication of an Alcantara-lined cockpit with a motorsport-inspired edge, Frontline ensures every element reflects your vision.

Beyond material choices, personalisation extends to every aspect of the cabin. Bespoke stitching options allow for subtle detailing or bold contrast accents, creating a truly unique aesthetic. Every stitch, seam and surface is crafted with precision, ensuring both beauty and durability.

Complementing the luxurious interior, the exterior can also be finished in a bespoke paint colour, perfectly matching your personal style. Whether recreating an original MGA hue or selecting a completely unique shade, Frontline's expert paintwork ensures a flawless, deep finish that enhances the car's sculpted lines. This level of customisation ensures that each Frontline MGA is not just a car but a personal statement, one that seamlessly blends heritage, craftsmanship and modern innovation.

Fenna goes on to explain: "Like all Frontline cars, we maintain that driving feel that we feel is missing from all modern cars, balanced with the modern design. I think the results are pure driving pleasure.

"The MGA has always been a stunning piece of automotive design, and our approach was never to change its identity but to refine it. Every line, every angle, and every detail has been carefully considered to ensure that this car not only looks breathtaking but also

performs at a level that honours its legendary status. This isn't just an MGA – it's the MGA, perfected.”

While there's a standard formula for each Frontline Factory Edition of the MGA, the team will take Bespoke commissions, something that it's proud to look at for each individual vehicle. While the exterior has remained largely untouched, Fenna concludes: “We have taken inspiration from various MG racing cars from the golden era of modern motorsport, and the MGA would make a great basis for a Sebring MGA reinterpretation. Imagine a louvred bonnet, Perspex screen and a set of roundels on the doors.”

### **Bespoke, handcrafted interior for true luxury in every cabin**

The interior of the MGA is designed to be as comfortable as its exterior is iconic – an environment where heritage and modern refinement coexist seamlessly. The cabin is also where connoisseurs and sports car fans will likely see the key differences between a heritage MGA.

That said, every element has been meticulously crafted to ensure an unparalleled driving experience while preserving the car's timeless character. From the carefully stitched upholstery to the thoughtfully positioned dials, each detail has been considered not only for aesthetics but also for functionality and driver engagement.

While the classic MGA was celebrated for its simplicity, Frontline has taken that foundation and elevated it, introducing luxury materials, precision craftsmanship, and cutting-edge technology that enhance usability without compromising the car's period-correct charm. The result is a cabin that feels both familiar and fresh, steeped in nostalgia yet perfectly suited for modern usability – whether on a grand tour or doing the daily commute.

The seating is a particular highlight, with the option of Frontline's renowned alloy tub seats, which are perfected to deliver an ideal blend of support and elegance. Engineered for optimal ergonomics, these seats provide a tailored driving position that accommodates a wide range of body types. Customers can fine-tune their experience with customisable padding, adjustable lumbar support, and individual fittings to achieve the perfect balance of comfort and control. For a truly bespoke touch, seats can be upholstered in a choice of premium leather or Alcantara, available in fluted or quilted stitching, allowing each owner to personalise their cabin to their taste.

Inside, modern creature comforts have been seamlessly integrated without disrupting the car's classic aesthetic. A prime example is the inclusion of Frontline-branded Smiths dials, similar to those found in the LE60 Factory Edition. These gauges are accompanied an upgraded audio system featuring a modern stereo setup, two speakers, two tweeters, an amplifier, and a Bluetooth module – all controlled by a discreetly hidden head unit to maintain the MGA's vintage charm. Frontline's one-touch electric windows are available on the coupé and both versions (coupé and roadster) have the option of specifying heated seats.

Designed for both long-distance touring and everyday usability, Frontline's meticulous attention to detail extends beyond aesthetics and performance. Thoughtful additions such as door pockets and optional wireless charging points further enhance practicality. Recognising the needs of its diverse clientele, Frontline also offers air-conditioning as a case-by-case option, catering particularly to USA-based customers and those opting for a coupé variant.

Ultimately, the interior of Frontline's MGA is a masterclass in balancing legacy, durability, and modern convenience – ensuring that this reimagined classic is as rewarding to drive as it is to admire.

Focused on its intended use case, Frontline has designed the rear boot with grand touring and daily usage. The demonstrator vehicle has built-in storage for picnic items yet as standard the boot maximises space and is thoughtfully designed to accommodate the needs of both grand touring and daily driving. With a clean, uncluttered layout, it provides ample room for luggage, weekend essentials, or anything needed for the journey ahead. Practical yet refined, the boot ensures that every drive – whether a countryside escape or an urban adventure – is met with effortless convenience.

Fenna continues and says: “For us, the interior of the MGA was about creating an environment that feels as special as the car itself. Every material, every texture, and every detail has been carefully considered to ensure it remains true to the spirit of the original, while delivering the refinement and usability expected of a car in this class. This is a cockpit that enhances the experience of driving, rather than distracting from it.”

## **Media information**

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## **About Frontline Cars:**

Founded in 1991 initially under the name of Frontline Developments, which was rebranded as Frontline Cars (Frontline) in 2023, Frontline was established with a single mission: to elevate the foundations and driving experience of classic MG cars. Now past its 30<sup>th</sup> year, and wholly focused on bespoke, hand-made car builds, Frontline has firmly established itself as a marque specialist, uncompromising in its dedication to preserving the past while utilising the best in modern-day technology. With a passion for precision and renowned for its meticulous attention to detail, each Frontline car celebrates originality and heritage in abundance, while never losing sight of the purity of automotive interaction these cars were meant to evoke in the first place.

## ***A nod to the importance of the MGA:***

Originally launched in 1955, the MGA marked a dramatic departure for MG, with smooth, flowing bodywork, a lower stance, and a purer driving experience. It was the last model developed under company founder Cecil Kimber and quickly became one of Britain's most successful sports car exports. Of the more than 100,000 MGAs built between 1955 and 1962, over 80 per cent were sold abroad – particularly in the USA and Australia, where the car gained a devoted following. However, despite its beauty and charm, the original MGA always had untapped potential, limited by the technology of its era.