

History of Cars in the United States



KANSAS FIRST

Terry Stafford made the first car in Kansas. He named it "Old Bill". It ran on gas. He made other cars for a company in Kansas. That company closed after the Model T was made. It was cheaper than the Kansas company's cars.



MILBURN ELECTRIC

This car was bought by the Henley family of Lawrence in 1921. Mrs. Henley used the car because it was easier to start. Most cars had a crank on the front. She gave the car to the museum.

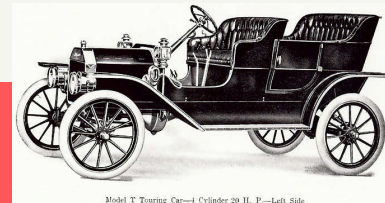


THE FIRST

Two men who fixed bikes on the east coast invented the first gas car in 1893. Their car won a race in 1895. Their first sale of the cars was in 1896.

1

2



HENRY FORD

The Ford Motor Company came out with the Model T in 1908. Mr. Ford made a way to make the cars easier and faster. Since this car cost less people liked them more.

3

4



Lamborghini



Jaguar



Bugatti

A lot of people like these cars but they cost a lot of money!

Dream
BIG

Rolls Royce



Ferrari



Aston Martin Retro



Cars Change Lives

Day Trips and Vacations

First, people who owned cars started to use them for day trips. Since they could go faster they could go to other towns. Some went on a picnic or camped in the countryside. Some took a vacation. The roads were very bad. If it rained there was lots of mud. Drivers had to take extra tires in case of flats.



Food On the Go

A new kind of place to eat began in Wichita, Kansas since people were starting to drive more. It was called White Castle. The diner served square burgers with onions and a pickle on top of a bun. Customers would put on their own ketchup and mustard. McDonalds serves this kind of fast food now. In 1921 it was a new kind of meal that you could get faster.



Modern White Castle



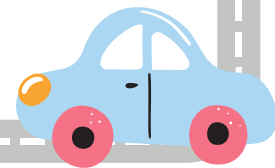
Better Roads

The first paved road in the U.S. was in 1870 in New Jersey. This happened before cars were invented. They used asphalt. One of the first two-lane roads was Route 66. This road only went through Kansas for about 12 miles. In 1909 the first mile of concrete road was made. It lasted longer than other road coverings. Kansas did not start working on good state highways until 1929.



Places to Stay

When people first started traveling there were not places to stay overnight. People would find a place off of the road to tent camp. Later, there were auto courts to stop at. These were small buildings to stay at overnight. Finally, motels were made. The cars could park right in front of their room for the night.





Car Activities

Look at the license plates here. Use the license plate picture and design your own. You can use crayons, colored pencils or markers. Bring the picture to the Watkins Museum to get your prize. Your picture will be in the display at the museum in August.



Use the color paper in your packet. Use one piece for the backdrop. Cut out the other pieces in shapes. Make a car using shapes. Try to use as many as you can! Bring the picture to the museum to get your prize. Your picture will be on display at the museum in August. You may do both activities.



Cars Quiz for Online Users

Send the words Watkins-Cars and your answers to cpreut@watkinsmuseum.org

1. Who made the first car in Kansas?
 - a. Henry Ford
 - b. Terry Stafford
 - c. Dwight Eisenhower
 - d. James Lane
2. What kind of car did Mrs. Henley of Lawrence drive?
 - a. Tesla
 - b. Ford
 - c. Milburn Electric
 - d. Corvette
3. Where did the new fast food restaurant begin in Kansas?
 - a. Lawrence
 - b. Topeka
 - c. Wichita
 - d. Kansas City
4. What was one of the first two lane highways for cars?
 - a. Route 66
 - b. Interstate 70
 - c. Highway 4
 - d. Highway 10
5. Where did people stay to begin with when they started driving many miles?
 - a. motor court
 - b. motel
 - c. tent camp
 - d. hotel

Students missing only one answer or less will receive a prize and be entered into the raffle.