The Mini Cooper celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2009 and continues to offer a sense of fun and freedom by those who drive it, even in the current year. Calculations in the following table are based on the retail price of the Mini Cooper convertible.

**The Mini Cooper**



The Mini Cooper is a small two-door, four-passenger car produced by BMW as a modern version of the original Mini, now offered in both coupe and convertible versions. In the late 1950s, Alec Issigonis designed a small car that would accommodate four adults and their luggage. On August 26, 1959, the Mini was born, produced by the British Motor Corp. Production in 1959 was only around 20,000 cars but by 1962 BMC turned out over 200,000 cars per year and went on doing so for the next 15 years. The first Mini Cooper debuted in 1961 and by 1990 Mini became part of the Rover Group. BMW purchased the Rover Group in 1994 and the first BMW-produced Mini Cooper went on sale in the spring of 2002.