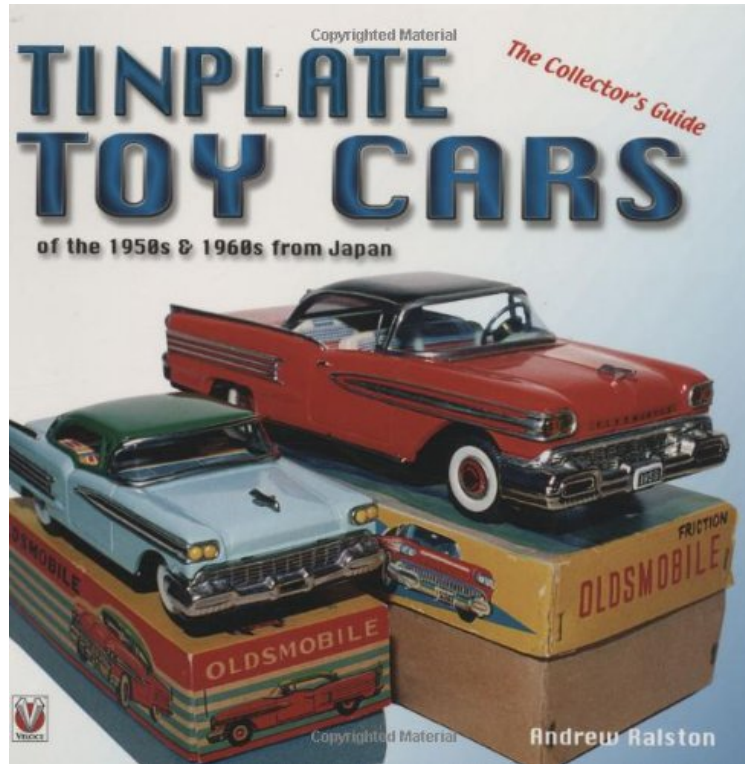


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Tinplate Toy Cars: of the 1950s 1960s from Japan

Andrew Ralston

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Andrew Ralston : Tinplate Toy Cars: of the 1950s 1960s from Japan before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Tinplate Toy Cars: of the 1950s 1960s from Japan:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Buy ItBy DOCIf you are looking for great buys in pressed tin cars buy it. I cannot believe all the photographs are in color. I also can't believe how much effort and work went into this cars. Any body who has scale model cars this is a must for your library.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Don Owennice book every thin I expected1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. If You Like Your Toys Rare, This Book Is For YouBy Toys for BoysIf you are a collector of antique toy cars, real cars, or just interested in cars big or little, then this book is for you. I have collected tin toy cars for many years and still found cars and extremely rare original boxes that I have never seen before. The book is a true representation of the cars and the original boxes they came in. Many of these boxes are so rare that they are probably worth more than the car itself. There are some cars in the book that many collectors may never see much less have the opportunity to own. And to me that gives all collectors something to aspire to.I've seen and own many different Japanese tin toy books, but in general the rare original boxes do not accompany the toys pictured. That's what I like about this book, all original unmolested tin toy cars in their original boxes, from one man's collection. In this case, a picture is worth a thousand words.

Tin toys had been made in Japan before the second World War but they reached new heights of realism in the 1950s.

The post-war American occupation of Japan gave Japanese toymakers ready access to the lucrative American toy market and as a result most of the tin toy cars made in this period were based on American vehicles like Cadillacs, Chevrolets, Buicks, Oldsmobiles and Packards. Like the real things, these tin toys were big. A small one would be around eight inches long, with some of the largest stretching to eighteen inches. As such, tinplate was the ideal medium to capture the look of American styling of the 1950s, a period when size mattered and car manufacturers tried to outdo each other with the extravagance of their designs, the size of their tailfins and the amount of chrome. During this era of consumerism, Japanese toy production was at its peak, with exotically-named manufacturers like Marusan, Bandai, Yonezawa and Alps turning out vast quantities of tin toys. It proved to be a short-lived phase in the history of toy production. By the early 1960s, tin toys were falling out of fashion for various reasons: their sharp edges gave rise to safety concerns; die-cast models were becoming increasingly realistic and sophisticated, with many action features that appealed to children; the development of plastics in the toy industry made tin toys look increasingly old-fashioned. Half a century later, there are very few surviving examples of these magnificent play things. Bruce Sterling of New York has devoted years to seeking out the very best examples of Japanese tinplate cars and has built up what is probably the world's finest collection of these toys, every one of them in pristine condition, complete with their original boxes which are works of art in themselves. This book showcases 150 examples of the very rarest tin toy cars, many of them never having been pictured in books or magazines until now. Almost every major American motor manufacturer is represented here, together with a selection of commercial vehicles and a significant number of European cars too. All are illustrated in full color and described in detail, and fascinating insights are provided into both the real vehicles and the companies who modelled them, together with a guide to rarity and current values. This is a book that will be treasured, not only by specialist collectors, but by all who are passionate about vintage toys and classic vehicles.

Octane, June 2008 UK magazine Circulation: unknown A companion volume to the book on plastic toy cars reviewed last month, this paperback draws on a world-class US collection, and includes some toys that are so rare they've never been pictured in print before. It shows 150 mint examples, grouped by subject - police cars, European cars etc.