

# 1987 chevrolet sprint turbo

## Ebook Title: 1987 Chevrolet Sprint Turbo

### Comprehensive Description:

The 1987 Chevrolet Sprint Turbo represents a fascinating intersection of automotive history, performance engineering, and the unique cultural landscape of the 1980s. This ebook delves into the story of this often-overlooked but highly significant vehicle, exploring its design, engineering, performance capabilities, impact on the market, and lasting legacy. It goes beyond a simple technical specification overview, examining its place within the broader context of the era's automotive trends, its appeal to a specific demographic, and its contributions to the evolution of turbocharged engines in passenger cars. The book will appeal to automotive enthusiasts, history buffs, and anyone interested in a deep dive into a specific model's story, revealing the intricate details and hidden gems of the 1987 Chevrolet Sprint Turbo. Its relevance lies in highlighting a period in automotive history where affordability met performance in a compelling package, providing valuable insights into the engineering compromises and innovative solutions of the time.

Ebook Name: Turbocharged Legacy: The Untold Story of the 1987 Chevrolet Sprint Turbo

### Ebook Outline:

Introduction: A brief overview of the 1987 automotive landscape and the introduction of the Chevrolet Sprint Turbo.

Chapter 1: Genesis and Design: Exploring the origins of the Sprint, its design philosophy, and its unique styling cues.

Chapter 2: Under the Hood: The Turbocharged Powerplant: A detailed look at the engine's specifications, performance characteristics, and technological advancements.

Chapter 3: Driving Experience and Handling: Subjective and objective assessments of the car's on-road performance, handling, and driving dynamics.

Chapter 4: Market Impact and Reception: Analyzing the car's sales figures, critical reception, and its overall impact on the automotive market.

Chapter 5: Modifications and Tuning: Exploring common modifications and tuning options available for the 1987 Sprint Turbo.

Chapter 6: The Sprint Turbo's Legacy: Examining the car's lasting impact on automotive culture and its position in the history of turbocharged vehicles.

Conclusion: Summarizing key takeaways and reflecting on the enduring appeal of the 1987 Chevrolet Sprint Turbo.

## **Article: Turbocharged Legacy: The Untold Story of the 1987 Chevrolet Sprint Turbo**

Introduction: A Hot Hatch in the Cold War Era

The 1980s witnessed a surge in performance-oriented vehicles, and amidst the muscle car revival and the rise of Japanese sports cars, a relatively unassuming contender emerged: the 1987 Chevrolet Sprint Turbo. This small, front-wheel-drive hatchback, built on the Mitsubishi Colt platform, packed a surprising punch, offering turbocharged performance at a relatively affordable price point. This article will delve deep into every aspect of this intriguing vehicle, examining its design, performance, impact, and lasting legacy.

Chapter 1: Genesis and Design: A Collaborative Effort

The 1987 Chevrolet Sprint Turbo wasn't solely a General Motors creation. It was the product of a joint venture, highlighting the evolving global automotive landscape. Built by Mitsubishi and badged as a Chevrolet, the Sprint benefited from Mitsubishi's expertise in compact car engineering. Its design, while not groundbreaking, was functional and sporty. The hatchback body style, while common for the era,

provided practicality alongside its spirited performance. The design prioritized aerodynamics to optimize the turbocharged engine's efficiency, a key consideration for enhancing its performance. While not visually striking compared to some contemporaries, the Sprint Turbo possessed a certain understated elegance reflecting the era's style. Its clean lines and relatively compact dimensions offered both nimble handling and everyday usability.

## Chapter 2: Under the Hood: The Turbocharged Powerplant – A Small Engine, Big Performance

The heart of the 1987 Chevrolet Sprint Turbo was its 1.6-liter, turbocharged, intercooled four-cylinder engine. This relatively small engine produced impressive power for its size, demonstrating the potential of turbocharging technology. While the exact horsepower figures varied slightly depending on the source, the engine typically delivered around 100 hp and substantial torque. This power, combined with the Sprint's lightweight design, resulted in surprisingly brisk acceleration. The intercooling system was a crucial element, reducing the intake air temperature and preventing knock, thus maximizing the engine's performance and reliability. The technological advancements packed into this relatively compact engine were a significant factor in the car's performance and its appeal to enthusiasts.

## Chapter 3: Driving Experience and Handling – A Nimble Performer

The Sprint Turbo wasn't just about straight-line speed; its handling was also a highlight. The front-wheel-drive layout, coupled with its relatively low center of gravity, contributed to its agile performance. The car's lightweight chassis allowed for quick responses to steering inputs, making it a fun and engaging car to drive on twisty roads. While the suspension wasn't overly sophisticated, it provided a balance between comfort and responsiveness. This combination of power and handling created a driving experience that was both enjoyable and unexpectedly sporty for a car in its class. Reviews from the era often emphasized the car's fun-to-drive factor, highlighting its surprisingly spirited performance despite its compact size.

## Chapter 4: Market Impact and Reception – A Niche Player with a Cult Following

The 1987 Chevrolet Sprint Turbo didn't achieve mass-market success. Its sales figures were modest,

largely because it occupied a niche market. However, it earned a dedicated following among performance enthusiasts who appreciated its blend of affordability and turbocharged performance. Reviews were generally positive, praising its performance and handling but sometimes noting its relatively basic interior and somewhat spartan features. The car's appeal was more to those seeking a relatively affordable performance car than to those looking for luxury or extensive features. Despite its modest sales, the Sprint Turbo left its mark on the automotive landscape by showcasing the potential of affordable turbocharged vehicles.

## Chapter 5: Modifications and Tuning – Unleashing the Potential

One of the reasons for the Sprint Turbo's lasting appeal is its modifiability. Enthusiasts have long explored ways to enhance its performance through various modifications. These modifications range from simple bolt-on upgrades, like upgraded exhaust systems and performance air filters, to more complex engine modifications, including upgraded turbos, intercoolers, and engine management systems. The relatively simple engine design makes it relatively accessible for modification, fueling a vibrant community of enthusiasts dedicated to pushing the limits of the Sprint Turbo's performance. This adaptability contributes to the car's enduring relevance in the modern era.

## Chapter 6: The Sprint Turbo's Legacy – A Sleeper Hit

The 1987 Chevrolet Sprint Turbo might not be a household name, but it holds a unique place in automotive history. It represents a period where turbocharging was becoming increasingly accessible in affordable cars, foreshadowing the future of performance vehicles. Its relatively low production numbers and its cult following have cemented its status as a sought-after classic among automotive enthusiasts. The Sprint Turbo's legacy is not defined by its sales figures but by its influence on the broader automotive culture and its role in demonstrating the potential of affordable turbocharged performance. Today, it serves as a reminder of a time when performance and practicality could coexist in an unexpectedly engaging package.

## Conclusion: An Unsung Hero of the 80s

The 1987 Chevrolet Sprint Turbo may not have achieved mainstream success, but its story is one of unexpected performance and enduring appeal. It stands as a testament to the ingenuity of engineering and the enduring allure of affordable performance. Its legacy continues to resonate with enthusiasts who appreciate its unique blend of practicality, performance, and modifiability. It is a sleeper hit, an unsung hero of the 1980s automotive landscape, and a car that deserves recognition for its contributions to the world of affordable turbocharged performance.

#### FAQs:

1. What engine did the 1987 Chevrolet Sprint Turbo have? A 1.6-liter, turbocharged, intercooled four-cylinder engine.
2. How much horsepower did it produce? Approximately 100 hp, varying slightly depending on the source.
3. Was it reliable? Reliability was generally considered average for the time, with some common issues reported.
4. How does it compare to other cars of the era? It offered comparable performance to some competitors at a lower price point.
5. Is it a good car to modify? Yes, it's relatively easy to modify and tune, fostering a strong enthusiast community.
6. Are parts readily available? Parts availability can be a challenge, but dedicated suppliers and enthusiast communities exist.
7. What is the car's value today? Values vary depending on condition, but they are generally considered affordable collector cars.

8. What were the common problems with the 1987 Sprint Turbo? Some reported issues include turbocharger problems, fuel system issues, and electrical problems.
9. What makes the 1987 Chevrolet Sprint Turbo unique? Its combination of affordable price, turbocharged performance, and surprising handling made it stand out.

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