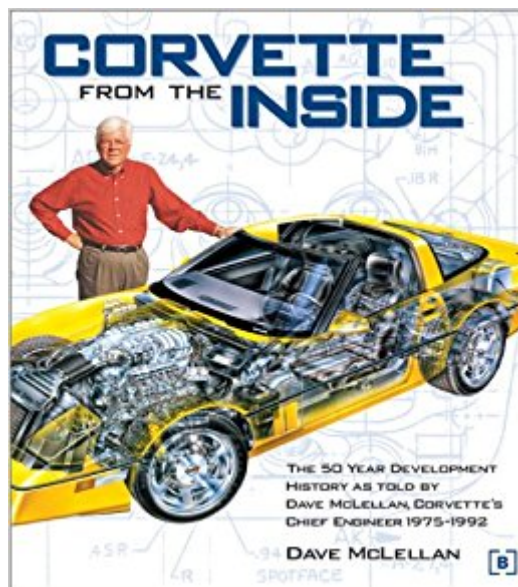




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# Corvette From The Inside: The Development History As Told By Dave McLellan, Corvette's Chief Engineer 1975-1992



## Synopsis

Celebrations begin this year to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Chevrolet Corvette. There's no one more qualified than Dave McLellan to reflect upon the remarkable endurance of this legendary American icon. Dave McLellan belongs to a select group by having been the second of only three Corvette Chief Engineers to date. He is also the very first Corvette Chief Engineer to sit down and write his view of the incredible story of America's foremost sports car. In *Corvette from the Inside* Dave McLellan talks about his years at the center of Corvette Engineering, his take on Corvette history and many of the details that have made the Corvette a perennial favorite with millions of Americans. As McLellan describes the incredible highs and lows in the life of the Corvette, he also paints the bigger picture of the American auto industry's ability to rebuild itself whenever its survival is threatened. McLellan uses every tool at his disposal to tell his story, including original sketches and charts drawn by him exclusively for this book, scores of archival photos from GM, photos from his personal collection, and of course his own first-hand memories of 32 years at General Motors. Whether you're interested in the Corvette from an engineering perspective or simply a fan of the celebrated sports car, you'll want to own a copy of Dave McLellan's *Corvette from the Inside*.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"One could search high and low and not find a more credible source for telling the story of the Corvette's evolution from Blue Flame Six to Z06 than Dave McLellan, the car's chief engineer from

1975 to 1992." --Motor Trend, April 2003

I consider this book the best one about Corvette history on the C4 and C5 and more importantly about Corvette's future. It describes the genesis of the C4 and C5 from a different perspective as to compliment books like [1] James Scheffter "All Corvettes Are Red" and [2] Mike Mueller "Chevy Small block V-8 50 years of high performance". I loved page 252 excerpt "All Corvettes are red... Really?" I re-read [1] after this and some things got a different meaning. I guess hearing the story from two different view points helps one understand what was really going on in GM during the C4 and C5 development years. Now I appreciate the C5 as a technological evolution from C4, envisioned and designed by Mr McLellan being Mr Hill the one executing the libretto - and he was excellent in doing it. GM needed these two geniuses to come up with the C5, no doubt about it. The last chapters are pure gold. It seems GM agreed recently with Mr McLellan on making Corvette a real performance machine instead of your Sunday-go-to-meeting car.

If you are considering buying a used Corvette to get into the car hobby, this book is a must read. To be honest, a C-5, the 1997-2004 model is your best bet. However, if you are of modest means, then the C-4 is your only viable option. Why? Because the earlier C-1 and C-2 cars are either in a scrapyard, a museum, or some collectors garage. In other words, unavailable. Just about any C-3 from 1968 to 1982 ( there are no 1983 Corvettes ) you find has been through too many owners and each has either modified it, neglected it, or made a marginal car when new, even worse. On the other hand, the C-4 models from 1984 to 1996 are plentiful; you can pick and choose from coupe or convertible and there are many options ( the final years are the best ). Decent examples can be found for between \$5K-\$10K. I believe the C-4, which is the primary subject of this book, while not without fault, was the first Corvette which could be regarded as a modern car and used regularly. Even if you have no particular interest in buying a Corvette, but a general interest in automobiles, you should still buy this book. It is, in my opinion, one of the finest, most informative books ever written regarding automobiles. Most Corvette books are of the vanity coffee table variety; not this one. This one has lots of meaty bits to chew on. You won't be disappointed.

An absolute must read for any Corvette fan, owner, or one hoping to be an owner someday. Dave McLellan truly was on the inside and his book covers mainly the development of the C4 (84 to 96) when the car was turned from a fun, fast and good looking toy into a world class sports car offering more performance with sound engineering per dollar than any car in the world. Chapters get into the

various engines used in Corvette's history, development of the suspension, the body, the electronics, how decisions were made in-house, the in-fighting present in any large company and the people who were responsible for the ultimate success of the car. Some reviewers here have nit-picked the few errors that are inevitable. This book is so good, so full of information on the development of the car, that any real Corvette guy will not care in the least. There are a lot of books on the Corvette, most of them picture books with the same info repeated from book to book. No so here. A book for the reader who want to know the car, not just look a pictures. A great book, a true must read.

As a Vette enthusiest and C4 owner I find both the car's development history interesting. I also like the explanations of some of the technology involved in improving the car. The only negative aspect of this work is in the flashing back to repeat some information. in a diffeent light. If you are interested in the history of "America's sports car" I think book this is a worthy addition to your library.

I purchased this as a gift for my husband, as he is very much a "car guy" and a corvette guy! He loved it and actually sat down to read it from cover to cover (and he is NOT a reader!). It makes a nice coffee table book!

Very infomative and filled with history of the beloved Corvette. A great read and must have for the enthusiast.

Fascinating -- to me -- story of the making of one of my favorite cars. It made me see my Corvettes as more than fairly expensive toys to be pampered and coddled: They are magnificent machines meant to be used ... HARD.

nice book

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