

XJS

Jaguar enthusiasts were clamoring for an E-Type replacement, but the V-12-powered XJS was more grand-touring machine than the sports car they were hoping for. Introduced under the dark cloud of British Leyland – and with the attendant quality control problems – the XJS nevertheless received nearly constant development to improve quality, economy and performance. The 1976-1980 cars are known as “pre-H.E.” cars and are easily identified by their all-black bumpers. Introduced in 1982 (there were no 1981 model year cars) the H.E. model was fitted with the new High Efficiency cylinder heads (hence the “H.E.” moniker), chrome-topped bumpers and a host of other improvements. A convertible version was available to USA buyers in 1986 but it was a stop-gap car built by USA limousine maker Hess & Eisenhardt (be careful here as virtually no parts unique to the H&E cars are available). A Jaguar-built convertible was introduced in May of 1988 and was available for the rest of XJS production. Jaguar introduced the “facelift” XJS in 1992. It featured larger rear quarter windows that eliminated one of the most criticized styling elements of the original and “wrap-around” tail lights that were, well, different. In 1994 body-color front and rear bumpers/fascias were introduced. On the engine front, the 4.0 liter AJ6 six-cylinder was available in 1992; it was replaced by the improved AJ-16 engine in 1995. The 5.3 V-12 soldiered on until 1994 when it was replaced by a 6.0-liter version.

Today the XJS represents one of the all-time automotive bargains. They are relatively plentiful, mechanically honest and reasonably priced. Mechanical parts are readily available but many body and trim pieces are not. We hope Jaguar will re-introduce some key components listed herein.

XJS, 1976-1995

Engine	5.3 V-12	8S.1001
	* 5.3 H.E. V-12	8S.18001
	6.0 V-12	8D.
	4.0 AJ6 Six Cylinder	100001
	4.0 AJ-16 Six Cylinder	B.100136
Chassis	1976, LHD	2W.50001
	1977, LHD	2W.52727
	1978, LHD	2W.54673BW
	1978.5, LHD	100001
	1979, LHD	100234
	1980, LHD	104236
	1981, LHD	N/A
	XJS H.E., 1982	105338
	XJS H.E., 1983	107988
	XJS H.E., 1984	112232
	XJS H.E., 1985	117339
	XJS H.E., 1986	125020
	XJS H.E., 1987	134286
	XJS H.E., 1988	139052
	XJS 1989	148782
	* XJS 1989.5	156989
	XJS 1990	165791
	XJS 1991	N/A
	XJS 1992	179737
	XJS 1992.5	184575
	XJS 1993	185820
	XJS 1993.4 (start of 6.0 V-12)	188105
XJS 1994	190528	
XJS 1994.75 (start of AJ-16 in 4.0 cars)	194775	
XJS 1995.25	198335	
VIN Jump	199999 to 221001	
XJS 1995.5	221855	
XJS 1996	222632	

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