

Jay Leno's Real Life Barn Find

Editor: To provide background to the story below, included is this article from Classic Marque Sept. 2022 when Jay Leno showcased his E-Type barn find.

Jay Leno is an automotive steward like no other. Jay provides a regular restoration blog and his latest update is about a barn find in his own neighbourhood.

In the update Leno recounts the story of a local policeman who informed him that a person living nearby had passed away and that they might have a car in their garage worthy of Jay's attention.

That car ended up being the 1963 Jaguar XKE. Not only was it well preserved but it also has just 17,187 miles (27,659 km) on the odometer. That's not delivery mileage but to look at the interior you'd never know it. In fact, the only real giveaway that it's not nearly new is the coating of dust on the body.

Under the hood, you can see the factory chalk marks that still haven't been worn off. In the boot is the original factory tool kit along with the factory jack and even the Dunlop disc brake bleeder hose that came with every brand-new Jaguar XKE. Even the convertible soft top is in excellent condition. Leno thinks that it'll end up being a preservation car.



Jay Leno with his 'barn find' 1963 XKE roadster with just 17,187 miles (27,659 km).

For him, that means that he won't be restomodding it or restoring it to perfect condition. He'll clean it up and keep it as a testament to what an original XKE should look like to future generations.

Over the course of the first month of work on the car the team has removed the front clip to test whether or not the paint can be saved and to do more work on the engine.

"It's fun to drive a car as it was from the factory," Leno says and that's the plan for this car. It'll get slightly wider tires, updated brakes, and updated brake hoses in the interest of safety. Beyond that, it should end up as one of the most original and well-preserved XKEs in existence. To watch the video goto: [Jay Leno XKE](#). ■

Information for this story from Car Scoops.

Jay Leno's Restored XKE Barn Find

This classic sports car had been sitting untouched for 50 years, but Leno was able to bring it back to life. And now, he has finally featured it on his YouTube show *Jay Leno's Garage*.

There are many superb barn find stories, and this one is no different. Leno found this British gem hidden under piles of old TVs, water heaters, and other debris. It had several small dents in the body and was left standing since it was parked in the late 1960s. Who on earth simply forgets about their E-Type?

He decided to keep the car as original as possible, only making minor modifications. He replaced the brake, clutch, cylinders, brake lines, battery, and wheels. He also had the rear axle fixed and upgraded. Even the original paint was retained.

Driving the Jaguar around town, Leno waxes lyrical about the fun he is having behind the thin, wooden steering wheel. He doubts the 4.2 litre inline-six still produces 260 horsepower and whether



E-Type owners, at the very least, should put 34 minutes aside and watch this video.

it can reach the claimed top speed of 150 mph. He considers himself lucky that his barn find didn't need much work, unlike the one poor example that needed 2,500 hours of restoration work.

The Jaguar E-Type is a significant car in automotive history. It was one of the

first mass-produced sports cars, and it helped popularize the genre. The car is still admired by car enthusiasts today, and Leno's restoration is a testament to its lasting appeal. ■

Information for this story from Carbuzz.