

# Eagle Lightweight Jaguar E-Type

If you missed out on Jaguar's limited-edition run of six E-type Lightweight continuation cars at \$1.6 million a pop, you might be interested in this car made by U.K. Company "Eagle".

Eagle are a small company situated in Sussex England and established in 1984. Eagle has achieved its pre-eminence through total dedication to a one-make-one model car, the E-Type.

Eagle are best known for their famous 'zero miles' Eagle E-Type restorations and Special Editions - the Speedster, Low Drag GT, Spyder GT and now the new Lightweight GT.

**Eagle has announced it will start taking orders for its new Eagle Lightweight GT**, a car Eagle says "... is the ultimate road-going evolution of the world's rarest and most beautiful race cars, Jaguar's Lightweight E-type ... thoughtfully and comprehensively re-engineered."

The 8,000-hour process to build an Eagle Lightweight GT starts with stripping down an original Series 1 Jaguar E-type and replacing its original steel bodywork with aluminium in a more durable grade than the original Lightweight E-types. This alone takes nearly 2,500 hours, Eagle says. Other changes are made for improved drivability, including deeper side sills which increase torsional rigidity, larger wheel wells to house wider 16-inch wheels, and a 4.7-liter straight-six



engine that Eagle touts is an "evolution" of the original "XK" mill and produces 380 horsepower and 375 lb-ft of torque. A new alloy block, big valves, and special crankshaft, pistons, and connecting rods make the power gain possible.

Other details include making various castings out of lighter magnesium, including the gearbox and differential cases, the rear-hub carriers, and the oil sump. The gearbox is a five-speed full-synchro unit, and the suspension includes bespoke spring rates, Ohlins adjustable dampers, and various lightweight parts. The brakes use modern four-piston callipers.

Eagle says that unlike the original Jaguar Lightweight E-types, the Eagle Lightweight GT is designed first and

foremost as a car to use on the road, making it far more liveable than the race-spec, Jaguar-built cars, while still likely being a quicker car.

To that end, the interior is trimmed luxuriously in leather, and Eagle says its customizing of the rear bulkhead and floor pans provides more head room and leg room for taller drivers.

Eagle doesn't mention a cost, but it will be less than the A\$7.37 million an original E-type Lightweight sold for in 2017. However, the 8,000-hours of specialist restoration work won't come cheaply. Add to that, the cost of a Series 1 E-type which could well run into the five-figure range before you even start!!! ■



*Jaguar Eagle Lightweight GT is a Retro Jaguar racer for the road*