

Adson test

MG YA £9950



1948 MG YA. Two-tone green with magnolia interior. Restored seven years ago, very good condition, 81,468 miles. £9950. Oselli, Oxon. (01993 849610, www.oselli.com)

MG DIDN'T BUILD only sports cars – its saloons have a charm all of their own. The Y-type was designed in the Thirties, but production was delayed until 1947. It had independent front suspension

– an advanced feature then – and rack-and-pinion steering. The pressed steel body was a departure from MG's old timber-framed construction, but a traditional interior kept the links with the past.

Step into this pretty YA and savour its pristine interior: the polished wood dashboard with its octagonal dials, the beige seats piped in chocolate-brown, and a plush, dark brown carpet. Then look out and anticipate the view along the bonnet between those headlamps, framed by the timber-edged windscreen. Feel the chromed window winders and door handles, put your hands on that big wire-spoked steering wheel, and get ready to drive Forties-style.

This same 1250cc engine was fitted in contemporary Midgets and pulls the car along with rowdy enthusiasm. The gearbox, with synchromesh on second, third and top, is a period piece of engineering which is easy to get used to, but the brakes need early and firm pressure – don't underestimate how much bringing cars to a halt has evolved since 1948.

Overall, a pleasing blend of MG sport with saloon grace. *Eric Kwiatkowski*

CHECKLIST

Originality

Extensively restored inside and out, with photographic record.

Maintenance and history

Comes with original log book plus bills for body-off restoration – £6000 for parts alone, including new clutch, carpets and exhaust.

Bodywork and structure

Panel fit good, doors shut well. Body and chassis look solid underneath and are painted with no underseal applied.

Exterior fittings

Generally very good apart from a little headlamp rim corrosion.

Engine

Starts promptly with no smoke, leaks or knocking. Oil pressure constant at 50psi.

Transmission

Changes are clean and crisp.

Interior

Beautifully presented with the dashboard polished to a muted sheen rather than a brash gloss. Seats and headlining renewed.

VERDICT

All the work has been done – it's ready to enjoy at an attractive price.



>>> SPEC

1250cc, in-line four-cylinder, 46bhp @ 4800rpm. Top speed: 70mph. 0-60mph: 29.9sec. Fuel economy: 30mpg. Length: 4089mm. Width: 1770mm.

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QUICK QUOTE: 1948 MG YA

Cover: comprehensive **Conditions:** must be garaged

Maximum mileage: 5000 per year **Typical premium:** £83

Telephone: 01277 206911

