

Dodge 1922 Roadster

John and Horace Dodge were both engineers. When Henry Ford founded the Ford Motor Company in 1903, the Dodge brothers' machine shop supplied him with engines, chassis, and other critical parts.

As part of the deal, Henry gave them a 10% stake in Ford, valued at just \$10,000 at the time. Years later, they sold that share for \$27 million—and used the capital to launch their own company: the Dodge Brothers Motor Company.

When they started building their own cars, one of them famously declared: "One day, people who own a Ford... will want a real automobile."

By 1922, when this light and nimble roadster was built, both Dodge brothers had already passed away. The company began losing ground to rising competitors.

In 1925, Dodge Brothers was sold to a New York banking firm. But in 1928, Walter P. Chrysler bought it outright—reviving the brand and leading it to new success as simply Dodge.

This car comes from Lombard, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago. Its last U.S. owner, John Kaforski, was a farmer who loved taking it out for joyrides across his fields.

He even wanted to send a crate of his farm's produce with the car! We politely declined—but he included something just as special:

the original manuals, workshop booklets, and the hand crank used to start the engine.

So here's your vintage driving tip: Keep your thumb outside the grip, grab the crank, and start it the old-fashioned way!