





Bugatti Design for Peugeot

A mutually beneficial partnership between the Bugatti and Peugeot marques resulted in this baby voiturette—quick, dependable, and the highest-selling Bugatti vehicle of all time.

In 1911, Ettore Bugatti endeavored to create lightweight and robust cars, which led to the design of the BP1 or Bébé. At that time, Bugatti production was slow to the point that production was outsourced. Local carrosseries and firms frequently partnered with the Molsheim, France based company.

The BP1 license was originally offered to German company Wanderer, but they turned it down and it went instead to Peugeot, an established name in automobile manufacturing. Giving the design license to Peugeot benefitted both Bugatti and the French marque; a source of much needed capital was generated for Bugatti's operation and Peugeot created a unit that secured their place at the forefront of French light car design.

Bugatti's Bébé utilized reversed



quarter-elliptical rear springs, which soon became a Bugatti trademark. Other advanced features included were rack and pinion steering and a driveshaft instead of the chain drive frequently used in other voiturettes, or small cars, of the time. The Bébé was considered modern looking for 1912 and constituted 80 percent of Peugeot production in its first year. This model was produced from 1913 to 1916 and totaled approximately 3,000 units, including exports to other countries.



PROFILE

Coachbuilder Factory

Chassis number 10252

Acceleration 0

Top Speed unavailable

BODY | CHASSIS

Front brakes type	No Front Brakes
Rear brakes type	(2) Rear-Wheel Mechanically-Operated Drum Brakes
Front suspension type	Solid Front Axle with Semi-Elliptical Leaf Springs
Rear suspension type	Live Rear Axle with Reversed Quarter-Elliptical Leaf Springs

ENGINE

Number of cylinders	4
Engine layout	Inline Four-Cylinder Engine
Displacement	850
BHP at RPM	6
Gearbox	Four-Speed Manual Gearbox
Overdrive	0



