

Weight of Race Car

Posted by Ex36 - 27 Feb 2008 19:55

I thought this might be useful to those of you building a car. I was weighed at VIR last weekend and came in 18 pounds under weight, at 2732. That figure included:

-Me (178 pounds without an erection)

-My racing gear (Helmet, suit, etc.)

-5/8 tank of fuel, according to the gauge

I have not done anything dramatic to reduce my weight. I have not removed ANY of the sound-deadening material. I have not removed the power window motors. But I have removed the A/C system, the P/S system, and all the elements of the power sunroof. I raced with the spare in the car (which wasn't in for my weight check), figuring that'd be close to making legal weight, but I'm not sure. I also have the classic two-pipe, two-glass pack exhaust, which I understand is a good bit heavier than the spec exhaust. I'll probably have to add ballast once I switch.

So the moral of the story is, it's pretty easy to make the minimum weight unless you're a lard ass (sorry JP). 😊

Sasha

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Re:Weight of Race Car

Posted by Age - 27 Feb 2008 21:39

Would love to see the minimum weight be dropped about 50#. I'm sure most of us are running ballast, and maybe a lot of it.

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Re:Weight of Race Car

Posted by grydemon - 27 Feb 2008 23:07

AJ, I think that you are trying to make me and my car weigh to much, as I am a little above the minimum weight with no ballast, and I can't see losing 50#'s...

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Re:Weight of Race Car

Posted by scottmc - 28 Feb 2008 07:40

I'd like to see the minimum weight be drop too. And 50 pounds seem reasonable

Lat time I weighed in 2760. That was 3/4+ tank of gas, cool suit, no camera, no spare, me and all my gear. I can't think of anything else I can remove. The bad thing is... I think I've gained another 10 LBS over the winter ☹️

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Re:Weight of Race Car

Posted by Steven540i - 28 Feb 2008 10:19

I for one hope the min weight does not drop. I'm about 80lbs over in race trim without a spare tire and without cool suit.

The spec exhaust should help that along with the fact that I'm getting ready to remove the Power Steering system. I've already removed all the sound deadening.

Steven

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Re:Weight of Race Car

Posted by secu - 28 Feb 2008 11:17

Did the different years have different weights from the factory? I find it interesting that some people are fairly over weight while others are far under. To make weight, I run the spare tire, 10 lbs of ballast plus some heavy bolts/washers, and have to go out with a full tank of gas. My power steering and power windows are still in and my cage is fairly substantial. I would vote for weight reduction, but if there are people that can't get down to the minimum weight as of now, I guess it wouldn't be a good idea. For those that are heavy, do you still have the sound deadening in?

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Re:Weight of Race Car

Posted by scottmc - 28 Feb 2008 11:29

secu wrote:

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It is quite odd. It would be interesting to see what all the variables are and what weight cars are coming in at. But that sounds like the kind of thing that would be done on a spread sheet 😊

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Re:Weight of Race Car

Posted by Jones - 28 Feb 2008 11:43

You can see a list of factory weights for each of the different model years in the appendix of the Spec E30 regulations.

The interesting thing is hearing the actual weights and differences since building our cars. I am struggling to make weight and I have quite a bit of ballast already, about 60 lbs.

This, no spare and 3/4 of a tank puts me at 2750. I am going to add more ballast once I put the spec exhaust on the car.

I have an 87 car with no sound deadening in it.

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Re:Weight of Race Car

Posted by mskeen - 28 Feb 2008 12:06

Consider the weight difference in drivers too. Plus, I'm sure there's a big difference in some cages--I'm guessing that's part of Steven's trouble. The weight of the power steering is fairly substantial as well. There are lots of things to consider...different seats, different batteries, extra seat/harnesses, how much optional trim you got rid of, new/old bumpers/valence, exhaust, wheels...

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Re:Weight of Race Car

Posted by Steven540i - 28 Feb 2008 12:13

My car is an '89 325i. My cage is substantial (with nascar door bars) and has an integrated seat mounting structure. My doors are fully gutted, and as I mentioned before all sound deadening has been removed.

I looked at the chart Brian referenced in the regulations and saw that at 2895lbs, my car was the heaviest of all non-convertable cars.

For reference, I weigh 220lbs. At 6'3" I could probably stand to drop 20lbs but that would still leave me overweight...

Steven

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