

FREE SAMPLE

The opening pages of

1970 Oldsmobile Cutlass Restoration Guide

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so you can judge the depth before you spend a dollar.

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Factory-Correct Restoration Reference

1970 Oldsmobile Cutlass Restoration Guide

Model Years 1970

Model year	1970 — the 455 peak year
Wheelbase	112 in (2-dr) / 116 in (4-dr) / 121 in (Vista Cruiser)
Volume V8	350 cu in Rocket
Performance	4-4-2: 455 standard, 365 hp; W-30 455, 370 hp / 500 lb-ft
Context	GM lifts the 400-cid ceiling for intermediates

Every specification in this guide was checked against factory literature, marque references, period road tests, and documented survivor vehicles. Where sources disagree or the record is silent, this guide says so rather than guessing.

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What This Year Is — and What Changed

1970 is the summit. GM finally lets its intermediates run engines over 400 cubic inches, and the 4-4-2 takes the 455 as standard equipment, with the W-30 at the top of the factory's game. Volume Cutlasses are the same strong 1968-72 cars — but this is the year every Oldsmobile restorer measures the others against, and the year whose performance claims most need authenticating.



1970 change register

- The 455 replaces the 400 as the standard 4-4-2 engine: 365 hp in standard form.
- W-30 455 rated 370 hp / 500 lb-ft — the peak factory ratings of the era — with the package's outside-air induction under a fiberglass hood.
- A 455-powered SX package is documented on the Cutlass Supreme — the gentleman's route to the big engine, and a frequently misidentified one.
- Volume cars continue with the Rocket 350 in two- and four-barrel forms; the 250 six remains the base F-85 engine.



Factory Specification — 1970

Item	Factory specification	Notes
Wheel base	112 / 116 / 121 in	By body style
Volume V 8	350 cu in Rocket	
4-4-2 engine	455 cu in V8	365 hp — new standard
W-30 engine	455 cu in V8	370 hp / 500 lb-ft — peak factory year