# 1970 Dodge Challenger

# **Factory Power Sunroof Cars - Option Code M51**

Total 1970 Dodge Challengers shipped to the USA market: 196 units.

- Base Challenger (JH23) 114.
- Challenger R/T (JS23) 82.
- Challenger T/A (JH23J) 3 known Included in the Base Challenger numbers.

American Sunroof Corporation (ASC) established a facility in the Detroit area in the late 60's to install Golde style power sunroofs in a select few cars models coming out of the Detroit assembly plants. This caught the attention of Chrysler, and a deal was struck with ASC to install their power sunroof in Dodge Chargers for the 1969 model year. Even with the low production numbers, the option was continued on the 1970 Charger, and expanded to the new Challenger.

Cars that were ordered or designated to have an ASC power sunroof were initially started down the assembly line, then pulled off the line at a certain point to be shipped off to ASC's facility. After ASC installed the power sunroof, the cars were shipped back to the factory where final assembly was completed.

Vinyl tops were required on all sunroof cars. This was a time saving measure for ASC, and a cost saving measure for Chrysler. ASC didn't have to be careful with the metal and paint around the sunroof area during the installation. Once the sunroof assembly was installed, they covered up any scratches and dings with a little filler and primer, and then installed the vinyl roof.

With all the extra logistics involved in offering a sunroof, you might think that this option was an expensive one. You would be correct! The price tag for this factory option was a whopping \$461.45! To put this in perspective, a base 318 Challenger sold for \$2953. Heck, the only option more expensive than the sunroof was checking off the box that said "Hemi" (\$778.75).

The option code for the power sunroof is M51, but this code does not appear on the fender tag. What usually appears on the fender tag to identify 1970 "factory" power sunroof Challengers is a special six digit vehicle order number (VON). The VON will start with K00 for "factory" sunroof cars.

Unlike the 69-70 Chargers that followed this VON rule, something different occurred with the 70 Challenger line. Several 70 sunroof Challengers did not receive a K00 VON, but the option shows up on the broadcast sheets. The current working theory is that 1970 Challengers ordered up directly from Headquarters or the Assembly plant got the special VON, while 70 Challengers ordered by customers through dealerships got the standard numeric VON.

On the following pages are all the surviving 1970 Dodge Challenger sunroof cars that I have run across since I started documenting this rare option. Many thanks to all that have helped me track down these cars - esp. Dan P., Ola, Barry W., William W., and John B.

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans EV2-Hemi Orange Black White Hemi / 4-Spd



## 1970 Challenger R/T

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans Red Black White 440-6/4-Spd (www.moparts.org member)



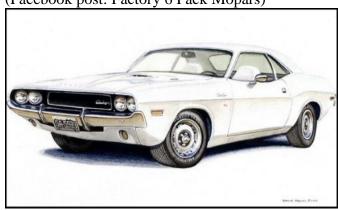
## 1970 Challenger R/T

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans B5-Bright Blue White White 440-6 / Auto (Barrett Jackson Scottsdale 2005)



## 1970 Challenger R/T

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans FF4-Light Green ? ? 440-6 / Auto (Facebook post: Factory 6 Pack Mopars)



## 1970 Challenger R/T

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans FF4-Light Green Green Green 440-4 / 4-Spd (Facebook Mopar Trader Page - SOLD early 2016)



## 1970 Challenger R/T

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans FC7-Plum Crazy Black Black 440-4 / Auto (Graveyard Cars restoration)



Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans EK2-Go Mango Black Black 440-4 / Auto (Mopar Collector Guide Feb 1995 Issue)



## 1970 Challenger R/T

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans B3-Light Blue White Blue 440-4 / Auto



## 1970 Challenger R/T

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans EB7-Dark Blue White Blue 440 / ? (1969-1975 sunroof mopars Facebook page)



## 1970 Challenger R/T

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans White/Red ? Orange 440-4 / Auto (Hotrod Hanger Facebook Page)



## 1970 Challenger R/T

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans TX9-Black Black Orange 440-4 / Auto (Victim of garage fire)



## 1970 Challenger R/T

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans FC7-In Violet Black Black 383-4 / 4-Spd (Currently at Alan Gallant Automotive Restoration)



Photo by Alan Gallant

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans FC7-Plum Crazy Black Black 383-4 / 4-Spd

(www.moparts.com member)



## 1970 Challenger R/T

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans FC7-Plum Crazy White White 383-4/4-Spd (R/T Restorations in 2010 and on FaceBook 2015)



## 1970 Challenger R/T

(Facebook post)

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans EV2-Hemi Orange ? White 383-4 / 4-spd



#### 1970 Challenger R/T

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans FE5-Rallye Red Black Black 383-4 / Auto (Currently at Alan Gallant Automotive Restoration)



Photo by Alan Gallant

## 1970 Challenger R/T

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans FC7-Plum Crazy White White 383-4 / Auto



## 1970 Challenger R/T

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans Orange Black Black 340-4/4-spd (2007 Place d'Orleans Car Show, Ottawa, Ontario)



Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans
Red Gator Black ?/?

(www.cuda-challenger.com forum)



## 1970 Challenger T/A

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans FT6-Dark Tan Black Tan 340-6 / 4-Spd



## 1970 Challenger T/A Prototype

(This car may or may not still exist)

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans???340-6/?
('70-'71 Cudas and Challengers Facebook page)



Photo by Jeff Bangert

## 1970 Challenger T/A

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans Green ? ? 340-6 / 4-Spd

(www.moparts.org forum)



## 1970 Challenger

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans EK2-Mango White Orange 383-4 / Auto



## 1970 Challenger

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans TX9-Black Black Black 383-4 / Auto (Barrett Jackson Scottsdale 2009) (Now Red)



## 1970 Challenger

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans FJ5-Lime Green White White 383-2 / Auto (For sale on www.volocars.com in 2013)



## 1970 Challenger

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans Red Black Black 340-4 / Auto (For sale in Shelbourne, Ontario - Nov. 2015)



## 1970 Challenger

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans FE5-Rallye Red Black Black 340-4 / Auto (Forum post in For E-bodies Only)



## 1970 Challenger

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans FF4-Light Green Green Green 318-2 / Auto (Now Plum Crazy/Black/Black)(For sale in NH)



## 1970 Challenger

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans EB5-Bright Blue Black Black 318-2 / Auto (www.cuda-challenger.com forum)



## 1970 Challenger

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans TX9-Black Black Black 318-2 / Auto (Sold on eBay Nov. 2013)



#### 1970 Challenger

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans. 999-Charcoal(EA9) Black Red 318-2 / Auto (Reportedly the car was totaled early in its life)



## 1970 Challenger

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans Brown Black Tan 383-4 / 4-spd (Possible R/T for sale on YouTube in 2008)



#### 1970 Challenger

## (This car may or may not still exist)

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans FJ5-Sublime Black White ? / Auto (Dodge Challenger commercial)



## 1970 Challenger

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans Red Black Black ?/?

(www.transamcuda.com forum)



(European style plates from Hamburg, Germany)
1970 Challenger

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans Unknown ? ? ? /?

(www.cuda-challenger.com)



## 1970 Challenger R/T

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans EW1-White White Blue 383-4 / Auto (www.cuda-challenger.com forum)



(Sunroof was likely added)

## 1970 Challenger

Paint Top Inter. Engine/Trans
Dark Burnt Orange ? Orange 340-4 / Auto
(For sale on Craigslist in Gilbert, AZ Feb. 2015)



(Likely a 318 car with the Sunroof added)