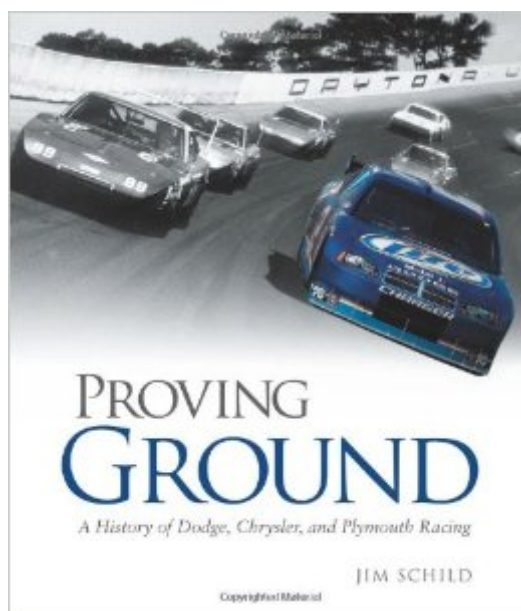


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# Proving Ground: A History Of Dodge, Chrysler, And Plymouth Racing



## Synopsis

From the early decades of the Indy 500 to the modern superspeedways of NASCAR, from the 24 Hours of Le Mans sports car race to drag racing's 4.5-second quarter-mile runs, this is the story of one company's pursuit of performance and the glory that came with it. Full of hundreds of color and black and white photos, we hear tales of the Hemi, the Superbird, Don Garlits, Richard Petty, and many other legends. Noted author and Chrysler enthusiast Jim Schild tells the whole MOPAR story, from door-banging Trans Am racing, to land speed records on the salt flats of Bonneville, from the legendary C-300 to the road-shredding Dodge Viper. Full of fascinating history and excitement, this book is a must-have for all fans of Chrysler, Dodge, and Plymouth.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,407,974 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #168 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Vehicle Pictorials > Motorcycles](#) #588 in [Books > Engineering & Transportation > Automotive > Racing](#) #1104 in [Books > Engineering & Transportation > Automotive > History](#)

## Customer Reviews

This book could have done for Chrysler what Leo Levin's book, *Ford: The Dust and the Glory*, did for Ford, provide a definitive history of corporate involvement in auto racing. Instead it is a thin (190 pages) coffee table book filled with huge pictures and minimal text. The author tries to cover 85 years of racing history but doesn't have space for transitions between topics or background information. Half the available space is filled with large pictures; too many of them are of hemi engines, drivers kneeling next to their cars, new cars just off the assembly line, and full page reprints of magazine ads. Too much is written about marginal topics like the Viper's lackluster racing career and USAC and World of Outlaws sprint cars. The last five pages are devoted to the 2009 Dodge Challenger drag package; current but not significant. The IROC series is given more space than the Trans-Am. The SCCA Formula 5000 is completely ignored. This book needs twice as many

pages and half as many photographs. It could also use a timeline illustrating the parallel involvement of Chrysler in different series at the same time.

As the previous reviewer stated Trans Am and Formula 5000 are virtually ignored. No mention of Team Starfish Barracuda or Shadow Dodge. I don't regret buying this book. I just wish road racing was covered more thoroughly.

This is an awesome book. To me, page eight is worth the price of the book. Put yourself in that picture in 1928. Think of the young car company with new cars and young drivers getting ready to race at Le Mans, all getting ready to prove themselves and their products. The name of this book tells it all and every page tells a story. Look at Garlits, Petty and every person in this book. They were not only working to prove their cars, they were working to prove what they could do with determination, skill, and the need to always improve on past performance. The amount of time it took to pull all the pictures and details together for this book is way over the top.

A must for any Mopar fan. Found useful as a reference and has a lot of unique info you won't find anywhere.

My husband saw this book in a Doctors office and loved it. We were very happy to see it available here. He has reread it twice already.

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