CLASSIC DRIVER

BMW Concept 1 Series tii



The just-launched BMW 1 Series Coupé has already spawned a design study by BMW, adopting 'motorsport' characteristics - both modern and classic. The aim was to follow the tradition of BMW's compact, light and sporting coupés and, in particular, pay homage to the famously agile BMW 2002 of 1966.

The new Concept 1 Series til hopes to emulate the strengths of that classic model. According to BMW, this clearly demonstrates how many of the principles applied more than four decades ago are still relevant today.

The key differences between the Concept 1 Series tii and the 'standard' 1 Series Coupé are an aerodynamically optimised body, a wide range of lightweight features, and an interior tailored specifically to the 'ambitious driver'.





The optimised aerodynamics include reshaped bumpers and sills, plus special gurney flaps generating additional downforce on the rear axle. The principles of 'lightweight engineering' ensure the widespread use of carbonfibre components – such as bonnet, mirror caps, air-scoops and so on – resulting in a significant weight reduction against the series production cars.



Many of the features are reminiscent of classic BMW motorsport models: for instance, the fins along the bonnet lid to optimise air-flow; and the colour scheme on the bonnet, decal strips on the roof, and contrasting colour of the boot lid. This typical BMW colour scheme combines Alpine White with the very dark carbonfibre elements, and further highlights are added in blue.





Inside, there are sports bucket seats with integrated headrests and side airbags, a three-spoke sports steering wheel and a gearshift knob with alcantara cover. The black-white-blue colour scheme of the exterior is continued in the cabin, with the white rev-counter making a particularly bold statement.

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Text: Charis Whitcombe

Photos: BMW

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