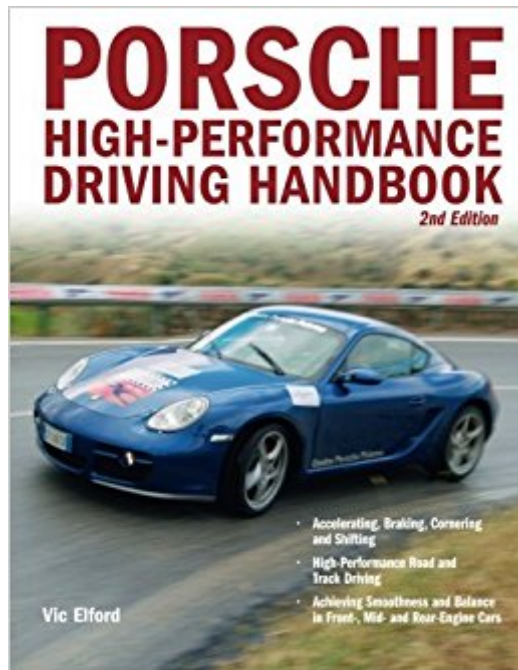




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Porsche High-Performance Driving Handbook



Synopsis

It's been more than a decade since the first Porsche High Performance Driving Handbook set the standard for getting the most out of a Porsche. If driving techniques haven't changed since then, technology definitely has. This book, by the world's foremost expert, takes that new technology into account as it gives readers the latest information on how to drive a Porsche to its limit. Once upon a time, the Can Am and Trans Am race series changed their rules because Vic Elford and his Porsches were winning too often. Here Quick Vic shares his insights into ride control systems, new tire compounds, and Tiptronic and Direct-Shift Gearbox transmissions, all of which have transformed the experience--and the challenge--of driving a Porsche. As he discusses recent models, ranging from new generations of the 911 to the whole-cloth inventions of the Boxster, Cayenne, Cayman S and Carrera GT, modern images and historical photos immerse the reader in both the history and the evolving technology that Vic Elford knows like no one else.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"This is a great book for any Porsche driver not just those adrenaline crazed few that want to go fast around a track. After reading this, I have got to get me some of that."
Richard Davis, War Whoop (Official publication of the War Bonnet Region of the PCA) Bear Facts, the official newsletter of the PCA Polar Chapter and Tobacco Roads (official publication of PCA North Carolina, Palmetto Pipes the official newsletter of the PCA Palmetto Chapter and the Silver Sage Region PCA Newsletter also reviewed the book. "Written by the first driver to win the

Monte Carlo Rally in a Porsche, this book is a must for those who drive Porsches, whether on the track or on the street.

— Larry Printz, The Arizona Republic

“His book covers driving techniques that he learned from rallies and road racing. Techniques are well-illustrated with easily understood descriptions.

— Bob Schmitt, Porscheklatsch

“This book belongs on every Porsche driver’s book shelf if you want to become a better driver. I periodically pull down my copy and re-read it just to reacquaint myself with techniques I may have forgotten or still have trouble with.

— David Witteried, Winding Roads

“Understanding Vic’s instructions and explanations of driving skills and car technologies and set-up requires no additional books or guides. Vic is clear, concise and his explanations seem so intuitive that you can go out immediately and practice what he has just taught. If you love your Porsche and would like to be able to experience the capability of the breed to its fullest, I highly recommend this book.

— Tom Holmes, Der Auspuff

“This is a must read for any Porsche owner interested in either motor racing history and/or the finer points of high performance driving.

— Jon Jones, Cimarron Trail PCA Newsletter

“There is a wealth of information between these covers both historic and technical and I’d bet the novice as well as the seasoned veteran would thoroughly enjoy Elford’s slant on it all. It gets four stars from me.

— Mark Stubbs, Shenandoah PCA Newsletter

Larry Printz of The Virginian Pilot (circ.: 175,005) loved the book saying, “This book is a must for those who drive Porsches.

— Sports Car Market (circ.: 31,500) said “Elford’s book is different because so much of the book is made of stories from his past, which are used to illustrate concepts. The stories are reason to read; that you might be smoother and faster in a car by the end of the book is just a bonus.

— The Porsche enthusiast website 993c4s.com (views per month: 30,000) said “The Porsche High Performance Driving Handbook is the perfect companion gift for the new Porsche owner. The book’s conversational style makes it seem as if one is sitting with the racing legend, taking in technique secrets and enjoying unbelievable stories of his days on the track (and off). Do you know anyone who is interested in becoming a better driver? This is the book to get for them.

— Porsche Club of America chapters reviewed the book saying: “This is a must read for any Porsche owner interested in either motor racing history and/or the finer points of high performance driving.

— Jon Jones, Cimarron Trail PCA Newsletter

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This book is inspiring and helpful. I appreciate the authors intertwining his life experience into a topic that might be boring if approached with a direct and dry approach.

I've purchased this book for the second time after my first copy (signed by Vic himself) was lost by a friend. As other reviewers have noted, the book might not deliver quite what one expects. The title may be at fault, and it was possibly chosen by the publisher more than the author. But if you read the book for its insights into 1960s and early 70s sports car racing and rallying, you won't be disappointed. Elford brings an unusual blend of technical expertise, first-hand knowledge, and good writing skills to the task. It can be inspirational to know that the source of this driving advice was the real deal, someone who thundered around the 'green hell' of the Nurburgring fast enough to win it twice, and who earned the nickname 'quick Vic' while dragging around the slowest car (Cooper) on the F1 grid. Another reviewer objects to there being so much Elford in this book. But instead think of this as a memoir with tons of advice and instruction thrown in. Elford himself (from someone who knew him) was much too modest to tell his story without trying to make it useful to others. In the end it doesn't matter what kind a car you drive. His attitude and insights in high performance driving situations are worth understanding. He may or may not make you a faster driver, but he'll probably make you a wiser one.

The book is broken down to many small chapters by subject (e.g. equipment, tires, accelerating, cornering, etc..) which is a good way to present. Unfortunately beyond the organization the book mostly fails as a driving handbook and is not interesting to read. Every chapter begins with a story from his driving career that often seems unnecessary and obvious and not always interesting. At points it reads more like an autobiography than a reference manual. The 173 pages in the book are filled with (nice) pictures but the pictures don't add anything to the subject and come across as page fillers. There's very little theory or technical discussion of driving and it's really a

coffee table book with neat pictures. Also the car set-up section is entirely irrelevant to most readers (entry level track day-ers and racers) as it gives very little advice in either theory or execution. There are much better books in general driving categories ("Driving Secrets", "Going Faster", "Drive to Win", "Winning: A Race Driver's Handbook").

Great technical information embedded in great race stories presented in an exciting Porsche setting!

Random racing anecdotes: not an actual racing tutorial. Not a very valuable purchase for anyone wanting to improve driving or racing skills.

Husband bought a Porsche - has read this cover to cover - several times. Learns something new each read thru. Has really helped him drive his toy better and with more confidence!

Great pictures and history lesson. If you want to read up on Porsche racing history, a little bit of driving tips, and a nice coffee table book, then this is a good book. For a more serious driving technique book, especially if you already know quite a bit about performance driving, I would suggest looking elsewhere. The best driving technique book I have found so far is the Skip Barber, the art of race driving book. However, it can be a little heavy and complicated if you are only looking for a casual easy reading book.

Good reading for any Porsche owner. However, be aware of the 'copyright' page prior to the 'Contents' page.....a misprint for sure as all it talks about is General Motors and identifies the picture on the front cover is a "Chevy small-block...". Not!

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