

Midyear Corvette Auxiliary Hardtop

Disclaimer: The following configuration details were compiled over several years while searching for an original replacement hardtop for my '67. The sources of the information came from a combination of first hand inspections, and pictures and descriptions supplied by others through both conversations and online postings. The accuracy of information cannot be guaranteed but is believed to be correct.

As with most rolling changes during the model years, exact cut-off points are hard to define. Approximate dates are given but it should be noted that outliers have been found in many cases.

This as a dynamic document, comments and change recommendations are welcome.

Exterior Configuration

There were at least three different hardtop configurations in '63. Early '63's had a slight notch cut in the bottom, on each side, above the rear edge of the door to give greater clearance above the door. This design ran to about March '63.

Pictured is an early '63 hardtop with side notches and no Plexiglas window reinforcements:



This picture is a close-up of the early '63 side notch (Plexiglas date February '63):



Tops from approximately April through June '63 did not have the notch. The notch was eliminated because it wasn't necessary.

Pictured is a '63 hardtop (Plexiglas date May '63) without the door notches and without Plexiglas window reinforcements:



There are reports (Noland Adams) of early hardtops with one Plexiglas window reinforcement at the top center location. No examples/pictures of this configuration could be found.

Tops after about June '63 have reinforcing brackets at the top and bottom center of the Plexiglas. Very late '63 through '67 tops were essentially the same.

This picture shows the upper and lower Plexiglas reinforcements:



Early hardtop headliners ('63 to very early '65) were woven fiberglass dyed and glued to insulation. The later '65 headliners had a crosshatched patterned fiberboard headliner, while '66 and '67 headliners were vinyl-covered foam.

Then there was the '67 only black vinyl exterior covered hardtop with two faux sewn seams running from front to back.



Midyear Hardtop Plexiglas Window Date Codes

The Plexiglas date stamp is probably the best indicator of a hardtop's model year (providing the window hasn't been replaced). However, the date stamps were far from perfect with missing and illegible characters being very common.

The midyear date code format, and the month and year locations, changed over the years. The '63 - '64 and very early '65 had the month and year on the same line as the AS4. The later '65 (most) had the year on the lower left and the month at the upper right. The '66 - '67 had the month on the lower left and the year at the upper right.

The following are the different stamp formats ([stamped letters in blue](#)) with examples:

63-64 (very early 65)

(date on same line as AS4) Plexiglas
AS4 MM YY

Example: 2 - 63 (February 1963)



Example: 12 - 63 (December 1963)



Example: 6 - 64 (June 1964 found on a very early '65 model year)



Later 65 (most of year)

Plexiglas
Acrylic
AS4
X - year (lower left)

X - month (upper right)

Aug 1964: 64 8
Sept 1964: 64 9
Oct 1964: 64 10
Nov 1964: D K, (also) 64-11
Dec 1964: D L, (also) 64-12
Jan 1965: E A
Feb 1965: E B
Mar 1965: E C
Apr 1965: E D
May 1965: E E
Jun 1965: E F
Jul 1965: E G
Aug 1965: E H

Example: E A (January 1965)



Example: E B (February 1965)



66-67

X - year (upper right)

E-65, F-66, G-67

Plexiglas
Acrylic
AS4

X - month (lower left)

A-Jan thru L-Dec

Example: J F (October 1966)



Example: C G (March 1967) (known reproduction)

