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Countdown to the new Golf: Golf Mk7 – lightweight construction and broad powertrain options

- 24 October 2019: One day to go until the global debut of the eighth-generation Golf
 - The Golf Mk7 presented in September 2012 was 100 kg lighter than its predecessor
 - The Golf Mk7 was captivating, available with electric, hybrid, and racing drive systems
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Wolfsburg (Germany) – Of more than 35 million Golf cars that have been built to date, around six million were Golf Mk7 models – the most recent generation. The story of this seventh Golf officially starts at its world premiere in Berlin, on 4 September 2012. Just one day later, pre-sales of the new Golf started in the first countries. As was also the case with its predecessors the Mk1, Mk2, Mk3, Mk4, Mk5, and Mk6 – which together achieved total sales of 29.3 million units – it became a world best-seller.



Golf Mk7 built from 2012 to today

The development approach sought to economise on every gram of CO₂. With this in mind, it was planned that while the overall weight of the new Golf should be reduced, crash safety had to be kept at the same high level or, even better, increased. Which is just what happened: Volkswagen lowered the weight of the Golf Mk7 by up to 100 kg, and in this process reversed the weight spiral. Meanwhile, safety remained at a peak level.

Depending on the engine, it was possible to cut consumption by up to 23% compared with the vehicle's predecessor. Moreover, the assistance systems on offer were a triumph, as ever: the multi-collision brake and Front Assist area monitoring system including City Emergency Brake were examples of some of the new technology on board. The design was clearer and more precise than ever. Klaus Bischoff, Volkswagen Chief Designer then and now, remarked of the design: "The style is logical, solid, product-oriented, pure, and precise. It reflects the brand's design DNA as a pure doctrine in form."

Volkswagen then presented the derivatives of the product line in quick succession, releasing four versions in 2013 alone: the Golf GTI¹, Golf GTD², Golf R³ and Golf Variant. Electrification of the product line followed in 2014, with the Golf GTE⁴ and e-Golf⁵. One of the sporty highlights in 2019 was the debut of the Golf GTI TCR⁶ with 213 kW / 290 PS, based on the 257 kW / 350 PS Golf GTI in the TCR race

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series. The diversity, technology and look of the Golf Mk7 really struck a chord: today, it is one of the three best-selling generations of this product line.

Golf Mk7 annual figures

2012	World premiere in May in Berlin Delivery of the first specimen of the Golf Mk7 in November
2013	Debut of the Golf 4MOTION models Debut of the Golf GTI Debut of the Golf GTD Debut of the Golf Variant Debut of the Golf R (world premiere in September in Frankfurt at the IAA)
2014	Debut of the e-Golf Debut of the Golf GTE (world premiere in March in Geneva) Volkswagen celebrates 40 years of the Golf in March in Wolfsburg Debut of the Golf SV Debut of the Golf R Variant ⁷
2015	Debut of the Golf GTI Clubsport ⁸ Debut of the Golf GTD Variant ⁹ (world premiere in March in Geneva) Debut of the Golf R Touch concept car & Connect Golf concept car in January at CES in Las Vegas
2016	Volkswagen celebrates "40 years of the Golf GTI" at the Nürburgring in June Debut of the Golf GTI Clubsport S
2017	Product line update Update to the Golf Sportsvan
2018	world premiere of GTI TCR Concept ¹⁰ at Wörthersee meet (Austria) in May
2019	Debut of the Golf GTI TCR

¹Golf GTI – fuel consumption, l/100 km (NEDC): urban 8,2-7,8/ extra-urban 5,5-5,3/ combined 6,4-6,3; CO₂-emission combined, g/km: 148-145; efficiency class: D.

²Golf GTD – fuel consumption, l/100 km (NEDC): urban 5,3-5,1/extra-urban 4,0-3,8/ combined 4,5-4,3; CO₂-emission combined, g/km: 118-113; efficiency class: A.

³Golf R: fuel consumption, l/100 km (NEDC): urban 8,2-8,1/extra-urban 6,6-6,5/ combined 7,2-7,1; CO₂-emission combined, g/km: 164-162; efficiency class: D.

⁴Golf GTE: fuel consumption, l/100 km (NEDC): combined 2,1-1,9; power consumption, kWh/100 km: combined 12,2; CO₂-emission combined, g/km: 47-43; efficiency class: A+.

⁵e-Golf – power consumption, kWh/100 km (NEDC): combined 13,8-12,9; CO₂-emission combined in g/km: 0; efficiency class: A+.

⁶Golf GTI TCR – fuel consumption, l/100 km (NEDC): urban 8,3/extra-urban 5,8-5,7/combined 6,7; CO₂-emission in g/km: 153-151; efficiency class: D.

⁷Golf R Variant: fuel consumption, l/100 km (NEDC): urban 8,2-8,1 /extra-urban 6,6-6,5/ combined 7,2-7,1; CO₂-emission combined in g/km: 164-161; efficiency class: D-C.

⁸Golf Clubsport – The vehicle is not longer on sale.

⁹Golf GTD Variant – fuel consumption, l/100 km (NEDC): urban 5,4/ extra-urban 4,1/ combined 4,6; CO₂-emission combined, g/km: 120; efficiency class: A.

¹⁰Golf GTI TCR Concept – prototype.



About the Volkswagen brand:

The Volkswagen Passenger Cars brand is present in more than 150 markets throughout the world and produces vehicles at over 50 locations in 14 countries. In 2018, Volkswagen delivered 6,2 million vehicles including bestselling models such as the Golf, Tiguan, Jetta or Passat. Currently, 195,878 people work for Volkswagen across the globe. The brand also has over 10,000 dealerships with 86,000 employees. Volkswagen is forging ahead consistently with the further development of automobile production. E-mobility, smart mobility and the digital transformation of the brand are the key strategic topics for the future.
