

Car Radio Receiver Evolution

For the record . . .

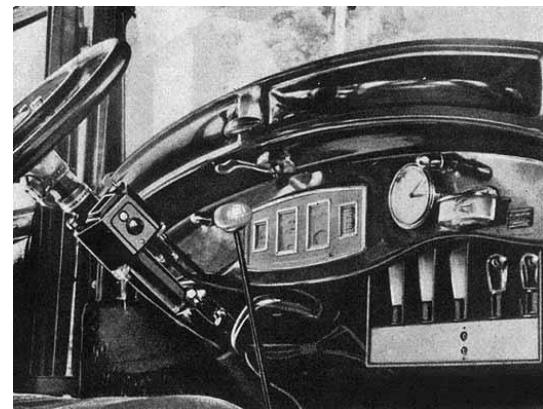
Crosley did not invent the car radio and did not make the first aftermarket car radio. He made them affordable.

1922, Chevrolet offered the aftermarket "Radio Sedan" using a Westinghouse radio that utilized a rooftop antenna, batteries beneath the front seats, and large horn speakers behind the rear seats.

1924, Kelly's Motors in NSW, Australia, installed its first car radio.

1927, William Heina of the U.S. Heinaphone Company was granted the first patent for the installation of radios in cars. Heinaphone's car radios were called "Transitones."

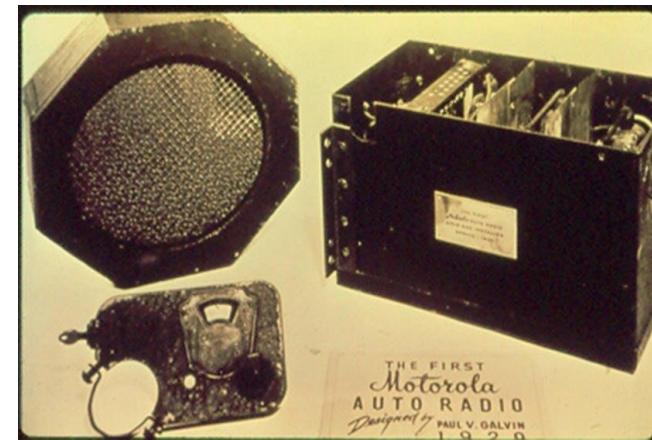
In the same year, the Automobile Radio Corporation (ARC) bought Heinaphone. ARC was soon purchased by the Philadelphia Storage Battery Company, a supplier of batteries for electric vehicles and is better known by the name **Philco**. Transitone radios continued to be produced for many years.



1930, June, William Lear (later of Learjet fame) and Elmer Wavering developed the first functional purpose-built car radio named the 5T71 and installed it into Paul Galvin's car from the Galvin Manufacturing Corporation in Chicago.

Because the best-known music device of the time was the Victrola phonograph, Gavin decided to connect the words

"motor" and "Victrola" and renamed the 5T71 radio the "Motorola" to give the connotation of music in motion. Gavin Manufacturing eventually changed the name of the company to **Motorola in 1947**.



1930 Philco aftermarket car radio, single dial Transitone.

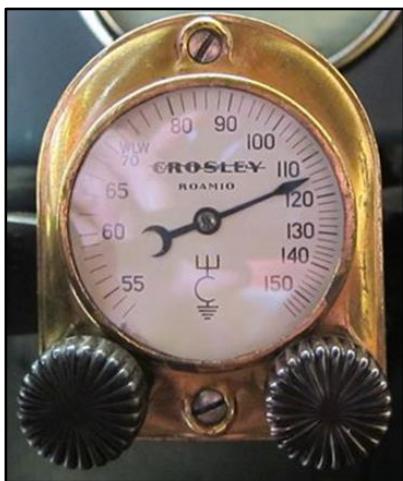


1930 Crosley's aftermarket car radio.



1933 Crossley Motors offer a factory fitted car radio.

1935 Crosley aftermarket car radio.



1937, Philips aftermarket car radio.



1940s Crosley's aftermarket car radio, the first with push buttons.



Leland L. Hite 01/30/2022 [Reference](#)