

# THE BACKGROUND TO THE MERCEDES SLK

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The designation SLK derives from the company's design mission to create a roadster that was at once sporty, light and short — in German: ***Sportlich, Leicht und Kurz***. The vehicle is a compact roadster manufactured by Mercedes-Benz in three generations; R170 launched in 1996, the R171 in 2004 and R172 in 2011.

As one of the first modern retractable hardtop convertibles, the SLK followed the 1995 Mitsubishi 3000GT Spyder and preceded other retractable hardtops such as the Peugeot 206cc, Lexus SC, Pontiac G6 and the Chrysler Sebring. The SLK Varioroof was first shown on the SLK II concept car at the 1994 Paris Motor Show. The car went on sale two years later in Europe and in 1997 in the US. The SLK is built in Bremen, Germany.

At start of the 1990s, after the introduction of their two-seater grand-tourer R129 SL and the Mazda MX-5; Mercedes-Benz set out to create a new compact roadster, slotted below the SL. By late 1991 under Bruno Sacco, the first design sketches were drawn and 12 1:5 scale models built in the first half of 1992. By the middle of the year, five of them were proposed again in full-scale. In early 1993, the final design was selected and approved by the board with the German design patent being filed on September 30, 1993. On April 22, 1996, the new production SLK-Class based on the R170 platform was introduced at the Turin Motor Show. The SLK 230 Kompressor launch model became a competitor to the Porsche Boxster and BMW Z3. It was powered by a 193 hp 2.3 L supercharged straight-4 engine and a choice of automatic transmission or 5-speed manual transmission.

## **Mercedes-Benz R170 SLK Class (1996–2004)**

The SLK was a modern incarnation of the 1950s Mercedes-Benz 190SL by returning to four cylinders and a 94-inch (2,400 mm) wheelbase. Massively successful in its first year, worldwide sales hit 55,000, over double the entire nine-year production of 190SLs, and between 1996 and 2004, over 311,000 SLKs were sold. The very first U.S.-market R170 Mercedes SLK was completed on November 1, 1996 and went on sale in January 1997 for the 1998 model year. The last was completed on April 7, 2004.



- **OVERVIEW**
- Assembly Bremen, Germany  
East London, South Africa  
Designer Bruno Sacco; Michael Mauer (1993)  
Body and chassis  
Platform Mercedes-Benz R170  
Related Chrysler Crossfire

Powertrain  
Engine 2.0 L I4  
2.3 L I4 S/C  
2.0 L I4 S/C  
3.2 L V6  
Transmission 5-speed automatic  
5-speed manual  
6-speed manual  
Dimensions  
Wheelbase 94.5 in (2,400 mm)  
Length 1996-2000: 157.3 in (3,995 mm)  
2001-04: 157.9 in (4,011 mm)  
Width 67.5 in (1,715 mm)  
Height 1996-2000: 50.7 in (1,288 mm)  
2001-04: 50.4 in (1,280 mm)  
Curb weight 3,036 lb (1,377 kg)[4]

### **Vario-roof**

The roof design developed by Mercedes-Benz consists of a folding steel hard top which is divided in half along an axis at right angles to the direction of travel. Both halves are linked by a kinematic mechanism which is locked securely when the roof is closed. At the touch of a button on the centre console, a hydraulic system with five cylinders controls the fully automatic folding process in which the boot lid is also integrated. It opens by tipping to the rear so that the two roof halves have sufficient freedom of movement to pivot backwards as the vario-roof opens; the roof sections then position themselves one on top of the other, and disappear into the boot. If the roof is to be closed, the same sequence of movements is performed in reverse order. The hydraulic system stows the vario-roof in the upper section of the boot. A plastic roller blind separates it from the luggage space below, an area with a capacity of 145 litres in the first-generation SLK. With the vario-roof closed, the load volume increased to a substantial 348 litres (12.3 cu ft). Two fixed roll-over bars behind the seats worked with the particularly strong A-pillars to form an integrated system offering a high degree of roll-over protection.

The steel roof provides added protection normally found in a coupe with the enjoyment of a convertible at the same time. The technology was considered advanced as its rivals still had folding cloth tops.



1998 UK SLK 230 Kompressor model, with roof lowered

### **R170 FACELIFT (2000)**

In 1997, development on updates to the R170 began and by early 1998, design work on an updated SLK was completed and patented on February 2, 1998.[6] In February 2000, the SLK received a facelift which included new front and rear bumper designs, body-coloured side skirts and the introduction of new wing mirrors

incorporating indicators. The range was expanded to include a new entry-level model SLK 200 Kompressor and a new V6 in the SLK 320. Technical improvements included the addition of Electronic Stability Program (ESP) and a new 6-speed manual transmission. A stabilizer bar was added to the rear and the front one was reinforced. A 3.46:1 axle was added for the manual shift SLK, and the fuel tank grew from 12 to 14 gallons.

### **2000–2004 Mercedes-Benz SLK 320 (Australia)**

In 2001 a new AMG model was added, with a 349 hp (260 kW) supercharged version of the 3.2 L V6. This SLK 32 AMG was the most powerful R170 SLK, and was a direct rival of the BMW M Roadster and Porsche Boxster S. It was only offered with the newly engineered five-gear "SpeedShift" and boasted 35% quicker automatic shifts. All engines were hand built by AMG by an individual engineer. The SLK32 AMG's engine has two spark plugs per cylinder for maximum combustion and was fitted with an intercooled Lysholm-type twin-screw supercharger. Brakes became 13.15" diameter from 11.8" standard. AMG production ran between Aug 2000 and March 2004. Only 4,333 were built in total, of which 979 were retained for Germany, 2,056 exported to the USA and 263 to the UK.

In July 2004 a Special Edition was launched prior to the replacement with the new R171 SLK in 2005. The R170 lived on as the Chrysler Crossfire until 2008, sharing substantial elements of the SLK including engines and interiors.

- **R170 RANGE SUMMARY**

Not all models were exported to all markets.

**SLK 200 (1996–2000)** - 2.0 L (1998 cc) 136 bhp (101 kW; 138 PS) I4

**SLK 200 Kompressor (1996–2000)** - 2.0 L (1998 cc) 192 bhp (143 kW; 195 PS) I4 supercharged engine, 0-60 mph in 6.9 seconds, top speed of 240 km/h (148 mph).

**SLK 200 Kompressor (2000–2004)** - 2.0 L (1998 cc) 163 bhp (122 kW; 165 PS) I4 supercharged engine, 0-60 mph in 7.4 seconds, top speed of 223 km/h (138 mph).

**SLK 230 Kompressor (1996–2000)** - 2.3 L (2295 cc) 193 bhp (144 kW; 196 PS) I4 supercharged engine

**SLK 230 Kompressor (2000–2004)** - 2.3 L (2295 cc) 197 bhp (147 kW; 200 PS) I4 supercharged engine, 0-60 mph in 6.9 seconds, top speed of 240 km/h (148 mph).

**SLK 320 (2000–2004)** - 3.2 L (3199 cc) 218 bhp (163 kW; 221 PS) V6 engine, 0-60 mph in 6.5 seconds, top speed of 245 km/h (152 mph).

**SLK 32 AMG (2001–2004)** - 3.2 L (3199 cc) 349 bhp (260 kW; 354 PS) V6 engine, 0-62 mph in 5.2 seconds.

### **Mercedes-Benz R171 SLK Class (2004–2011)**

The R171 represented the second generation of Mercedes-Benz SLK and is slightly larger than its predecessor the R170. Development on the R171 began in 1998, and by 2000 the final design was selected. Design work was frozen for production in 2001 and the second generation SLK vehicle was unveiled in 74th Geneva Motor Show in March 2004 with a new sexy body, new engines and new interior. Known by its code name R171, the exterior featured a new Formula One-inspired front design created by Steve Mattin in 2000 and also took design cues from the Mercedes-Benz Vision SLA concept car from 2000. drawing inspiration from the Vision SLR concepts the concurrently in-development production variant due in 2003.

Like its predecessor, the R171 featured a retractable hardtop. By the time the R171

was released, this had become an increasingly common feature in almost every newly introduced convertible, especially in Europe.

The new R171-platform SLK was again on Car and Driver's Ten Best list for 2005, and it won the Canadian Car of the Year Best New Convertible award. Highlighting its potential appeal to women, New Zealand's Lucire magazine announced it as its 'Car to Be Seen in' for 2005.



## OVERVIEW

Production 2004–2011

Assembly Bremen, Germany

Body and chassis

Platform Mercedes-Benz R171

Powertrain

Engine 1.8 L I4

3.0 L V6

3.5 L V6

5.4 L V8

Transmission 5-speed (SLK 200) 7-speed automatic

6-speed manual

Dimensions

Wheelbase 95.7 in (2,431 mm)

Length 4,087 mm (160.9 in)

AMG: 4,093 mm (161.1 in)

2009-2011: 161.5 in (4,102 mm)

2009-present AMG: 161.4 in (4,100 mm)

Width 1,788 mm (70.4 in)

1,793 mm (70.6 in)

Height 1,298 mm (51.1 in)

2004-08 AMG: 1,270 mm (50.0 in)

2009-2011 AMG: 50.7 in (1,288 mm)

Curb weight 1,495 kg (3,296 lb)

The SLK was named one of Car and Driver Ten Best for 2005 and won the Canadian Car of the Year's Best New Convertible award.

- Models of the new SLK included:
  - SLK 200 Kompressor** - 1.8 L 120 kW (163 PS; 161 hp) I4 supercharged engine, 0–100 km/h (62 mph) 7.9 seconds, top speed of 143 mph. (not available in Canada and the United States)
  - SLK 300** (known as SLK 280 in some markets) - 3.0 L (2996 cc) 170 kW (231 PS; 228 hp) double overhead cam V6 engine, 0–100 km/h (62 mph)

6.3 seconds, top speed 155 mph. (starting in 2006 model year)  
**SLK 350** - new 3.5 L (3498 cc) 200 kW (272 PS; 268 hp) double overhead cam V6 engine, 0–100 km/h (62 mph) 5.4 seconds, top speed 155 mph (electronically limited).

**SLK 55 AMG** - 5.4 L (5439 cc) 265 kW (360 PS; 355 hp) V8 engine, 0–100 km/h (62 mph) 4.9 seconds, top speed 155 mph (249 km/h). A tuned version of this was used as the Formula One safety car, replaced by CLK 63 AMG at the beginning of 2006 Season. The SLK55 AMG was the first Mercedes tuned by AMG's Performance Studio to a Black Series model.

## **R171 FACELIFT (2008)**

In January 2008 at the Detroit Motor Show, the SLK-Class facelift was launched, following pre-show announcements in December 2007. The R171 facelift included new engines, with a particular improvement to the SLK 200 and 350 with more power and better fuel efficiency. The exterior changes were subtle, with alterations limited to the front bumper design and new wing mirrors.



### **R171 FACELIFT SUMMARY**

**SLK 200 Kompressor** - 1.8 L 135 kW (184 PS; 181 hp) I4 supercharged engine

**SLK 350** - 3.5 L (3498 cc) 224 kW (305 PS; 300 hp) DOHC V6 engine

**SLK 300 and 55 AMG** retained their existing engines

Production ran from 2004 until 2011 when it was replaced by the R172.

Specifications

Engines

#### **MODEL YEARS ENGINE (code) Power, torque@rpm**

**SLK 200 KOMPRESSOR 2004–2008** 1,796 cc (1.796 L; 109.6 cu in) I4 supercharged (M271) 163 PS (120 kW; 161 hp)@5500, 240 N·m (180 lb·ft)@3000-4000

**SLK 200 KOMPRESSOR 2008–2011** 1,796 cc (1.796 L; 109.6 cu in) I4 supercharged (M271) 184 PS (135 kW; 181 hp)@5500, 240 N·m (180 lb·ft)@3000-4000

**SLK 280 2005–2008** 2,996 cc (2.996 L; 182.8 cu in) V6 (M272) 231 PS (170 kW; 228 hp), 300 N·m (220 lb·ft)

**SLK 300 2009–2011** 2,996 cc (2.996 L; 182.8 cu in) V6 (M272) 231 PS (170 kW; 228 hp), 300 N·m (220 lb·ft)

**SLK 350 2004–2007** 3,498 cc (3.498 L; 213.5 cu in) V6 (M272) 272 PS (200 kW; 268 hp)@6000, 350 N·m (260 lb·ft)@2400-5000

**SLK 350 2008–2011** 3,498 cc (3.498 L; 213.5 cu in) V6 (M272) 305 PS (224 kW; 301 hp)@6000, 360 N·m (270 lb·ft)@2400-5000

**SLK 55 AMG 2004-2011** 5,439 cc (5.439 L; 331.9 cu in) V8 (M113) 360 PS (260 kW; 360 hp), 510 N·m (380 lb·ft)

**SLK 55 AMG Black Series 2006-2008** 5,439 cc (5.439 L; 331.9 cu in) V8 (M113) 400 PS (290 kW; 390 hp), 520 N·m (380 lb·ft)

For the facelifts: SLK 280 fuel economy was improved while CO2 emissions were reduced. In addition to power boosts on SLK 200 KOMPRESSOR and SLK 350, engine speed limit was raised to 6800 rpm, with temporary boost to 7200rpm across the family (except SLK 55 AMG). Other changes include a higher compression ratio, a new intake manifold and an extensively modified valve train.

## TRANSMISSION

Model Years Standard Optional

**SLK 200 KOMPRESSOR 2004-2008** 6-speed manual 5-speed automatic

**SLK 280 2005-2009** 6-speed manual 7G-TRONIC

**SLK 350 2004-2011** 6-speed manual 7G-TRONIC

**SLK 55 AMG 2004-2011** 7G-TRONIC with AMG-SPEEDSHIFT -

**SLK 55 AMG Black Series 2006-2008** 7G-TRONIC with AMG-SPEEDSHIFT  
**AMG** 5-speed automatic

## PERFORMANCE

Model Years 0-100 km/h (62 mph) acceleration (second) Top Speed Kerb Weight (Automatic)

**SLK 200 KOMPRESSOR 2004-2008** 229 km/h (142.3 mph) 1,390 kg (3,060 lb) (1,415 kg (3,120 lb))

**SLK 200 KOMPRESSOR 2008-2011** ? ?

**SLK 280 2005-2009** 250 km/h (155.3 mph) 1,440 kg (3,170 lb) (1,460 kg (3,220 lb))

**SLK 300 2009-2011** 250 km/h (155.3 mph) 1,440 kg (3,170 lb) (1,460 kg (3,220 lb))

**SLK 350 2004-2008** 250 km/h (155.3 mph) 1,465 kg (3,230 lb) (1,485 kg (3,274 lb))

**SLK 350 2008-2011** 250 km/h (155.3 mph) ?

**SLK 55 AMG 2004-2011** 250 km/h (155.3 mph) (1,540 kg (3,400 lb))

**SLK 55 AMG Black Series 2006-2008** 250 km/h (155.3 mph) (1,495 kg (3,296 lb))

## FACORY OPTIONS

### SLK (R171)

- AMG bodystyling
- High capacity battery
- COMAND APS control and display system for radio/navigation
- Bi-xenon headlights with headlight washers, auto leveling. (SLK 200K, SLK 280, SLK 350, SLK 55 [adds cornering adjustment])
- CD changer in glove box (6 disc)
- Alarm system with tow-away protection
- 'Homelink' garage door opener
- Pre-installation for roof carrier systems
- Basic carrier bars
- Interior lighting package (standard SLK 350, SLK 55 AMG)
- Asphymetric mirror glass (limited markets)
- THERMOTRONIC automatic climate control

- Air Scarf: Heated air directed from the headrest to the back of the neck. includes fabric draught stop)
- Leather or wood/leather steering wheel/shifter (excluding SLK 55 AMG)
- Parktronic aids (front sensors are referred to as Quickpark)
- Rain sensing wipers.
- Tire pressure loss warning system
- Heated windscreen washer
- Heated seats (standard SLK 55 AMG)
- Lowered sports suspension (only available in conjunction with 17" light alloys and tyre pressure loss warning)
- Sport Package (limited markets, not offered for SLK 55 AMG)
- Harman Kardon LOGIC7 surround sound system
- Fabric draught-stop no longer included with US cars (except with AIRSCARF option)
- Transparent draught stop
- Sirius Satellite Radio (USA only)
- Designo: Special Paint colours and leathers, choices and prices depend on region, US pricing is \$8000.
- Power-folding side mirrors (limited markets)
- Handsfree phone kit
- iPod integration
- Audio input with pre-facelift COMAND, post-facelift cars have the Media Interface option
- 8 way power seats
- Lumbar adjustment (not available on SLK 55)
- Performance Package (AMG 030 Package, only for the SLK 55)
- 'Edit10n' 10 year Anniversary Package (special paint colour, red trim on the interior)

### **SLK 55 AMG (R171)**

**PERFORMANCE:** 0-62 mph (100 km/h) quoted at 4.9 seconds but individuals have reported times of under 4.3 seconds. (Car & Driver Magazine reported 0-60 mph in 4.3 seconds.)

- Increased brake capacity. 345x30mm brake discs  
*(Pre-2008-model-year cars have 6-piston front calipers with perforated and slotted rotors, and 4-piston rear calipers. Later models have a mix of brakes depending on options and market: either the original 6-piston fronts or the 4-piston fronts from the C55. Mercedes made this change not only to cut costs but also to reduce complaints about brake squeal from customers not used to high performance brakes.)*
- Additional engine oil cooler (behind right-hand bumper vents)
- Lowered/stiffened suspension (springs, shocks, sway bars)
- 18-inch alloy wheels with 225/40 front and 245/35 rear tyres.
- AMG body kit, with distinctive gills in front bumpers
- Chrome-accented fog lights
- Napa leather interior
- Quad exhaust
- Smoked taillights and [CHMSL]
- 2008 facelift included a controller upgrade to the AMG SPEEDSHIFT 7G-TRONIC transmission, shifts 10% faster than previous model.
- SLK 55 Sport/030/P30 (an option package on top of the standard SLK 55 AMG) Developed by the AMG PERFORMANCE STUDIO, AMG performance package adds following:[5]
- Nurburgring suspension

- Improved pads and rotors (currently the only sure way to get the pre-2008 6-piston front brakes and 4-piston rears). AMG high-performance braking system with composite brake discs at the front wheels. Internally ventilated and perforated composite brake discs (360x32mm) with 6-piston fixed callipers at the front. Internally ventilated and perforated brake discs (330x26mm) with 4-piston fixed callipers at the rear
  - Carbon fibre interior accents
  - AMG 18-inch multi-piece light-alloy wheels in a twin-spoke design, 7.5x18 rim with 225/40R18 tyres at the front and 8.5x18 rim with 245/35R18 tyres at the rear
  - AMG performance steering wheel with smaller diameter, flattened lower section and silver-coloured aluminium shift paddles (plus aluminium trim element)
  - delimited top speed (which is actually now standard on most SLK 55s)
- As of 2006 AMG has released several new models, but these are not available in all export markets:
- SLK 55 Track Sport
  - SLK 55 Asia Cup
  - SLK 55 'F1 Safety Car'

### **SLK 55 AMG Black Series (2006-2008)**

This is a version with engine rated 400 PS (290 kW; 390 hp) and 520 N·m (380 lb·ft), restyled AMG front apron with large air intakes, additional transmission oil cooler and the high-performance steering gear oil cooler, aluminium front strut brace, new carbon fiber side air outlets, wider carbon fibre reinforced plastic (CFRP) front fenders, CFRP non-retractable hardtop, 19-inch light alloy wheels with 235/35ZR19 front and 265/30ZR19 rear tires (optional sport tires are available without extra charge), black pearl velour AMG sport bucket seats without side airbags, CF trunk spoiler, carbon fibre door panel lining and trim parts. The vehicle has curb weight of 1,495 kg (3,296 lb), 45 kg (99 lb) lighter than the basic vehicle. Engine performance increase comes largely from the long tube headers and a revised ECU.

### **SPECIAL EDITIONS**

#### **Edition 10" (2007)**

This was a version commemorating the 10th anniversary of SLK-Class vehicles. The concept vehicle originally appeared in 2006 Paris Motor show[ and was based on SLK 280 with 7G-TRONIC transmission, matt-grey metallic body; dark-grey painted, high-sheen light-alloy wheels in a ten-spoke design with 225/45R17 front and 245/40R17 rear tires; black leather seats and interior with silver-coloured under layer; AIRSCARF neck-level heating system, THERMOTRONIC automatic climate-control system, PARKTRONIC parking aid, COMAND system with Europe-wide navigation.

The production versions were available in SLK 200 KOMPRESSOR, SLK 280, SLK 350 models, which include 'allanite grey Magno' body, wheel and tires, and interior from the show car. AIRSCARF, THERMOTRONIC, and COMAND were offered separately

#### **2LOOK Edition (2009)**

This was a limited appearance package available for SLK 200 KOMPRESSOR, SLK 300 and SLK 350 models, which included calcite white, black, obsidian black metallic, or designo mystic white (300 units total for obsidian black metallic and designo mystic white) body 18-inch 5-twin-spoke titanium silver or chrome shadow alloy wheels with 225/40R18 front and 245/35R18 rear tires, discreet emblems on the wings and a draught-stop of transparent acrylic glass, nappa leather seats with

the seat centre panels in white and the contoured bolsters in black, contrasting black-and-white doors and centre armrest in leather.  
The vehicle was unveiled in 2009 Geneva Motor

## **Reception**

Production

In 2008, the SLK-Class began production in Mercedes-Benz plant in Bremen.

Sales

In On May 5 2005, Mercedes-Benz announced the sale of the 500,000th SLK-Class vehicle.

## **Mercedes-Benz SLK-Class R171 (USA)**

The updated models includes the new-look front bumper with a modified air-dam arrangement and a more pronounced arrow shape. The rear end was modified by introducing a diffuser-style lower section that made the Roadster appear more powerful when viewed from behind. The larger exterior mirrors feature LED indicators with a pronounced arrow shape, while the range of light-alloy wheels is also almost entirely new. Interior was optimised to be more driver-oriented. Instrument cluster was updated to include NTG 2.5 audio and telematics with optional LINGUATRONIC voice-operated control, optional harman/kardon Logic7 sound system.

A "gullwing red" leather option, inspired by the original 300 SL gullwing, is added. Further new additions include nappa leather appointments in "natural beige", which complement the new "pale burr walnut" and "black ash grain" wood trims perfectly. Direct steering assist system with variable steering assistance becomes an option (standard in SLK 55 AMG).

SLK 55 AMG included a new apron with a black-painted cross strut and side air outlets as well as darkened headlamps.

## **SLK SPECIFIC MODIFICATIONS**

- Roof controller: allows roof to be opened and closed by remote control and while driving without holding down the button. (Normally the roof can only be operated under 5 MPH.)
- LED lights: license-plate lights, signal indicators, etc. The brake lights are already LEDs, but only the Indicators on the door mirrors are LEDs.
- CHMSL flasher (Third Brake Light Flasher): flashes the center LED light in strobe or pulses.
- Windblocker: in some markets the car comes with a fabric mesh that fits between the roll bars to block the wind; elsewhere it is sold as part of option package. Mercedes-Benz offers a clip on acrylic glass one as an option/accessory; many other companies offer aftermarket bolt-on options.
- Sport air filters: can be ordered from the factory as a special option in some countries; many aftermarket options available.

Mercedes-Benz R172

Development on the R172 began in 2005, with the final design being selected in 2008. Mercedes-Benz announced the new SLK in the autumn of 2010, several months prior to its official 2011 launch at 2011 Frankfurt Autoshow, allowing car magazines to drive disguised test cars. The company took the unusual step of issuing several press releases in October and November 2010 announcing new features such as "Magic Sky Control".

## Mercedes-Benz R172 SLK Class (2011 - )

The third generation Mercedes-Benz SLK-Class was launched in Stuttgart in January 2011, with a subsequent public launch at the 2011 Geneva Motor with international sales starting spring 2011.

The design followed the themes of both the first and second generations, but incorporated headlamp design from the 190 SL roadster from the 1950s, and front end inspired by Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG Coupé and Mercedes-Benz CLS-Class Series 218.

"Edition 1" model included special paint finish SHAPE in glacier grey, panoramic vario-roof, Dynamic Handling package, AMG body styling, two-tone designo nappa leather with contrasting topstitching, AIRSCARF, ambient lighting and more.

Orders began in from 17 January 2011, and arrived to dealer showrooms on 26 March 2011. Early models included SLK 200 Blue EFFICIENCY, SLK 250 Blue EFFICIENCY, SLK 350 Blue EFFICIENCY.



### OVERVIEW

- Manufacturer Daimler AG  
Production 2011–  
Assembly Bremen, Germany  
Designer Il-hun Yoon (2007, 2008)  
Body and chassis  
Class Sports car, Roadster  
Body style 2-door retractable hardtop
- **SLK 250 CDI (2011-)**  
This is the first version of SLK-class vehicle with diesel engine. Ordering of SLK 250 CDI began in 13 September 2011. Early models include 7G-TRONIC PLUS automatic transmission, followed by six-speed manual transmission models in the second quarter of 2012. A Blue EFFICIENCY version of the SLK 250 CDI with 6-speed manual transmission was added to the range in the spring of 2012.[6] SLK 250 CDI Blue EFFICIENCY with 7-speed automatic transmission is sold in Germany.
- **SLK 55 AMG (2012-)**  
The SLK 55 AMG market launch began in January 2012.  
The vehicle was unveiled in 2011 Frankfurt Motor Show, followed by 2011 Bologna Motor Show along with Ducati Streetfighter 848.  
The third generation continues with the two-piece metal folding Vario Roof, which includes a choice of a roof painted in the vehicle colour, a panoramic vario-roof with dark-tinted windows, or the panoramic vario-roof with MAGIC SKY CONTROL, with glass roof that can be switched to light or dark.

A version of SLK-Class roadster with M152 engine rated 428 PS (315 kW; 422 hp) @6800rpm and 540 N·m (398 lb·ft) @4500rpm.

- AMG Cylinder Management, Controlled Efficiency start/stop function,
  - AMG sports exhaust system with integrated exhaust flaps, tandem catalytic converter housing on each side of the vehicle,
  - AMG SPEEDSHIFT PLUS 7G-TRONIC automatic transmission,
  - AMG sports suspension with Torque Vectoring Brakes and AMG Direct-Steer system,
  - Ventilated and perforated brake discs on all wheels with 360 x 36 mm front and 330 x 22 mm rear brake discs, optional
  - AMG Handling package (AMG Performance suspension with stiffer tuning,
  - AMG rear axle differential lock, composite front brake discs,
  - 3-spoke AMG Performance steering wheel wrapped in nappa leather with Alcantara inserts in the grip areas),
  - AMG-specific LED daytime driving lights, darkened clear-lens headlamps and darkened bicolour tail lamps, optional Intelligent Light System,
  - AMG-specific distinctively styled side sill panels, black diffuser insert with three fins,
  - Two chrome-plated twin tailpipes of the AMG sports exhaust system, spoiler lip on the boot lid the vehicle body colour, four air vents in the style of jet engines, centre console in brushed aluminium,
  - Optional AMG-specific analogue watch featuring an IWC design,
  - AMG Performance steering wheel with metal trim, aluminium shift paddles and grip areas finished in perforated leather,
  - AMG sports seats with individual seat upholstery layout and optimised lateral support with ARTICO man-made leather and black fabric upholstery (optional nappa leather and Exclusive nappa leather),
  - Optional AIRSCARF neck-level heating system, standard vario-roof (optional panoramic vario-roof in tinted polycarbonate, panoramic vario-roof with MAGIC SKY CONTROL) with frames in magnesium,
  - Optional AIRGUIDE pivoting draught-stop.
  - Studio options include:"designo leather" and "designo Exclusive leather" with eleven single-tone and ten two-tone upholstery variants,"AMG carbon-fibre trim" and "designo trim in black piano lacquer" for the centre console
  - designo Alcantara windscreen frame
  - seat belts in silver or red
  - a choice of 5 body colours (including 2 matte finishes)
  - AMG multi-spoke light-alloy wheels in titanium grey with a high-gloss finish, with 235/40 R 18 front and 255/35 R 18 rear tyres
  - AMG multi-spoke light-alloy wheels in matte black with a high-gloss finish on the rim flange, with 235/40 R 18 front and 255/35 R 18 rear tyres
  - AMG Handling package (AMG Performance suspension, AMG rear axle differential lock, composite brake discs on the front axle, AMG Performance steering wheel with Alcantara inserts in the grip areas)
  - AMG door sill panels, illuminated in white using LED technology
  - AMG Performance steering wheel with Alcantara inserts in the grip areas
- (Edition 1 model includes a choice of 3 body colours (designo magno cashmere white, diamond white BRIGHT metallic, obsidian black metallic), multi-spoke AMG light-alloy wheels in matt black with a high-gloss finish on the rim flange, two-tone "designo Exclusive leather" in platinum white pearl interior colour, windscreen frame in Alcantara, AMG carbon-fibre trim, AMG Performance steering wheel with Alcantara inserts in the grip areas, white illuminated AMG door sill panels, platinum white contrasting stitching for the upper part of the dashboard, the door beltlines, the AMG Performance steering wheel and the shift lever gaiter).*

Other options include:

- DISTRONIC PLUS
- Intelligent Light System
- Speed Limit Assist
- Anticipatory and reversible PRE-SAFE occupant protection system
- PRE-SAFE Brake

- **ENGINES**

**Petrol**

Model Years Type Power, torque@rpm

**SLK 200 BlueEFFICIENCY 2011-** 1,796 cc (110 cu in) I4 turbo (M 271 DE 18 AL) 184 PS (135 kW; 181 hp)@5250, 270 N·m (199 lb·ft)@1800-4600

**SLK 250 BlueEFFICIENCY 2011-** 1,796 cc (110 cu in) I4 turbo (M 271 DE 18 AL) 204 PS (150 kW; 201 hp)@5500, 310 N·m (229 lb·ft)@2000-4300

**SLK 350 BlueEFFICIENCY 2011-** 3,498 cc (213 cu in) V6 (M 276 DE 35) 306 PS (225 kW; 302 hp)@6500, 370 N·m (273 lb·ft)@3500-5250

**SLK 55 AMG 2012-** 5,461 cc (333 cu in) V8 (M 152 DE 55) 428 PS (315 kW; 422 hp)@6800, 540 N·m (398 lb·ft)@4500

**Diesel**

Model Years Type Power, torque@rpm

**SLK 250 CDI BlueEFFICIENCY 2012-** 2,143 cc (131 cu in) 16V I4 2-stage turbo (OM 651 DE 22 LA) 204 PS (150 kW; 201 hp)@4200, 500 N·m (369 lb·ft)@1600-1800

ECO start/stop is included for all engine models.

- **Transmissions**

- **Petrol engines**

Model Years Types

**SLK 200 BlueEFFICIENCY 2011-** 6-speed manual, 7-speed automatic (7G-TRONIC PLUS)

**SLK 250 BlueEFFICIENCY 2011-** 6-speed manual, 7-speed automatic (7G-TRONIC PLUS)

**SLK 350 BlueEFFICIENCY 2011-** 7-speed automatic (7G-TRONIC PLUS)

**SLK 55 AMG 2012-** 7-speed automatic (AMG SPEEDSHIFT PLUS)

**Diesel engines**

Model Years Types

**SLK 250 CDI BlueEFFICIENCY 2012-** 6-speed manual, 7-speed automatic (7G-TRONIC PLUS)

- **Performance**

Model Years 0-100 km/h (62 mph)

acceleration (second) Top speed Emissions (g/km)

**SLK 250 automatic 2011-** 6.6 243 km/h (151 mph) 153

**SLK 350 automatic 2011-** 5.6 249 km/h (155 mph) (electronically limited) 167

**SLK 55 AMG automatic 2012-** 4.2 [12] 249 km/h (155 mph) (electronically limited) 195

## **SLK 172 - 2014 model year update**

Changes included:

- Adaptive Highbeam Assist no longer part of the Intelligent Light System
- Special Edition 1 model no longer available

- Designo Exclusive leather platinum white pearl (two-color) no longer available
- Calcite White and Galena silver metallic body colours replaced by Polar White non-metallic paint and Hyacinth red metallic (the latter available from Q4/13)
- SLK 350 and SLK 55 AMG with multifunction color screen
- AMG Sports package renamed to AMG Line
- New sport package (similar to AMG package but without spoiler package)
- 5-spoke design alloy wheels in Tremolite gray (optional)
- SLK "Roadster Pure" (available for SLK 200 6-speed manual, SLK 250 CDI 6-speed manual) includes static halogen headlight, cloth upholstery, 2-speed wipers.[13]

- **Engines**

- **SLK 200 BlueEFFICIENCY - 1.8 L 135 kW** (184 PS; 181 hp) I4 turbocharged engine, 0–100 km/h (62 mph) 7.3 seconds, top speed of 149 mph. (not available in Canada and the United States)
  - **SLK 250 - 1.8 L 150 kW** (204 PS; 201 hp) I4 turbocharged engine, 0–100 km/h (62 mph) 6.5 seconds, top speed of 152 mph.
  - **SLK 250 CDI BlueEFFICIENCY - 2.1 L 150 kW** (204 PS; 201 hp) I4 turbocharged diesel engine, 0–100 km/h (62 mph) 6.7 seconds, top speed of 152 mph. (not available in Canada and the United States)
  - **SLK 350 - 3.5 L 225 kW** (306 PS; 302 hp) V6 engine, 0–100 km/h (62 mph) 5.6 seconds, top speed of 155 mph (electronically limited).
  - **SLK 55 AMG - 5.5 L 315 kW** (428 PS; 422 hp) V8 engine, 0–100 km/h (62 mph) 4.2 seconds,[14] top speed of 155 mph (electronically limited).
- In the SLK55 AMG R172 Mercedes-AMG introduced the all-new naturally aspirated 5.5 V8 engine. This engine is based on a variant of the M157 Biturbo V8 engine.