

Avanti Chronology



1963 Studebaker



1964 Studebaker



Avanti II



1983 Blake



1984 Blake



1990 Four Door



2005 Convertible

- 1961 - 1962 Sherwood Egbert's inspiration and Raymond Loewy's masterpiece**
1961 Egbert envisions a sport/luxury vehicle to boost Studebaker's image
1961 Loewy assembles Avanti design team in Palm Springs, California in March
1961 Full-size clay mock-up presented to Studebaker board in April
1962 Avanti debuts at the New York International Auto Show in April
1962 R3 driven by Andy Granatelli at Bonneville shatters 29 US records
1962 Avantis arrive in Studebaker showrooms by mid-summer

- 1963 - 1964 Studebaker Avanti**
1963 Studebaker manufactures 4647 Avantis from June 1962 to December 1963
1963 1964 model is built from August to December 1963, with some overlap
1963 The glory ends prematurely as engineers struggle to fix bugs
1964 Nathan Altman purchases all rights, equipment, and parts

- 1965 - 1982 Avanti Motor Corporation - Avanti II**
1965 Avanti Motors press release issued Monday August 2, 1965
1965 45 new Avanti II's are produced as 1966 models
1968 100 cars built for Avanti II's fourth model year
1973 10th anniversary generates national publicity
1976 Nate Altman dies leaving his brother Arnold in charge of the company
1982 Stephen Blake purchases Avanti Motors on October 1, 1982

- 1982 - 1985 Avanti Motor Corporation - Stephen Blake**
1983 Contoured, body-colored bumpers replace chrome bumpers
1983 Limited Edition 20th Anniversary car introduced
1984 Limited Edition Touring Coupe introduced
1984 First prototype convertibles produced
1985 Blake files bankruptcy in October

- 1986 - 1988 New Avanti Motor Corporation - Michael Kelly**
1986 No 1986 cars produced
1987 Limited Edition Luxury Sport Coupe (LSC) introduced
1987 Production moved from South Bend to Youngstown, Ohio

- 1989 - 1991 Avanti Automotive Corporation - John J. Cafaro**
1989 Four-door sedan unveiled at the New York Automobile show
1991 Avanti production ends after 29 years

- 1992 - 1999 AVX - Jim Bunting**
1993 Tom Kellogg submits designs for Avanti AVX
1996 First one-of-a-kind AVX shown at Studebaker meets
1997 Production prototype shown at Avanti meet in South Bend

- 2000 - 2005 Avanti Motor Corporation - Michael Kelly**
2000 John Seaton and John Hull form Avanti Motor Corporation with Michael Kelly
2001 A 2001 Avanti is produced in Villa Rica, Georgia from GM chassis
2003 Avanti Motors introduces Studebaker XUV at the Chicago Auto Show
2004 Introduction of a 2005 model Avanti using a Ford chassis
2005 2005-2007, AMC version in limited production in Cancun, Mexico