

THE MERCEDES BENZ 280SL 6.3 SUPERCAR

These photos illustrate the fabrication of the Mercedes Benz 280SL with the iconic and very powerful 6.3 liter Mercedes Benz motor. This motor provides nearly 100 more horsepower than the standard 280SL motor. However, more importantly, the torque is nearly doubled in this car. Acceleration is, in a word, *astounding!* As the 280SL is nearly 1,000 pounds lighter and much more aerodynamic than the already fast 6.3 sedans, this car is a rocket. Estimated top speed is north of 160 mph. As you can see from these photos, the modified car produced in Germany and offered by Passarelli Restorations integrates the Mercedes Benz designed air suspension system. This system makes all the difference between a car that is uncomfortable and difficult to control and one that handles like a fine tuned sports car and rides like a limousine.





The 280SL Supercar starts with a standard 280SL car (left) that undergoes a complete restoration process in the course of the conversion. Christian Kromm is regarded as one of Germany's premiere craftsmen that specializes in classic Mercedes Benz.

When he designed the original Mercedes Benz factory prototype 280SL 6.3 car in 1967, Erich Waxenberger instinctively knew that the car would require serious suspension modification to make a car that powerful controllable. He integrated into his design the air suspension system used in the high end Mercedes Benz sedans. This is the same system, installed just as Waxenberger designed it for the prototype. It gives the car amazing stability and comfort.



Components used in the modification of the car are carefully and thoughtfully integrated into the car to minimize their intrusion into the aesthetics of the car. At right, the air supply for the suspension system is shown in the trunk space. In the finished car, this is hidden beneath a specially designed cover.



At left are components of the suspension system, carefully installed following Mercedes Benz factory standards.



Ultimately, this Supercar is all about the powerplant. At left and below are the final phases of installing the motor. The engine compartment has been modified to accommodate the 6.3 liter motor, just as Waxenberger did over 50 years ago.

If you are interested in learning how you can acquire one of only five of these cars that will be produced for the North American market under exclusive agreement with Passarelli Restorations, contact us at 702.808.1609 or email us at ranchomerced@msn.com

