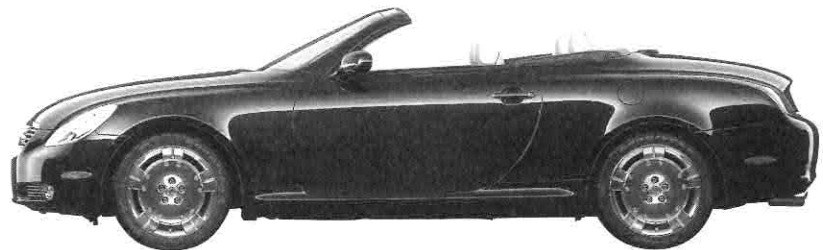
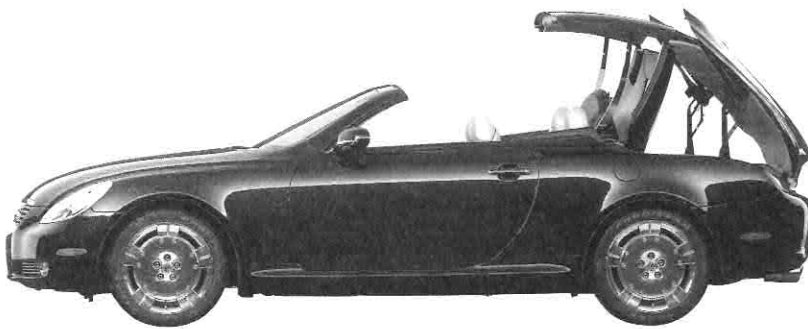


LEXUS
Sport Coupe



*"...pure, unadulterated
emotion—for adults..."*

*Yasushi Nakagawa,
Chief Engineer*



Emotion in Motion

The Lexus Sport Coupe concept vehicle is the jewel of Lexus. At the touch of a button, the vehicle can transform from a coupe to a convertible; the aluminum hardtop disappears magically into the trunk in around twenty seconds. Drawing from several sources, the styling unites sleek exterior lines inked in Europe with a luxurious interior that was laid out in Japan. Double wishbone suspension on a specially constructed convertible platform combine with a powerful yet clean V8 engine and 18-inch tires to make the 2+2 Lexus Sport Coupe a driver's paradise. Whether cover-up coupe or let-it-all-out convertible, the Lexus Sport Coupe concept car makes a stylish statement.

A Body to Turn Heads

Designed with sleek, svelte lines and a taut cabin, the Lexus Sport Coupe concept vehicle presents a solid yet intelligent image of sophisticated power. A long wheelbase, short overhang and road-hugging 18" tires add to this feeling of strength.

"I visited the French Riviera for several weeks to take a look at lifestyles and find sources of inspiration," relates Sotiris Kovos, chief exterior designer of the project at Toyota's European Office of Creation (EPOC). "I noticed how many aspects of the lifestyles I encountered—the products and services used—were marked by a high degree of simplicity and sophistication. Quality combined with purity and elegance are what this car is all about, and these elements have been incorporated into the styling."

The surfaces of the strong side-sections are free of decoration, contributing to that refined, elegant look of classic luxury. A forward-sloping roof interplays with a prominent front bonnet and big fenders with pronounced wheel-arches to produce a dynamic, powerful, flowing profile. The high-tech lamp layout is distinctive, with independent low and high beams, while the turn signals and clearance lamps also exude luxury.

"This is certainly an emotional car," continues Mr. Kovos. "I think that the lines that define the character of the Lexus Sport Coupe are reminiscent of those of a luxury yacht. It has a natural, sculpted beauty and richness about it."

A Home Away From Home

The vehicle's overall rich, full quality is repeated in the interior, which conveys a sense of ease that recalls the quiet of your own living room.

"Integrity of form was a primary consideration for the interior design. The intrinsic beauty of the exterior lines demanded an equally remarkable interior," recounts Satoru Kuno, head of the concept vehicle's interior.

The symphony of the interior is accentuated with melodies of wood and leather. "We didn't want to use something like plastic that can be freely molded," explains Mr. Kuno. "Instead, by working in harmony

LEXUS

Sport Coupe

with all the natural constraints on how wood and leather can be manipulated, we strove to create new value from them while preserving their natural pleasure and comfort-inducing qualities.” The final effect conveys a clean-cut feeling of luxury.

Functionality does not take a back seat to appearance. The instrumentation comprises three independent, easy-to-read analog dials. The instrument panel angle creates an open feel. The vehicle also features an easy-to-read 7-inch-wide display for navigation functions, as well as a center cluster audio panel.

The seats intelligently mix luxury and performance: the genuine leather cradles you, while still affording firm support when driving. Both the driver’s and passenger seats are fitted with memory functions to allow you to return precisely to that favorite position.

The concept vehicle’s top fits ingeniously into the trunk, and even leaves room for a set of golf clubs when folded away. Moreover, the vehicle’s versatile 2+2 layout offers more than enough space for accommodating small children or those purchases that you bought on the way home, regardless of whether you are cruising coupe or convertible.

Going Topless

In line with the development concept of designing a luxury convertible that can be enjoyed in all weather conditions, a metal hardtop was chosen. The aluminum hardtop makes the ride as quiet as a coupe, while also enhancing vehicle security.

To change to a convertible, the Lexus Sport Coupe obliges with an ingenious electrically-powered system that folds the top into the trunk area. The press of a single button can seamlessly convert the coupe to a convertible, or back, in around 20 seconds. The electronic system fitted in the Lexus Sport Coupe concept vehicle allows multiple steps of the process to happen simultaneously. This increases the speed of closing and opening, and also makes the entire movement silky smooth.

Warm and Cool with the Top Down

The luxury associated with Lexus demanded a supremely comfortable cabin atmosphere for the Lexus Sport Coupe concept vehicle. The vehicle's advanced temperature control system is adjusted so that it can cope with an expanded range of external air temperatures with the top down to ensure that you are always seated in comfort.

The temperature control system automatically adjusts to your heating and cooling needs, regardless of whether your top is up or down. On hot days, the system ensures that you are cool when driving at slower speeds with the sun beating down on you; it also lets you enjoy the cooling effect of the wind during top-down freeway cruising. In cooler weather, the heating function is just as precise. Heating efficiency has been optimized so the area around your feet creates a pocket of heat. When the vehicle is open and you need extra warmth, an additional lap-level vent engages automatically to ensure that your comfort is uncompromised.

Audio Achievements

The Lexus Sport Coupe's audio system will take you for a ride just by itself. In keeping with the concept of the interior space as a personal room, Lexus went to the high-end home audio specialists at Mark Levinson. Nine strategically placed speakers make every seat the best seat in the house. An electronic door reminiscent of a home audio cabinet can conceal the audio console when you want a minimalist interior view or added security. Key audio features can be altered via controls located on the steering wheel.

Body Conscious

The concept vehicle was created from the ground up to be a convertible. The result? Ingenious aerodynamics, minimum vibration and a velvety-smooth ride. The concept vehicle's curvaceous wind wrap means there is no need for extra wind blockers or deflectors. Double wishbone suspension attached to the rigid underbody minimizes vibrations and contributes to the smooth ride.

Driving Performance

A muscular, clean and smooth V8 engine with VVT-i (Variable Valve Timing-intelligent), a 5-speed automatic transmission, and aggressive 245/40 ZR 18-inch tires make driving a blast. And because the tires are run-flats, you have no need to worry about changing them in uncomfortable environs or unpleasant weather. Each tire is also fitted with an air pressure monitor that directly measures tire pressure; a warning indicator alerts the driver if this drops below optimal levels.

From Question Mark to Benchmark

A decade ago, the Lexus marque was born. Its future was a giant question mark then, but in ten short years Lexus has grown to become an indisputable benchmark for luxury vehicles. Today, not yet a teenager, Lexus continues to push innovation, service and automotive perfection to the limits. The Lexus Sport Coupe concept vehicle portends exciting developments for Lexus in the future.

Lexus—The Relentless Pursuit of Perfection.

Supporting Companies:

Aisin Seiki Co., Ltd.

Pacific Industrial Co., Ltd.

Denso Corporation

TMME Design Division (EPOC)

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.

Harman-Motive, Inc.