

Rare and Hard to Find Minichamps F1 diecasts - Watchlist (Updated June 2013)

Note: The prices in this watchlist are included as a general guide only, you will find that these models can be a lot more (or less, if you're lucky!).

Rare 1:18 F1 diecasts

Driver/Team	Price	Notes
Andretti/Peterson Lotus 78	US\$180+	1978 World Championship Car. Removable engine cowling
Fittipaldi McLaren M23	US\$180+	1974 World Championship Car
Lauda Ferrari 312T2	US\$180+	1975 World Championship Car
Piquet Brabham BT52	US\$180+	1983 World Championship Car
Schumacher Benetton B195	US\$180+	1995 World Championship Car
Schumacher Ferrari F310/2	US\$180+	1 st Schumacher Ferrari
Senna Collection– Toleman Hart TG184, Lotus 97T (Portugal GP), Lotus 98T, McLaren MP4/4, MP4/6, Williams FW16 with Tobacco liveries	US\$180+	Tobacco converted cars generally fetch higher resale prices
Alesi/Berger Ferrari F93A	US\$150+	Ferrari licensing reasons
Yardley 1973 McLaren M23 – Sheckter, Hulme, Revson	US\$150+	Removable engine cowling
Schumacher Benetton B192	US\$150+	Removable chassis panels
Berger Benetton B186	US\$150+	Removable engine cowling
Schumacher Benetton B195/Alesi taxi	US\$150+	Alesi 1 st GP victory
Senna 1:18 cars	US\$150+	Non-tobacco livery
Prost 1:18 McLaren MP4/4, MP4/5	US\$150+	
Mansell Williams FW14B – Senna Taxi	US\$150+	1992 World Championship Car

Rare 1:43 diecasts

Super Rare 1:43 (range: US\$500+)

Michael Schumacher Benetton Renault B195 – French GP 1995, No.17. This model has long been considered the rarest F1 Minichamps car due to the history of Minichamps withdrawing it after a very limited 1,995 production run and then replacing it with the No.24 maybe because of a factory error. The No.17 has the double ridged airbox cowling instead of the normal sloping cowling of the actual B195/2 and the inlay should have the T2M French importer labeling and gold lettering on the edition numbering.

I've always considered Minichamps' multiple versions of the Schumacher B194 and B195 models in 1:43 scale to be low build quality (the driver figure is toyish and lacks detail for such an expensive model) compared with other Minichamps 1:43 series but it never ceases to amaze me what resale prices these are sold for by collectors and model shops. During the peak of Schumacher's career, the No.17 model was often traded for over US\$500 (I think the record price was over £1000) – not sure what it would fetch now though.

The folks at www.f1marketplace.co.uk have been kind enough to let me include a photo of this rare Schumacher No.17 model which is on display for sale on their website. They also told me of the even rarer version of the No.17 model with a marble base which was quickly sold for £900!



Very Rare 1:43 (range:\$US150+)

There are a few very rare 1:43 Minichamps models that command consistently higher final re-sale prices closer to USD200. These include the harder to find older world championship cars and the early career cars of Nigel Mansell's Lotus and Sebastian Vettel's BMW Sauber.

- Stewart Tyrrell Ford 006 World Champion 1973
- Fittipaldi McLaren M23 1974
- Andretti Lotus 78 World Champion 1979
- Brundle Jordan Peugeot 196 - (Qantas Aust GP 1997 - limited edition 500)
- Jones Williams FW07B (removable chassis cover)
- Vettel BMW Sauber F1.06 - Test Driver (Limited edition 1,296)
- Vettel BMW Sauber F1.07 – USA GP 2007 (Limited Edition 1,800)
- Mansell Lotus Ford 88 – Practice British GP 1981 (Limited edition 1,584)

Hard to find 1:43 (range:US\$80-US\$120+)

The following cars are generally in price range close to US\$100 or over.

- World Champions Collection series cars or Michelin box cars
- Older production run world championship cars (Scheckter, Rosberg, Lauda, Prost, Senna) with the plain "jelly baby" driver figures.
- Any Ayrton Senna Collection cars
- Some Schumacher Collection cars
- Alboreto Tyrrell Ford 012 – Practice Austria 1983 (Limited edition 2016; Angled rear wing)
- Alesi – 1st GP victory 1995 (Schumacher Benetton B195 Taxi – Limited edition 11,695)
- Alonso Minardi European PSo1
- Alonso Minardi European PSo1 – USA GP 2001 (limited edition 2,111)
- Alonso Renault R23
- Alonso Renault R28
- Alonso Renault R28 – Fuji Speedway inlay – Winner Japan GP 2008
- Barrichello Honda RA108 (Turkish GP 2008, 257th GP – limited edition 2,257)
- Button Honda RA108 – 2008
- Brambilla March Ford 751 – Austrian GP 1975
- De Angelis Lotus 88 – Practice Long Beach
- De Angelis Lotus 97T
- De Angelis Brabham BT55
- Donohue McLaren Ford M19
- Häkkinen McLaren Peugeot MP4-9 British GP 1994 (LE 1000)
- Häkkinen McLaren Mercedes MP4-14 pitstop diorama 1999
- Johnny Herbert Collection Benetton Ford B195 – 1st win British GP (ed 43, No.1)
- Hulme McLaren Ford M19 – Monaco GP 1970
- Jones Williams FW06
- Jones Williams FW07 (removable chassis cover)
- Lauda Brabham BT46 Fancar – Winner Swedish GP 1978
- Mansell Williams FW14 – British GP 1991 (Senna Taxi)
- Nakajima Lotus Honda 99T
- Patrese Brabham BMW BT55 – 1986
- Panis Ligier Mugen Honda JS41 – Monaco GP 1996
- Peterson Lotus 78
- Peterson March Ford 761 1976 (Italian GP, Swedish GP, South African GP)
- Peterson Tyrell FNCB – Monaco GP 1977
- Räikkönen Sauber Petronas C20 – 1st Championship point, Albert Park, 2001 (limited edition 1,512)
- Räikkönen McLaren MP4/17D – Malaysian GP 2003 1st Win (limited edition 5,544)
- Räikkönen McLaren MP4/20 – 1st Monaco GP win 2005 (limited edition 999)
- Räikkönen Lotus E20 – British GP 2012 (Dark Knight Rises livery)
- Rosberg Williams FW09 – US GP 1984 (limited edition 2,304)
- Regazzoni Williams FW07 (removable chassis cover)
- Reutemann Williams FW07B (removable chassis cover)
- Schumacher Jordan 191 – Belgium GP 1991
- Schumacher Alesi Taxi – Canadian GP 1995
- Stuck March Ford 761 – German GP 1976 (limited edition 3,744)
- Suzuka Legend cars – including Senna McLarens, Suzuki Lola Lamborghini 1990
- Watson McLaren Ford MP4 – Winner British GP 1980
- Webber KL Minardi Asiatech PSo2 – 5th place Australian GP 2002

Other notable rare 1:43 Minichamps include the experimental 6 wheel test cars:

- Williams FWo8B
- March Ford 2-4-0 6 Wheeler 1976

Notable 1: 43 showcars

Minichamps have always produced 1:43 showcars early in the season to satisfy the appetite for collectors. Showcars are basically the previous year's car dressed up in the new season's livery and sponsor decals. Showcars are not actual cars that have raced and for this reason, they aren't as popular and have re-sale values usually much lower than the model of the actual race car. I have noticed some exceptions though and its usually because of a showcar's limited production run being lower than the proper season car which is also happens to be hard to find. These showcars are often in the US\$80+ range:

- Alonso Minardi PSo1 showcar
- Button Honda RA1o8 showcar
- Webber Minardi PSo2 showcar

Formula 1 World Champions Collection

Models from Minichamps' Formula 1 World Champions Collection series are always in demand by collectors. These are slightly different from the standard Minichamps 1:43 releases as they come in highbox display cases with a cardboard inlay including statistics like chassis, points, # of victories and circuit wins. The driver figure is usually a superior fully formed figurine with proper decals and painted overalls (although not all of these models contain the detailed driver figure – Hill & Villeneuve). Some of the models were even produced with correct tobacco decals e.g. again the '96 Williams Renault FW18 and '97 Williams Renault FW19 with Rothmans decals.

The models in this series that have been released are:

- Lotus 72 Ford DFV Jochen Rindt – 1970 World Champion
- Williams Ford FWo8 Keke Rosberg -1981 World Champion
- Brabham BT52 Nelson Piquet – 1983 World Champion
- McLaren TAG MP4/2 Niki Lauda – 1984 World Champion
- Williams Renault FW11B Nelson Piquet – 1987 World Champion
- McLaren Honda MP4/4 Ayrton Senna – 1988 World Champion
- McLaren Honda MP4/5 Alain Prost – 1989 World Champion
- Williams Renault FW18 Damon Hill – 1996 World Champion
- Williams Renault FW19 Jacques Villeneuve – 1997 World Champion
- McLaren Mercedes MP/13 Mika Hakkinen – 1998 World Champion
- McLaren Mercedes MP4/23 Lewis Hamilton – 2008 World Champion

Most of these units were subject to limited production runs, although a few years back more pieces of Rosberg Williams FWo8 and in recent times the Hill Williams FW18 and Villeneuve Williams FW19 briefly reappeared.

Minichamps have announced pre-orders for another production of release of the World Champions series later in 2013, so collectors who may have missed out on the earlier series will get a chance at filling out gaps in their collection.

Twin Car Sets

Minichamps also produce 1:43 scale twin car sets usually to celebrate a constructor's championship. In recent times, Minichamps have released twin car sets for Red Bull Racing RB6 2010 constructors champions and the Schumacher 20 years anniversary (Jordan 191 and Mercedes MGP Wo2) but its the early 90's twinsets that are usually sought after in the US\$120+ range:

- Senna McLaren MP4/4 and Prost McLaren Mp4/5 (World Champion Set #2)
- Senna McLaren MP4/5B and Senna McLaren Mp4/6 (World Champion Set #3)
- Mansell Williams FW14B and Prost Williams FW15C

Remember: Like any resale market, prices change over time and will be affected by extra supply (e.g. re-release production runs by Minichamps; Spark and Truescale now make the Lotus 78s and Tyrrell P34s) and changes in demand. For example the old Martini Andretti and Reutemann Lotus 79s were very hard to find and expensive but after Minichamps recently re-released both models and the Mansell practice car, the prices have corrected to more sensible levels (also the new Minichamps release build and detailing is superior to the old models). Schumacher cars were worth much more during the peak of his career but his mixed Mercedes comeback may have even pushed down values – although with his final retirement, they might rise again. Another good example is the Schumacher Jordan 191 – the original was the old jelly bean style driver model but its re-sale value was expensive because it was still rare. The 2012 anniversary high-box re-release by Minichamps is vastly superior, although I'm not sure what impact this will have on resale values. Also, Minichamps are scheduling a new production run of the World Champions Collection Series including the hard to find Stewart Tyrrell Ford 006, Jones Williams FW07B, etc. so we will have to hold our breath and see.

Since most collectors are attracted to cars driven by their favorite drivers, you can't go wrong with adding models that have historic importance. 1970s cars (which are also a personal favorite of mine) tend to keep good value and are sought after. Minichamps look like they are slowly releasing cars again for this period (e.g. Tyrrell Ligier JS11s and Brabham BT44s) and their upgraded production quality makes these models worth looking at.