

**AUTHENTIC LOTUS**  
**ELAN & PLUS 2**  
**1962 – 1974**

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**With additional material by RON HICKMAN, OBE**



*Stu*  
50/2181

8731 Revised headlamp contact switch  
 8787 New heater unit  
 Middle tonneau studs in crash pad repositioned to suit twin vents/grilles  
 8797 Stover-type nuts replaced by Nyloc on all suspension and drive-coupling bolts  
 8850 Revised clutch slave cylinder hose and bracket assembly  
 Exhaust downpipe modified  
 8866 Modified Stromberg throttle cable for smoother action  
 8900 Body radiator mounting brackets lowered by 1/2in to increase clearance between inside of bonnet and radiator filler cap  
 8930 New differential mountings and bolts  
 Up-rated drive-couplings  
 Improved specification of drive-coupling bolts  
 8935 Rear number-plate light fasteners amended from self-tappers to screws and bolts  
 8990 Bonnet release repositioned nearer steering column to avoid injury when using handbrake  
 9095 Modified outer rear wheel bearings  
 9180 New adjustment links to fail-safe headlamp operating mechanism  
 9297 Revised front suspension springs  
 9325 Girling Mk2B brake servo introduced  
 9725 Windscreen wiper arms modified, new wiper blades

70.08... Polythene bag enclosure of window motors introduced  
 71.01... Big Valve engine introduced – Elan S4 Sprint  
 Silencer changed to single-box design  
 Intermediate exhaust pipe lengthened  
 Differential casing strengthened  
 Differential stiffening bracket fitted  
 71.06... Introduction of nylon tube to door upper drain hole to achieve positive draining without ingress of water to door interior  
 71.09... Revised front brake calipers

*Notes* 1. Some of the modification points were retrospectively applied to the Service Parts Lists to ease subsequent spares supply  
 2. The above resume is not an exhaustive list of all modifications; others are detailed and discussed in the preceding chapters. It has been included in this format to put those modifications with previously documented and/or known introduction points into a logical sequence  
 3. It would be incorrect to interpolate that engine No LP7800 was installed in an Elan as early as unit No 5922 as these engines were also being fitted to the Lotus Cortina during this period

## Plus 2 Production Milestones

(Prior to 1970 all chassis numbers carried the prefix 50/....)

0001 First production model +2  
 0090 Rear brake supply pipe relocated away from exhaust adjacent to gearbox mounting  
 0100 Tool roll and jack securing straps introduced  
 0150 Improved joint in boot at wheelarches/floor  
 0170 New windscreen  
 0178 Revised rear lamp assemblies  
 0250 Modified inner rear wheel bearings, castings and outboard drive-shafts  
 0367 Clutch master cylinder spacer introduced  
 New pedal box assembly  
 0445 New headlamp microswitches and mounting bracket  
 0521 Chassis stiffened at rear by additional welding where backbone abuts closing plate  
 0720 Bonnet counterbalance spring deleted  
 0750 New handbrake pivot assembly

0795 Modified oil pressure gauge wiring  
 0857 Federal body with negative-earth battery system for USA market  
 0870 Modified outer rear wheel bearings  
 0928 New radiator  
 Electric fan introduced  
 0929 Federal body specification introduced to all markets comprising:  
 New bootlid  
 Revised boot lock assembly with remote cable-operated release mechanism including new mounting plate, bollard and bollard spring  
 New doors, including trim panels, ashtrays, armrests, flush-fitting internal locks/handles and exterior handles  
 Revised door window frames  
 Modified exhaust system  
 Revised boot floor panels with new carpet and modified tool roll securing straps  
 Modified pedal box assembly with new mounting brackets  
 New steering column without lock