

Scale 1/43

#05003

available

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limited edition 333 Stk.



## Crossbreeding the Beetle

Vienna in the short post-war period: The body work company of Hans Kohlruss came to the conclusion to create a specially constructed passenger car from the variety of the remaining VW type 82, a Kübelwagen with a widely available Steyr 50 or Steyr 55 - known in popular parlance as the Steyr Baby. This combination was therefore possible, as both vehicles had nearly the same wheel base, and the chassis and engine of VW usually could be used.

However the car body was damaged, but the car bodies of the Steyr-vehicle could mostly be used, as most vehicles had a technical breakdown in engine or transmission. But this mixture caused a problem as the VW-engine was in the rear and the Steyr Baby had its motor under the front bonnet. As a solution, Hans Kohlruss was giving the VW-engine an additional blower under the new Steyr skin. The car body constructor from Vienna was creating a vehicle in the late 1940s and early 1950s, which was satisfying the needs of those people who were prepared to pay more

money. Extensive accessories like radio or inside illuminated rearview mirrors as well as diverse optical differences in his models are showing individuality and a great and creative craftsmanship of the Viennese.

The bodywork and automotive constructor, Hans Kohlruss, was royally paid for his craftsmanship. It is well-known that in 1952 a vehicle was sold for 55.000 Schilling that was a purchase price of 8.000 German Mark. Just for comparison: From 1st of January, 1954, an original VW Beetle was offered in the export version by the dealer in Wolfsburg for modest 5.150 German Mark.

Nowadays the Kohlruss mixture of the VW type 82 and Steyr 50 or Steyr 55 belongs to the very rare examples of the automobile history.

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