

Central London Buses 1967-1987: The RT and RM Families

A Comprehensive Guide to the Iconic Buses of London

The RT and RM families of buses were a ubiquitous sight on the streets of Central London for over two decades, from 1967 to 1987. These iconic vehicles played a vital role in the city's transport network, carrying millions of passengers every year. Today, they are fondly remembered by bus enthusiasts and transport historians alike.

This comprehensive guide provides a detailed look at the RT and RM families, from their technical specifications and historical background to their operational history and cultural significance. Featuring stunning photography and in-depth research, this book is the definitive guide to these iconic buses.



Central London Buses 1967-1987: The RT and RM Families by Petra Tornack-Zimmermann

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 73296 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 151 pages



Technical Specifications

The RT and RM families were a family of double-decker buses built by Leyland Motors and AEC. The RT family was introduced in 1967, and the RM family was introduced in 1968. Both families were based on the same basic design, but there were some key differences between them.

The RT family was powered by a Leyland O.600 engine, while the RM family was powered by an AEC AH505 engine. The RT family had a capacity of 64 passengers, while the RM family had a capacity of 68 passengers. The RT family was also slightly shorter than the RM family.

Historical Background

The RT and RM families were introduced at a time when London Transport was undergoing a major modernization program. The old trolleybus system was being phased out, and new buses were needed to replace them. The RT and RM families were designed to meet this need, and they quickly became the backbone of the London bus network.

The RT and RM families were a popular success with both passengers and drivers. They were comfortable, reliable, and economical to operate. They also played a significant role in the cultural life of London. The RT family was featured in the Beatles' film "A Hard Day's Night," and the RM family was featured in the James Bond film "The Spy Who Loved Me."

Operational History

The RT and RM families were operated by London Transport on a variety of routes throughout Central London. They were particularly well-suited to routes with high passenger demand, such as the 11, 15, and 25 routes.

The RT and RM families were gradually phased out of service in the late 1980s and early 1990s. They were replaced by newer, more modern buses. However, a few RT and RM buses have been preserved, and they can still be seen on occasional special events.

Cultural Significance

The RT and RM families of buses are an iconic part of London's history. They played a vital role in the city's transport network for over two decades, and they are still fondly remembered by many people today.

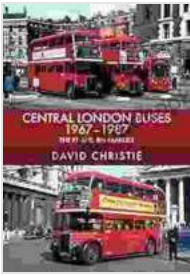
The RT and RM families are a testament to the engineering skills of the men and women who built them. They are also a reminder of a time when London was a very different city.

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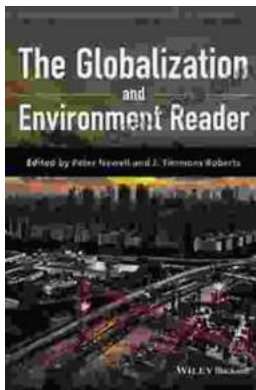


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