



Land Rover Defender

As British as the Empire and almost as storied, the Land Rover Defender has 67 years and two million vehicles behind it. In 1948, when the Series 1 arrived, its designer Maurice Wilks channeled the spirit of the American Jeep for his vision of an off-road vehicle fit for the United Kingdom and utilized a post-war surplus of aluminum to create it. The design, which Wilks etched in the sand on the beach at his Anglesey home, had (quite accidentally) perfect proportions, and when Prototype No. 3 appeared at the 1948 Amsterdam Motor Show

it was an instant classic. Combined with its granite-spined four-wheel-drive system and hardy range of engines, it found fans in all corners of the world, from Fidel Castro and the Queen of England to Bill Murray and Ralph Lauren. Even Rolls-Royce's Director of Design, Giles Taylor, counts himself as an owner. It has been known by the Defender name since 1983, and the manufacturer estimates that 75 percent of the vehicles built are still running, most likely in all 195 of the world's countries.



Toyota Land Cruiser

If you're genuinely life-or-death serious about getting to where you're going, you buy a Toyota Land Cruiser. That's why the UN uses them. It's also because they're cheap, which is thanks to Jeep doing a lot of the early work for the manufacturer—the earliest model was built because the Japanese government told Toyota to produce a light truck for the country's military, which they did by reverse-engineering a Bantam MkII Jeep found by the Imperial Japanese Army in the Philippines in 1941. Just

under two decades were spent developing the car, which eventually resulted in the J40 series, launched in 1960. This was the car that put Toyota on the off-road map. When it launched its workhorse in Australia, Land Rover had a 90 percent market share. A few years later it was down to 2 percent. Short of something armored, nothing will get you as far into, and more importantly out of, a hostile place as a Land Cruiser—precisely why they're still built and in demand today.