By the Numbers: 1996-2014 Chevrolet Corvette/Z51/Grand Sport

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Jason Udy Associate Online Editor July 27, 2013

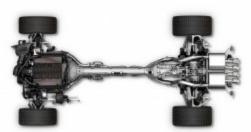
With six decades under its belt, America's original sports car is stronger than it's ever been as the Corvette enters its seventh generation. The 2014 C7 Chevrolet Corvette Stingray Z51 features lots of new technology to keep pace with competitors, with Active Fuel Management for V-4 operation at lighter loads, a seven-speed manual transmission, multiple settings for steering feel, and much more. But how has the Corvette coupe's performance improved over the last two decades?



The Stingray's new engine makes an SAE-certified 460 hp and 465 lb-ft of torque with the dual-mode performance exhaust, and is EPA-rated 17/29 mpg city/highway with the seven-speed manual. At the track, the 2014 Corvette Stingray Z51 hit 60 mph in 3.9 seconds and finished the quarter-mile in 12.2 seconds at 117.3 mph. Braking from 60 mph to a complete stop took just 104 feet. The Z51 also pulled 1.11 g average around the skidpad and went around the figure-eight in 23.9 seconds at 0.82 g average. Compare those numbers to the last C4 Corvette we tested: a 1996 Chevrolet Corvette Collector Edition with the 330-hp 5.7-liter LT4 V-8 engine and six-speed manual. That car took 4.9 seconds to reach 60

mph and 13.3 seconds to finish the quarter-mile with a 107.6-mph trap speed. The C4 Corvette stopped from 60 mph in 116 feet and averaged 0.91 g around the skidpad.

While the LT1 and LT4 engines were a vast improvement over older C4 Corvettes, things started to look up with the introduction of the C5 Corvette and the 5.7-liter LS1 V-8 (345/350 hp, 350/360 lb-ft). Those cars hit 60 mph in 4.4-5.1 seconds. The quarter-mile came in 12.8-13.4 seconds at 108.6-112.4 mph. In our testing, the C5s stopped from 60 mph in 110-116 feet, while the skidpad numbers were between 0.88 and 0.96 g (average).



In 2006, the C6 Corvette brought new styling and larger LS series engines. A 2006 Corvette coupe with a 400-hp, 400 lb-ft 6.0-liter LS2 V-8 and six-speed automatic sprinted to 60 mph in 4.6 seconds and through the quarter-mile in 13.0 seconds flat at 112.2 mph – only 0.2 second off the pace of the fastest manual-equipped C5 car. A 2010 Corvette Grand Sport we tested wasn't far behind the 2014 Stingray Z51 coupe with the manual transmission, reaching 60 mph in 3.9 seconds and finishing the quarter-mile in 12.2 seconds at 117.0 mph. The 2010 Grand Sport stopped in 104 feet, matching the 2014 Corvette's performance. Around the skidpad, the 2010 car pulled 0.99 g average, down from the 2014 model's 1.11 g average.

<u>Take a look at *Motor-Trend* tested performance numbers of various Corvettes from the last two decades right here:</u>



2014 Chevrolet Corvette Stingray Z51

LT1 6.2L V-8 with 460 hp/465 lb-ft; 7M

0-60 mph: 3.9 seconds

Quarter-mile: 12.2 seconds @ 117.3 mph

Braking: 104 feet Skidpad: 1.11 g

Figure-eight: 23.9 seconds @ 0.82 g (avg)

2012 Chevrolet Corvette Grand Sport

LS3 6.2L V-8 with 436 hp/428 lb-ft; 6M

0-60 mph: 4.1 seconds

Quarter-mile: 12.5 seconds @ 115.0 mph

Braking: 101 feet Skidpad: 1.09 g

Figure-eight: 23.7 seconds @ 0.82 g (avg)



2010 Chevrolet Corvette Grand Sport

LS3 6.2L V-8 with 436 hp/428 lb-ft; 6M

0-60 mph: 3.9 seconds

Quarter-mile: 12.2 seconds @ 117.0 mph

Braking: 104 feet Skidpad: 0.99 g



2008 Chevrolet Corvette Z51

LS3 6.2L V-8 with 436 hp/428 lb-ft; 6M

0-60 mph: 4.1 seconds

Quarter-mile: 12.5 seconds @ 115.0 mph

Braking: 110 feet Skidpad: 0.97 g

2006 Chevrolet Corvette Coupe

LS2 6.0L V-8 with 400 hp/400 lb-ft; 6A

0-60 mph: 4.6 seconds

Quarter-mile: 13.0 seconds @ 112.2 mph

Braking: 117 feet



2005 Chevrolet Corvette Z51

LS1 5.7L V-8 with 400 hp/400 lb-ft; 6M

0-60 mph: 4.3/4.4 seconds

Quarter-mile: 12.7/12.6 seconds @ 112.3/113.2 mph

Braking: 110/113 feet Skidpad: 0.95/0.96 g

2004 Chevrolet Corvette Z51

LS1 5.7L V-8 with 350 hp/360 lb-ft; 6M

0-60 mph: 4.5 seconds

Quarter-mile: 13.1 seconds @ 110.2 mph

Braking: 114 feet Skidpad: 0.91 g



2003 Chevrolet Corvette 50th Anniversary convertible

LS1 5.7L V-8 with 350 hp/360 lb-ft; 6M

0-60 mph: 4.7 seconds

Quarter-mile: 13.0 seconds @ 109.6 mph

Braking: 115 feet Skidpad: 0.88 g

2001 Chevrolet Corvette

LS1 5.7L V-8 with 350 hp/360 lb-ft; 6M

0-60 mph: 4.8 seconds

Quarter-mile: 13.1 seconds @ 109.1 mph

Braking: 116 feet Skidpad: 0.90 g



1999 Chevrolet Corvette Hardtop

LS1 5.7L V-8 with 345 hp/350 lb-ft; 6M

0-60 mph: 4.8 seconds

Quarter-mile: 13.3 seconds @ 108.6 mph

Braking: 116 feet Skidpad: 0.90 g

1998 Chevrolet Corvette

LS1 5.7L V-8 with 345 hp/350 lb-ft; 6M

0-60 mph: 4.4/5.1 seconds

Quarter-mile: 12.8/13.4 seconds @ 112.4/110.6 mph



1997 Chevrolet Corvette

LS1 5.7L V-8 with 345 hp/350 lb-ft; 6M

0-60 mph: 4.8 seconds

Quarter-mile: 13.2 seconds @ 109.6 mph

Braking: 114 feet Skidpad: 0.93 g



1996 Chevrolet Corvette Collector Edition

[OK, granted. Not a real Grand Sport but darn close with the same LT4 engine]

LT4 5.7L V-8 with 330 hp/340 lb-ft; 6M

0-60 mph: 4.9 seconds

Quarter-mile: 13.3 seconds @ 107.6 mph

Braking: 119 feet Skidpad: 0.91 g