

G11&Porsche

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SHADES OF PORSCHE DESIGN

Some spin off products from car manufacturers, especially in the men's grooming field, might not be taken too seriously by car enthusiasts, but Porsche's sunglasses have been respected ever since the late Ferdinand Alexander Porsche included them in his Porsche Design catalogue back in the 1970s. Those shown here adopt the timeless Aviator style designed for the United States Army Air Corp by Ray-Ban in 1937, and made famous when, during World War Two, General Douglas McArthur, fresh off a landing craft in the Philippines was photographed wearing a pair. However that was nothing compared to the boost they got when Tom Cruise modelled them in the 1986 movie Top Gun.

The Porsche Design version is made from ultra lightweight titanium and stainless steel, and comes in various colours. Priced at £195, they are double the cost of the Ray-Ban Aviator, but Porsche level quality is promised, and with Ray-Bans seeming to be less heavy duty since production was switched from Bausch & Lomb in the US to Luxottica in Italy in 1999, the Porsche Design might be seen as a good alternative to the original. One central London optician with an extensive range of Porsche Design sunglasses (and also Porsche "ready readers") is Roger Pope & Partners, on 020 7935 2124 or at www.rogerpope.co.uk

