

Type: Car, Armored, 4x4 Nomenclature: **AEC Mk I**  
Country: UK Date of Introduction: 1941

**Physical Data:**

**Weight empty (est)** 23000 lb (10442 kg)  
**Weight loaded** 24200 lb (10987 kg)  
**Length (OA)** 204 in (5182 mm)  
**Width (OA)** 108 in (2743 mm)  
**Height (OA)** 105 in (2667 mm)  
**Ground clr** 11 in (279 mm)  
**Wheel base (est)** 126 in (3200 mm)  
**Wheel tread** 88 in (2235 mm)  
**Drive** 4x2 or 4x4  
**Armor** .63 in (30 mm)  
**NBC protection** Individual

**Armament:**

**Main – Cal** (1) 2-Pdr (40 mm) cannon and (1) 7.92 mm BESA

**Elev & traverse**

**Fire control** Manual  
**Aux wpns** Optical  
Crew side arms

**Capacity:**

**Fuel (est)** 25 gal (95 liters)  
**Ammo/Qty** unk  
**Crew/Pass** 3  
**Cargo Vol/Wgt** n/a

**Engine:**

**Type** Diesel  
**HP at Rev/Min** 105 hp (77.5 kW)  
**Model** 7.58 litre  
**Mfr** AEC  
**No. of Cyls** 6  
**Location** Rear  
**Cooling** Liquid

**Transmission:**

**Type** Manual  
**Gear Fwd/Rev** 4/1  
**Model** unk  
**Mfr** AEC

**Suspension System:**

**Type** Leaf spring  
**Steering** Front axle  
**Turning radius** unk  
**No/wheels** 4  
**Tire Size** unk

**General Data:**

**Elec voltage** 12V  
**Radio** As fitted by user

**Night Vision:**

as fitted by user

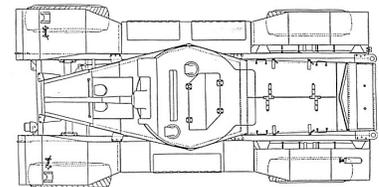
**Performance:**

**Speed/Land** 36 mph (58 km/h)  
**Speed/Water** n/a  
**Range** 250 mi (402 km)  
**Fording depth** unk  
**Max grade** unk  
**Trench** unk  
**Step** unk



**Remarks:** Even though there wasn't a written requirement for a heavy armored car, the Associated Equipment Company (AEC) of London developed a prototype vehicle on their own. Fitted with the 2-pounder armed turret from the Valentine infantry tank, the design proved to be an effective and timely development. British and Commonwealth forces in the North African Theater had been requesting a heavier armored car to provide support to their reconnaissance units. Production started in late 1941 and the first vehicles were in action in North Africa by mid-1942. The AEC Mk I had selective four-wheel drive and on a hard or improved surface could be powered using the front wheels alone. Armament for the Mk I was a 2-Pounder (40mm) cannon and coaxial 7.92mm

*Top: One of the first Mk Is completed. Two confirmed serials for the Mark I series are F59008 and F59010. Above: A 1943 photo of a Mk I leading a column in Aleppo, Syria. Below: Top view drawing.*



BESA. Of the 629 AECs completed, 122 were the Mk I version.

**Usage:** British and Commonwealth forces.

**Manufacturer:** Associated Equipment Company, Ltd. London, UK.