GS Chronology

MILESTONES

- January 1993 – A new addition to the Lexus family, the Lexus GS 300 luxury performance sedan, makes its debut at the Los Angeles Auto Show and the North American International Auto Show (NAIAS) in Detroit.

- March 1993 – The 1994 GS 300 goes on sale.

- January 1997 – Lexus introduces the HPS (High Performance Sedan) concept vehicle at the 1997 North American International Auto Show. The HPS is a dramatic hint of the all-new GS 400/300 performance sedan to be launched as part of the Lexus model line-up for 1998.

- September 1997 – Lexus introduces its next-generation GS 400/300. New engines featuring Variable Valve Timing with intelligence (VVT-i) produce 300 horsepower in the V8 GS 400 and 225 horsepower in the six-cylinder GS 300. A new 5-speed automatic transmission is also installed. "Something Wicked This Way Comes" advertising campaign is acclaimed for its dramatic impact.

- October 1997 – The second-generation 1998 GS 400/300 goes on sale.

- December 1997 – Lexus debuted its one-of-a-kind Street Rod at the Los Angeles Auto Show. Based on a '32 roadster, the Lexus Street Rod was created to showcase a specially modified Lexus GS 400 V8, producing more than 400 horsepower.

- March 1999 – Lexus enters the world of motorsports with the GS 400 luxury sport sedan in the Grand American Motorola Cup Sports class. The Team Lexus GS 400 won at Road Atlanta in its sixth race and went on to claim two track records and four podium finishes in Lexus' inaugural racing year.

- April 1999 – Team Lexus launched and debuted two privateer Lexus GS 400 racecars in the Motorola Cup series. In its successful inaugural season, the GS 400 secured four podium finishes in nine races.

- August 2000 – Lexus L-Tuned Sport Packages, aftermarket sport packages that add more performance and style to the GS series, go on sale through Lexus dealers.

- September 2000 – For 2001, the GS receives a new 4.3-liter V8 engine and is re-named the GS 430.

- March 2003 – Lexus introduces a limited edition GS 300 SportDesign model. The 2003 SportDesign edition features new saddle-color leather seats, gunmetal-colored aluminum wheels and an exclusive Graphite Gray Pearl exterior.

- January 2004 – Redesigned third-generation GS luxury sport sedan debuts at the NAIAS in Detroit.

- February 2005 – The third-generation GS goes on sale for the 2006 model year.

- September 2006 – The 2007 GS 350 replaces the GS 300, with 306-horsepower, 3.5-liter V6 replacing GS 300's 245-horsepower 3.0-liter V6; GS 430 offers newly optional Active Stabilizer system that counteracts body roll.

- August 2008 – The 2007 GS 460 replaces the GS 430, with 342-horsepower, 4.6-liter V8 replacing GS 430's 300-horsepower 4.3-liter V8. GS 460 provides more power and performance yet with similar fuel efficiency.

- August 2011 – The fourth-generation GS 350 makes its world debut at Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance. Completely redesigned, inside and out, the GS features the brand's new design philosophy, with styling cues such as a distinctive new front grille, that will be seen on all future Lexus vehicles. The new GS will also lead the rest of the Lexus lineup in an entirely new direction of driving dynamics.

- October 2011 - All-New 2013 GS 350 F SPORT debuts at 2011 SEMA Show. The F SPORT package features 19-inch staggered width wheels, dynamic handling with F SPORT Tuned Adaptive Variable Suspension (AVS) and stopping power with new larger front brakes with high friction pads

- February 2012 – Fourth-generation 2013 GS 350 goes on sale.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- May 1994 – The GS 300 takes the second spot (between LS 400 and ES 300) in J.D. Power and Associates Initial Quality Study (IQS).

- June 1996 – Toyota Motor Corporation's Tahara Plant, home of the GS 300 (and LS 400) captures the J.D. Power and Associates Gold Plant Award among Asian manufacturing facilities.

- February 1997 – The research firm IntelliChoice names the GS 300 a Best Overall Value in the Luxury Car category.

- October 1997 – The all-new GS 400 named a Best Buy in the Luxury Car category by *Consumers Digest*.

- October 1997 – The GS 400 is given Best of What's New status by *Popular Science*.

- November 1997 – The GS 400 wins the American Automobile Association (AAA) Top Car award for best all-around car in the $40,000 to $50,000 category.

- January 1998 – The GS 400/300 are honored as one of *Car & Driver's* 10 Best.

- February 1998 – The GS 400/300 high performance sedan series is named *Motor Trend's* Import Car of the Year.

- December 1998 – *Consumer Digest* names the GS 400/300 a Best Buy.

- December 1998 – The GS 400 wins the American Automobile Association (AAA) Top Car award for the best all-around car in the $40,000 to $50,000 category.

- January 1999 – The GS 400/300 is honored as one of *Car and Driver* magazine's 10 Best.
- January 2000 – *Car and Driver* magazine again honors the GS 400/300 as one of its 10 Best.
- October 2001 – The GS sedans are named Most Appealing Mid-Luxury Sedan in J.D. Power and Associates' Automotive Performance Execution and Layout (APEAL) Study.
- April 2001 – *Consumer Guide* rates the GS 300 a Best Buy.
- March 2002 – *Consumer Reports* rates the GS 300 and GS 430 a Luxury Car Best Buy.
- May 2002 – The GS 430/300 ranks first in the Mid-Luxury Car segment of the J.D. Power and Associates Initial Quality Study (IQS).
- November 2002 – The GS 430/300 ranks first in the Entry Luxury Car segment of the 2003 J.D. Power and Associates Vehicle Dependability Index (VDI).
- May 2003 – The GS 430/300 ranks first in the Mid-size Luxury segment in the J.D. Power and Associates' Initial Quality Study (IQS). J.D. Power and Associates also awarded the GS 300/ 430 manufacturing facility, the Tahara Plant in Japan, the worldwide Platinum Plant Award.
- October 2003 – The GS sedans are named Most Appealing Mid-Luxury Sedans in J.D. Power and Associates' Automotive Performance Execution and Layout (APEAL) Study.
- June 2004– The GS 430/300 ranks first in the Mid-Luxury Car segment of the J.D. Power and Associates 2004 IQS.
- March 2005 – The GS 300 is presented with the Top Car award in its price category by the American Automobile Association (AAA).
- October 2005 – The GS sedans are named Most Appealing Mid-Luxury Sedans in J.D. Power and Associates' Automotive Performance Execution and Layout (APEAL) Study.
- June 2006 – The GS 430/300 is highest ranked Mid-Luxury Car in J.D. Power and Associates 2005 IQS.
- August 2006 – Most Dependable Midsize Premium Car in J.D. Power and Associates Vehicle Dependability Study (study of 2003 model year vehicles).
- August 2007 – Most Dependable Midsize Premium Car in J.D. Power and Associates Vehicle Dependability Study (study of 2004 model year vehicles).
- July 2008 – Intellichoice Best New Car Deal for the Month of June Sport Sedan/Wagon Over $38,000
- June 2009 – The GS 460/350 ranks first in the Midsize Premium Car segment of the J.D. Power and Associates 2009 IQS.

- June 2010 – The GS wins the Midsize Premium Car segment in the J.D. Power and Associates 2010 Initial Quality Study (IQS).
- April 2011 - The 2011 GS 350 wins Edmunds.com Best Retained Value Award in the Sedan Over $40K category.
- June 2011 – For the third consecutive year, the GS wins the Midsize Premium Car segment in the J.D. Power and Associates 2011 Initial Quality Study (IQS).
- April 2012 – The GS has earned the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) Top Safety Pick award for good performance in front, side, rollover and rear impact evaluations. The GS is the third Lexus to qualify since the Institute made the criteria for earning the Top Safety Pick award tougher in 2010.
- November 2012 - Kelley Blue Book's KBB.com names the GS 350 a 2013 Best Resale Value: Luxury Car.
- November 2012 – The GS 350 is awarded ALG's Residual Value Award in the Premium Fullsize Car category.
- January 2013 – GS 350 wins *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* Best New Car: Cars $40,000-$50,000.
- February 2013 – Kelley Book Book's KBB.com names the GS 350 a 2013 5-Year Cost to Own Award: Luxury Car.
- April 2013 – The GS 350 F SPORT is named in Texas Auto Writers Association (TAWA) 2013 Auto Roundup in the Mid-Size Luxury Car category.
- August 2013 – AutoTrader.com lists the GS on their Best Automotive Interiors Under $60,000 list and states "the models offer inviting cabins that are worth a bit of a splurge."
- January 2014 – GS 350 wins *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* Best Value Awards in Best-in-Class: Cars $40,000-$50,000 category.
- February 2014 – The GS captured the J.D. Power and Associates Vehicle Dependent Study (VDS) segment award in the Midsize Premium Car, with a score of 77 PP 100.
- March 2014 – The 2014 GS 350 has been named among Edmunds.com's Top Rated Vehicles for 2014.

Where is it built?
The GS 350 is built exclusively at the Tahara and Motomachi plants in Japan.