



## SPANISH GRAND PRIX QUALIFYING

**MERCEDES DRIVER LEWIS HAMILTON TAKES POLE ON SOFT TYRES,  
BEATING HIS BENCHMARK OF LAST YEAR BY NEARLY THREE SECONDS**

**TRACK TEMPERATURES EXCEED 44 DEGREES  
IN SPANISH GRAND PRIX QUALIFYING**

**TWO PIT STOPS EXPECTED FOR THE MAJORITY OF DRIVERS TOMORROW**

Montmelo, May 13, 2017 – Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton went fastest in hot conditions during qualifying at the Spanish Grand Prix, setting a time that was nearly three seconds faster than his pole position from 2016.

Mercedes, Ferrari and Red Bull were the only teams to get through Q1 using only one set of the soft tyres.

From then on, only the soft tyre was used – so this is the tyre that the top 10 will start the race on, with two pit stops expected for most drivers. Fernando Alonso qualified seventh for his home grand prix after completing just one run on the soft in Q3, along with Williams driver Felipe Massa and the two Force Indias.

### MARIO ISOLA - HEAD OF CAR RACING

*“We had an extremely close qualifying session, with very small margins between the contenders. I think we can expect two pit stops tomorrow, as the performance gap between the medium and soft means that the drivers will all want to maximise their running on the softer compound. As a result, we’d expect at least two stints on the soft for as long as possible, with just one stint on the slower medium.”*

### HOW THE TYRES BEHAVED TODAY



ORANGE **HARD**

Only used for installation runs today, unlikely to be seen in the race.



WHITE **MEDIUM**

Not used in qualifying. For those out of the top 10, it might be the starting tyre.



YELLOW **SOFT**

Main tyre for qualifying and race, nearly two seconds faster than medium.



### FREE PRACTICE 3 – TOP 3 TIMES

DRIVER	TIME	COMPOUND
Raikkonen	1m 20.214s	SOFT NEW
Vettel	1m 20.456s	SOFT NEW
Hamilton	1m 20.595s	SOFT NEW

### QUALIFYING TOP 10

DRIVER	TIME	COMPOUND
Hamilton	1m 19.149s	SOFT NEW
Vettel	1m 19.200s	SOFT NEW
Bottas	1m 19.373s	SOFT NEW
Raikkonen	1m 19.439s	SOFT NEW
Verstappen	1m 19.706s	SOFT NEW
Ricciardo	1m 20.175s	SOFT NEW
Alonso	1m 21.048s	SOFT NEW
Perez	1m 21.070s	SOFT NEW
Massa	1m 21.232s	SOFT NEW
Ocon	1m 21.272s	SOFT NEW

### MOST LAPS BY COMPOUND SO FAR

COMPOUND	DRIVER	LAPS
HARD	Ocon	14
MEDIUM	Massa, Vettel	26
SOFT	Bottas	28

### BEST TIME BY COMPOUND SO FAR

COMPOUND	DRIVER	TIME
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<b>HARD</b>	Hamilton	1m 23.531s
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Hamilton	1m 21.521s
<b>SOFT</b>	Hamilton	1m 19.149s

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