1996 ford taurus gl repair manual

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Quick Links Download this manual. Table of Contents. It is dedication to learning what you want, determination to develop the right concept, and execution of that concept with care, precision, and attention to detail. Page 5 This guide describes equipment and gives specifications for equipment that was in effect when this guide was approved for printing. Ford may discontinue models or change specifications or design without any notice and without incurring obligation. Page 7 If you lose your Warranty Information Booklet, you can get a new one free of charge. Contact any Ford or Lincoln-Mercury dealer, or refer to the addresses and phone numbers on the first page of this owner guide. Page 8: Safety Labels The break-in period for new brake linings lasts for miles km of city driving or 1, miles 1, km of highway driving. Use only the type of engine oil that Ford recommends. See Engine oil recommendations in the Index. Page 9 Ford, however, believes that continual improvement in customer satisfaction is a high priority. For this reason, Ford has authorized its dealers to repair, at no charge to the owner, the surfaces of new vehicles damaged by Do not use steel wool, abrasive cleaners, fuel or strong detergents. Clean with a tar and road oil remover if necessary. Page Safety Restraints Safety Restraints Important Safety Belt Information The use of safety belts helps to restrain you and your passengers in case of a collision. In most states and in Canada the law requires their use. Safety belts provide best restraint when: the seatback is upright the occupant is sitting upright not slouched the lap belt is snug and low on the hips In a collision, people riding in these areas are more likely to be seriously injured or killed. Do not allow people to ride in any area of your vehicle that is not equipped with seats and safety belts. Safety belt assemblies not in use during a collision should also be inspected and replaced if either damage or improper operation is noted. Page 14 Combination Lap and Shoulder Belts While your vehicle is in motion, the combination lap and shoulder belt adjusts to your movement. Page 15 Unfastening the combination lap and shoulder belts â€" front and rear outboard seating positions While the belt retracts, guide the tongue to its original position to prevent it from striking you or the vehicle. See the detailed instructions under Safety Seats for Children in this chapter. Shoulder Belt Height Adjustment Driver and right front passenger You can adjust the shoulder belt height to one of five 5 positions. Be sure the shoulder belt is properly positioned on your shoulder each time you use the belt. If the shoulder belt is off your shoulder, on your upper arm or neck, there is a greater risk of severe injury in a collision. Page 19 To fasten the belt, pull the combination lap and shoulder belt from the retractor so that the shoulder belt portion of the safety belt crosses your shoulder and chest. Be sure the belt is not twisted. If the belt is twisted remove the twist. Insert the belt tongue into the proper buckle for your seating position until you hear a snap and feel it latch. Page 20 While you are fastened in the seat belt, the shoulder belt adjusts to your movement. To attach the shoulder belt to the lap belt, pull the shoulder belt out from the retractor in the seatback and insert the lap belt connecting pin into the wide end of the key-slot on the shoulder belt as shown in Figure 1. The lap belt must fit snugly, and as low as possible around the hips. Do not wear around your waist. Page Lap Belts Lap Belts The lap belts in the center front seating position if equipped and center rear seat do not adjust automatically. You must adjust them to fit snugly and as low as possible around your hips. Do not wear the lap belt around your waist. The front center seat belt buckle and tongue are stowed in a pocket between the seat cushion and seatback. Page 24 To unfasten the belt, push the release button on the end of the buckle. This allows the tongue to unlatch from the buckle. Page Safety Belt Maintenance slide bar if equipped , child safety seat tether bracket assemblies if equipped , and attaching hardware, should be inspected after any collision. Ford recommends that all safety belt assemblies used in vehicles involved in a collision be replaced. However, if the collision Your vehicle is equipped with a right front passenger air bag. Air bags deploy with great force, faster than the blink of an eye. Front passengers, especially children and small adults, must never sit on the front edge of the seat, stand near the glove compartment of the Page 29 How the Air Bag Supplemental Restraint System Operates The Air Bag Supplemental Restraint System consists of the driver and passenger air bags, impact sensors, a system diagnostic module, a readiness light and tone, and the electrical wiring which connects the components. The driver air bag is in the center of the steering wheel. Page 30 If a collision occurs, the sensors sense the severity of the impact and activate the air bags if necessary. Page 31 Inflated driver-side air bag Inflated passenger-side air bag Page 32 If any of these things happen, have the air bag system serviced at your Ford or Lincoln-Mercury dealer immediately. Unless serviced, the air bag Supplemental Restraint System may not function Disposal of air bags or air bag equipped vehicles For disposal of air bags or air bag equipped vehicles, see your local Ford or Lincoln-Mercury dealer. Air bags MUST be disposed of by qualified personnel. Safety Restraints for Children In the U. Persons not riding in a seat with a fastened seat belt are much more likely to suffer serious injury in a collision. Cargo should always be secured to prevent it from shifting and causing damage to the vehicle or harm to

passengers. Ford recommends the use of a child safety seat having a top tether strap. Install the child safety seat in a seating position which is capable of providing a tether anchorage. Page 36 The force of the rapidly inflating passenger air bag could push the top of the rear-facing seat against the vehicle seatback, armrests or console. Rear-facing infant seats must always be secured in the rear seat. All child restraint systems are designed to be secured in vehicle seats by lap belts or by the lap portion of a lap-shoulder belt. Page 38 If you choose to install a child safety seat in the front seating position, move vehicle seat as far back as possible. Position the child seat on the passenger seat of the vehicle. Pull down on shoulder belt, then grasp shoulder belt and lap belt together. Page 39 3. See Figure 2. Be sure that the belt webbing is not twisted. Page 40 Buckling the belt Page 41 4. Grasp the shoulder portion of the belt and pull downward until all of the belt is extracted and a click is heard. At this time, the retractor is in the automatic locking mode child seat restraint mode. See Figure 4. Setting the retractor to automatic locking mode 5. Page 42 Allowing shoulder belt to retract Removing slack from belt Page 43 6. Before placing the child in the child seat, forcibly tilt the seat from side to side, and tug it forward to make sure that the seat is securely held in place, Figure 7. Checking that the seat is secure Page 44 7. Double check that the retractor is in the automatic locking mode. Try to pull more belt out of the retractor. If you cannot, the belt is in the automatic locking mode, Figure 8. Checking the retractor 8. Check to make sure that the child seat is properly secured prior to each use. If you do not install and use the safety seat properly, the child may be injured in a sudden stop or collision. Attaching Safety Seats With Tether Straps Some manufacturers make safety seats that include a tether strap that goes over the back of Page 46 Attachment holes at each rear outboard seating position have been provided in your vehicle to attach anchor hardware, if required. Kits can be obtained at no charge from any Ford or Lincoln-Mercury dealer. Page 47 Finding the tether anchors in the wagon 1. Behind the second seat, find the plastic snap-on covers for the floor anchors. Use a screwdriver or coin to snap the covers off the anchor in a rearward and upward direction. Remove the covers completely. Page 48 Built-In Child Seat Wagon â€" If equipped The second row seat may include an optional built-in child safety seat on the passenger side. The child restraint is to be used only by children who are at least one year old, weigh between 9 and 27 kilograms 20 and 60 pounds and whose shoulders top are below the shoulder harness slots in the seatback. Page 50 1. Pull and release flap from top of seatback. See Figure 1. NOTE: The child seat cannot be opened unless the seatback is latched in the upright position. Figure 1: Releasing the flap 2. Grasp the child seat at the top of the seatback and pull the top forward to release the latch. Page 51 3. Continue to unfold the child seat until it rests on the seat as shown in Figure 3. Figure 3: Opening the built-in child seat 4. Read the information and warnings on the child seat cushion and shoulder safety belt. Refer to Figure 4. Page 52 5. If connected, squeeze the top and the bottom of the right half of the chest clip and pull to separate both halves. Place the child on the child seat and position the shoulder belts over each shoulder. Refer to Figure 5. Page 53 7. Insert either the left or right safety belt tongue into the single opening of the crotch safety belt buckle as shown in Figure 6. It does not matter which tongue is inserted first. Then insert the other tongue. Allow belts to retract and fit snugly. Page 54 Figure 6: Fastening the crotch safety belt buckle Page 55 8. The color green must appear in the indicator window when fastened. Page 56 Figure 7: Securing the chest clip Page 57 9. Pull the shoulder belts out to ensure that the crotch safety belt buckle is securely fastened and the retractor is locked. Refer to Figure 8. Figure 8: Checking for securely latched buckle and locked retractor If the belts become too tight, unbuckle the crotch safety belt buckle, allow belts to retract, then reinsert both belt tongues. Page 58 Dealer technician after any collision. If the child seat was in use during a collision, Ford recommends replacing it. However, if the collision was minor and a qualified technician finds that the child restraints Page 59 Built-in child seat maintenance Regularly inspect the lap and shoulder belts system of your child seat. Page 60 To improve the fit of lap and shoulder belts on children who have outgrown child safety seats, Ford recommends use of a belt-positioning booster seat that is labelled as conforming to all Federal motor vehicle safety standards. Belt-positioning booster seats raise the child and The key returns to the ON position once the engine is started and remains in this position while the engine runs. They could accidentally injure themselves or others through inadvertent operation of the vehicle. Further, on hot, sunny days, temperatures in a closed vehicle could quickly become high enough to cause severe and possibly fatal injuries to people as well as animals. Page 64 Starting Your Engine To start your engine: 1. Follow the steps under Preparing to Start Your Vehicle at the beginning of this section. Turn the ignition key to the ON position. DO NOT depress the accelerator pedal when starting your engine. Page 65 Whenever you start your vehicle, release the key as soon as the engine starts. Excessive cranking could damage the starter. After you start the engine, let it idle for a few seconds. Keep your foot on the brake pedal and put the gearshift lever in gear. Page 66 To turn the heater on, simply plug it

into a grounded volt outlet. Ford recommends that you use a volt circuit that is protected by a ground fault circuit interrupter. Page 67 For best results, plug the heater in at least three hours before you start your vehicle. Using the heater for longer than three hours will not damage the engine, so you can plug it in at night to start your vehicle the following morning. Have all the passengers get out of the vehicle and call the local fire department or a towing service. Page 69 If your engine cranks but does not start after a collision or substantial jolt: 1. Turn the ignition key to the OFF position. Check under the vehicle for leaking fuel. If you do not see or smell fuel, push the red reset button on the fuel pump shut-off switch down. Page 70 Guarding Against Exhaust Fumes Carbon monoxide, although colorless and odorless, is present in exhaust fumes. Take precautions to avoid its dangerous effects. Never sit in a stopped vehicle for more than a short period of time with the engine running. Page 71 Improve your ventilation by keeping all air inlet vents clear of snow, leaves, and other debris. If the engine is idling while you are stopped in an open area for long periods of time, open the windows at least one inch 2. Also, adjust the heating or air conditioning system to bring in outside air. Page Warning Lights And Gauges Warning Lights and Gauges In your vehicle, the warning lights and gauges are grouped together on the instrument panel. We call this grouping a cluster. Your vehicle has one of the following clusters: Standard cluster Optional cluster SHO cluster If you are not sure which cluster your vehicle has, check the diagrams on the following pages. Page 75 Brake system warning light This light comes on when the parking brake is set, or if it is not set, it comes on briefly when you turn the ignition to the START position. It normally goes off shortly after the engine starts and you release the parking brake. The light should go off when the engine starts and the alternator begins to charge. If the light stays on or comes on when the engine is running, have the electrical system checked as soon as possible. Page 77 3. See Engine oil in the Index. If you do not follow these instructions, engine damage could result. To ensure an accurate reading, your vehicle should be on level ground. Page 80 This light comes on when you turn the ignition key to ON, but should turn off when the engine starts. If the light does not come on when you turn the ignition to ON or if it comes on and stays on when you are driving, have your vehicle serviced as soon as possible. Page 81 On the fourth engine start up, the Service Engine Soon Warning Light will turn off as soon as the engine begins to crank. It is not necessary to have the engine serviced. Under certain conditions, the Service Engine Soon light may come on if the fuel cap is not properly installed. Page 82 Turn Signal Indicator Lights The turn signal arrow will flash to indicate the direction in which you are going to be turning. Page 83 You should have your vehicle serviced immediately by your dealer or qualified service technician to restore the benefits of the anti-lock feature. See Anti-lock brakes in the Index for more information. Anti-lock brake system warning light Gauges Fuel Gauge The fuel gauge displays approximately how much fuel is in the fuel tank only when the ignition is in the ON position. Page 84 conditions. Under certain driving conditions, such as heavy stop and go traffic or driving up hills in hot weather, the pointer may move to the top of the Normal band. Engine coolant temperature gauge If, under any circumstances, the pointer moves above the Normal band, the engine coolant is overheating and continued operation may cause engine damage. Page 85 Speedometer The speedometer tells you how many miles kilometers per hour your vehicle is moving. Odometer The odometer tells you the total number of miles kilometers your vehicle has been driven. Trip Odometer The trip odometer tells you how many miles kilometers your vehicle has been driven since the last reset. Page 88 Low Coolant Light and Chime This light indicates that the level of the engine coolant is low inside the coolant reservoir. Low coolant light This light comes on for a few seconds when your ignition key is turned to the ON position, but should turn off when the engine starts. Page 89 This light will come on to show a rear tail lamp burnout when the light switch is turned to the parking lamp or headlamp position. This light will come on to show a brakelamp burnout only when the brake pedal is pressed. The light will stay on until the ignition is turned to the OFF position. When the light is on, the transaxle will not shift into overdrive. Page Instrument Panel Controls Instrument Panel Controls The main controls for the climate control system, clock, and radio are in the oval Integrated Control Panel on the instrument panel. The controls for the lights and climate control air registers are also on the instrument panel. Clean the instrument panel lens and woodtone trim with a soft cloth and a glass cleaner. The airflow will be from the instrument panel registers. Page 95 P Floor and defrost This brings in outside air through the floor ducts and the windshield defroster ducts. It can be used for heating or ventilation. V Defrost This brings in outside air through the windshield defroster ducts. It can be used to clear ice or fog from the windshield. When the system is off, the Display window will be blank dark. To change back to the original setting, repeat the process. If unusual conditions exist i. The fan speed button allows you to adjust the fan speed to suit your needs. Page You can override the fan speed at any time. If you use the button to control the fan speed, the EATC will continue to control the

temperature but you control the fan speed. To return to auto fan control, press the AUTO button. The display window will show the set temperature and VENT to the lower right of the temperature. Your EATC will heat the air if the temperature you have selected is warmer than the outside air coming into the vehicle. Adjust the temperature setting as required for defrosting. The Display window will show the temperature setting with V to the right of the temperature. Page Operating tips The following tips will help you to get the most satisfaction from your climate control system. This will help to prevent windshield fogging. After a few minutes of operation, switch to any desired selection. Page The button that controls the rear window defroster and heated side view mirrors Clear away any snow that is on the rear window and side view mirrors before using the defroster. With the engine running, push the defrost button. After 10 minutes, the defroster will turn off. When the d switch is pressed, it also turns on the liftgate wiper. The Interior and Exterior Lights Turning On the Exterior Lights To turn on your headlamps, parking lamps, side markers, license plate lamps and tail lamps, use the knob that is to the left of the steering wheel. Page Steering Column Controls Turning on the high beams To change your headlamps from low to high beam, push the turn signal lever away from you. To change them back to low beam, pull the lever toward you. For more information about how the high beam headlamps work, see Steering column controls in the Index. Page NOTE: The high beam indicator will not turn on in the flash-to-pass mode during nighttime driving. You may notice that the lights flicker when the vehicle is turned on or off. This is a normal condition. Page The autolamp system on the left side of the instrument panel To set the autolamp: 1. Make sure the headlamp knob is in the OFF position. If the knob for the headlamps is ON, you cancel the autolamp. Turn the ignition key to ON or start your vehicle. Page You can set the autolamp so the headlamps stay on for up to three minutes after you turn your vehicle off. To keep the lamps on after you leave your vehicle: Turn the thumbwheel as far into the MAX range as you want. Page To dim the instrument panel lights, rotate the thumbwheel down. To turn on the interior lights, turn the thumbwheel all the way up. The interior lights also come on when any side door or the liftgate is opened. Dome Lamps The front dome lamp is located overhead between the driver and front passenger seats. Page The dome lamp The dome lamp will stay illuminated if the switch is pushed to the ON position. The dome lamp will stay off if the switch is pushed to the OFF position. Page Cleaning the Interior Lamps Your interior dome lamps and map lamps are plastic and should be cleaned with a mild detergent diluted in water. Rinse them with clear water. Battery Saver When the ignition is turned off, the vehicle will turn off battery voltage to the interior lights after 40 minutes. Page Steering Column Controls Steering Column Controls The controls on the steering column and wheel are designed to give you easy access to the controls while you are driving. Page Windshield Wipers And Washer To turn off the high beams, pull the lever toward you until it latches. The high beam indicator light turns off. Flashing the Lights To flash the headlamps, pull the lever toward you for a moment and then release it. The headlamps will flash whether the headlamp knob is in the on or off position. Page Variable Interval Wipers In addition to two speed wipers, your vehicle has wipers that you can set to operate at varying intervals. For example, you can set the interval so they wipe less often when it drizzles or more often in heavier rain. The variable interval wiper on the turn signal lever To set the interval wipers, turn the knob at the end of the turn signal lever toward or away Page If the washer does not work, check the washer fluid level and fill it if it is low. See the Servicing Your Taurus chapter. If there is enough fluid, consult your nearest Ford or Lincoln-Mercury dealer. Do not try to clean the windshield when the Page Tilt Steering The hazard flasher serves as a warning to other drivers to be careful when approaching or passing your vehicle. The flashers work whether your vehicle is running or not. The flashers work for up to two hours when the battery is fully charged and in good condition without draining the battery excessively. Tip the steering wheel to the desired position. Release the lever to lock the steering wheel in place. Cruise Control If equipped If your vehicle has cruise control, you can automatically maintain a constant speed at or Page The cruise control buttons on the steering wheel To set the cruise control: 1. Press and release the ON switch. The CRUISE indicator light in the instrument cluster will illuminate to indicate that speed control is in a standby mode. Page NOTE: When driving uphill, especially with a heavy load, you may notice your speed decreasing even if you have the cruise control set. Release the switch when the vehicle has accelerated to the desired speed. Depress the accelerator pedal. Page Features Features Your vehicle has a variety of features designed for your comfort, convenience and safety. Read this chapter to find out about standard and optional features. Doors Childproof Locks In addition to standard or power locks, your vehicle has childproof locks for the rear doors. If you set these locks, the doors cannot be opened from the inside of the vehicle. Page To set the childproof lock on each rear door, open the rear door. Find the lever inside the label. Move the lever up to the locked symbol. To release the childproof lock, open the rear door from the outside. Move

the lever down to the unlocked symbol. Page Central Locking When you are unlocking the driver or front passenger door with the key, turn it once toward the front of the vehicle to unlock that door only. Turn the key a second time to unlock all doors. Turn the key once toward the rear of the vehicle to lock all doors. Page Using the Keyless Entry System If equipped If your vehicle has the keyless entry system, you can lock or unlock the vehicle doors without using a key. See also Remote Entry System which follows this description. Page Programming your own entry code You can program a personal code to unlock your vehicle with the keypad. This code does not replace the permanent code that the dealership gave you. Use your personal code in the same manner as you would your original code. Studies show that people who idly press the buttons usually press a sequential pattern. Also, do not select a code that uses the same button five times. Page Locking the doors with the keyless entry system Along with unlocking your doors, you can use the keyless entry system to lock the doors. You can also use the Autolock feature to automatically lock the doors after you get in the vehicle. Page Autolock If equipped The Autolock feature is part of your remote keyless entry system and is enabled at the factory. With the Autolock feature enabled, all of the doors will automatically lock when: the vehicle doors and liftgate are fully closed the ignition key is turned to the ON position the brake pedal is pressed you shift through Reverse Page To deactivate the Autolock system: 1. Enter your permanent five-digit entry code not the personal code you may have set. To reactivate the Autolock system, simply repeat the instructions for deactivating the system. Page Remote Entry System If equipped If your vehicle has the remote entry system, you can lock or unlock the vehicle doors and liftgate without using a key. The remote also has a personal alarm feature. The buttons for the system are located on the two hand held transmitters that came with your vehicle. To open the liftgate, you must press the liftgate release located above the license plate. Locking the doors with the remote entry system To lock all the doors and liftgate wagon , press the LOCK button. Page included that should last for several years of normal use. If you notice a significant decrease in operating range, the batteries should be replaced. Replacement batteries can be purchased at most pharmacies, watch stores or at your Ford or Lincoln-Mercury dealer. Page NOTE: The operating range of the remote entry system can also be affected by weather conditions such as very cold temperatures or structures around the vehicle buildings, other vehicles, radio and TV towers, etc. Typical operating range will allow you to be up to 33 feet 10 meters away from your vehicle. The system will automatically turn off after approximately 25 seconds or when the ignition is turned to the RUN or ACC position. Page Opening a door and pressing the power door lock button to lock the doors. If a door or liftgate wagon is open, the anti-theft system is prearmed and waiting for all doors to close. Unlock the doors by entering the unlock code on the keyless entry keypad. Unlock any door or the liftgate wagon with a key. Page Be sure to purchase only coded keys with a Ford or Mercury logo on it to ensure proper functionality. If both supplied keys are lost or stolen or only one key has been Page If the key coding failed, the theft indicator will flash and the vehicle cannot be started. One of 3 causes are possible: The new key was not inserted within 15 seconds or All 16 key codes have been stored or The key does not have an electronic code. Page Moon Roof If equipped You can use the moon roof in your vehicle in two ways. Move it back to open the glass panel, or you can move it up to ventilate the vehicle. The moon roof will only operate when the ignition is in the ON or ACC position or when the key has been removed from the ignition and no doors have been opened. Page To close from vent position, press and hold the rear portion of the switch. They may seriously hurt themselves. Occasionally wiping the outside guide rail covers of the moon roof with a clean cloth will help keep the moon roof working properly. Page Standard head restraints You can adjust the head restraints for your comfort and protection. Adjusting the standard head restraint Four-way head restraints Your vehicle may have a four-way head restraint. It can be adjusted in four directions. You can raise it about two inches five cm from its normal position, and you can move it forward up to 60 degrees until you reach the desired position. Page Manual Seats You can move the front seats forward or backward and tilt the seatback forward or backward. You can raise or lower the whole front seat, move the seat forward or backward and tilt the front and back of the seat up or down. Page Inflating the lumbar support If equipped To inflate the pads, press and hold the front of the switch. To deflate the pads, press and hold the back of the switch. Page Folding down the rear seatbacks To raise the seatback: 1. Lift the seatback rearward until it is in the upright position. Push the center of the seat until you hear it latch. Make sure the seatback is locked in position by pushing forward and backward on it. Page The seatback release lever in the trunk Cleaning the Seats Leather For routine cleaning, wipe the surface with a soft, damp cloth. For more thorough cleaning, wipe the surface with a leather and vinyl cleaner or a mild soap. Fabric Remove dust and loose dirt with a whisk broom or a vacuum cleaner. Place the mat eyelet over the pointed end of the retention post from the rear and rotate forward to install. Adjust the floor mat position to allow proper

operation of accelerator pedal, brake pedal and clutch pedal. Page Mirrors Side View Mirrors Your vehicle comes with electric adjustable and heated side view mirrors. The outside rearview mirror on the right is a convex mirror. This mirror gives you a wider view of the lanes on your right and behind you. Page Sun Visors 4. Return the selector switch to the middle position to keep the mirror in place. To activate the heated feature of the outside rearview mirror, turn on the rear window defrost by pushing the R-DEF button on the instrument panel. Do not clean the housing or glass of any mirror with harsh abrasives, fuel or other petroleum-based cleaning products. Your vehicle may have one or both of these lighted mirrors. Page Console Your vehicle may have a full console. The full console has the following features: Features of the full console The release for opening the utility compartment is on the front of the console, just below the armrest. To open the cupholder on the full console, press and release the door on the front of the console. The door is spring-loaded and will open automatically. For further questions about your cellular phone, contact the Ford Cellular System at U. In Canada, please contact your dealer. Page The remote control for the trunk Special Features of Your Wagon Liftgate Your wagon has a two-way liftgate that lets you either open the entire liftgate or just the window. To open the liftgate, press the release that is hidden under the exterior trim panel just above the license plate. If you must drive like this, keep the vents open so outside air comes into the vehicle. The Storage Area Loading the vehicle When you load the back of your vehicle, put the load as far forward in the compartment as Page Storage compartments Your wagon comes with a storage compartment in the floor of the cargo area. An additional storage compartment is in the rear trim panel on the right. The locking storage compartment in the rear of the wagon Cargo Net If equipped The cargo net secures lightweight objects in the cargo area of your vehicle. Page The cargo net for the wagon Do not put more than 50 pounds 22 kg in the net. Any ropes or cords that you use must be as strong as the cargo net or strong enough to restrain a pound 22 kg object. This net is not designed to retain objects during an accident. Page The cargo cover Luggage Rack You can move the rear luggage crossbar on top of the vehicle to fit the item you need to carry. The front crossbar does not move. To adjust the luggage rack: 1. Load your luggage close to the front crossbar. Page 5. There are three loops on each outside rail and one at each end of the cross bars. The adjusting levers for the luggage rack Leave the rear crossbar in its original back position when you are not using it to hold luggage to reduce aerodynamic drag and Page To raise the seatback: 1. Page Opening the third seat in the rear of the wagon The third seat in a wagon Page 3. Remove the cargo cover. The cargo cover must be removed or the seatback cannot be locked in the upright position. Lift the remote latch release on the left side of the well and fold the remaining floor panel toward the front of the car until it latches. Press again to turn off. Page How to tune radio stations There are four ways for you to tune in a particular station. These four methods are described below. Page Setting the Station Memory Preset buttons Your radio is equipped with 6 station memory buttons. Follow the steps below to set these buttons to the desired frequencies: 1. It will lower when either the radio or the ignition is turned off. Power antenna maintenance and care Never drive your vehicle through a car wash with the power antenna mast extended. Page Common Radio Reception Conditions Several conditions prevent FM reception from being completely clear and noise-free, such as the following: 1. The listenable range of an average FM signal is approximately 25 miles 40 kilometers. Page How to insert a tape Your cassette player is equipped with power loading. Once you insert a tape and push slightly with the open edge to the right , the loading mechanism draws the tape the rest of the way in and play will begin after a momentary tape tightening process. The display will show a flashing X to indicate rewind. The radio will resume playing if the power is on. Page In order to keep your cassette tape player performing the way it was meant to, read and follow these simple precautions: Using a Ford Cassette Cleaning Cartridge to clean the tape player head after hours of play will help maintain the best playback sound and proper tape operation. It is controlled by the audio system buttons. Loading Instructions 1. Open the cover door. Open Compact Disc Changer trunk unit by sliding door to the front sedan or rear wagon Figure 1. Load discs into the disc magazine slots numbered 1 through 6 on the window one at a time with labeled surfaces upward, starting with bottom slot number 1 Figure 3. Figure 3 To remove a compact disc from the disc magazine, slide the corresponding lever on the opposite side of the magazine window. Page When either side of the button is pressed and held, the CD changer will continue fast-forwarding or reversing through the discs in the disc magazine. During these functions, the display will indicate the disc number. The CD player will begin scanning the disc, stopping on each listenable track for approximately an eight second sampling. Never touch the playing surface. Page CD format. Because of this, a new disc that is free of dust and scratches could be defective and may not play on your Ford Compact Disc Player. If play does not begin after the CD button is pushed: The radio is not on. Page If the sound skips: Badly scratched discs or

extremely rough roads will cause the sound to skip. Skipping will not damage the disc player or scratch the discs. CD Error Messages Your system is equipped to diagnose certain problems you may experience. The displayed error codes are: NO then CD â€" Page Ask your dealer for a copy of this limited warranty. Service At Ford Electronics, we stand behind our audio systems with a comprehensive service and repair program. If anything should go wrong with your Ford audio system, return to your dealer for service. If you do not hold the brake pedal down, your vehicle may move unexpectedly and injure someone. To operate: 1. Using a column-mounted gearshift If your gearshift is on the column, you can use any of the following positions: The column-mounted gearshift Once you place the gearshift securely into position, gradually release the brake pedal and use the accelerator as necessary. Page Driving When to use j Overdrive j Overdrive is the usual driving position for an automatic overdrive transaxle. It works the same way D Drive works, automatically upshifting or downshifting as the vehicle speeds or slows. However, j Overdrive also shifts into a fourth gear â€" You can tell a column-mounted gearshift is securely latched in P Park if you cannot move it without pulling it toward you and rotating it downward. Page To operate: 1. Start the engine. Depress and hold the brake pedal. Move the gearshift lever out of P Park. Your vehicle is equipped with a Brake Shift Interlock safety feature. This feature prevents the gearshift from being moved from the P Park position until the brake pedal is depressed. Page Using the gearshift If your gearshift is on the column, you can use any of the following positions: The column-mounted gearshift Page If your gearshift is on the console, you can use any of the following positions: The console-mounted gearshift The console-mounted gearshift will lock when you turn the key to the LOCK position. When the gearshift is in any position except P Park , the ignition key cannot be turned to LOCK or removed from the steering column. Page N Neutral With the gearshift in the N Neutral position, the vehicle can be started and is free to roll. Hold the brake pedal down while in this position. Driving When to use D Overdrive D Overdrive is the usual driving position for an automatic overdrive transaxle. You should contact your dealer as soon as possible or damage to the transaxle could occur. You can tell a console-mounted gearshift is securely latched in P Park if you cannot move it without pushing in the thumb button. Ride and handling is enhanced by firm shock absorber performance during certain road conditions and handling maneuvers. The shock absorber is returned to a softer performance when driver or road surface induced motion ceases. Page NOTE: If you are driving down a long or steep hill, shift to a lower gear and do not apply your brakes continuously. If you apply your brakes continuously, they may overheat and become less effective. Occasional brake squeal during light to moderate stops does not affect the function of the brake system and is normal. Page ABS light will come on. Vehicles with ABS are identified with a label on the front door pillar. Page Parking Brake The parking brake should be used whenever you park your vehicle. This brake is suspended just below the bottom of the instrument panel to the left of the brake pedal. Page The parking brake is not designed to stop a moving vehicle, but you can use the parking brake to stop your vehicle in an emergency if the normal brakes fail. However, since the parking brake applies only the rear brakes, the stopping distance will increase greatly and the handling of your vehicle will be adversely affected. Page Do not quickly move the steering wheel unless necessary. Drive slower than you normally would. Give your vehicle more distance to stop. Pump the brake pedal steadily and evenly to avoid locking your wheels. Does not apply to vehicles with anti-lock brakes. Consider using one of the lower gears. Page By moving the vehicle backward and forward, you may gain enough momentum to move out of the spot. Do not rock the vehicle for more than a few minutes. This may overheat the engine, damage the transaxle, or damage the tires. Page If you do not know the actual weights of these items, use the following procedure to figure the weight of a load: 1. Weigh your vehicle without the driver, passengers and luggage. You might take your vehicle to a shipping company or an inspection station for trucks. The amount of weight that you can safely tow depends on the type of engine in your vehicle. See the following charts Page Your vehicle does not come from the factory fully equipped to tow. Because towing a trailer puts extra strain on your vehicle, you must follow certain precautions for your safety and the good of your vehicle: Stay within the load limits when you tow. Page If you are not certain that you are using the right equipment in the proper manner, see your Ford or Lincoln-Mercury dealer. The bumper is not designed to Page Using the hitch Your vehicle uses a load carrying hitch. Be sure to follow their instructions carefully. Also, anticipate stops so that you can brake gradually. If this happens, you may be able to jump-start your vehicle with a booster battery. If someone swallows the acid, have him or her drink lots of milk or water first, then Milk of Magnesia, a beaten egg, or vegetable oil. Page Connecting the jumper cables 1. Most jumper cables have a red cable and a black cable. Page Jumper cable connections The 3. Page Jump-Starting 1. Make sure that the jumper cables are not in the way of moving engine parts, then start the booster vehicle. Run the engine at a moderate speed. Let the discharged

battery charge for a few minutes and then start the disabled vehicle. It may take a couple of tries before the vehicle starts. Changing a Tire If you get a flat tire while you are driving, do not apply the brake heavily. Instead, gradually decrease the speed. Hold the steering wheel firmly and slowly move to a safe place on the side of the road. Page In the wagon, the temporary spare tire is stored in the left side rear trim panel. The temporary spare tire in the wagon To remove the cover for the temporary spare tire in the wagon: 1. Twist the three fasteners 90 degrees into a vertical position. Page When one of the front wheels is off the ground, the transaxle alone will not prevent the vehicle from moving or slipping off the jack, even if the vehicle is in P Park. To prevent the vehicle from moving when you change a tire, block in both directions the wheel that is diagonally opposite to the tire being changed. Page Removing and Replacing the Tire 1. Find the jack notch next to the door of the tire that you are changing. Put the jack in the jack notch and turn the handle of the jack clockwise until the wheel is completely off the ground. Page Your vehicle has metric 12 mm wheel studs and lug nuts. During wheel removal and replacement, make certain that you use the same lug nuts to reinstall the wheel or replace them with nuts of the same metric size and threading. Page The lug nuts on the wheel 7. Place any wheel covers and ornaments in the trunk. Put the tire, jack, and wrench away. Make sure the jack is securely fastened so it does not rattle when you drive. Unblock the wheels. Removing and Replacing Wheel Covers Your vehicle may have wheel covers with a wire retention system. Page To replace the wheel cover: 1. One of the windows on the wheel cover is identified with a valve stem logo on the back side of the cover. Install the wheel cover to the wheel with the window at the valve stem. Page The center attachment wheel cover To replace the wheel cover: 1. Reinstall the pedestal on the wheel before reinstalling the wheelcover. One of the windows on the wheelcover is identified with a valve stem logo on the inside of the cover. Align this valve hole on the wheelcover with the valve stem on the wheel. Page not to the dealer to get a replacement key. Page Towing Your Vehicle Removing the anti-theft lug nut Insert the key over the locking lug nut. Make sure that you hold the key square to the lug nut. If you hold the key on an angle, you may damage the key and the lug nut. Place the lug nut wrench over the lug nut key and apply pressure on the key with the wrench. Page When calling for a tow truck, tell the operator what kind of vehicle you have. A towing manual is available from Ford Motor Company for all authorized tow truck operators. Have your tow truck driver refer to this manual for the proper hook-up and towing procedures for your vehicle. Page Towing Your Vehicle Behind Another Vehicle At times, you may want to tow your vehicle behind another vehicle, such as a recreational vehicle, a car, or a truck. Before you have your vehicle towed: Release the parking brake. Move the gearshift to N Neutral. Turn the key in the ignition to OFF. Page Customer Assistance Customer Assistance Roadside Assistance Ford Motor Company has set up a hour, seven-day-a-week hotline with trained operators who put you in touch with the help you need if you experience a problem with your vehicle. This complimentary service is provided to you throughout your warranty period of 3 years or 36, miles 60, km , whichever comes first. This chapter tells you how to get service or maintenance for your vehicle. Page If you are away from home when your vehicle needs to be serviced, or if you need more help than the dealer gave you, contact the Ford Customer Assistance Center to find an authorized dealership that may be able to help. The Board reviews unresolved warranty performance complaints on Ford, Mercury and Lincoln cars and Ford and Mercury Light Trucks under warranty that have not been resolved by a dealer or Ford Motor Company. Page How Does the Board Work? The Board has four members: three consumer representatives a Ford or Lincoln-Mercury dealer Consumer candidates for Board membership are recruited and trained by an independent consulting firm. Dealers are chosen because of their business leadership qualities. Page The decisions of the Board are binding on the dealer and Ford, but customers may have other options available to them under state or federal law. The decisions of the Board, however, may be Page Board address. At the same time, your dealer and Ford Motor Company representative are asked to submit statements. To review your case properly, the Board needs Page Reporting Safety Defects Ford Motor Company the names if known of all people you contacted at the dealership a description of the action you want done to resolve your concern. Please have the following information available when contacting the Customer Assistance Centre Page Use of leaded fuel in your vehicle without a proper conversion may damage the effectiveness of your emissions control system and may cause engine knocking or serious engine damage. Ford Motor Company is not responsible for any damage that is caused by use of improper fuel. Page If you are in other foreign countries, contact the nearest Ford dealership. If the dealership cannot help you, they can direct you to the appropriate Ford affiliate office. If you buy your vehicle in North America and then relocate outside of the U. Page Accessories Accessories Ford Accessories for Your Vehicle Ford has many fine products available from your dealer to clean your vehicle and protect its finishes. For best results, use the following, or products of equivalent quality: A

wide selection of accessories is available through your local authorized dealer. NOTE: Because we have no control over the installation, design, or manufacture of such systems, Ford cannot assume responsibility for any adverse effects or damage that may result if you use this equipment. When we can, we design parts that do not need to be serviced. We want to make servicing your vehicle as easy as possible. To help you Page Motorcraft parts are designed and built to provide the best performance in your vehicle. Using these parts for replacement is your assurance that Ford-built quality stays in your vehicle. NOTE: Always dispose of used automotive fluids in a responsible manner. Always disconnect the negative terminal of the battery before working near the fan. If you must work with the engine running, avoid wearing loose clothing or jewelry that could get caught in moving parts. Page Working with the engine on: 1. Set the parking brake fully and make sure that the gearshift is securely latched in P Park. Block the wheels. This will prevent your vehicle from moving unexpectedly. Page The hood release, hood latch, and lift cylinder assembly Engine Compartment Your vehicle has one of these types of engines: a 3. A build up of grease and dirt acts as an insulator, keeping the engine warmer than normal. Extreme care must be used if a power washer is used to clean the engine. If the fuel cap is venting vapor or if you hear a hissing sound, wait until it stops before completely removing the cap. Otherwise, fuel may spray out and injure you or others. Gasoline and other automotive fuels are extremely flammable. Turn your vehicle off and do not smoke while refueling your vehicle. Keep sparks and other sources of ignition away from fuels. Page The fuel lines are under pressure even when the engine is off. This system should be serviced by an authorized dealer using only Ford approved parts. Using other materials may be hazardous or allow hydrocarbon emissions above the legal levels set by the Federal Government. Doing so could result in fire and personal injury. The EPA fuel economy estimate is not a guarantee that you will achieve the fuel economy shown. Wipe the dipstick clean and put it back into position, making sure it is fully seated. Engine oil dipstick 3. Carefully, pull the dipstick out again. Page Changing the Engine Oil and the Oil Filter Change the engine oil and oil filter per the following, whichever occurs first. Refer to the Maintenance Schedule and Record Booklet for additional information. Page The engine coolant reservoir 3. There may be a low coolant warning light in the instrument cluster which will light when the coolant level is low. Page Ford Premium Cooling System Fluid is an optimized formula that will protect all metal and rubber elastomers used in Ford engines for four years or 50, miles 80, km. It is not necessary and not recommended to use supplemental coolant additives in your vehicle. Have your dealer check the engine cooling system for leaks if Page Engine Coolant Refill Procedure When the entire cooling system is drained and refilled, the following procedure should be used to ensure a complete fill: With the engine OFF and cool, remove the pressure cap, located on the coolant reservoir. When the original equipment battery is replaced under warranty, it may be replaced by a Motorcraft Low-Maintenance Battery. Page Help Us Protect Our Environment Ford Motor Company strongly recommends that used lead-acid batteries be returned to an authorized recycling facility for disposal. Battery recycling symbol Windshield Washer Fluid and Wipers Washer Fluid Check the level of the windshield washer fluid every time you stop for fuel. Use specially formulated windshield washer fluid rather than plain water, because specially formulated washer fluids contain additives that dissolve road grime. Page Wiper Blades Check the windshield wiper blades at least twice a year. Also check them whenever they seem less effective than usual. Substances such as tree sap and some hot wax treatments used by commercial car washes reduce the effectiveness of wiper blades. Page MicronAir Air Filter Replacement In your climate control system, you may have a filter that cleans the air before it enters the interior of the vehicle. This filter should be replaced at the intervals in the Maintenance Schedule and Record booklet. To replace the MicronAir air filter: 1. Page Removing the leaf screen 2. With a wrench or socket, remove the two screws that hold the water shield. Move the water shield toward the center of the vehicle until there is enough clearance to remove it. Removing the water shield 3. Page Installing the new filter 5. Reinstall the water shield, sliding it from the center of the vehicle toward the fender. As you position it over the filter, guide the hinged flap on the left side of the shield down between the filter and the fender. Slide the shield toward the fender until the holes on the shield align with the holes on the vehicle body. Page Make sure the weight of your load is evenly distributed. Drive at safe speeds. If you do not take these precautions, your tires may fail or go flat. Driving at very high speeds for extended periods of time may result in damage to vehicle components. Page Consistent high-speed driving Ford Motor Company recommends obeying posted speed limits. Page Rotating the tires Replacing the Tires We recommend that you use all-weather tires when you replace your tires. Replace any tires that show wear bands. Department of Transportation â€" Tire quality grades: The U. Department of Transportation requires Ford to give you the following information about tire grades exactly as the government has written it. Page

Treadwear The treadwear grade is a comparative rating based on the wear rate of the tire when tested under controlled conditions on a specified government test course. Page represent higher levels of performance on the laboratory test wheel than the minimum required by law. Warning: The temperature grade for this tire is established for a tire that is properly inflated and not overloaded. Excessive speed, underinflation, or excessive loading, either separately or in combination, can cause heat buildup and possible tire failure. Page Put the chains on the front tires tightly with the ends held down securely. Page Air Filter Air Filter To replace the engine air filter, unclip the two latches, separate the housing and remove the old filter. Wipe the interior of the housing clean before inserting the new filter. Lock the two latches. NOTE: Do not use oil-impregnated air filters. Filters other than the ones specified in this Owner Guide can cause engine damage. Add only enough fluid to bring the level above the bottom hole. Correct type is shown on the dipstick. Page If the fluid is low, carefully clean and remove the cap from the reservoir. Checking and Adding Power Steering Fluid 1. Start the engine and let it run until the power steering fluid reaches normal operating temperature. Check the fluid level on the dipstick which is highlighted in yellow in your vehicle. Check the fluid level in the power steering fluid reservoir. The following charts tell you which circuit protector protects each electrical part of your vehicle. If a fuse blows, all the parts of your vehicle that use the circuit will not work. Page The instrument panel fuses and relays The instrument panel fuse panel location Page The instrument panel fuse cover Page The power distribution box fuses and relays Ford recommends that high current fuses be replaced by a qualified technician. The power distribution box location Page The power distribution box Page Checking and Replacing Fuses If you need to check a fuse, follow these steps: 1. Lift the handle of the fuse panel or power distribution box to unlatch the cover. On the cover, find the fuse you want to check. Using a fuse with a higher amperage rating can cause severe wire damage and could start a fire. Put the cover back on. Even after you replace a fuse, it will continue to blow if you do not find what caused the overload. Page Parts of a headlamp To remove the headlamp bulb: 1. Make sure that the headlamp knob is in the OFF position. Lift the hood. Page 4. Remove the bulb retaining ring by rotating it counterclockwise when viewed from the rear about an eighth of a turn to free it from the bulb socket, and by sliding the ring off the plastic base. Keep the ring. It is to be used again to retain the new bulb. Page Horizontal aim adjustment 1. Open the hood and locate the horizontal indicator and adjusting screw. Page Vertical aim adjustment 1. With the hood open, locate the bubble level vertical aim indicator. It is visible when viewed from above and to the rear of the headlamp. With the vehicle on a level surface, use a 4mm wrench to turn the vertical aim adjustment screw outboard screw located on the back of the lamp assembly clockwise or counterclockwise until the bubble in the Page Replacing the High-Mount Brakelamp Bulb If you have the sedan, your vehicle has a brakelamp mounted in the rear window, called a high-mount brakelamp. The wagon has a high-mount brakelamp on the outside. You may need to remove this lamp to replace the brakelamp bulb. Page To install the brakelamp: 1. Install the bulbs. Position the brakelamp over the tab slots and line up the tabs with the tab slots. Push down and toward the rear window to engage the tabs. Push attachment toward the rear window and line up the slot in the attachment with the edge of the sheet metal hole. Page To remove the brakelamp: 1. Remove the interior trim panel. Remove the four attachment nuts that hold the brakelamp in place. Lift the whole assembly off of the vehicle from the outside. Disconnect the bulbs. To install the brakelamp: 1. Page Using the right bulbs Page Emission Control System Ford strongly recommends the use of genuine Ford replacement parts. If other than Ford or Motorcraft parts or Ford authorized remanufactured parts are used for maintenance replacements or for the service of components Page Ford Motor Company parts in performance and durability. Please consult your warranty booklet for complete warranty information. Page Do not drive your vehicle if it does not operate properly. See your dealer if the engine runs on for more than five seconds after you shut it off or if it misfires, surges, stalls, or backfires. If any steps are interrupted, repeat the preceding step. Any safe driving mode is acceptable between steps. Always drive vehicle in safe manner according to traffic conditions and obey all traffic laws. The engine must be warmed up and at operating temperature before proceeding with the drive modes of the following OBD II Drive Page 7. This should take approximately 5 minutes. Page Motorcraft Parts Page Lubricant Specifications Page Vehicle Storage Vehicle Storage Maintenance Tips If you plan on storing your vehicle for an extended period of time 60 days or more , refer to the following maintenance recommendations to ensure your vehicle stays in good operating condition. General Store all vehicles in a dry, ventilated place. Protect from sunlight, if possible. Page Ford Gas Stabilizer should be added whenever actual or expected storage periods exceed 60 days. Follow the instructions on the label. The vehicle should then be operated at idle speed to circulate the additive throughout the fuel system. Page Cooling system Protect against freezing temperatures. Battery Check and recharge as necessary. Keep

connections clean and covered with a light coat of grease. If storing your vehicle for more than 30 days without recharging the battery, disconnect the battery cables to ensure battery charge is maintained for quick starting. Page Warning label locations Air bag supplemental restraint system. Page Anti-theft lug nuts and key.. Anti-theft system arming the system.. Appeals see Dispute settlement board. Page Brakelamp high-mount brakelamp.. Page Canada, customer assistance.. Capacities for refilling fluids.. Carbon monoxide in exhaust. Page Cleaning your vehicle continued exterior lamps Customer Assistance Centre, Ford of Canada.. Dashboard see Instrument panel.. Page Electrical system fuses Electronic sound system radio reception. Page Entry system, keyless.. Exhaust fumes Fan, engine fan, avoiding injury.. Page Ford Customer Assistance Center.. Ford Dispute Settlement Board.. Ford Extended Service Plan.. Ford Motor Company of Canada.. Page Fuses checking and replacing.. Gas cap see Fuel cap.. Gas mileage see Fuel economy.. Gasoline see Fuel Gauges, Mechanical engine coolant temperature gauge. Page Hazard flashers Headlamps aiming Idle, relearning Ignition chime Page Lamps autolamp delay system.. Page Load limits Page Octane rating Odometer description Rear window defroster Page Safety restraints adjusting the safety belts.. Page Servicing your vehicle.. Shift-lock system.. Shift positions see Gearshift. Page Steering, power Steering wheel horn Page Towing your vehicle Trailer towing. Page Vehicle storage Ventilating your vehicle see Climate control.. Viscosity see Engine oil.. Visor see Sun visor. Page Wheels anti-theft lugnuts This manual is also suitable for: Taurus. Print page 1 Print document pages. Cancel Delete. Sign In OR. Don't have an account? Sign up! Restore password. Upload from disk. Upload from URL. Skip to main content. Email to friends Share on Facebook - opens in a new window or tab Share on Twitter - opens in a new window or tab Share on Pinterest - opens in a new window or tab. Add to Watchlist. This listing was ended by the seller because the item is no longer available. Ships to:. United States and many other countries See details. This amount is subject to change until you make payment. For additional information, see the Global Shipping Program terms and conditions - opens in a new window or tab This amount includes applicable customs duties, taxes, brokerage and other fees. For additional information, see the Global Shipping Program terms and conditions - opens in a new window or tab. Delivery times may vary, especially during peak periods. Start of add to list layer. Add to Watchlist Add to wish list. Sign in for more lists. Nov 29, PST. Seller's other items. Similar sponsored items. Showing Slide 1 of 2 - Carousel. Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing. The third-generation Ford Taurus is an automobile that was manufactured by Ford from to The third generation of Ford Taurus was the first to be completely redesigned from the ground up, and used a rounded, oval-derived design that was very controversial at the time, considered to be the main reason for this model's downfall in the market. This generation of Taurus was released for sale in late to mixed reactions from consumers. Third generation development. Development for the third-generation Taurus began in , and its designers and engineers believed that they were faced with a daunting task; they compared completely redesigning the Taurus to repainting the Mona Lisa. Many designs were considered during the development process, from designs that resembled the second generation cars, to more radically styled cars. They eventually decided on a radical new styling scheme based upon oval derived design elements in April final approval [9], which would prove to be the car's Achilles heel in the marketplace. Breaking down and testing competing cars, as well as listening to customer input played a large part in the development of the third-generation Taurus, just like it did during the development of the first generation. Many competing cars were broken down and extensively tested in order for the Taurus to be designed to be superior to them in terms of comfort, performance, and refinement. The dashboard's design originated from a large number of complaints from customers that the previous Taurus' radio and climate control modules were cluttered with many small and similar feeling buttons, as well as small graphics, which caused the driver to have to look away from the road to be able to operate them properly. This would eventually lead to the creation of the Integrated Control Panel. Making the new Taurus pleasing to the senses was a recurring theme throughout the third-generation Taurus' development. Controversial oval rear window. The third-generation Taurus and Sable sedans were unveiled at the Cobo Center during the North American International Auto Show in Detroit, and garnered more attention from journalists and publications than any other car at the show. The first third-generation Taurus rolled off the assembly line on July 12, at the Chicago Assembly Plant. Ford Chairman Alexander Trotman, who took part in the ceremonies, was joined by state and local politicians and union and plant officials in dipping their hands in yellow paint to "autograph" the hood of the first Taurus off the line. The hood is earmarked for permanent display at the plant. Reception to the new Taurus by automotive publications was generally positive. Despite this, they found it to have many redeeming qualities. Consumer reaction was mixed, however. Detractors of the new design pejoratively refer to this generation as the "Bubble" Taurus or "Submarine" Taurus based on

the window shaping and broad curves used in the front end being seen as a negative. Ford had hoped the radical redesign would lead to the same success it had with the Taurus, and went as far as predicting that the new Taurus would continue the outgoing model's record of selling over , units a year. The exterior of the third-generation Taurus was completely redesigned for It used a controversial new shape that chief designer Jack Telnack claimed was penned to make the Taurus stand out to sedan buyers, and compared the current Taurus to the likeness of a pair of slippers. Station wagons also got new sheet metal, although from the firewall back, the Taurus and Mercury Sable wagons again shared the same panels, with all station wagon doors being the same as those used on the Sable sedans. As the new-generation Taurus was aimed at a more mature, affluent customer base,[5] its exterior contained many upscale styling touches. For example, the LX came with chrome alloy wheels, chrome dual exhaust tips, and the "Taurus" badge on the back was written in script, as opposed to the block letters used in previous generations. In , the exterior of the Taurus received a slight redesign to make the shape more mainstream, in order to appeal to a wider customer base. The front bumper was redesigned to have a full-length opening, as well as moving the Ford logo down onto a chrome bar mounted in the grille, similar to that of the third-generation Taurus SHO. These years were also fitted with different front turn signal lenses, featuring completely clear lenses and a multi-reflector surface in the rear of the housing, around the bulb. The rear turn signal lenses were also changed from amber to red, to match the rest of the lightbar assembly. The interior was also completely redesigned for the model year. Like that of the previous two generations, the interior was designed to be user-friendly. The controls for the radio and climate control some of which, like the preset buttons, were oval shaped[21] were combined into an oval-shaped "Integrated Control Panel" mounted in the center of the dash, which was created in response to many complaints from Taurus owners that they couldn't easily operate the main controls of the radios and climate control systems without taking their eyes off the road. Another innovation was the "Flip-Fold" center console on cars not equipped with a standard floor console. It was a seat in between the bucket seats that could be transformed into a console, reducing the seating count by one. The seat cushion folded out into a console with a lockable storage bin and cupholders, resting against the dashboard. The seatback also folded down to become an armrest. This generation's interior wasn't as configurable as that of the first two generations. The G and GL models see below were only available with steering column-mounted shifter, along with a cloth front bench seat and the "Flip-Fold" center console. The LX, on the other hand, came standard with bucket seats that could be ordered with either cloth or leather upholstery, along with a center console and floor-mounted shifter. However, a column-mounted shifter and a cloth front bench was available as a no-cost option. Each configuration was offered in both Taurus models see below. The Ford Taurus has many seating options, ranging from 5 people to 8 people. On wagons and sedans equipped with the floor mounted shifter, it seated 5 people standard, and wagons could seat up to 7 people, with a bench in the third row. Also, models equipped with the flip fold console could seat either 6 or 8 people, depending on whether the wagons had a third row bench or not. The sedans could seat a maximum of 6 people with the flip fold console, and 5 people with a regular console. Models and engines. Main article: List of Third generation Ford Taurus models. To close the price gap between the Taurus and the Ford Contour, as well as to increase sales, an entry-level G model was added midway into the model year, as essentially a slightly de-contented GL. The SE model from was revived, and it became the top-tier model. The SE was offered with two special packages; the Comfort package which added chrome wheels carried over from the LX, automatic climate control, the Duratec engine V6 see below , and bucket seats with a center console and a floor-mounted shifter, or the Sport package, which contained all of the features in the comfort package, but substituted the chrome wheels for 5-spoke alloy wheels. The model year was the first time that the Taurus did not have an optional engine. The base G and GL had the 3. The top of the line LX, however, got the new 3. When Ford rearranged the Taurus models for , the Vulcan became the standard engine, and the Duratec became optional on all models. However, it was only available on the SE for However, some Vulcan-equipped models randomly received the AX4N transmission for no apparent reason. Ford also deleted some features for the model year, in order to lower the price about one thousand dollars, and possibly boost sales. Some deleted features included the floor courtesy lamps and glove compartment lamp. Third-generation Mercury Sable GS. Third-generation Mercury Sable. The Mercury Sable, a sister model of the Taurus aimed at a more upscale audience, was also redesigned for the model year. As with previous generations, the Sable used the same mechanical parts as the Taurus with a unique body. However, the Sable ditched the unique styling cues of the previous generations, specifically the front light bar, wrap-around rear glass and skirted rear fender, in favor of a design theme that more closely resembled that of the Taurus. Trim levels were carried

over from the previous generation: A base model GS and high-end LS, with a base G model briefly offered during the second half of the model year. Prices increased, corresponding with the increase in price of the Taurus. While the design of the Taurus was polarizing, the more conservative design of the Sable was praised; Automobile Magazine selected the Sable as its design of the year. The Taurus and Sable were produced concurrently through the model year. Although it contained less aggressive styling than its predecessors, it still differed from the normal Taurus with different seats, wheels, bumpers, drivetrain, as well as a fin being put on the driver's side windshield wiper, to keep it on the windshield at high speeds. This model of SHO gained a reputation of being trouble-prone due to a large number of engine failures at around the 50,mile mark due to separation of the camshaft from its sprocket. In addition to being sold in the North American market, third-generation models were exported to many other countries, in left and right-hand drive configurations. However, this action proved unsuccessful. Right-hand-drive versions used a hand-operated parking brake in the center console instead of a foot-operated parking brake as in North America. Australians tended to stay away from the Taurus, due to their high price; a well-equipped, larger-engined rear-wheel drive Ford Fairmont cost around the same amount. While Australia only saw the model, both the sedan and station wagon models were sold in New Zealand from to Launched while Japan was in a recession following the collapse of the Japanese asset price bubble, this generation Taurus was exported to Japan in limited numbers, and sold at Japanese auto dealerships called Autorama a joint venture with Mazda , where the sedan and wagon versions with right-hand driving positions until To Japanese buyers, it was regarded as a luxury vehicle as the exterior dimensions and engine displacement exceeded Japanese Government regulations, and buyers in Japan were liable for additional taxes. The engine displacement also put operating costs for Japanese owners in a higher annual road tax obligation. Main article: Ford Taurus fourth generation. Fourth-generation Ford Taurus. In , Ford launched the fourth-generation Ford Taurus to replace the third generation. Although the doors and mechanical parts were carried over, this generation was designed with a more conservative design in hopes of increasing its appeal to customers. However, this model of Taurus is most notable for offering a special system that Ford called the "Personal Safety System". This system had sensors in the seat that detected a passenger's weight and position, and inflated the airbags to match. References and notes. Kerwin, Kathleen 24 July Archived from the original on Retrieved The Editors of Consumer Guide, ed. Encyclopedia of American Cars. Publications International. ISBN Sedgwick, David. The Detroit News: 1Câ€"2C. Walton, Mary May Mayne, Eric Detroit News. DiPetro, John Walton, Mary February Homan, Richard. Road and Track September : 70â€" Pierson, John. Chicago Sun-Times. Karr, Jeff. How Does It Stack Up? Motor Trend August : 51â€" Adler, Adam. Detroit Free Press. PR newswire. Mateja, Jim Chicago Tribune. Ford Motor Co. The models, built at Ford's Hapeville assembly plant and in Chicago, are due in showrooms Sept. Potential buyers will find that they have boldly dramatic elliptical bodies, daringly different cabins and remarkably silent and smooth rides. Dean, Paul Taurus Car Club of America. Consumer Guide. Archived from the original on November 19, Archived from the original on December 1, Winfield, Barry October Car and Driver. Retrieved January 26, Glass Guide. Wikimedia Commons has media related to Ford Taurus. Official Ford Taurus website. The Mercury Sable is a range of automobiles that were manufactured and marketed by the Mercury brand of Ford Motor Company. Introduced on December 26, as the replacement for the Mercury Marquis, the Sable marked the transition of the mid-size Mercury product range to front-wheel drive. From the to model years, the Sable was produced as a mid-size vehicle; four-door sedan and five-door station wagon body styles were offered. For , the Sable was withdrawn, replaced by the full-size Montego and mid-size Milan. For , the Sable was reintroduced as a full-size car, offered solely as a four-door sedan. Due to declining sales, the Sable was discontinued after the model year, leaving no Mercury counterpart of the sixth-generation Taurus. The final Sable was produced on May 21, ; in total, 2,, Sables were produced during its â€" production. The Mercury Sable nameplate was derived from the sable, a weasel-like mammal from Russia that is valued for its smooth, dark fur. During the development of the Sable, Mercury had become one of the final American brands to adopt front-wheel drive into its vehicle line. In place of a traditional auto show unveiling, the launch was held an MGM Studios soundstage where Gone with the Wind was filmed. Ford workers came into the room, which was decorated in space-age decor, holding cups shaped like flying saucers and the Taurus and Sable were sitting behind a curtain. With the flashing of strobe lights and a drum-roll, the curtain was pulled back and the two cars were revealed to the public. Replacing the mid-size Marquis Cougar prior to sedan and station wagon, to protect its investment, Ford produced both model lines for the model year. The Sable was on Car and Driver magazine's Ten Best list on its release in and again in and The first-generation Sable used the front-wheel drive Ford DN5 platform, sharing its inch wheelbase

with the Ford Taurus. As with its Marquis predecessor, the Sable used unibody construction. The Sable is equipped with four-wheel independent suspension. For the first year on the market, Sable buyers had the choice of a 90 hp HSC 4-cylinder mated to a three-speed automatic transaxle or a hp Vulcan V6 with a four-speed automatic, with the latter having much higher sales. Ford's 3. Although the power output was rated at the same hp kW as the 3. However, the 3. Some also attribute this to reduced under-hood cooling. The first-generation Sable was offered in two body styles: a four-door sedan and a five-door station wagon. In an extensive departure from its Marquis predecessor, the Sable sedan shares only its doors and roof stamping with the Taurus. To differentiate its roofline, the B, C, and D-pillars of the Sable sedan were blacked out for a "floating roof" effect. During its production, the first-generation Sable underwent few changes. For , the exterior underwent a mid-cycle revision; the amber parking lamp lenses were replaced by clear units and sedans saw revisions to taillamp lenses. While sharing largely the same features as the Taurus interior, in a departure from tradition, the Sable was designed with a separate interior, with a dashboard as part of the door panels. The Sable received its first significant cosmetic update, which modernized the interior and the front and rear fascias. With the older model facing slumping sales, this new model brought sales back up again, with , examples sold through the end of , a number unheard of even today. The interior was also redesigned, and included an optional passenger-side airbag, a first in its class in The base "GS" and luxury "LS" trim levels were carried over from the previous generation. A front cloth bench seat was standard on GS sedans and wagons, although cloth bucket seats were available on GS sedans only. Higher-end cloth bucket seats were standard on LS sedans, but a bench seat was a no cost option. A front bench was standard on LS wagons, with bucket seats optional. Leather seating surfaces were available on all LS Sables. In for MY , unpopular optional features such as the "InstaClear" heated windshield were eliminated. Also some 3. The wagon version was available with mostly the same options as the sedan versions. With both rear split seats in the upright position, standard cargo capacity was The last model year of this updated Sable generation was For the model year, the rare LTS trim level was added. It featured leather bucket seats, Taurus LX-style alloy wheels, special cladding, and many leather wrapped interior trim parts. The model year saw the first complete redesign for the Sable. Ford hoped the radical redesign would lead to the same success it had had with the Sable. The controversial oval theme was not well received by the press and the public, and is ultimately blamed as the reason for a substantial dip in sales. Differences from the Taurus included different front and rear fascias, and the elimination of the rear quarter window. The model could be equipped with the brand new hp kW 3. The LTS was eliminated. That same year front bucket seats became optional on the GS. In an effort to reverse the declining sales of the Sable, Mercury did major cost cutting for the model. GS â€" 3. The Sable received another redesign in for MY , which minimized some of the oval design elements from the model, replacing them with more conventional styling. The suspension was also softened to appeal to a broader, non-sporting audience. The Sable included extra equipment on every trim level, including a CD player and power driver's seat on the GS, and a power moonroof or leather interior on the LS. Inside were a new instrument cluster and steering wheel. Due to the Mercury brand's discontinuation in Canada, the fourth generation Sable was never available in the Canadian market. Thus it was unique to the US and Mexico. The Mercury Montego and Milan were launched as replacements for the Sable. The last Sable left the Atlanta plant on April 29, Wikinews has related news: Ford Taurus to be revived. Although externally smaller than the Grand Marquis, the fifth-generation Sable was the first version produced as a full-size sedan. In the transition to the Montego to the Sable, a number of changes were made to the body and chassis. Alongside the addition of the hp 3. Premier 3. A few rare special editions of the Sable were made, all consisting of first generation models. During MY , Mercury introduced a special edition of the Sable called the "LS Monochrome Edition", which as an option would color the bumpers, side trim, and wheels white. Keeping with the name, only 50 were sold, combined between GS and LS models. It was meant to use the SHO's chassis, interior, and suspension, but not the engine. The Sable LTS remained in a "development hell" until mid when it was introduced as a high end version of the Sable, but by then, it was just a highly optioned LS. An unknown number of these Sables still exist, but a pristine condition GS in this trim was sold on eBay in It was built from a sedan chassis and featured a completely custom two-door body with a custom folding top. However, it was shelved; the only one sat in a warehouse for years until it was given a VIN, titled, and driven. It was sold on eBay in In an article in Automotive News circa an all aluminum "body in white" was made for a Sable. In an accompanying photo it is shown being held up by two middle aged women, leading to the belief it would weigh less than lbs. At the time Audi had just released the A8, so it might have been an engineering exercise for constructing all aluminum frames, as Jaguar has now. Whatever became of the "Aluminum Sable Unibody", or if there was

more than one, is unknown. The car is equipped with a removable sunroof to accommodate his "cone. The car is described as "a personal conveyance named after its inventor, an assassinated ruler, a character from Greco-Roman myth and a small furry mammal. In the American Dad! Beadle, Tony August The American Automobile. Smithmark Publishers. Gunnell, John July Standard Catalog of Ford 3rd ed. Krause Publications. Back to home page Return to top. Back to home page. Listed in category:. Email to friends Share on Facebook - opens in a new window or tab Share on Twitter - opens in a new window or tab Share on Pinterest - opens in a new window or tab Add to Watchlist. Ended: Nov 29, PST. For additional information, see the Global Shipping Program terms and conditions - opens in a new window or tab See details. Item location: Burlington, Massachusetts, United States. Seller: burlington-ma-usedbooksuperstore Seller's other items. Contents 1 Third generation development 1. Export Models â€" Ford Taurus Ghia sedan Australia In addition to being sold in the North American market, third-generation models were exported to many other countries, in left and right-hand drive configurations. External links Wikimedia Commons has media related to Ford Taurus. Contents 1 Background 2 First generation â€" 2. Length Height References "Taurus Car Club of America". We've Made a Site Update. Refresh to the latest version. Retrieve quote. Track order. Sign In or Create

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