TECH TALK

55-56

55-6 11

1955-56 FORD VIN PLATE

Although the following patent plate is that of a 1957 model Ford, the 1955 and 1956 vin plate is similar in format.

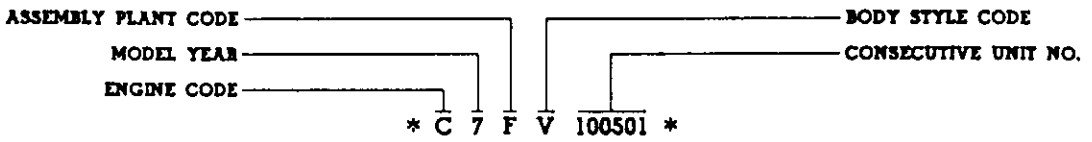
PATENT PLATE

The Patent Plate will be installed on the left front body pillar on all passenger models except the Thunderbird. On the Thunderbird, the Patent Plate will be installed on the dash panel in the engine compartment.

The following diagram of the Patent Plate specifies, in the Serial Number: the Engine Type, Model Year, Plant which assembled the car, Body Style and numerical sequence of assembly.

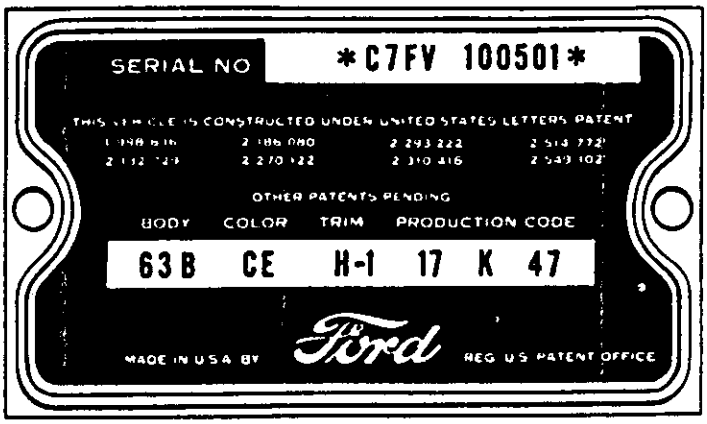
Indicated in the body specifications are the Body Type, Exterior Paint Color, Trim Scheme and Production Code.

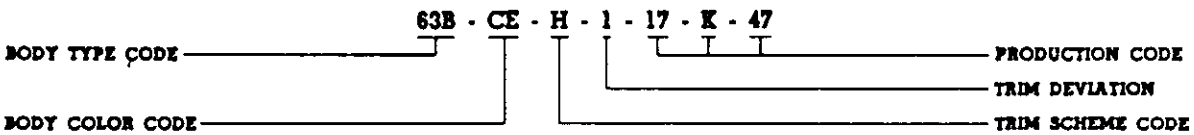
PATENT PLATE DIAGRAM



The asterisks before and after the complete Serial Number are inserted to assure that no other digits or letters can be added to the Serial Number.

Serial Number (*C7FV100501*)
"C"— 8 cyl. OHV Engine—292 cu. in. disp.—2-venturi carb.
"7"— 1957 Model
"F"— Assembled at Dearborn Plant
"V"— Victoria body style—Fairlane or Fairlane "500"
"100501"— Five hundred and first car assembled





Style and Body Specifications (63B - CE - H - 1 - 17 - K - 47)
"63B"— Victoria—Fairlane Tudor
"CE"— Dresden Blue lower body, Colonial White upper body
"H"— Colonial Vinyl and Blue Tropical-Leaf Fabric Bodycloth
"1"— First Trim Deviation
"17"— Seventeenth Day of Month
"K"— Month of year—October
"47"— Forty-seventh car produced

ASSEMBLY PLANT CODES

CODE	ASSEMBLY PLANT	CODE	ASSEMBLY PLANT	CODE	ASSEMBLY PLANT
A	Atlanta	F	Dearborn	N	Norfolk
B	Buffalo	G	Chicago	P	Twin City (St. Paul)
C	Chester	K	Kansas City	R	San Jose
D	Dallas	L	Long Beach	S	Somerville
E	Mahwah	M	Memphis	U	Louisville

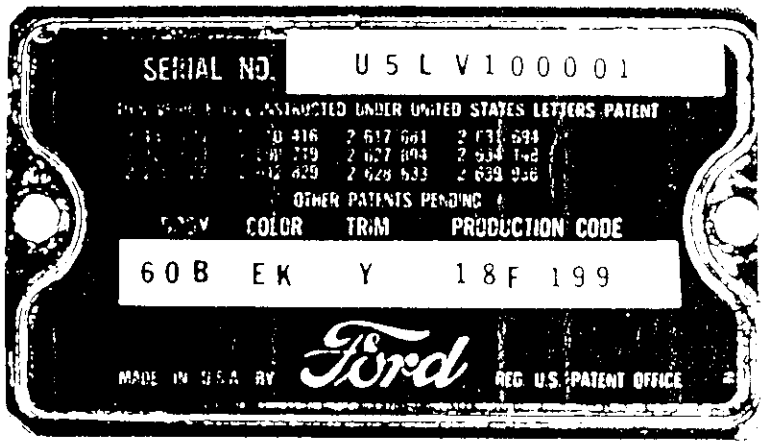
MODEL YEAR CODE

CODE	YEAR
3	1953
4	1954
5	1955
6	1956
7	1957

This is the third in a series of technical articles on the vin plate [illegible] from 1955. This one covers the 1955 and 1956 vin plates and how to read them. [illegible] finished with the series (which we plan to take all the way through the [illegible] Mercuries and Edsels as well as pickup trucks) your Keystone should be a wealth of [illegible] information and be something worth keeping.

1955 FORD

The 1955 Ford vin plate on passengers cars is illustrated on the right. You will find the vin plate on the left front door pillar on all models with the exception of the Thunderbird. The T-Bird vin plate is located on the right hand side of the dash panel in the engine compartment.



[illegible] NUMBER

The serial number identifies the type of [illegible], model year, assembly plant, body type and consecutive unit numbers. The following is an explanation of the symbols used for the serial number.

ENGINE TYPE

SYMBOL	ENGINE
A	6-cylinder 223 cu. in.
[illegible]	8-cylinder 272 cu. in.
P	8-cylinder 292 cu. in. (Police Interceptor and T-Bird)

MODEL YEAR

SYMBOL: 5 MODEL YEAR: 1955

ASSEMBLY PLANT

SYMBOL	ASSEMBLY PLANT
A	Atlanta
B	Buffalo
C	Chester
[illegible]	Dallas
[illegible]	Edgewater
F	Dearborn
G	Chicago
K	Kansas City
L	Long Beach
M	Memphis
N	Norfolk
[illegible]	Twin City [illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]chburg
[illegible]	Somerville
[illegible]	Louisville

BODY STYLE

SYMBOL	BODY STYLE
C	Convertible
F	Crown Victoria (Fairlane Inter-parent Top)
G	Tudor, Fordor (Custom-line, Mainline) and Business Tudor (Mainline)
H	Thunderbird
R	Ranch Wagon
S	Sedan Delivery
T	Tudor and Fordor (Fairlane)
V	Victoria
W	Crown Victoria (Fairlane Top)
X	Country Sedan
Y	Country Squire

CONSECUTIVE UNIT NUMBER

Assembly plants begin with [illegible] unit number 100001 and continue from there for each unit built. This is done on each model as they change from Convertibles to Victorias to Ranch Wagons, etc.

EXAMPLE: *95LV 100001*

6 = 8-cylinder 272 cu. in. engine
5 = 1955 model
L = Long Beach (assembly plant
V = Victoria (body style)

* * Asterisks before and after the vin number are there so that no other [illegible] letters can be added.

The serial number is also stamped on top of the right-hand side member where it is sible when the hood is raised as well as in o places that are not visible elsewhere on the frame.

B. VEHICLE CODE NUMBER

The vehicle code number identifies the body type, the paint color, trim scheme, plus the production code. An explanation of the symbols is as follows:

BODY TYPE - MAINLINE SERIES

SYMBOL	TYPE
70A	Tudor Sedan
73A	Fordor Sedan
70D	Business Sedan

BODY TYPE - CUSTOMLINE SERIES

SYMBOL	TYPE
70B	Tudor Sedan
73B	Fordor Sedan

BODY TYPE - FAIRLANE SERIES

SYMBOL	TYPE
70C	Club Sedan
73C	Town Sedan
60B	Victoria
64A	Crown Victoria (Solid Top)
64B	Crown Victoria (Transparent Top)
76B	Sunliner
40	Thunderbird

BODY TYPE - STATION WAGON SERIES

SYMBOL	TYPE
59A	Ranch Wagon
59B	Ranch Wagon (Custom)
79D	Country Sedan - 6 pass.
79B	Country Sedan - 8 pass.
79C	Country Squire

BODY TYPE - COURIER

SYMBOL	TYPE
78A	Sedan Delivery

PAINT COLOR

SYMBOL	COLOR
A	M20J-1724 Raven Black
B	M20J-346 Banner Blue

PAINT COLOR (CONT.)

SYMBOL	COLOR
C	M20J-347 Aquatone Blue
D	M20J-355 Waterfall Blue
E	M20J-354 Shoeshoe White
F	M20J-348 Pinetree Green
G	M20J-349 Sea Sprite Green
H	M20J-350 Neptune Green
K	M20J-357 Buckskin Brown
L	M20J-358 Goldenrod Yellow
M	M20J-353 Regency Purple
N	M20J-175 Torch Red
S	M20J-352 Tropical Rose

PAINT COLOR (TWO TONE)

Two tone paint codes use the same symbols as the single colors except that two symbols are used.

TRIM SCHEMES

SYMBOL	COLOR
A	Light Gray Vinyl & Dark Gray Bodycloth
C	Dark Blue Vinyl & Medium Blue Bodycloth
E	Medium Turquoise Vinyl & Dark Turquoise Bodycloth
G	Dark Blue Cloth & Medium Blue Bodycloth
J	Medium Copper Cloth & Medium Copper Bodycloth
L	White and Red Vinyl
M	White and Medium Turquoise Vinyl
R	Black and Yellow Vinyl
Y	Medium Copper Vinyl & Medium Copper Bodycloth
AA	White Vinyl and Red Woven Plastic
AD	Medium Copper Vinyl & Dark Copper Woven Plastic
AE	Dark Copper Vinyl
AK	Light Blue Vinyl & Medium Blue Woven Plastic
AL	Light Turquoise Vinyl & Medium Turquoise Woven Plastic
AM	Medium Copper Vinyl & Dark Copper Western Vinyl
AR	Dark Turquoise Cloth and Medium Turquoise Bodycloth
AS	White and Magenta Vinyl
AT	White Vinyl and Black Bodycloth
AU	White Vinyl & Dark Copper Bodycloth
AV	White Vinyl and Red Woven Plastic
AX	White Vinyl & Medium Blue Woven Plastic
AY	Medium Blue and Light Blue Vinyl

THUNDERBIRD

XA	Black and White Vinyl
XB	Red and White Vinyl
XC	Turquoise and White Vinyl

PRODUCTION CODE

The production code consists of a number signating the day of the month the unit was completed, a letter signifying the month of the year, and a scheduled item number. The scheduled item number is a number that is assigned to the body at the assembly plant.

The letters signifying the month are as follows:

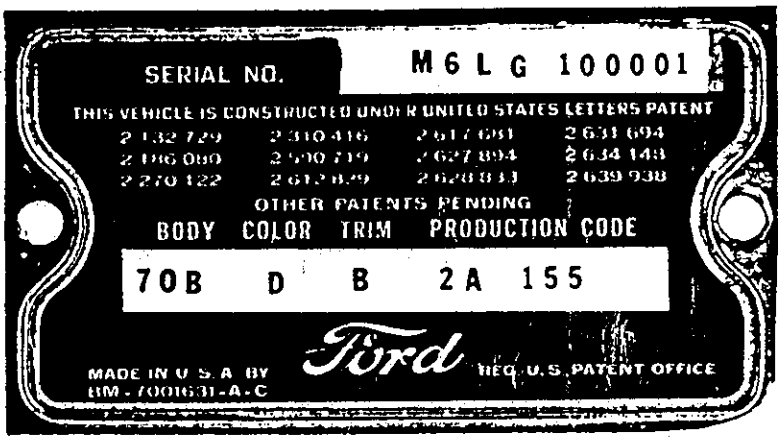
SYMBOL	MONTH	SYMBOL	MONTH
A	January	G	July
B	February	H	August
C	March	J	September
D	April	K	October
E	May	L	November
F	June	M	December

EXAMPLE: 60B EK Y 18F199

60B	Victoria (Body Type)
EK	Shoeshoe White & Buckskin Brown (Exterior Paint Color)
Y	Medium Copper Vinyl & Medium Copper Bodycloth (Trim Scheme)
18	18th day of the Month
F	June (Month of Assembly)
199	Scheduled Item Number from Production

1956 FORD

The patent plate used on 1956 cars is shown on the right. The plate is located on the left front door pillar on all models except T-Bird. On the T-Bird, the plate is located on the right hand side of the dash panel in the engine compartment.



A. SERIAL NUMBER

The serial number identifies the type of engine, model, year, assembly plant, body style and consecutive unit number. The symbols used are explained as follows:

ENGINE TYPE

SYMBOL	ENGINE
A	6-cylinder 223 cu. in.
U	8-cylinder 272 cu. in.
M	8-cylinder 292 cu. in. (car and T-Bird)
P	8-cylinder 312 cu. in. (Police Interceptor and T-Bird)

MODEL YEAR

SYMBOL: 6 YEAR: 1956

ASSEMBLY PLANT

SYMBOL	ASSEMBLY PLANT
A	Atlanta
B	Buffalo
C	Chester
D	Dallas
E	Mahwah
F	Dearborn
G	Chicago
K	Kansas City
L	Long Beach
M	Memphis
N	Norfolk
P	Twin City (St. Paul)
R	San Jose
S	Sommerville
U	Louisville

(continued)

1955 PASSENGER CARS

1955 TRIM SCHEME CODE

Code	Trim Scheme
A	Light Gray Vinyl & Dark Gray Bodycloth
C	Dark Blue Vinyl & Medium Blue Bodycloth
E	Medium Turquoise Vinyl & Dark Turquoise Bodycloth
G	Dark Blue Cloth & Medium Blue Bodycloth
J	Medium Copper Cloth & Medium Copper Bodycloth
L	White & Red Vinyl
M	White & Medium Turquoise Vinyl
R	Black & Yellow Vinyl
Y	Medium Copper Vinyl & Dark Copper Woven Plastic
AA	White Vinyl & Red Woven Plastic
AD	Medium Copper Vinyl & Dark Copper Woven Plastic
AE	Dark Copper Vinyl
AK	Light Blue Vinyl & Medium Blue Woven Plastic
AL	Light Turquoise Vinyl & Medium Turquoise Woven Plastic
AM	Medium Copper Vinyl & Dark Copper Western Vinyl
AR	Dark Turquoise Cloth & Medium Turquoise Bodycloth
AS	White & Magenta Vinyl
AT	White Vinyl & Black Bodycloth
AU	White Vinyl & Dark Copper Bodycloth
AV	White Vinyl & Red Woven Plastic
AX	White Vinyl & Medium Blue Woven Plastic
AY	Medium Blue & Light Blue Vinyl

ASSEMBLY PLANT CODE

Code	Assembly Plant	Code	Assembly Plant
A	Atlanta	L	Long Beach
B	Buffalo	M	Memphis
C	Chester	N	Norfolk
D	Dallas	P	Twin City (St. Paul)
E	Mahwah		
F	Dearborn	R	San Jose
G	Chicago	S	Somerville
K	Kansas City	U	Louisville

1955 BODY COLOR CODE

SOLID COLORS

Code	Color
A	Raven Black
B	Banner Blue
C	Aquatone Blue
D	Waterfall Blue
E	Snowshoe White
F	Pine Tree Green
G	Sea Sprite Green
H	Neptune Green
K	Buckskin Brown
M	Regency Purple
R	Torch Red
T	Thunderbird Blue (Skyhaze Green)
V	Goldenrod Yellow
W	Tropical Rose
P	Prime
S	Special
X	Regatta Blue
Y	Mountain Green
Z	Coral Mist

TWO-TONE COLORS

Lower Body Color/
Upper Body Color

CodeColors	
AE	Raven Black/ Snowshoe White
CE	Aquatone Blue/ Snowshoe White
DB	Waterfall Blue/ Banner Blue
EC	Snowshoe White/ Aquatone Blue
GE	Sea Sprite Green/ Snowshoe White
HG	Neptune Green/ Sea Sprite Green
HF	Neptune Green/ Pine Tree Green
KE	Buckskin Brown/ Snowshoe White
ME	Regency Purple/ Snowshoe White
RE	Torch Red/ Snowshoe White
VA	Goldenrod Yellow/ Raven Black
VE	Goldenrod Yellow/ Snowshoe White
WE	Tropical Rose/ Snow Shoe White

1955 BODY TYPE CODE

Code	Body Type
59A	Mainline-Ranch Wagon
59B	Customline-Ranch Wagon
60B	Fairlane-Victoria
64A	Fairlane-Crown Victoria-Solid Top
64B	Fairlane-Crown Victoria-Transparent Top
70A	Mainline-Tudor
70B	Customline-Tudor
70C	Fairlane-Club Sedan
70D	Mainline-Tudor-Business
73A	Mainline-Fordor
73B	Customline-Fordor
73C	Fairlane-Town Sedan
76B	Fairlane-Sunliner
78A	Mainline-Sedan Delivery-Courier
79B	Customline-Country Sedan (8 pass.)
79C	Fairlane-Country Squire
79D	Customline-Country Sedan (6 pass.)

1955 BODY STYLE CODE

Code	Style
C	Convertible (Sunliner)
F	Skyliner
H	Thunderbird
R	Ranch Wagon (Customline)
S	Sedan Delivery (Courier)
T	Tudor and Fordor (Fairlane)
V	Victoria Tudor
W	Ranch Wagon (Mainline)
X	Country Sedan
Y	Country Squire
G	All Other (Tudor, Fordor-Mainline and Customline)

1955 ENGINE CODE

Code	Engine
A	6 Cyl.-OHV-223 cu. in. disp.
M	8 Cyl.-OHV-272 cu. in. disp. "182 H.P. Special"
P	8 Cyl.-OHV-292 cu. in. disp. "Thunderbird and Special Law Enforcement"
U	8 Cyl.-OHV-272 cu. in. disp.

1956 PASSENGER CARS

1956 TRIM SCHEME CODE

Code	Trim Scheme
B	Light Blue Vinyl & Medium Blue Cloth
C	Light Green Vinyl & Medium Green Cloth
E	Dark Gray Vinyl & Light Gray Cloth
H	Light Blue & Medium Blue Cloth
J	Dark Green & Medium Green Cloth
L	Dark Gray & Medium Gray Cloth
T	Medium & Light Green Vinyl
V	Red & White Vinyl
AD	White Vinyl & Black Cloth
AE	Black Vinyl & Red Cloth
AJ	Dark Brown Vinyl
AN	White Vinyl & Dark Peacock Cloth
AS	Light Green Vinyl & Medium Green Woven Plastic
AT	White Vinyl & Red Woven Plastic
AV	Light & Medium Blue Vinyl
AX	Medium & Dark Brown Vinyl
AZ	Medium Brown Vinyl & Dark Brown Vinyl
BA	Medium Brown Viny & Dark Brown Vinyl
BB	Medium Blue Vinyl & LIght Blue Woven Plastic
BC	Medium Green Vinyl & Light Green Woven Plastic
BD	White Vinyl & Medium Brown Woven Plastic
BE	Light Gray Vinyl & Dark Gray Bodycloth
BF	Dark Gray & Red Cloth
BG	White & Orange Vinyl
BH	White Vinyl & Medium Blue Woven Plastic
BJ	Medium Brown & Medium Brown Cloth
BL	White Vinyl & Red Bodycloth
BM	Medium Blue & White Vinyl
BN	Black & White Vinyl
BR	White Vinyl & Medium Blue Woven Plastic
BS	White Vinyl & Medium Blue Cloth
BU	White & Red Vinyl (Pleated)
BV	White & Dark Peacock Vinyl
BZ	Medium Blue Vinyl & Medium Blue Bodycloth
CA	Medium Green Vinyl & Medium Green Bodycloth

ASSEMBLY PLANT CODE

Code	Assembly Plant	Code	Assembly Plant
A	Atlanta	L	Long Beach
B	Buffalo	M	Memphis
C	Chester	N	Norfolk
D	Dallas	P	Twin City (St. Paul)
E	Mahwah		
F	Dearborn	R	San Jose
G	Chicago	S	Somerville
K	Kansas City	U	Louisville

1956 BODY COLOR CODE

SOLID COLORS

Code	Color
A	Raven Black
B	Nocturne Blue
C	Bermuda Blue
D	Waterfall Blue
E	Colonial White
F	Pine Ridge Green
G	Meadowmist Green
H	Platinum Gray
J	Buckskin Tan
K	Fiesta Red
L	Peacock Blue
M	Goldenglow Yellow
N	Mandarin Orange
P	Prime
S	Special
V	Mountain Green
W	Spring Mist Green
Y	Sunset Coral

TWO-TONE COLORS

Lower Body Color/
Upper Body Color

Code	Colors
AE	Raven Black/ Colonial White
AK	Raven Black/ Fiesta Red
BE	Nocturne Blue/ Colonial White
CE	Bermuda Blue/ Colonial White
DE	Diamond Blue Colonial White
FG	Pine Ridge Green/ Meadowmist Green
GE	Meadowmist Green/ Colonial White
GF	Meadowmist Green/ Pine Ridge Green
HE	Platinum Gray/ Colonial White
JE	Buckskin Tan/ Colonial White
KE	Fiesta Red/ Colonial White
LE	Peacock Blue/ Colonial White
ME	Goldonglow Yellow/ Colonial White

1956 BODY TYPE CODE

Code	Body Type
57A	Fairlane-Victoria Fordor
59A	Mainline-Ranch Wagon
59B	Customline-Ranch Wagon
59C	Fairlane-Ranch Wagon-
64A	Fairlane-Crown Victoria-Solid Top
64B	Fairlane-Crown Victoria-Transparent Top
64C	Fairlane-Victoria
70A	Mainline-Tudor
70B	Customline-Tudor
70C	Fairlane-Club Sedan
70D	Mainline-Tudor-Business
73A	Mainline-Fordor
73B	Customline-Fordor
73C	Fairlane-Town Sedan
76B	Fairlane-Sunliner
78A	Mainline-Sedan Delivery-Courier
79B	Fairlane-Country Sedan (8 pass.)
79C	Fairlane-Country Squire
79D	Customline-Country Sedan (6 pass.)

1956 BODY STYLE CODE

Code	Style
C	Convertible (Sunliner)
F	Victoria (Fairlane Fordor)
H	Thunderbird
R	Ranch Wagon (Customline)
S	Sedan Delivery (Courier)
T	Tudor & Fordor (Fairlane)
V	Victoria Tudor
W	Crown Victoria
X	Country Sedan
Y	Country Squire
G	All Other (Tudor, Fordor-Mainline & Customline)

1956 ENGINE CODE

Code	Engine
A	6 Cyl.-OHV-223 cu. in. disp.
M	8 Cyl.-OHV-292 cu. in. disp.
P	8 Cyl.-OHV-312 cu. in. disp. Thuderbird, Fairlane, Wagons and Special Law Enforcement
U	8 Cyl.-OHV-272 cu. in. disp.

BODY STYLE

SYMBOL	BODY STYLE
C	Convertible
F	Victoria (Fairlane 2 dr.)
G	Tudor, Fordor (Customline, Mainline) and Business Tudor (Mainline)
H	Thunderbird
R	Ranch Wagon
S	Courier
T	Club Sedan and Town Sedan (Fairlane)
V	Victoria (Fairlane 4 dr.)
W	Crown Victoria (Fairlane 2 dr.)
X	Country Sedan
Y	Country Squire

CONSECUTIVE UNIT NUMBER

Assembly plants begin numbering with consecutive numbers each different model. All Victorias will be consecutively numbered as are all Thunderbirds, Couriers, Country Sedans, etc. starting with the number 100001 on each model.

EXAMPLE: *M6LC 100001*

M	8-cylinder 292 cu. in. engine
6	1956 model
L	Long Beach (assembly plant)
C	Convertible (body style)
100001	Means that it is the first convertible built at the Long Beach plant

* * Asterisks before and after the serial number is assurance that no other digits or numbers can be added.

The serial number is also stamped on top of the right-hand side member where it is visible when the hood is raised, as well as in two other places that are not visible.

B. VEHICLE CODE NUMBER

The vehicle code number identifies the body type, paint color, trim scheme, and contains the production code. The symbols are as follows:

BODY TYPE - MAINLINE SERIES

SYMBOL	TYPE
70A	Tudor Sedan
73A	Fordor Sedan
70D	Business Sedan

BODY TYPE - CUSTOMLINE SERIES

SYMBOL	TYPE
70B	Tudor Sedan
73B	Fordor Sedan

BODY TYPE - FAIRLANE SERIES

SYMBOL	TYPE
70C	Club Sedan
73C	Town Sedan
64C	Victoria
64A	Crown Victoria (Solid Top)
64B	Crown Victoria (Transparent Top)
57A	Victoria Fordor
76B	Sunliner
40	Thunderbird

BODY TYPE - STATION WAGON

SYMBOL	TYPE
59A	Ranch Wagon
59B	Ranch Wagon (Custom)
59C	Ranch Wagon (Parklane)
79D	Country Sedan 6-passenger
79B	Country Sedan 8-passenger
79C	Country Squire

BODY TYPE - COURIER

SYMBOL	TYPE
78A	Sedan Delivery (Courier)

PAINT COLOR

SYMBOL		COLOR
A	M-1724	Raven Black*
B	M2J-521	Nocturne Blue
C	M2J-529	Bermuda Blue
D	M2J-523	Diamond Blue
E	M2J-524	Colonial White*
F	M2J-525	Pine Ridge Green
G	M2J-527	Meadowmist Green
H	M2J-532	Platinum Gray
J	M2J-528	Buckskin Tan*
K	M2J-530	Fiesta Red*
L	M2J-534	Peacock Blue*
M	M2J-531	Goldenglow Yellow
N	M2J-533	Mandarin Orange
P		Prime
S		Special

* Also used on Thunderbirds

PAINT COLOR (TWO TONE)

Two tone paint codes use the same symbols as the single colors except that two symbols are used.

(continued)

TRIM SCHEMES

SYMBOL	COLOR
B	Light Blue Vinyl & Medium Blue Cloth
C	Light Green Vinyl & Medium Green Cloth
E	Dark Gray Vinyl & Light Gray Cloth
H	Light Blue and Medium Blue Cloth
J	Dark Green & Medium Green Cloth
L	Dark Gray & Medium Gray Cloth
T	Medium and Light Green Vinyl
V	Red and White Vinyl
AD	White Vinyl and Black Cloth
AE	Black Vinyl and Red Cloth
AJ	Dark Brown Vinyl
AN	White Vinyl & Dark Peacock Cloth
AS	Light Green Vinyl & Medium Green Woven Plastic
AT	White Vinyl & Red Woven Plastic
AV	Light & Medium Blue Vinyl
AX	Medium & Dark Brown Vinyl
AZ	Medium Brown Vinyl & Medium Brown Woven Plastic
BA	Medium Brown Vinyl & Medium Brown Woven Plastic
BB	Medium Blue Vinyl & Light Blue Woven Plastic
BC	Medium Green Vinyl & Light Green Woven Plastic
BD	White Vinyl & Medium Brown Woven Plastic
BE	Light Gray Vinyl & Dark Gray Bodycloth
BF	Dark Gray & Red Cloth
BG	White & Orange Vinyl
BH	White Vinyl & Medium Blue Woven Plastic
BJ	Medium Brown Vinyl & Medium Brown Cloth
BL	White Vinyl & Red Bodycloth
BM	Medium Blue & White Vinyl
BN	Black & White Vinyl
BR	White Vinyl & Medium Blue Woven Plastic
BS	White Vinyl & Medium Blue Cloth
BU	White & Red Vinyl (Pleated)
BV	White & Dark Peacock Vinyl
BZ	Medium Blue Vinyl & Medium Blue Bodycloth
CA	Medium Green Vinyl & Medium Green Bodycloth

THUNDERBIRD

XA	Black and White Vinyl
XB	Red and White Vinyl
XC	Dark Peacock and White Vinyl
XF	Green and White Vinyl
XG	Brown and White Vinyl

PRODUCTION CODE (CAR)

The production code consists of a number designating the day of the month the unit was completed, a letter signifying the month of the year and a scheduled item number. The scheduled item number is a number that is assigned to the body at the assembly plant.

The letters signifying the month are as follows:

SYMBOL	MONTH	SYMBOL	MONTH
A	January	G	July
B	February	H	August
C	March	J	September
D	April	K	October
E	May	L	November
F	June	M	December

EXAMPLE: 70B D B 2A155

70B	Customline Tudor (Body Type)
D	Diamond Blue (Paint Color)
B	Light Blue Vinyl and Medium Blue Cloth (Trim Scheme)
2	2nd Day of the Month of Assembly
M	December (Month of Assembly)
155	Scheduled Item Number from Production

PRODUCTION CODE (THUNDERBIRD)

The difference between the car and the Thunderbird is that a designation is used to identify the location where the Thunderbird was ordered. The location designation is as follows:

SYMBOL	LOCATION
NK	Atlanta
SD	Boston
BF	Buffalo
CE	Charlotte
CX	Chicago
CI	Cincinnati
CL	Cleveland
DP	Dallas
DQ	Davenport
DN	Denver
DS	Des Moines
DD	Detroit
RG	Fargo
SV	Houston
NP	Indianapolis
KJ	Jacksonville
KS	Kansas City
LX	Lansing
LP	Los Angeles
LS	Louisville
GB	Memphis
NR	New Orleans

(continued)

55/56-8

55/56-7

PATENT PLATE – Continued

1955 TRIM SCHEME CODES

CODE	TRIM SCHEME
A	Light Gray Vinyl and Dark Gray Bodycloth
C	Dark Blue Vinyl and Medium Blue Bodycloth
E	Medium Turquoise Vinyl and Dark Turquoise Bodycloth
G	Dark Blue Cloth and Medium Blue Bodycloth
J	Medium Copper Cloth and Medium Copper Bodycloth
L	White and Red Vinyl
M	White and Medium Turquoise Vinyl
R	Black and Yellow Vinyl
Y	Medium Copper Vinyl and Medium Copper Bodycloth
AA	White Vinyl and Red Woven Plastic
AD	Medium Copper Vinyl and Dark Copper Woven Plastic
AE	Dark Copper Vinyl
AK	Light Blue Vinyl and Medium Blue Woven Plastic

CODE	TRIM SCHEME
AL	Light Turquoise Vinyl and Medium Turquoise Woven Plastic
AM	Medium Copper Vinyl and Dark Copper Western Vinyl
AR	Dark Turquoise Cloth and Medium Turquoise Bodycloth
AS	White and Magenta Vinyl
AT	White Vinyl and Black Bodycloth
AU	White Vinyl and Dark Copper Bodycloth
AV	White Vinyl and Red Woven Plastic
AX	White Vinyl and Medium Blue Woven Plastic
AY	Medium Blue and Light Blue Vinyl

CODE	THUNDERBIRD
XA	Black and White Vinyl
XB	Red and White Vinyl
XC	Turquoise and White Vinyl

1956 TRIM SCHEME CODES

CODE	TRIM SCHEME
B	Light Blue Vinyl and Medium Blue Cloth
C	Light Green Vinyl and Medium Green Cloth
E	Dark Gray Vinyl and Light Gray Cloth
H	Light Blue and Medium Blue Cloth
J	Dark Green and Medium Green Cloth
L	Dark Gray and Medium Gray Cloth
T	Medium and Light Green Vinyl
V	Red and White Vinyl
AD	White Vinyl and Black Cloth
AE	Black Vinyl and Red Cloth
AJ	Dark Brown Vinyl
AN	White Vinyl and Dark Peacock Cloth
AS	Light Green Vinyl and Medium Green Woven Plastic
AT	White Vinyl and Red Woven Plastic
AV	Light and Medium Blue Vinyl
AX	Medium and Dark Brown Vinyl
AZ	Medium Brown Vinyl and Medium Brown Woven Plastic
BA	Medium Brown Vinyl and Dark Brown Vinyl
BB	Medium Blue Vinyl and Light Blue Woven Plastic
BC	Medium Green Vinyl and Light Green Woven Plastic
BD	White Vinyl and Medium Brown Woven Plastic

CODE	TRIM SCHEME
BE	Light Gray Vinyl and Dark Gray Bodycloth
BF	Dark Gray and Red Cloth
BG	White and Orange Vinyl
BH	White Vinyl and Medium Blue Woven Plastic
BJ	Medium Brown and Medium Brown Cloth
BL	White Vinyl and Red Bodycloth
BM	Medium Blue and White Vinyl
BN	Black and White Vinyl
BR	White Vinyl and Medium Blue Woven Plastic
BS	White Vinyl and Medium Blue Cloth
BU	White and Red Vinyl (Pleated)
BV	White and Dark Peacock Vinyl
BZ	Medium Blue Vinyl and Medium Blue Bodycloth
CA	Medium Green Vinyl and Medium Green Bodycloth

CODE	THUNDERBIRD
XA	Black and White Vinyl
XB	Red and White Vinyl
XC	Dark Peacock and White Vinyl
XD	Tan and White Vinyl
XF	Green and White Vinyl
XG	Brown and White Vinyl

COLOR CODE

The COLOR CODE letters will list one or two colors. When there is a single letter, the entire exterior of the car was painted one color when it left the assembly plant. If there are two code letters, the car was painted with two different colors, and was either painted "conventional 2-tone" or "unique 2-tone". The color of the lower body is indicated by the first letter, and the top body color is indicated by the second letter.

Conventional 2-tone had the main body painted one color, and the top painted another color. In 1955 and 1956, Ford's unique paint treatment was called "Styletone", and was available only on the Fairlane models. Styletone painted cars had the two colors of the main body separated by the stainless "sweep spear" side molding, and the top painted the same color as the lower body. Some plants put a third character after the color code to indicate styletone paint on a Fairlane model vehicle. Depending on the plant, this third character was the letter "S", a c/o, or a number. Don't confuse the paint code letter "S" with the third character "S". The "S" (special) paint code was used when a car was ordered and painted a "Special" color other than the colors offered for that particular model or year. The "S" paint code convention was usually reserved for a car ordered and built for a FoMoCo executive who wanted the car painted in a non-standard color.

Most styletone Sunliners were painted the reverse of the hardtop Fairlanes. For example: a black/yellow 1955 Sunliner convertible would be color coded VA, while a black/yellow Victoria would be color coded AV.

In the springtime of the model year, some colors were added and some were deleted. Ford called these their "Springtime Colors", and they became available on April 1 of the model year. The chart below shows these colors.

YEAR	NEW SPRINGTIME COLOR (CODE)	DELETED COLOR (CODE)
1954	Goldenrod Yellow (V)	Dovetone Grey (E)
1954	Sierra Brown (Z)	Lancer Maroon (J)
1954	* Skyhaze Green (T)	Seahaze Green (H)
1955	Regatta Blue (X)	Aquatone Blue (C)
1955	Mountain Green (Y)	Meadow Mist Green (G)
1955	Coral Mist (Z)	Regency Purple (M)
1956	Berkshire Green (V)	Pineridge Green (F)
1956	Springmist Green (W)	Meadowmist Green (G)
1956	Sunset Coral (Y)	Nocturn Blue (B)

* Skyhaze Green became known as Thunderbird Blue when it was carried over into the 1955 model year, and 1954 Sandstone White was Pace Car White from 1953.

COLOR CODES

1954	
CODE	COLOR
A	RAVEN BLACK
B	SHERIDAN BLUE
C	* CADET BLUE
D	GLACIER BLUE
E	DOVETONE GRAY
F	* HIGHLAND GREEN
G	* KILLARNEY GREEN
H	SEAHAZE GREEN
J	* LANCER MAROON
L	SANDALWOOD TAN
M	SANDSTONE WHITE
T	SKYHAZE GREEN
V	GOLDENROD YELLOW
N	TORCH RED
R	CAMEO CORAL
Z	* SIERRA BROWN
P	PRIME
SS	SPECIAL

1955	
CODE	COLOR
A	RAVEN BLACK
B	* BANNER BLUE
C	AQUATONE BLUE
D	WATERFALL BLUE
E	SNOWSHOE WHITE
F	* PINETREE GREEN
G	SEA SPRITE GREEN
H	NEPTUNE GREEN
K	BUCKSKIN BROWN
M	* REGENCY PURPLE
R	TORCH RED
W	TROPICAL ROSE
V	GOLDENROD YELLOW
T	THUNDERBIRD BLUE
X	REGATTA BLUE
Y	MOUNTAIN GREEN
Z	CORAL MIST
P	PRIME
S	SPECIAL

1956	
CODE	COLOR
A	RAVEN BLACK
B	* NOCTURNE BLUE
C	BERMUDA BLUE
D	DIAMOND BLUE
E	COLONIAL WHITE
F	* PINERIDGE GREEN
G	MEADOW MIST GREEN
H	PLATINUM GRAY
J	BUCKSKIN TAN
K	FIESTA RED
L	PEACOCK BLUE
M	GOLDENGLOW YELLOW
N	MANDARIN ORANGE
T	* THUNDERBIRD GRAY
V	BERKSHIRE GREEN
W	SPRINGMIST GREEN
X	NAVAJO GRAY
Y	SUNSET CORAL
Z	SAGE GREEN
P	PRIME
S	SPECIAL

* The asterisk denotes metallic or iridescent paint.