

1988  
**MERCURY**  
**TRACER**



For all you put into buying a new car you expect a lot in return. Now there is a small car designed and equipped to give you everything you deserve and more.

Its name is Tracer.

## **T** RACER— the giving car

With more than 68 standard features, Tracer is true to the statement that it is "fully equipped." From its sophisticated mechanical features to its thoughtful interior appointments, Tracer is so complete it offers only seven options.

### **It loves to drive**

It's got those all important fun to drive elements such as an overhead cam fuel-injected engine, rack-and-pinion steering and a fully independent suspension.

### **Thoughtful in every respect**

On the inside, Tracer is detailed with thoughtful little touches that can make everyday driving more enjoyable. From front *and* rear seatbacks that adjust to numerous little pockets and storage spaces, Tracer displays a refreshing approach to small car design.

### **Three ways to go**

Tracer is available in three distinct body styles. Two- and four-door hatchbacks and a four-door wagon. All share the same complete level of standard features.

And all are protected by a 6-year/60,000-mile powertrain and 6-year/100,000-mile corrosion warranty. The warranty is limited and certain restrictions and deductibles apply. Ask your Lincoln-Mercury dealer for a copy of the warranty and take time to read it.



*“I DON'T have to put on airs or pretend to be someone I'm not when I'm with him. I can just say what I want and be who I am. Isn't that what friends are all about?”*

**“THERE ARE** only certain people you call early on a Sunday morning. Especially when all you want to do is laugh. But those are the times that reveal who your friends are... they're the ones who don't hang up.”



Forget about all those naked little cars that require a multitude of options before they even begin to take on a livable personality. Tracer has all those neat little features that transform it from

# **T**HE complete automobile that just happens to be small

just another small car into a complete automobile that just happens to be small.

#### **Luxury car features**

Tracer has a lot of what you don't expect. For instance, Tracer has electrically operated outside rearview mirrors. And at night, lift the driver's outside door handle and a soft green glow lights the slot for the key in the door. A second light inside illuminates the ignition.

#### **A complete array of helpful lights**

Up front an overhead light cluster provides a dome light and two map lights for driver and passenger. There's a second light out back in the cargo area. And both front door armrests feature red reflectors and white courtesy lights.

#### **Select standard convenience features**

- Power outside rear-view mirrors
- Illuminated driver's door lock
- Illuminated ignition
- Front overhead light cluster with map lights
- Cargo area light
- Front door armrest courtesy lights and safety reflectors
- Rear window defroster
- Side window demisters
- Tinted glass
- Day/night mirror
- Rear seat heat ducts

(Complete list of standard features on page 14)

Tracer is no slouch when it comes to moving out. Its engine is a potent 1.6-liter four-cylinder with an overhead camshaft. It offers the sophistication of multi-port electronic fuel injection and electronic engine controls.

## **S**mall doesn't have to mean dull

A precise 5-speed manual overdrive transmission is standard. It incorporates parallel linkage with a special stabilizer rod to ensure shifting that is both smooth and accurate. And to optimize fuel economy\* both fourth and fifth gears have overdrive ratios.

An efficient three-speed automatic with a lock-up torque converter for good fuel efficiency\* is available as an option.

### **Precise ride and handling**

A car's suspension is a key factor in the attainment of good ride quality and desirable handling characteristics. That's why Tracer features the sophistication of a fully independent suspension with struts and coil springs at all four wheels. It helps deliver good small car ride along with sporty handling.

### **Select standard mechanical features**

- 1.6-liter overhead camshaft engine
- Multi-port electronic fuel injection
- Electronic engine controls
- Independent MacPherson strut front suspension
- Independent strut-type rear suspension
- 5-speed manual transmission
- Front-wheel drive
- 48 amp/hr maintenance-free battery
- Power front disc brakes
- Self adjusting clutch linkage
- Rack-and-pinion steering

(Complete list of standard features on page 14)

\*See fuel economy statement page 17.



*“OUR LIVES are very different now. New jobs and responsibilities, I guess it's what you call growing up. But no matter where our travels take us, we'll always be friends in our hearts.”*

**“I WAS HAPPY and content. Then he came along. He ruined my sleep. He drained my funds. He makes me worry all the time. I just hope in years to come we'll always remain... best friends.”**



## **A CONCERN for safety throughout**

hydraulic brake lines. And inside you see it in the use of energy-absorbing materials in the instrument panel, sun visors, armrests and front seatback tops. The interior also utilizes flame-resistant materials.

### **Designed for structural integrity**

The roof structure is designed to support more than 1½ times Tracer's total curb weight. And each door is designed to withstand a test load of more than 4,000 pounds.

### **Added security for children**

For added peace of mind, the rear doors are equipped with child-proof locks. By simply moving a lever the rear doors can be set so that they can only be opened from the outside. This effectively prevents the rear doors from inadvertently being opened by children while the car is moving.

### **The fully equipped wagon**

The four-door Tracer wagon shown here shares in the lengthy list of standard features that comes on all Tracers, with a couple of minor differences. Where the two- and four-door hatchback models have a remote hatch release, the wagon features a convenient lock system similar to that in a car door which when unlocked, allows the liftgate to be opened from the outside without a key. The wagon also features a standard rear wiper/washer.

To appreciate the thoroughness of thought and planning that went into Tracer's design you really have to get in it and have a good look around. Bucket seats for driver and front passenger aren't all that

## **I**NSIDE the key words are comfort and versatility

unusual, but Tracer's have full recline capabilities for each as well as manual height and lumbar adjustments for the driver.

### **Comfort takes a back seat**

And in the rear, Tracer offers the comfort of a split seatback with a manual adjustment feature. Fixed rear seat headrests are also standard. Access to or from the rear seat is made easier on the two-door Tracer with its front passenger seat that tilts and slides forward out of the way.

### **Pockets, bins and versatility**

Just about everywhere you look inside Tracer designers have put available space to good use. There are map pockets on the backs of both front seats and on the lower panels of both front doors. A storage bin under the front passenger seat offers a convenient hiding place.

And for larger cargo needs, the split seatbacks on all Tracer models can be folded individually or together to maximize carrying capacity.

### **Select standard comfort and convenience features**

- Driver's seat height and lumbar adjustments
- 50/50 split folding rear seatbacks
- Adjustable rear seatback
- Fixed rear seat headrests
- Tilt/slide passenger seat
- Full console with storage area and rear seat ashtray (See complete list on page 14)





Nowhere is the completely equipped character of Tracer more apparent than from the driver's seat.

The steering wheel is of a softgrip design for driver comfort.

Convenient control stalks

## **E**QUIPPED to make you the complete driver

for turn signals, headlamps, high beams, wipers and washers are within an easy finger's reach of the steering wheel. The wipers even feature a pause setting.

### **Clear, concise information**

The instrument cluster features large dials for speedometer and tachometer. Positioned clearly between them are the fuel and engine temperature coolant gauges. And at night, the panel is backlit to reduce glare.

To keep the driver well informed, Tracer is equipped with a separate trip odometer, a digital clock and a diagnostic warning display which alerts the driver to brake lamp failure, low washer fluid level, low oil level and low fuel level. There is also a signal that sounds when the headlights have been left on.

### **Select standard instrumentation and controls**

- Softgrip steering wheel
- 3-speed wipers with pause setting
- Tachometer
- Trip odometer
- Digital clock
- Temperature gauge
- Diagnostic warning light for brake lamp out, low fuel, low washer fluid, low oil level
- Backlit instrument cluster
- Headlamps-on warning
- Remote fuel filler door release
- Remote hatchback release (two- and four-door only)
- Rear wiper/washer (wagon only) (See complete list on page 14)



Oxford White



Silver Clearcoat Metallic



Ondo Blue Clearcoat Metallic



Marine Blue Clearcoat Metallic



Black



Light Beige



Mimosa Yellow



Antique Gold Clearcoat Metallic



Medium Cabernet



Light Canyon Red

## STANDARD FEATURES

### Functional

- 1.6-liter overhead camshaft engine
- Multi-port electronic fuel injection
- Electronic Engine Controls
- Independent MacPherson strut front suspension
- Independent strut-type rear suspension
- 5-speed manual transmission
- Rack-and-pinion steering
- Power assisted front disc brakes
- Front-wheel drive
- 48 amp/hr maintenance-free battery
- Clutch/starter interlock
- Rear window defroster
- Side window demisters
- 3-speed wipers with pause feature
- Rear wiper/washer (wagon only)
- Rear door child-proof locks (4-door models)
- Tachometer
- Engine coolant temperature gauge
- Trip odometer
- Backlit instrument cluster
- Flash-to-pass headlamp feature
- Lower bodyside corrosion protection
- Temporary spare tire
- P175/70R13 radial tires

### Exterior

- Aero halogen headlamps
  - Dual power outside mirrors
  - 5-mph impact bumpers front and rear
  - Bodyside moldings
  - Tinted glass
  - Stainless steel wheel covers
  - Front and rear stone/mud guards
- ### Interior comfort and convenience
- Electronic AM/FM stereo (may delete for credit)
  - Front bucket seats
  - Front seat head restraints
  - Front seat recliners
  - Driver's seat lumbar adjustment
  - Driver's seat height adjustment
  - Tilt/slide front passenger seat (2-door)
  - 50/50 split fold-down rear seat
  - Adjustable rear seatback
  - Rear seat head restraints
  - Rear seat heat ducts
  - 16-ounce cut pile carpeting
  - Luxury cloth interior trim
  - Cloth headliner
  - Passenger side under-seat storage bin
  - Digital clock
  - Map pockets on back of front seats
  - Full console with front concealed storage and rear seat ashtray

## OPTIONS

- Map pockets on driver and front passenger doors
- Courtesy lamps on front door armrests
- Red safety reflectors on front door armrests
- Center-mounted light cluster with dome light and individual map lights
- Cargo area lamp
- Passenger side vanity mirror on visor
- Document strap on driver's visor
- Day/night rearview mirror
- Grab handles (one front, two rear)
- Rear seat coat hook
- Cargo area cover
- Cargo tiedown straps (wagon only)
- Remote fuel filler door release
- Remote hatchback release (except wagon)
- Inside hood release
- Brake light out warning lamp
- Low fuel warning lamp
- Low washer fluid warning lamp
- Low oil warning lamp
- Headlamps-on reminder
- Illuminated ashtray
- Illuminated lighter
- Illuminated entry system (lighted key slot in driver's door and lighted ignition)
- Locking glovebox

- Electronic AM/FM stereo radio with cassette
- Air conditioner
- Speed control
- 3-speed automatic transmission
- Power steering
- Cast aluminum wheels
- Radio delete for credit

## EXTERIOR COLORS

- Black
- Silver Clearcoat Metallic
- Light Canyon Red
- Medium Cabernet
- Ondo Blue Clearcoat Metallic
- Light Beige
- Antique Gold Clearcoat Metallic
- Mimosa Yellow
- Marine Blue Clearcoat Metallic
- Oxford White

## CLOTH INTERIOR COLORS

- Blue
- Gray
- Beige

## SPECIFICATIONS

### ENGINE

Type	1.6L EFI OHC inline 4-cylinder
Displacement	1.6 liters
Horsepower (SAE net)	82 @ 5000 rpm
Torque (SAE net)	92 @ 2500 rpm
Fuel Delivery	Multi-port electronic fuel injection
Compression Ratio	9.3:1
Engine Control	Electronic engine controls

### TRANSMISSIONS

Manual	5-speed with 4th- and 5th-gear overdrive and clutch starter interlock
Automatic	3-speed with lockup torque converter

### SUSPENSION

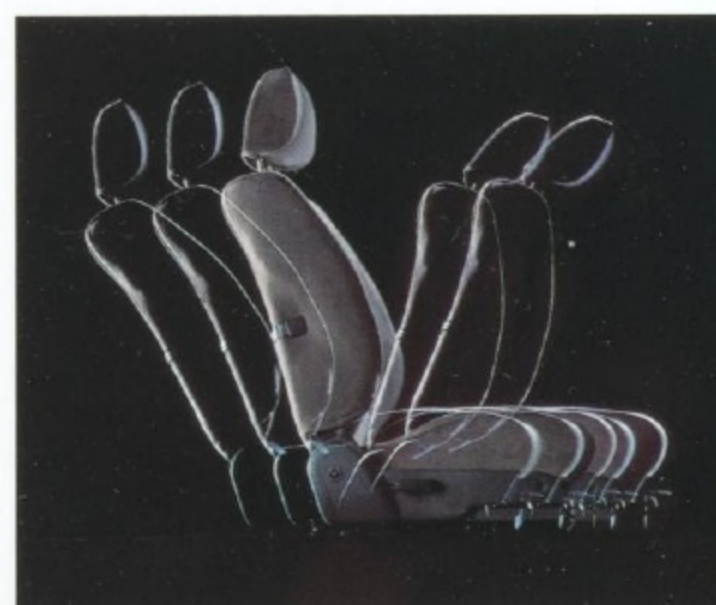
Front	Independent MacPherson strut with strut-mounted coil spring
Rear	Independent strut-type with strut-mounted coil spring

## PREFERRED EQUIPMENT PACKAGES

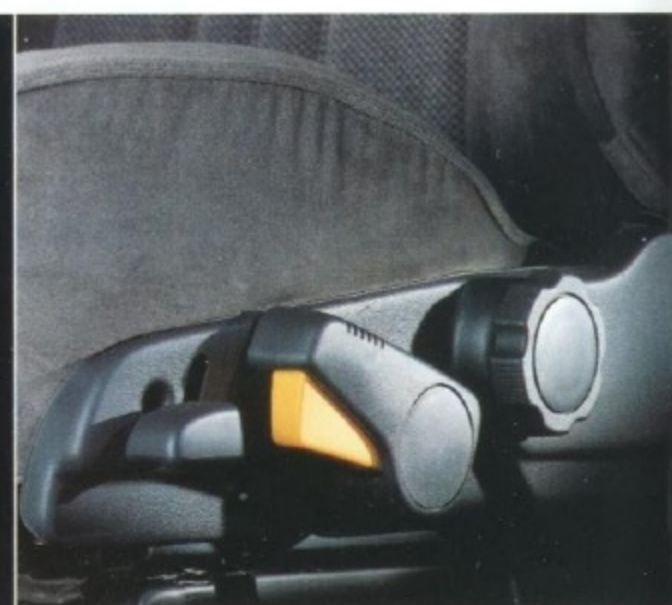
Over the years, Mercury buyers have shown a preference for certain combinations of optional equipment. So we've grouped them together in the preferred equipment packages listed below\*:

PREFERRED EQUIPMENT PACKAGE	512B	513B
Power steering	•	•
Speed control	•	•
Electronic AM/FM stereo cassette radio	•	•
Air conditioner	•	•
Cast aluminum wheels	•	•

\*Specific content is subject to change throughout model year. Consult your dealer for the most up-to-date information.



Two-door tilt/slide passenger seat



Six-way adjustable driver's seat



Illuminated door lock



Remote fuel filler door and hatchback releases



Optional speed control



Rear window defroster



## STEERING

Type	Manual rack-and-pinion with 20.0:1 overall ratio Power assisted rack-and-pinion with 17.6:1 overall ratio
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## BRAKES

Type	Dual hydraulic with power assist
Front	9.4-inch disc
Rear	7.9-inch drum
Brake Swept Area	208.8 sq. in.

## DIMENSIONS (in inches)

	2- and 4-DOOR	WAGON
Wheelbase	94.7	94.7
Overall Length	162.0	169.7
Overall Height	53.1	53.7
Overall Width	65.2	65.2
Track, Front/Rear	54.9/56.0	54.9/56.0
Headroom, Front/Rear	38.3/37.0	38.2/38.1
Legroom, Front/Rear	41.5/34.7	41.5/34.7
Shoulder Room, Front/Rear	51.9/51.9	51.9/51.9
Hiproom, Front/Rear	52.8/43.6 (2-door) 52.8/42.7 (4-door)	52.8/42.7

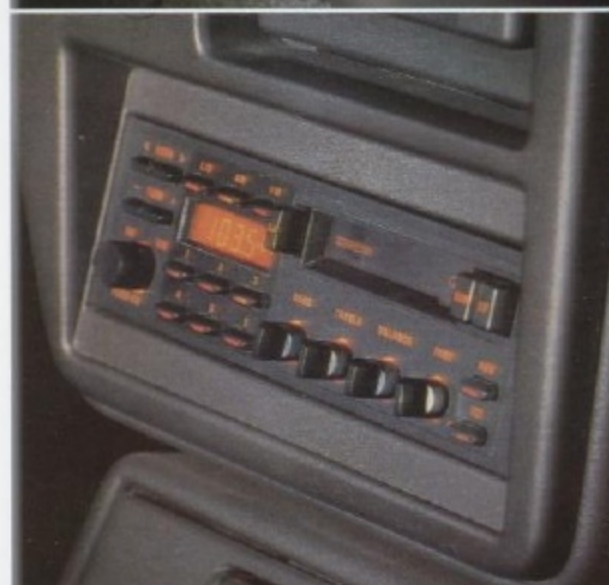
## CAPACITIES

	2- and 4-DOOR	WAGON
Cargo Volume, Seatback Up/Seatback Down (cu. ft.)	14.5/28.9	25.4/57.6
Fuel (gal.)	11.9	11.9
Oil (qt.)	3.6	3.6
Engine Coolant (qt.)	5.3 (manual trans.) 6.3 (auto trans.)	5.3 (manual trans.) 6.3 (auto trans.)
Curb Weight (lb.)	2158 (2-door) 2185 (4-door)	2233

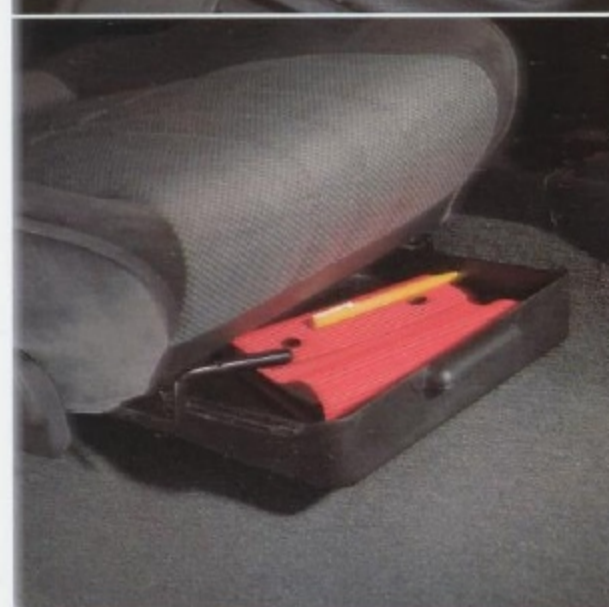
Armrest courtesy light and reflector



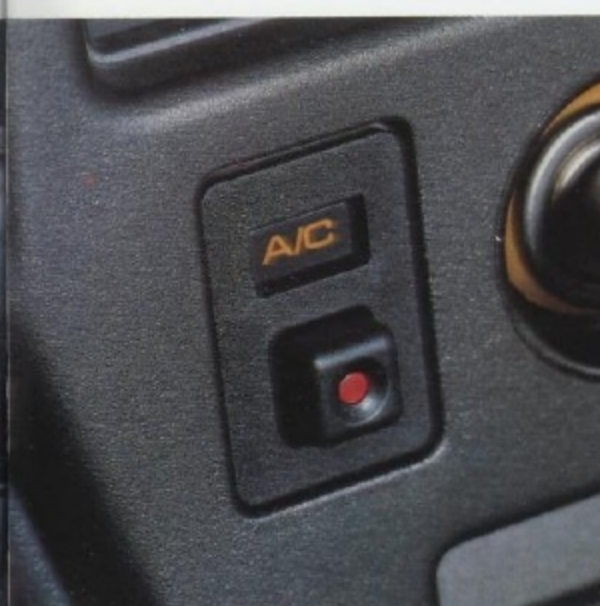
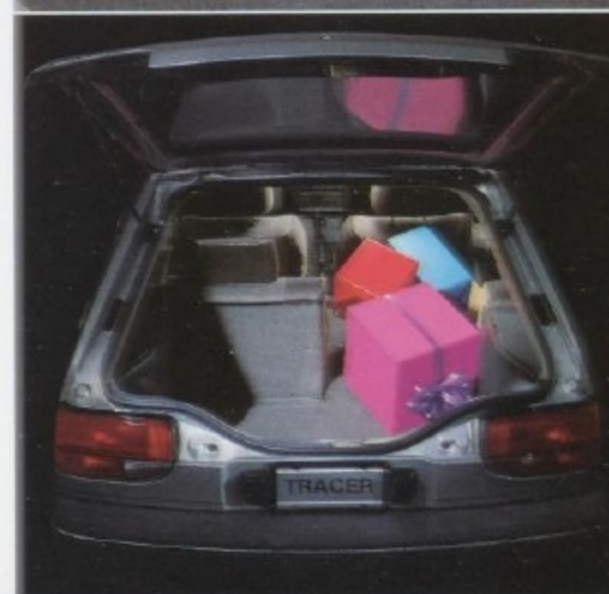
Optional electronic AM/FM stereo radio and cassette



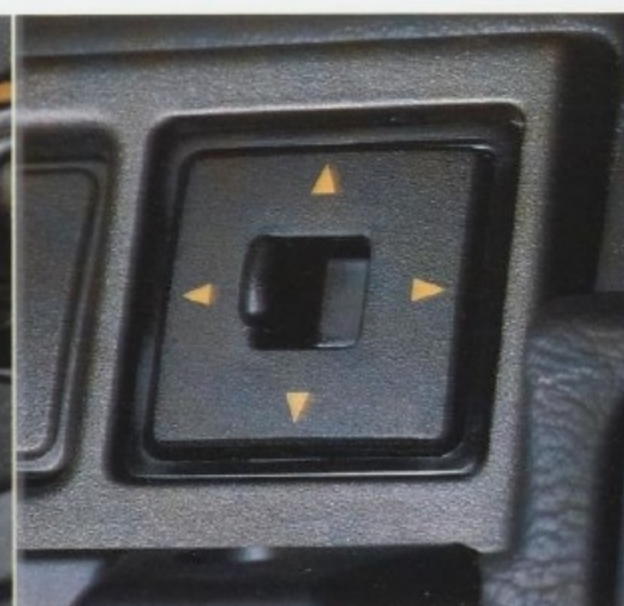
Passenger seat storage compartment



Cargo area and 50/50 split fold down rear seat



Optional air conditioner



Dual power mirrors control



Standard stainless steel wheel cover



Optional cast aluminum wheel

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# CUSTOMER satisfaction and product quality are top priorities at Lincoln-Mercury

Customer satisfaction with Mercury cars may be attributed to the personalized attention given by the sales and service staffs at Lincoln-Mercury dealerships and to the Lincoln-Mercury Quality Commitment

program. Its goal is to achieve outright industry leadership in customer satisfaction. We want Lincoln-Mercury customers to be the most pleased in the entire automotive industry.

An integral part of the Lincoln-Mercury Quality Commitment is the 6-year/60,000-mile powertrain and 6-year/100,000-mile corrosion warranty. The warranty is limited and certain restrictions and deductibles apply. Ask your Lincoln-Mercury dealer for a copy of the warranty and take time to read it.

## Motorcraft QUALITY PARTS

Genuine Ford and Motorcraft original equipment replacement parts are engineered and manufactured to Ford's high specifications. They're your best assurance of quality and long-term satisfaction because these replacement parts meet the same high standards as those installed in production.



The optional Ford Extended Service Plan covers certain selected components on new Mercury cars for longer than the vehicle's basic warranty. The cost is so moderate for the protection offered that it could pay for itself the first time it is needed. Ask your Lincoln-Mercury dealer for complete details of the plan, which is available on cars sold and normally operated in the 50 United States and Canada.



Participating Lincoln-Mercury dealers are now offering the Lifetime Service Guarantee, which guarantees their work on your Mercury Tracer for as long as you own it. This means that you pay for a covered repair once and never again. If it ever has to be fixed again, the repairing dealer will fix it free. Free parts. Free labor. Ask your Lincoln-Mercury dealer for a copy of this limited warranty and take time to read it.

## Ford-paid repair programs after the warranty period

Sometimes Ford Motor Company offers adjustment programs to pay all or part of the cost of certain repairs. These programs are intended to assist owners and are in addition to the warranty or to required recalls.

## Technical Service Bulletins

All vehicles need repairs during their lifetime. Sometimes Ford issues Technical Service Bulletins (TSBs) and easy-to-read explanations describing unusual engine or transmission conditions which may lead to costly repairs, the recommended repairs and new repair procedures. Often a repair now can prevent a

more serious repair later. Ask Ford Motor Company or your Lincoln-Mercury dealer about Ford-paid repair programs and TSBs relating to your Mercury Tracer.

To get copies of materials for your Tracer or the vehicle of interest to you: Call Ford toll-free at 1-800-241-3673.

In Alaska or Hawaii, call 1-800-243-3711.

In Georgia, call 1-800-282-0959 or write Ford at: Ford Customer Information System, Post Office Box 95427, Atlanta, GA 30347. Please include your name and address, year, make, model and vehicle identification number, as well as engine size.

## EPA statement

1988 EPA mileage estimates were unavailable when this publication was printed. The 1988 Mercury Tracer, however, should post good mileage figures. Ask your Lincoln-Mercury dealer for the latest information.

## Buckle up—together we can save lives.

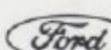
Buy or lease your Tracer from your Lincoln-Mercury dealer.

Specifications and descriptions used were in effect when this publication was approved for printing.

Lincoln-Mercury Division reserves the right to discontinue options at any time or change specifications, equipment or designs without notice and without incurring obligation.

Standard and optional equipment listed is subject to change. Some features described are optional at extra cost. Some options are required in combination with other options.

Availability of some features may be subject to a slight delay.

LINCOLN-MERCURY DIVISION 



**MERCURY**

*The shape you want to be in.*

