#### **Table of Contents** Introduction **Instrument Cluster** 10 Warning and control lights 10 Gauges 13 **Entertainment Systems** 15 15 AM/FM stereo AM/FM stereo cassette 16 AM/FM stereo with CD 19 CD changer 21 24 **Climate Controls** Manual heating and air conditioning 24 Electronic automatic temperature control 26 Rear window defroster 28 Lights 30 Headlamps 30 Turn signal control 33 Bulb replacement 35 46 **Driver Controls** Windshield wiper/washer control 46 Steering wheel adjustment 47 49 Power windows

Mirrors

Speed control

Message center

49

51

# **Table of Contents**

Locks and Security	73
Keys Locks Anti-theft system	73 73 83
Seating and Safety Restraints	87
Seating Safety restraints Air bags Child restraints	87 91 107 115
Driving	128
Starting Brakes Traction control Transmission operation Vehicle loading Trailer towing Recreational towing	128 132 134 136 140 143 146
Roadside Emergencies	148
Getting roadside assistance Hazard flasher switch Fuel pump shut-off switch Fuses and relays Changing tires Jump starting Wrecker towing	148 149 149 151 157 162 168
Customer Assistance	170
Reporting safety defects (IJS only)	178

# **Table of Contents**

Cleaning	179
Maintenance and Specifications	185
Engine compartment Engine oil Battery Fuel information Tire Information Part numbers Refill capacities Lubricant specifications	187 190 194 201 217 229 230 232
Accessories	240
Index	242

All rights reserved. Reproduction by any means, electronic or mechanical including photocopying, recording or by any information storage and retrieval system or translation in whole or part is not permitted without written authorization from Ford Motor Company. Ford may change the contents without notice and without incurring obligation.

Copyright © 2003 Ford Motor Company

#### **CALIFORNIA Proposition 65 Warning**

**WARNING:** Engine exhaust, some of its constituents, and certain vehicle components contain or emit chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. In addition, certain fluids contained in vehicles and certain products of component wear contain or emit chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations on acquiring your new Ford Motor Company product. Please take the time to get well acquainted with your vehicle by reading this handbook. The more you know and understand about your vehicle, the greater the safety and pleasure you will derive from driving it.

For more information on Ford Motor Company and its products visit the following website:

• In the United States: www.ford.com

• In Canada: www.ford.ca

• In Mexico: www.ford.com.mx

• In Australia: www.ford.com.au

Additional owner information is given in separate publications.

This vehicle's *Owner's Guide* describes every option and model variant available and therefore some of the items covered may not apply to your particular vehicle. Furthermore, due to printing cycles it may describe options before they are generally available.

Remember to pass on this vehicle's *Owner's Guide* when reselling the vehicle. It is an integral part of the vehicle.

Fuel pump shut-off switch: In the event of an accident the safety switch will automatically cut off the fuel supply to the engine. The switch can also be activated through sudden vibration (e.g. collision when parking). To reset the switch, refer to the Fuel pump shut-off switch in the Roadside Emergencies chapter.

#### SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION



### Warning symbols in this guide

How can you reduce the risk of personal injury and prevent possible damage to others, your vehicle and its equipment? In this guide, answers to such questions are contained in comments highlighted by the warning triangle symbol. These comments should be read and observed.



## Warning symbols on your vehicle

When you see this symbol, it is imperative that you consult the relevant section of this guide before touching or attempting adjustment of any kind.



### Protecting the environment

We must all play our part in protecting the environment. Correct vehicle usage and the authorized disposal of waste, cleaning and lubrication materials are significant



steps towards this aim. Information in this respect is highlighted in this guide with the tree symbol.

#### **BREAKING-IN YOUR VEHICLE**

Your vehicle does not need an extensive break-in. Try not to drive continuously at the same speed for the first 1,600 km (1,000 miles) of new vehicle operation. Vary your speed to allow parts to adjust themselves to other parts.

Drive your new vehicle at least  $800~\mathrm{km}$  ( $500~\mathrm{miles}$ ) before towing a trailer.

Do not add friction modifier compounds or special break-in oils during the first few thousand kilometers (miles) of operation, since these additives may prevent piston ring seating. See *Engine oil* in the *Maintenance and Specifications* chapter for more information on oil usage.

#### **SPECIAL NOTICES**

#### **Emission warranty**

The New Vehicle Limited Warranty includes Bumper-to-Bumper Coverage, Safety Restraint Coverage, Corrosion Coverage, and 6.0L Power Stroke Diesel Engine Coverage. In addition, your vehicle is eligible for Emissions Defect and Emissions Performance Warranties. For a detailed description of what is covered and what is not covered, refer to the *Warranty Guide* that is provided to you along with your Owner's Guide.

#### Service Data Recording

Service data recorders in your vehicle are capable of collecting and storing diagnostic information about your vehicle. This potentially includes information about the performance or status of various systems and modules in the vehicle, such as engine, throttle, steering or brake systems. In order to properly diagnose and service your vehicle, Ford Motor Company, Ford of Canada, and service and repair facilities may access vehicle diagnostic information through a direct connection to your vehicle when diagnosing or servicing your vehicle.

### **Event Data Recording**

Other modules in your vehicle — event data recorders — are capable of collecting and storing data during a crash or near crash event. The recorded information may assist in the investigation of such an event. The modules may record information about both the vehicle and the occupants, potentially including information such as:

- how various systems in your vehicle were operating;
- whether or not the driver and passenger seatbelts were buckled;
- how far (if at all) the driver was depressing the accelerator and/or the brake pedal;
- how fast the vehicle was traveling; and
- where the driver was positioning the steering wheel.

To access this information, special equipment must be directly connected to the recording modules. Ford Motor Company and Ford of Canada do not access event data recorder information without obtaining consent, unless pursuant to court order or where required by law enforcement, other government authorities or other third parties acting with lawful authority. Other parties may seek to access the information independently of Ford Motor Company and Ford of Canada.

### Special instructions

For your added safety, your vehicle is fitted with sophisticated electronic controls.



Please read the section Supplemental restraint system (SRS) in the Seating and Safety Restraints chapter. Failure to follow the specific warnings and instructions could result in personal injury.



Front seat mounted rear-facing child or infant seats should **NEVER** be placed in front of an active passenger air bag.

### MIDDLE EAST/NORTH AFRICA VEHICLE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

For your particular global region, your vehicle may be equipped with features and options that are different from the ones that are described in this Owner's Guide; therefore, a supplement has been supplied that complements this book. By referring to the pages in the provided supplement, you can properly identify those features, recommendations and specifications that are unique to your vehicle. Refer to this Owner's Guide for all other required information and warnings.

These are some of the symbols you may see on your vehicle.

### **Vehicle Symbol Glossary**

Safety Alert



See Owner's Guide



Fasten Safety Belt



Air Bag-Front



Air Bag-Side



Child Seat



Child Seat Installation Warning



Child Seat Lower Anchor



Child Seat Tether Anchor



Brake System



Anti-Lock Brake System



Brake Fluid -Non-Petroleum Based



Traction Control



AdvanceTrac™



Master Lighting Switch



Hazard Warning Flasher



Fog Lamps-Front



Fuse Compartment



Fuel Pump Reset



Windshield Wash/Wipe



Windshield Defrost/Demist



Rear Window Defrost/Demist



### **Vehicle Symbol Glossary**

Power Windows Front/Rear



Power Window Lockout



Child Safety Door Lock/Unlock



Interior Luggage Compartment Release Symbol



Panic Alarm



Engine Oil



Engine Coolant



Engine Coolant Temperature



Do Not Open When Hot



Battery



Avoid Smoking, Flames, or Sparks



Battery Acid



Explosive Gas



Fan Warning



Power Steering Fluid



Maintain Correct Fluid Level



Emission System



Engine Air Filter



Passenger Compartment Air Filter



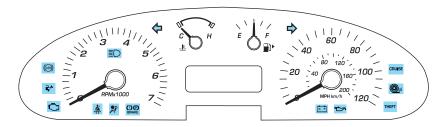
Jack



Check fuel cap



#### WARNING LIGHTS AND CHIMES



Warning lights and gauges can alert you to a vehicle condition that may become serious enough to cause expensive repairs. A warning light may illuminate when a problem exists with one of your vehicle's functions. Many lights will illuminate when you start your vehicle to make sure the bulb works. If any light remains on after starting the vehicle, have the respective system inspected immediately.

Service engine soon: The Service engine soon indicator light illuminates when the ignition is first turned to the ON position to check



the bulb. Solid illumination after the engine is started indicates the On Board Diagnostics System (OBD-II) has detected a malfunction. Refer to On board diagnostics (OBD-II) in the Maintenance and Specifications chapter. If the light is blinking, engine misfire is occurring which could damage your catalytic converter. Drive in a moderate fashion (avoid heavy acceleration and deceleration) and have your vehicle serviced immediately.

Under engine misfire conditions, excessive exhaust temperatures could damage the catalytic converter, the fuel system, interior floor coverings or other vehicle components, possibly causing a fire.

Check fuel cap: Illuminates when the fuel cap may not be properly installed. Continued driving with this light on may cause the Service engine soon warning light to come on. Refer to Fuel filler cap in the Maintenance and Specifications chapter.



10

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) **USA English** (fus)

**Brake system warning light:** To confirm the brake system warning light is functional, it will momentarily illuminate when the ignition is turned to the ON position



when the engine is not running, or in a position between ON and START, or by applying the parking brake when the ignition is turned to the ON position. If the brake system warning light does not illuminate at this time, seek service immediately from your dealership. Illumination after releasing the parking brake indicates low brake fluid level and the brake system should be inspected immediately by your servicing dealership.

Driving a vehicle with the brake system warning light on is dangerous. A significant decrease in braking performance may occur. It will take you longer to stop the vehicle. Have the vehicle checked by your dealer immediately.

Anti-lock brake system (if equipped): If the ABS light stays illuminated or continues to flash, a malfunction has been detected, have the system serviced immediately.



Normal braking is still functional unless the brake warning light also is illuminated.

**Air bag readiness:** If this light fails to illuminate when ignition is turned to ON, continues to flash or remains on, have the system serviced



immediately. A chime will also sound when a malfunction in the supplemental restraint system has been detected.

**Safety belt:** Reminds you to fasten your safety belt. A chime will also sound to remind you to fasten your safety belt.



**Charging system:** Illuminates when the battery is not charging properly.



**Engine oil pressure:** Illuminates when the oil pressure falls below the normal range, refer to *Engine oil* in the *Maintenance and specifications* chapter.



**Traction Control** active (if equipped): Flashes when the Traction Control is active. If the light remains on a malfunction has been detected; have the system serviced immediately, refer to the *L* 



serviced immediately, refer to the Driving chapter for more information.

Speed control (if equipped):

Illuminates when the speed control is activated. Turns off when the speed control system is deactivated.

CRUISE

Securilock<sup>®</sup> Anti-theft system:

Flashes when the Securilock® THEFT
Passive Anti-theft System has been
activated. Refer to Securilock® Passive Anti-theft System in the Locks
and Security chapter.

**Turn signal:** Illuminates when the left or right turn signal or the hazard lights are turned on. If the



indicators stay on or flash faster, check for a burned out bulb.

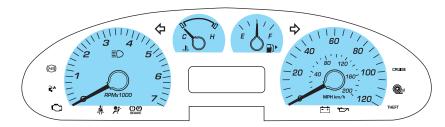
**High beams:** Illuminates when the high beam headlamps are turned on.



**Key-in-ignition warning chime:** Sounds when the key is left in the ignition in the OFF/LOCK or ACCESSORY position and the driver's door is opened.

**Headlamps on warning chime:** Sounds when the headlamps or parking lamps are on, the ignition is off (the key is not in the ignition) and the driver's door is opened.

#### **GAUGES**



**Speedometer:** Indicates the current vehicle speed.



Engine coolant temperature gauge: Indicates engine coolant temperature. At normal operating temperature, the needle will be in

the normal range (between "H" and "C"). If it enters the red section, the engine is overheating. Stop the vehicle as soon as safely



possible, switch off the engine and let the engine cool.



Never remove the coolant reservoir cap while the engine is running or hot.

**Tachometer:** Indicates the engine speed in revolutions per minute. Driving with your tachometer pointer continuously at the top of the scale may damage the engine.



13

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

**Fuel gauge:** Indicates approximately how much fuel is left in the fuel tank (when the ignition is in the ON position). The fuel gauge may vary slightly when the vehicle is in motion or on a grade.



The FUEL icon and arrow indicates which side of the vehicle the fuel filler door is located.

Refer to Filling the tank in the Maintenance and Specifications chapter for more information.

**Odometer:** Registers the total kilometers (miles) of the vehicle.

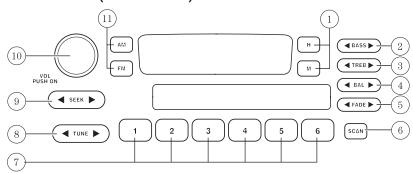
Refer to *Message Center* in the *Drivers Controls* chapter on how to switch the display from Metric to English.

Trip odometer: Registers the kilometers (miles) of individual journeys. Press and release the message center INFO button until "TRIP" appears in the display (this represents the trip mode). Press and hold the RESET button for three seconds to reset.

NW 000000.0mi

TRIP XXX.X mi

# **AM/FM STEREO (IF EQUIPPED)**



1. **Clock:** To set the hour, press and hold the H control. When the desired hour appears, release the control.

M

To set the minute, press and hold the M control. When the desired minute appears, release the control.

Н

2. **Bass:** Press ◀ / ▶ to decrease/increase the bass output.

■ BASS ▶

3. **Treble:** Press ◀ / ▶ to decrease/increase the treble output.

◀ TREB ▶

4. **Balance:** Press ◀ / ▶ to shift sound to the left/right speakers.

■ BAL ▶

5. **Fade:** Press ◀ / ▶ to shift sound to the rear/front speakers.

◀ FADE ▶

6. **Scan:** Press SCAN to hear a brief sampling of all listenable radio stations. Press again to stop.

SCAN

7. **Memory preset buttons:** To set a station: Select frequency band AM/FM1/FM2; tune to a station,



press and hold a preset button until sound returns.

8. **Tune:** Press **◄** / **▶** to change frequency down/up.



9. **Seek:** Press and release ◀ / ▶ for previous/next listenable station.



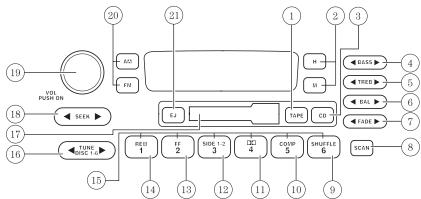
10. **Power/volume:** Press to turn ON/OFF; turn to increase or decrease volume levels.



11. **AM/FM:** Press to choose a frequency band AM/FM1/FM2.



# AM/FM STEREO CASSETTE/MACH® AUDIO SYSTEM WITH AM/FM STEREO CASSETTE (IF EQUIPPED)



1. **Tape:** Insert the cassette with the opening to the right. If a tape is already inserted into the system, press TAPE to begin tape play.



2. **Clock:** To set the hour, press and hold the H control. When the desired hour appears, release the control.

To set the minute, press and hold the M control. When the desired minute appears, release the control.

3. **CD:** Press to play the CD (if equipped).

**Note:** This system is CDDJ compatible, but CDDJ is an option with limited availability as defined in the order guide.

4. **Bass:** Press ◀ / ▶ to decrease/increase the bass output.

5. **Treble:** Press ◀ / ▶ to decrease/increase the treble output.

6. **Balance:** Press ◀ / ▶ to shift sound to the left/right speakers.

7. **Fade:** Press ◀ / ▶ to shift sound to the rear/front speakers.

8. **Scan:** Press SCAN to hear a brief sampling of all listenable radio stations, tape or CD selections. Press again to stop.

9. **Shuffle:** Press to play CD tracks in random order.

10. **COMP (compression):** While playing a CD, press to bring soft and loud passages together for a more consistent listening level.

Н



■ BASS ▶













11. Dolby® noise reduction:

Reduces tape noise and hiss while playing a tape, press to activate/deactivate.

12. **Side 1–2:** Press to change tape direction.

13. **FF (fast forward):** Press to advance the tape or CD.

14. **REW (rewind):** Press to rewind the tape or reverse the CD.

15. **Memory preset buttons:** To set a station: Select frequency band AM/FM1/FM2; tune to a station, press and hold a preset button until sound returns.

16. **Tune:** Works in radio mode or CD mode. Press ◀ / ▶ to change frequency down/up or previous/next disc.

17. **Cassette door:** Insert a cassette into the cassette door.

18. **Seek:** Press and release ◀ / ▶ for previous/next listenable radio station, tape selection or CD track.

19. **Power/volume:** Press to turn ON/OFF; turn to increase or decrease volume levels.

20. **AM/FM:** Press to choose a frequency band in radio mode (AM/FM1/FM2).

4















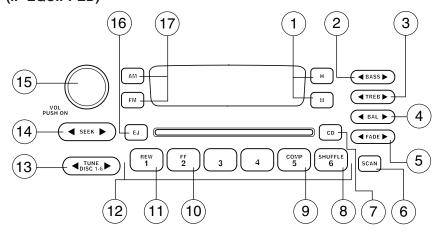




21. **EJ (Eject):** Press to eject a tape.



# AUDIO SYSTEM WITH AM/FM STEREO/SINGLE CD PLAYER (IF EQUIPPED)



1. **Clock:** To set the hour, press and hold the H control. When the desired hour appears, release the control.



To set the minute, press and hold the M control. When the desired minute appears, release the control.



2. **Bass:** Press ◀ / ▶ to decrease/increase the bass output.



3. **Treble:** Press ◀ / ▶ to decrease/increase the treble output.



4. **Balance:** Press **◄** / **▶** to shift sound to the left/right speakers.



■ BAL ►

- 5. **Fade:** Press ◀ / ▶ to shift sound to the rear/front speakers.
- 6. **Scan:** Press to hear a brief sampling of all listenable radio stations or CD tracks. Press again to stop.
- 7. **CD:** Press to play a CD. Press again to toggle between single CD mode and CD Changer mode (if equipped).
- 8. **Shuffle:** Press to play CD tracks in random order.
- 9. **COMP (compression):** Press to bring soft and loud passages together for a more consistent listening level.
- 10. **FF (fast forward):** Press and hold until desired selection is reached.
- 11. **REW (rewind):** Press and hold until desired selection is reached.
- 12. **Memory preset buttons:** To set a station: Select frequency band AM/FM; tune to a station, press and hold a preset button until sound returns.
- 13. **Tune:** Press ◀ / ▶ to change radio frequency down/up. With CD changer (if equipped), press to select the previous/next CD.
- 14. **Seek:** Press and release ◀ / ▶ for previous/next listenable radio station or previous/next CD track.





















15. **Power/volume:** Press to turn ON/OFF; turn to increase or decrease volume levels.



16. **EJ (Eject):** Press to eject a CD.



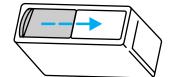
17. **AM/FM:** Press to choose a frequency band (AM/FM1/FM2).



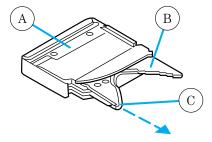
### **CD CHANGER (IF EQUIPPED)**

Your CD changer is either located in the trunk, the console or the right side cargo area storage compartment.

- 1. Slide the door to access the CD changer magazine.
- 2. Press  $\triangle$  to eject the magazine.

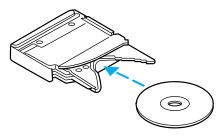


- 3. Turn the magazine (A) over.
- 4. Using the disc holder release knob (C), pull the disc holder (B) out of the magazine.

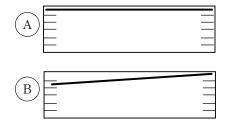


Do not pull too hard on the disc holder as the disc holder may come completely out of the magazine. If this happens, reinsert the disc holder back into the magazine while pressing on the lever.

- 5. Line up the CD with the groove of the disc holder. Ensure that the label on the CD faces downwards.
- 6. Press the disc holder until it locks securely into the magazine.



Ensure that the disc holder is evenly inserted and at the same level as the magazine (A). The unit will not operate if the disc holder is not inserted at the same level (B).



#### RADIO FREQUENCIES

AM and FM frequencies are established by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Canadian Radio and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC). Those frequencies are:

AM - 530, 540–1700, 1710 kHz FM- 87.7, 87.9–107.7, 107.9 MHz

#### **RADIO RECEPTION FACTORS**

There are three factors that can affect radio reception:

- Distance/strength: The further you travel from an FM station, the weaker the signal and the weaker the reception.
- Terrain: Hills, mountains, tall buildings, power lines, electric fences, traffic lights and thunderstorms can interfere with your reception.
- Station overload: When you pass a broadcast tower, a stronger signal may overtake a weaker one and play while the weak station frequency is displayed.

## CASSETTE/PLAYER CARE

Do:

• Use only cassettes that are 90 minutes long or less.

22

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

- Tighten very loose tapes by inserting a finger or pencil into the hole and turning the hub.
- Remove loose labels before inserting tapes.
- Allow tapes which have been subjected to extreme heat, humidity or cold to reach a moderate temperature before playing.
- Clean the cassette player head with a cassette cleaning cartridge after 10–12 hours of play to maintain good sound/operation.

#### Don't:

- Expose tapes to direct sunlight, extreme humidity, heat or cold.
- Leave tapes in the cassette player for a long time when not being played.

#### CD/CD PLAYER CARE

#### Do:

- Handle discs by their edges only. Never touch the playing surface.
- Inspect discs before playing. Clean only with an approved CD cleaner and wipe from the center out.

#### Don't:

- Expose discs to direct sunlight or heat sources for extended periods of time.
- Insert more than one disc into each slot of the CD changer magazine.
- Clean using a circular motion.

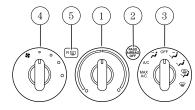
CD units are designed to play commercially pressed 12 cm (4.75 in) audio compact discs only. Due to technical incompatibility, certain recordable and re-recordable compact discs may not function correctly when used in Ford CD players. Irregular shaped CDs, CDs with a scratch protection film attached, and CDs with homemade paper (adhesive) labels should not be inserted into the CD player. The label may peel and cause the CD to become jammed. It is recommended that homemade CDs be identified with permanent felt tip marker rather than adhesive labels. Ball point pens may damage CDs. Please contact your dealer for further information.

### **AUDIO SYSTEM WARRANTY AND SERVICE**

Refer to the *Warranty Guide* for audio system warranty information. If service is necessary, see your dealer or qualified technician.

# MANUAL HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEM (IF EQUIPPED)

- 1. **Temperature selection:** Controls the temperature of the airflow in the vehicle.
- 2. **Passenger airbag indicator light:** Indicates whether the Passenger air bag is currently ON or OFF. Refer to *Front passenger sensing system* in the Seating and Safety Restraints chapter.



- 3. **Air flow selections:** Controls the direction of the airflow in the vehicle. See the following for a brief description on each control.
- **MAX A/C:** Uses recirculated air through the instrument panel registers to cool the vehicle. This mode maximizes the airflow and as it is re-cooling the interior air, it is more economical and efficient. May reduce undesirable odors from entering the vehicle.
- **A/C:** Uses outside air to cool the vehicle. Air flows from the instrument panel register vents only.
- **;** Distributes outside air through the instrument panel vents.
- **OFF:** Outside air is shut out and the fan will not operate.
- $\vec{\mathcal{J}}$ : Distributes outside air through the instrument panel and floor vents.
- : Distributes outside air through the floor vents.
- : Distributes outside air through the windshield defroster vents and floor vents.
- : Distributes outside air through the windshield defroster vents.
- 4. **Fan speed adjustment:** Controls the volume of air circulated in the vehicle.
- 5. **Rear defrost control:** Press to defrost the rear window.



#### **OPERATING TIPS**

- To reduce fog build up on the windshield during humid weather, place the air flow selector in the position.
- To reduce humidity build up inside the vehicle: do not drive with the air flow selector in the OFF or MAX A/C position.
- Under normal weather conditions, do not leave the air flow selector in MAX A/C or OFF when the vehicle is parked. This allows the vehicle to "breathe" using the outside air inlet vents.
- Do not put objects under the front seats that will interfere with the airflow to the back seats.
- Remove any snow, ice or leaves from the air intake area at the base of the windshield.

To aid in side window defogging/demisting in cold weather:

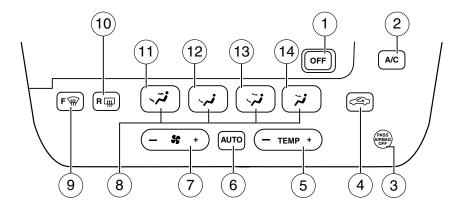
- 1. Select 🕻 .
- 2. Adjust the temperature control to maintain comfort.
- 3. Set the fan speed to the highest setting.
- 4. Direct the outer instrument panel vents towards the side windows.

To increase airflow to the outer instrument panel vents, close the vents located in the middle of the instrument panel.



Do not place objects on top of the instrument panel as these objects may become projectiles in a collision or sudden stop.

# ELECTRONIC AUTOMATIC TEMPERATURE CONTROL (EATC) SYSTEM (IF EQUIPPED)



1. **OFF:** Outside air is shut out and the fan will not operate.



- 2. **A/C:** Press to turn on and manually control the air conditioning in all modes except (Defrost). Press again to disengage. Press AUTO for the system to automatically control the temperature.
- 3. **Passenger airbag off:** Indicates whether the passenger airbag is ON or OFF. Refer to *Front passenger sensing system* in the Seating and safety restraints chapter.
- 4. Recirculation control: Used to manually enable or disable recirculated air operation. When activated, recirculates air in the cabin thereby reducing the amount of time to cool down the interior of the vehicle. May also help reduce undesired odors from reaching the interior of the vehicle. Will work in all modes except Defrost. Recirculation turns off automatically when Floor, Floor/Defrost or Defrost is selected to reduce the humidity inside the vehicle.
- 5. **Temperature control:** Press this control to select the temperature. The display window indicates the selected temperature.



6. **Auto:** To engage automatic temperature control, press AUTO to select the desired temperature using



the temperature control. The system will automatically determine fan speed, airflow location, outside or recirculated air to heat or cool the vehicle to reach the desired temperature.

7. **Fan Speed:** Press to manually increase/decrease fan speed. In manual mode, the display will



show \$\mathbf{s}\$ with a bar graph to indicate fan speed. When in AUTO mode, the system will automatically control fan speed to achieve the desired temperature.

8. **Manual override controls:** Allows you to manually determine where airflow is directed. To return to full automatic control, press









AUTO.

9. **F** : Distributes outside air through the windshield defroster ducts. Can be used to clear ice or



fog from the windshield. Outside air and A/C will be automatically engaged to assist in clearing the windshield.

10. **Rear defrost control:** Press to defrost the rear window.



- 11. 🗗: Distributes air through the windshield defroster ducts and floor ducts. The system will automatically provide outside air to reduce window fogging.
- 12. Distributes air through the floor and rear seat floor ducts (if equipped).
- 13. **?**: Distributes air through the instrument panel and center console registers (if equipped), the front and rear seat floor ducts.
- 14. **%**: Distributes air through the instrument panel and center console registers (if equipped).

**Fahrenheit/Celsius temperature:** Press A/C and F  $\overleftrightarrow{\#}$  controls at the same time, to toggle between Fahrenheit and Celsius temperature. The set point temperatures in Celsius will be displayed in one degree increments.

#### **OPERATING TIPS**

- To reduce fog build up on the windshield during humid weather, place the air flow selector in the figure position.
- To reduce humidity build up inside the vehicle: do not drive with the control in the OFF mode or in recirculation mode without the A/C engaged.
- Under normal weather conditions, do not leave the air flow selector in OFF when the vehicle is parked. This allows the vehicle to "breathe" using the outside air inlet vents.
- Do not put objects under the front seats that will interfere with the airflow to the back seats.
- Remove any snow, ice or leaves from the air intake area at the base of the windshield.

To aid in side window defogging/demisting in cold weather:

- 2. Select A/C.
- 3. Adjust the temperature control to maintain comfort.
- 4. Set the fan speed to the highest setting.
- 5. Direct the outer instrument panel vents towards the side windows.

To increase airflow to the outer instrument panel vents, close the vents located in the middle of the instrument panel.



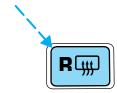
Do not place objects on top of the instrument panel as these objects may become projectiles in a collision or sudden stop.

# REAR WINDOW DEFROSTER 🖼

The rear defroster control is located on the instrument panel.

Press the rear defroster control to clear the rear window of thin ice and fog.

• A small LED will illuminate when the rear defroster is activated.



The ignition must be in the ON position to operate the rear window defroster.

The defroster turns off automatically after 10 minutes or when the ignition is turned to the OFF position. To manually turn off the defroster before 10 minutes have passed, push the control again.

Do not use razor blades or other sharp objects to clean the inside of the rear window or to remove decals from the inside of the rear window. This may cause damage to the heated grid lines and will not be covered by your warranty.

Activating the rear window defroster will also activate the heated mirrors (if equipped). For more information refer to *Heated outside mirrors* in the *Driver controls chapter*.

### **CABIN AIR FILTER (IF EQUIPPED)**

Your vehicle may be equipped with a Cabin air filter. The particulate air filtration system is designed to reduce the concentration of airborne particles such as dust, spores and pollen in the air being supplied to the interior of the vehicle. The particulate filtration system gives the following benefits to customers:

- Improves the customer's driving comfort by reducing particle concentration
- Improves the interior compartment cleanliness
- Protects the climate control components from particle deposits

The filter is located just in front of the windshield under the cowl grille on the passenger side of the vehicle.

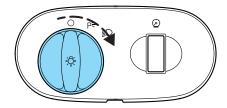
For more information, or to replace the filter, see your Ford, Lincoln or Mercury Dealer.

# HEADLAMP CONTROL 🌣

O Turns the lamps off.

P\(\sim \) Turns on the parking lamps, instrument panel lamps, license plate lamps and tail lamps.

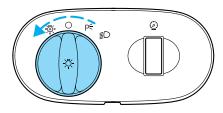
Turns the headlamps on.



# Autolamp control (if equipped) - 🖔 -

The autolamp system provides light sensitive automatic on-off control of the exterior lights normally controlled by the headlamp control.

The autolamp system also keeps the lights on for a fixed period of time after the ignition switch is turned to OFF.



- To turn autolamps on, rotate the control counterclockwise.
- To turn autolamps off, rotate the control clockwise to OFF.

### Daytime running lamps (DRL) (if equipped)

Turns the headlamps on with a reduced output.

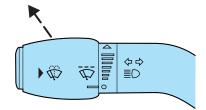
To activate:

- the ignition must be in the ON position,
- the headlamp control is set to OFF or parking lamp position and
- the parking brake must be disengaged.

Always remember to turn on your headlamps at dusk or during inclement weather. The Daytime Running Lamp (DRL) system does not activate with your tail lamps and generally may not provide adequate lighting during these conditions. Failure to activate your headlamps under these conditions may result in a collision.

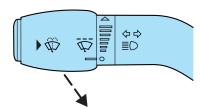
# High beams ≣◯

Push the lever toward the instrument panel to activate. Pull the lever towards you to deactivate.



### Flash to pass

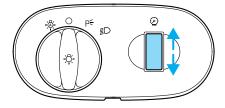
Pull toward you slightly to activate and release to deactivate.



#### PANEL DIMMER CONTROL

Use to adjust the brightness of the instrument panel and all applicable switches in the vehicle during headlamp and parklamp operation.

Move the control to the full upright position, past detent, to turn on the interior lamps.

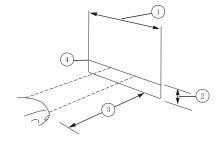


#### AIMING THE HEADLAMPS

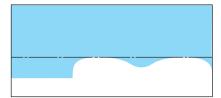
The headlamps on your vehicle are properly aimed at the assembly plant. If your vehicle has been in an accident the alignment of your headlamps should be checked by a qualified service technician.

### Vertical aim adjustment

- 1. Park the vehicle on a level surface approximately 7.6 meters (25 feet) from a vertical wall or screen directly in front of it.
- (1) Eight feet
- (2) Center height of lamp to ground
- (3) Twenty five feet
- (4) Horizontal reference line

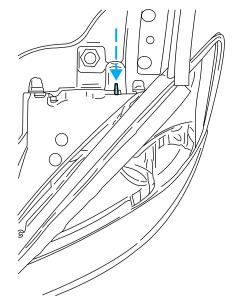


- 2. Measure the height of the headlamp bulb center from the ground and mark a 2.5 meter (8 foot) horizontal reference line on the vertical wall or screen at this height (a piece of masking tape works well).
- 3. Turn on the low beam headlamps to illuminate the wall or screen and open the hood.
- 4. On the wall or screen you will observe an area of high intensity light. The top of the high intensity area should touch the horizontal reference line, if not, the beam will need to be adjusted.



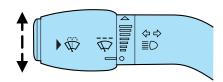
To see a clearer light pattern for adjusting, you may want to block the light from one headlamp while adjusting the other.

- 5. Locate the vertical adjuster on each headlamp. Using a 4 mm wrench, turn the adjuster either clockwise (to adjust down) or counterclockwise (to adjust up). The horizontal edge of the brighter light should touch the horizontal reference line.
- 6. HORIZONTAL AIM IS NOT REQUIRED FOR THIS VEHICLE AND IS NON-ADJUSTABLE.
- 7. Close the hood and turn off the lamps.



# TURN SIGNAL CONTROL ♦♦

- Push down to activate the left turn signal.
- Push up to activate the right turn signal.



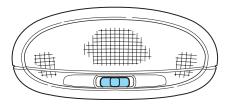
#### **INTERIOR LAMPS**

#### REPLACING THE INTERIOR BULBS

Check the operation of all bulbs frequently.

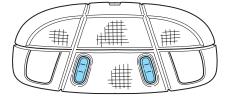
### Dome lamps and map lamps

- ON or D ∈ : The dome light will stay on.
- DOOR or middle position: The dome light will only come on if a door is opened.
- OFF or  $\bigcirc$ : The lamp will not come on at all.

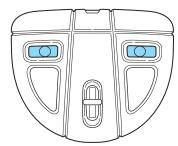


With the control in the middle position, the dome lamp will illuminate whenever a front door is opened. If either front door has been opened from the outside, the lamp will remain on for 25 seconds after the door is shut. If any other door has been opened from the inside, the lamp will shut off immediately after the door is closed.

The map lamp controls (if equipped) are located on the dome lamp. Press the controls on either side of each lens on each map lamp to activate the lamps.



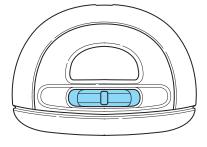
If equipped with a moon roof, the map lamps are located on the moon roof control panel. Press the controls on either side of each map lamp to activate the lamps.



## Rear dome lamp (if equipped)

The dome lamp lights when:

- any door is opened with the control in the middle position.
- the instrument panel dimmer switch is held up until the courtesy lamps come on.
- any of the remote entry controls are pressed and the ignition is OFF.



• the lamp control is moved to the passenger side position.

With the ignition key in the ACC or ON position, the rear dome lamp can be turned ON or OFF by sliding the control.

#### **BULBS**

### Replacing exterior bulbs

Check the operation of all the bulbs frequently.

### Using the right bulbs

Replacement bulbs are specified in the chart below. Headlamp bulbs must be marked with an authorized "D.O.T." for North America and an "E" for Europe to assure lamp performance, light brightness and pattern and safe visibility. The correct bulbs will not damage the lamp assembly or void the lamp assembly warranty and will provide quality bulb burn time.

Function	Number of bulbs	Trade number
Front park/turn lamp	2	3457 AK
		(amber)
Headlamp 2	9007 QL (9007	
	Δ	LL optional)
Tail lamp/brake/turn lamp	2	3157K
Tail lamp/brake lamp (wagon)	2	3057K
Rear turn lamp (wagon)	2	3456K
Backup lamp	2	921
Backup lamp (wagon)	2	3156

Function	Number of bulbs	Trade number	
License plate lamp	2	168	
High-mount brake lamp (wagon)	2	912	
High-mount brake lamp (sedan)	Must replace the hi-mount brake lamp assembly		
Rear side marker lamp (wagon)	2	194	
Cargo lamp (wagon)	1	578	
Dome lamp	1	12V6W	
Dome/map lamp	3	578	
Visor vanity lamp (passenger/driver)	2	DE 3021	
Luggage compartment lamp	1	212-2	
All replacement bulbs are clear in color except where noted.			
To replace all instrument panel lights - see your dealer.			

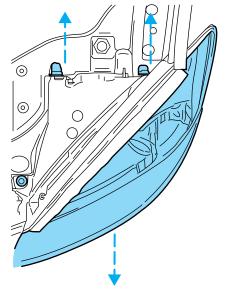
# Replacing the interior bulbs

Check the operation of all bulbs frequently.

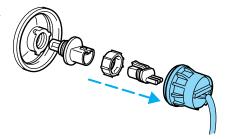
## Replacing headlamp bulbs

To remove the headlamp bulb:

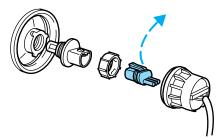
- 1. Make sure headlamp switch is in OFF position.
- 2. Remove the bolt from the headlamp housing.
- 3. At the back of the headlamp, pry up and remove the two retainer pins to release the headlamp assembly from the vehicle and pull headlamp forward.



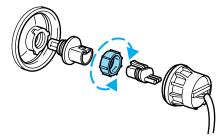
4. Remove the protective dust shield from the housing by turning the dust shield counterclockwise (when viewed from the rear).



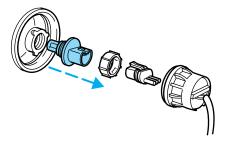
5. Disconnect the electrical connector from the bulb by pulling rearward.



6. Remove the bulb retaining ring by rotating it counterclockwise.



7. Remove the old bulb from the lamp assembly by pulling it straight out of the lamp assembly.



To install the new bulb:

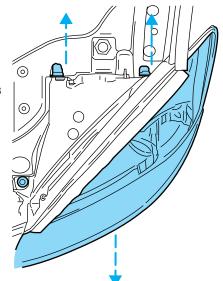
Handle a halogen headlamp bulb carefully and keep out of children's reach. Grasp the bulb only by its plastic base and do not touch the glass. The oil from your hand could cause the bulb to break the next time the headlamps are operated.

1. Install the new bulb in lamp assembly by pushing straight in with the flat surface of the bulb's plastic base facing upward. You may need to turn the bulb slightly to align the grooves in the plastic base with the tabs in the lamp assembly.

- 2. Install the bulb retaining ring over the plastic base and lock the ring by rotating clockwise until it snaps into place.
- 3. Connect the electrical connector to the bulb.
- 4. Install the protective dust shield and lock the shield by rotating it clockwise until it locks into position.
- 5. Carefully position the headlamp assembly onto the vehicle.
- 6. Hold the headlamp assembly snugly against the vehicle and install the retainer pins straight down to lock the lamp into place.
- 7. Before reinstalling the bolt, make sure the retainer pins are fully seated, and install bolt on headlamp housing.
- 8. Turn the headlamps on and make sure they work properly. If the headlamp was correctly aligned before you changed the bulb, you should not need to align it again.

#### Replacing front parking lamp/turn signal/cornering lamp bulbs

- 1. Make sure the headlamp control is in the OFF position.
- 2. Remove the bolt from the headlamp housing.
- 3. At the back of the headlamp, pry up and remove the two retainer pins to release the headlamp assembly from the vehicle and pull headlamp forward.
- 4. Rotate the bulb socket counterclockwise and remove it from the lamp assembly.

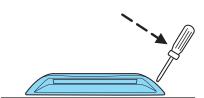


- 5. Carefully pull bulb straight out of the socket and push in the new bulb.
- 6. Install the bulb socket into the lamp assembly by rotating it clockwise.
- 7. Carefully position the headlamp assembly onto the vehicle.
- 8. Hold the headlamp assembly snugly against the vehicle and install the retainer pins straight down to lock the lamp into place.
- 9. Before reinstalling the bolt, make sure the retainer pins are fully seated, and install bolt on headlamp housing.
- 10. Turn the headlamps on and make sure they work properly. If the headlamp was correctly aligned before you changed the bulb, you should not need to align it again.

#### Replacing high-mount brakelamp assembly — Sedan only

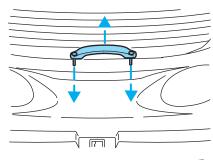
To change the high-mount brake lamp assembly:

- 1. Pry the light assembly away from its housing and push rearward to disengage it from the retaining clips.
- 2. Lift the front of the light assembly from the parcel shelf.
- 3. Disconnect the light assembly wiring and replace the light assembly.

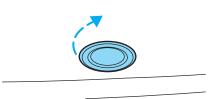


# Replacing high-mount brakelamp bulbs — Wagon only

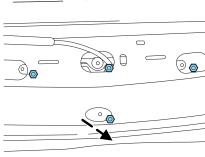
- 1. Open liftgate.
- 2. Remove two screw covers, screws and handle from liftgate.
- 3. Remove two screws and the lower trim panel from the liftgate.
- 4. Remove the upper trim panel.



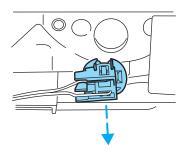
5. Remove the rubber plug from the lower access hole in the upper portion of the liftgate.



6. Remove four nuts from the lamp assembly.



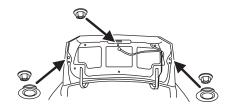
- 7. Carefully lift the lamp assembly away from the liftgate.
- 8. Remove the bulb socket by rotating it counterclockwise and pulling it out from the lamp assembly.
- 9. Carefully pull the bulb straight out of the socket and push in the new bulb.
- 10. To complete installation, follow the removal procedure in reverse order.



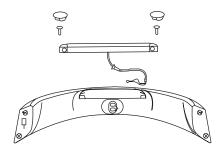
# Replacing high-mount brakelamp bulbs — Decklid spoiler

Your vehicle may be equipped with a decklid spoiler that has a high mount stop lamp module containing integral multiple light emitting diodes (LED). If one or more LEDs burn out, the complete lamp module has to be replaced. See your dealer for the replacement LED module. To replace the LED module:

- 1. Remove the two outboard grommets from the inside of the decklid
- 2. On the inside of the decklid, remove the three nuts that hold the spoiler on and remove the spoiler.



- 3. On the underside of the spoiler, remove the two decorative screw covers (on the LED module).
- 4. Remove the two screws that are holding the LED module in place.
- 5. Remove the wiring harness grommet and disengage the electrical connector.
- 6. Replace the LED module.
- 7. To complete installation, follow the removal procedure in reverse order.



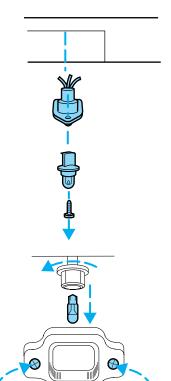
## Replacing license plate lamp bulbs

#### Wagon

- 1. Make sure headlamp switch is in OFF position and remove screw and the license plate lamp assembly from liftgate.
- 2. Remove bulb socket by turning counterclockwise.
- 3. Carefully pull the bulb out from the socket and push in the new bulb.
- 4. Install the lamp assembly on liftgate with screw.

#### Sedan

- 1. Make sure headlamp switch is in OFF position and remove two screws, grommets and the license plate lamp assembly from the trunk lid.
- 2. Carefully pull the bulb from the socket and push in the new bulb.
- 3. Install the lamp assembly on trunk lid with two grommets, ensuring the grommets are pushed all the way in to the trunk lid and secure with two screws.

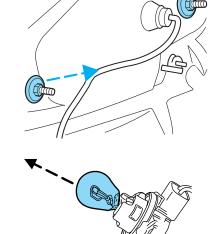


#### Replacing tail/brake/turn signal/backup lamp bulbs

#### Sedan

The tail lamp, brake lamp, turn signal lamp and backup lamp bulbs are located in the same portion of the tail lamp assembly. Follow the same steps to replace either bulb.

- 1. Make sure headlamp switch is in OFF position and open trunk and remove two plastic mushroom nuts, five push pins and the plastic cover from inside the trunk to access the lamp assembly.
- 2. Carefully pull the carpet away to expose the lamp assembly hardware.
- 3. Remove three nut and washer assemblies and the lamp assembly from the vehicle.
- 4. Remove the bulb socket by rotating it counterclockwise, then pulling it out of the lamp assembly.
- 5. Pull the bulb from the socket and push in the new bulb.
- 6. Install the bulb socket into the lamp assembly by rotating it clockwise.

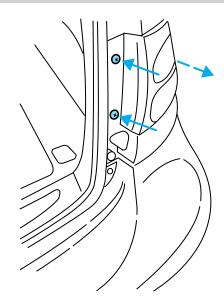


- 7. Install the lamp assembly on the vehicle with three nut and washer assemblies ensuring the washers on the nuts are flush with the body to prevent water from entering the trunk.
- 8. Carefully push the carpet back in to place and install the plastic cover inside the trunk with five push pins and two plastic mushroom nuts.

#### Wagon

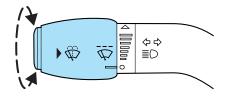
The tail lamp/turn lamp bulbs/brake/backup are located in the same portion of the tail lamp assembly, one just below the other. Follow the same steps to replace either bulb:

- 1. Make sure headlamp switch is in OFF position and open the liftgate to expose the lamp assemblies.
- 2. Remove the two bolts from the tail lamp assembly.
- 3. Carefully pull the lamp assembly from the tailgate.
- 4. Twist the bulb socket counterclockwise and remove from lamp assembly.
- 5. Pull the bulb straight out of the socket and push in the new bulb.
- 6. Install bulb socket in lamp assembly by turning clockwise.
- 7. Carefully install the tail lamp assembly on tailgate and secure with two bolts.



#### **MULTI-FUNCTION LEVER**

**Windshield wiper:** Rotate the end of the control away from you to increase the speed of the wipers; rotate towards you to decrease the speed of the wipers.



**Windshield washer:** Push the end of the stalk:

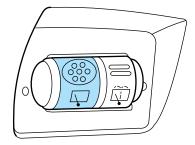
- briefly: causes a single swipe of the wipers without washer fluid.
- a quick push and hold: the wipers will swipe three times with washer fluid.



• a long push and hold: the wipers and washer fluid will be activated for up to ten seconds.

# Rear window wiper and washer (wagon only)

The rear wiper control is located under the headlamp controls. Press the wiper control to activate the rear wiper. Press again to turn off the wiper.

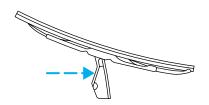


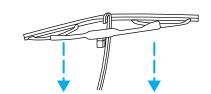
Press the washer control to activate the rear washer. The wiper will come on when the washer control is pressed, if it is not already on.



#### Changing the wiper blades

- 1. Pull the wiper arm away from the vehicle. Turn the blade at an angle from the wiper arm. Push the lock pin manually to release the blade and pull the wiper blade down toward the windshield to remove it from the arm.
- 2. Attach the new wiper to the wiper arm and press it into place until a click is heard.
- 3. Replace wiper blades every 6 months for optimum performance.

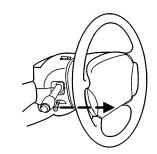




#### **TILT STEERING WHEEL**

To adjust the steering wheel:

- 1. Pull and hold the steering wheel release control toward you.
- 2. Move the steering wheel up or down until you find the desired location.
- 3. Release the steering wheel release control. This will lock the steering wheel in position.



47

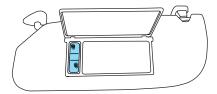
2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)



Never adjust the steering wheel when the vehicle is moving.

#### **ILLUMINATED VISOR MIRROR (IF EQUIPPED)**

Lift the mirror cover to turn on the visor mirror lamp. The visor will slide back and forth on the rod for increased sunlight coverage.



#### **AUXILIARY POWER POINT**

Power outlets are designed for accessory plugs only. Do not hang any type of accessory or accessory bracket from the plug. Improper use of the power outlet can cause damage not covered by your warranty.

Do not plug optional electrical accessories into the cigarette lighter. Use the power point.

Do not use the power point for operating the cigarette lighter element.

The Maximum power each power point can supply depends on the fuse rating. For example: a 20A fuse should supply a maximum of 240 Watts, a 15A fuse should supply a maximum of 180 Watts and a 10A fuse should supply a maximum of 120 Watts. Exceeding these limits will result in a blown fuse.

Always keep the power point caps closed when not being used.

The auxiliary power point is located on the instrument panel below the optional cigarette lighter (if equipped).

#### **POWER WINDOWS**

When closing the power windows, you should verify they are free of obstructions and ensure that children and/or pets are not in the proximity of the window openings.





Press and hold the bottom part of the rocker switch to open the window. Press and hold the top part of the rocker switch to close the window.

#### One touch down

Allows the driver's window to open fully without holding the control down. Press completely down on AUTO and release quickly. Press again to stop.





#### Window lock

The window lock feature allows only the driver to operate the power windows.

To lock out all the window controls except for the driver's press the left side of the control. Press the right side to restore the window controls.



#### Accessory delay (if equipped)

With accessory delay, the window switches may be used for up to ten minutes after the ignition switch is turned to the OFF position or until any door is opened.

#### **MIRRORS**

#### Automatic dimming inside rear view mirror (if equipped)

Your vehicle is equipped with an inside rear view mirror which has an auto-dimming function. The electronic day/night mirror will automatically

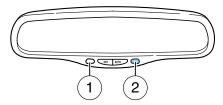
49

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

change from the normal, clear state to the darkened, non-glare state when bright light (glare) reaches the mirror from behind the vehicle at night.

Do not block the sensor (1) on the either side of the mirror since this will impair proper mirror performance (i.e. hangtags, parking stickers, aftermarket window-tint etc.).

Use the control located on the mirror to turn the auto-dimming feature OFF or return it to AUTO. A LED (2) will light when the mirror is in AUTO mode. When the auto-dimming feature is OFF the mirror will remain in the normal. clear state.



When the mirror is in AUTO mode it will automatically return to the normal, clear state whenever the vehicle is placed in R (Reverse). This is to ensure a clear view when backing up.

# Power side view mirrors

To adjust your mirrors:

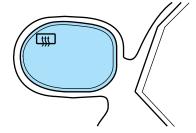
- 1. Select  $\mathbf{L}$  to adjust the left mirror or  $\mathbf{R}$  to adjust the right mirror.
- 2. Move the control in the direction you wish to tilt the mirror.
- 3. Return to the center position to disable the adjust function.



# Heated outside mirrors $\begin{tabular}{l} \put(0,0) \put(0,0){\line(0,0){100}} \put(0,0){\line(0,0){$

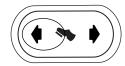
Both mirrors are heated automatically to remove ice, mist and fog when the rear window defrost is activated.

Do not remove ice from the mirrors with a scraper or attempt to readjust the mirror glass if it is frozen in place. These actions could cause damage to the glass and mirrors.



#### POWER ADJUSTABLE FOOT PEDALS (IF EQUIPPED)

The accelerator and brake pedal should only be adjusted when the vehicle is stopped and the gearshift lever is in the P (Park) position.



Press and hold the rocker control

(located on the instrument panel) to adjust accelerator and brake pedal.

- Press the right side of the control to adjust the pedals toward you.
- Press the left side of the control to adjust the pedals away from you.

The adjustment allows for approximately 76 mm (3 inches) of maximum travel.



Never adjust the accelerator and brake pedal with feet on the pedals while the vehicle is moving.

#### SPEED CONTROL (IF EQUIPPED)

With speed control set, you can maintain a speed of 48 km/h (30 mph) or more without keeping your foot on the accelerator pedal. Speed control does not work at speeds below 48 km/h (30 mph).



Do not use the speed control in heavy traffic or on roads that are winding, slippery or unpaved.

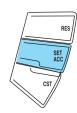
## **Setting speed control**

The controls for using your speed control are located on the steering wheel for your convenience.

- 1. Press the ON control and release it.
- 2. Accelerate to the desired speed.



- 3. Press the SET ACC control and release it.
- 4. Take your foot off the accelerator pedal.
- 5. The **CRUISE** indicator light on the instrument cluster will turn on.



#### Note:

- Vehicle speed may vary momentarily when driving up and down a steep hill.
- If the vehicle speed increases above the set speed on a downhill, you may want to apply the brakes to reduce the speed.
- If the vehicle speed decreases more than 16 km/h (10 mph) below your set speed on an uphill, your speed control will disengage.
- If the vehicle speed decreases to 40 km/h (25 mph) or less, your speed control will disengage

# Disengaging speed control

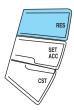
To disengage the speed control:

• Depress the brake pedal

Disengaging the speed control will not erase previous set speed.

#### Resuming a set speed

Press the RES (resume) control and release it. This will automatically return the vehicle to the previously set speed. The RES control will not work if the vehicle speed is not faster than 48 km/h (30 mph).



#### Increasing speed while using speed control

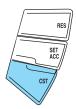
There are three ways to set a higher speed:

- Press and hold the SET ACC control until you get to the desired speed, then release the control.
- Press and release the SET ACC control to operate the Tap-Up function. Each tap will increase the set speed by 1.6 km/h (1 mph).
- Use the accelerator pedal to get to the desired speed. When the vehicle reaches that speed press and release the SET ACC control.

#### Reducing speed while using speed control

There are three ways to reduce a set speed:

- Press and hold the CST control until you get to the desired speed, then release the control.
- Press and release the CST control to operate the Tap-Down function. Each tap will decrease the set speed by 1.6 km/h (1 mph).
- Depress the brake pedal until the desired vehicle speed is reached, press the SET ACC control.





#### Turning off speed control

There are two ways to turn off the speed control:

- Depress the brake pedal. This will not erase your vehicle's previously set speed.
- Press the speed control OFF control.

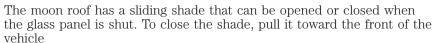
**Note:** When you turn off the speed control or the ignition, your speed control set speed memory is erased.

#### MOON ROOF (IF EQUIPPED)

You can move the glass panel of the moon roof back to open or tilt up to ventilate the vehicle.

To open the moon roof: The moon roof is equipped with an automatic, one-touch, express opening feature. Press and release the rear portion of the control.

To close, press and hold the front portion of the control.





Do not let children play with the moon roof. They may seriously hurt themselves.

#### HOMELINK® WIRELESS CONTROL SYSTEM (IF EQUIPPED)

The HomeLink® Wireless Control System, located on the driver's visor, provides a convenient way to replace up to three hand-held transmitters with a single built-in device. This feature will learn the radio frequency codes of most current transmitters to operate garage doors, entry gate operators, security systems, entry door locks, and home or office lighting.

When programming your HomeLink® Wireless Control System to a garage door or gate, be sure that people and objects are out of the way to prevent potential harm or damage.





Do not use the HomeLink® Wireless Control System with any garage door opener that lacks safety stop and reverse features as required by U.S. federal safety standards (this includes any garage door opener model manufactured before April 1, 1982). A garage door which cannot detect an object, signaling the door to stop and reverse, does not meet current U.S. federal safety standards. For more information, contact HomeLink® at: www.homelink.com or 1–800–355–3515.

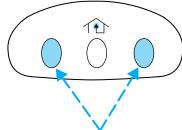
Retain the original transmitter for use in other vehicles as well as for future programming procedures (i.e. new HomeLink® equipped vehicle purchase). It is also suggested that upon the sale of the vehicle, the programmed Homelink® buttons be erased for security purposes, refer to *Programming* in this section.

#### **Programming**

#### Do not program HomeLink® with the vehicle parked in the garage.

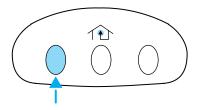
**Note:** Your vehicle may require the ignition switch to be turned to the ACC position for programming and/or operation of the HomeLink<sup>®</sup>. It is also recommended that a new battery be placed in the hand-held transmitter of the device being programmed to HomeLink<sup>®</sup> for quicker training and accurate transmission of the radio-frequency signal.

1. Press and hold the two outside buttons releasing only when the red light begins to flash after 20 seconds. **Do not** repeat step one to program additional hand-held transmitters to the remaining two HomeLink® buttons. This will erase previously programmed hand-held transmitter signals into HomeLink®.



2. Position the end of your hand-held transmitter 2–8 cm (1–3 inches) away from the HomeLink® button you wish to program (located on your visor) while keeping the red light in view.

3. Simultaneously press and hold both the HomeLink® and hand-held transmitter button. **Do not release the buttons until step 4 has been completed.** 



Some entry gates and garage door openers may require you to replace step 3 with procedures noted in the

"Gate Operator and Canadian Programming" in this section for Canadian residents.

- 4. The red light will flash slowly and then rapidly. Release both buttons when the red light flashes rapidly. (The rapid flashing light indicates acceptance of the hand-held transmitters' radio frequency signals.)
- 5. Press and hold the just-trained HomeLink® button and observe the red light. If the light is a constant red, programming is complete and your device should activate when the HomeLink® button is pressed and released. **Note:** To program the remaining two HomeLink® buttons, begin with step 2 in the "Programming" section **do not** repeat step 1.

**Note:** If the red light blinks rapidly for two seconds and then turns to a continuous red, proceed with steps 6 through 8 to complete programming of a rolling code equipped device.

- 6. At the garage door opener receiver (motor-head unit) in the garage, locate the "learn" or "smart" button (usually near where the hanging antenna wire is attached to the unit).
- 7. Press and release the "learn" or "smart" button. (The name and color of the button may vary by manufacturer.)

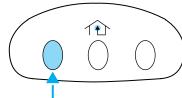
**Note:** There are 30 seconds in which to initiate step eight.

8. Return to the vehicle and firmly press, hold for two seconds and release the HomeLink® button. Repeat the press/hold/release sequence again, and, depending on the brand of the garage door opener (or other rolling code equipped device), repeat this sequence a third time to complete the programming.

HomeLink® should now activate your rolling code equipped device. To program additional HomeLink® buttons begin with step 2 in the "Programming" section. For questions or comments, please contact HomeLink at **www.homelink.com** or **1–800–355–3515.** 

#### **Gate Operator & Canadian Programming**

During programming, your hand-held transmitter may automatically stop transmitting — not allowing enough time for HomeLink® to accept the signal from the hand-held transmitter.



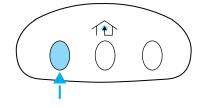
After completing steps 1 and 2 outlined in the "Programming" section, replace step 3 with the following:

**Note:** If programming a garage door opener or gate operator, it is advised to unplug the device during the "cycling" process to prevent overheating.

- Continue to press and hold the HomeLink® button (note step 3 in the "Programming" section) while you press and release **every two seconds** ("cycle") your hand-held transmitter until the frequency signal has been accepted by the HomeLink®. The red indicator light will flash slowly and then rapidly after HomeLink® accepts the radio frequency signal.
- Proceed with step 4 in the "Programming" section.

#### Operating the HomeLink® Wireless Control System

To operate, simply press and release the appropriate HomeLink® button. Activation will now occur for the trained product (garage door, gate operator, security system, entry door lock, or home or office lighting etc.). For convenience, the hand-held transmitter of the device

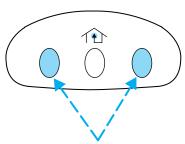


may also be used at any time. In the event that there are still programming difficulties, contact HomeLink $^{\otimes}$  at **www.homelink.com** or **1–800–355–3515.** 

#### **Erasing HomeLink® buttons**

To erase the three programmed buttons (individual buttons cannot be erased):

 Press and hold the two outer HomeLink® buttons until the red indicator light begins to flash-after 20 seconds. Release both buttons. Do not hold for longer that 30 seconds.



HomeLink® is now in the train (or learning) mode and can be programmed at any time beginning with step 2 in the "Programming" section.

#### Reprogramming a single HomeLink® button

To program a device to HomeLink® using a HomeLink® button previously trained, follow these steps:

- 1. Press and hold the desired HomeLink® button.  $\bf Do~NOT$  release the button
- 2. The red indicator light will begin to flash after 20 seconds. Without releasing the HomeLink® button, follow step 2 in the "Programming" section.

For questions or comments, contact HomeLink® at www.homelink.com or 1-800-355-3515.

#### MESSAGE CENTER

With the ignition in the ON position, the message center, located on your instrument cluster, displays important vehicle information through a constant monitor of

vehicle systems. You may select

NU 000000.0mi

display features on the message center for a display of status preceded by a brief indicator chime. The system will also notify you of potential vehicle problems with a display of system warnings followed by a long indicator chime.

#### Selectable features

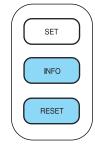
#### Reset

Press this control to select and reset functions shown in the INFO menu and SETUP menu.

#### Info menu

This control displays the following control displays:

- Odometer
- Distance to Empty
- Average Fuel Economy
- Trip odometer
- Trip Elapsed Drive Time
- Outside air temperature (if equipped)
- Compass (if equipped)



#### Odometer/Trip odometer

Refer to Gauges in the Instrument Cluster chapter.

#### Distance to empty (DTE)

Selecting this function from the INFO menu estimates approximately how far you can drive with the fuel remaining in your tank under normal driving conditions.

Remember to turn the ignition OFF

XXX MILES TO E

when refueling to allow this feature to correctly detect the added fuel.

The DTE function will display LOW FUEL LEVEL and sound a tone for one second when you have approximately  $80~\rm km$  ( $50~\rm miles$ ) to empty. If you RESET this warning message, this display and tone will return within  $10~\rm minutes$ .

DTE is calculated using a running average fuel economy, which is based on your recent driving history of 800 km (500 miles). This value is not the same as the average fuel economy display. The running average fuel economy is reinitialized to a factory default value if the battery is disconnected.

#### Average fuel economy (AFE)

Select this function from the INFO menu to display your average fuel economy in liters/100 km or miles/U.S. gallon.

XX AVE MPG NW 000000.0 mi

If you calculate your average fuel economy by dividing liters of fuel

used by 100 kilometers traveled (miles traveled by gallons used), your figure may be different than displayed for the following reasons:

- Your vehicle was not perfectly level during fill-up
- Differences in the automatic shut-off points on the fuel pumps at service stations
- Variations in top-off procedure from one fill-up to another
- Rounding of the displayed values to the nearest 0.1 liter (gallon)
- 1. Drive the vehicle at least 8 km (5 miles) with the speed control system engaged to display a stabilized average.
- 2. Record the highway fuel economy for future reference.

It is important to press the RESET control after setting the speed control to get accurate highway fuel economy readings.

# Distance to empty/Average fuel economy for FFV-equipped vehicles

Upon refueling, your vehicle must determine the percentage of Ethanol in the fuel. Until the percent of Ethanol is determined, DTE/AFE may not display the current values. The correct DTE/AFE will appear after driving a few miles.

#### Trip elapsed drive time

Select this function from the INFO menu to display a timer.

To operate the Trip Elapsed Drive Time perform the following:

- 1. Press and release RESET in order to start the timer.
- 2. Press and release RESET to pause the timer.
- 3. Press and hold RESET for 2 seconds in order to reset the timer.

60

Sed Drive NU 000000.0 mi

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

#### Outside air temperature (if equipped)

Press and hold the INFO button for 2 seconds to display the outside temperature. To switch from a blank display to the temperature display or to the compass display hold the INFO button for 2 seconds.

73°F 000000.0mi

To turn the display off or change the display from English to metric see your dealer.

#### Compass display (if equipped)

Select this function from the INFO menu. Press and hold the INFO button for 2 seconds to select the Compass/Odometer function.

The compass reading may be affected when you drive near large buildings, bridges, power lines and powerful broadcast antenna. Magnetic or metallic objects placed in, on or near the vehicle may also affect compass accuracy.

Usually, when something affects the compass readings, the compass will correct itself after a few days of operating your vehicle in normal conditions. If the compass still appears to be inaccurate, a manual calibration may be necessary. Refer to *Compass zone/calibration adjustment*.

Most geographic areas (zones) have a magnetic north compass point that varies slightly from the northerly direction on maps. This variation is four degrees between adjacent zones and will become noticeable as the vehicle crosses multiple zones. A correct zone setting will eliminate this error. Refer to Compass zone/calibration adjustment.

#### Compass zone/calibration adjustment

Perform this adjustment in an open area free from steel structures and high voltage lines.

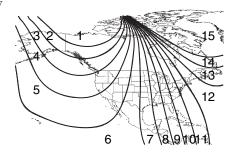
For optimum calibration, turn off all electrical accessories (heater/air conditioning, wipers, etc.) and make sure all vehicle doors are shut.

- 1. Turn ignition to the ON position.
- 2. Start the engine.
- 3. Press and hold the INFO button for 2 seconds to select the Compass/Odometer function. (Do not select Trip, DTE, or AFE. The top of the message center must be blank).

**Note:** If the compass displays "CAL 000000.0 mi" instead of heading information, the compass will need to be calibrated. Slowly drive the

vehicle in a circle (less than 5 km/h [3mph]) until the "CAL" indicator changes to display compass heading. This may take up to 3 circles to complete calibration.

4. Determine your magnetic zone by referring to the zone map.



- 5. Press and hold the RESET until the message center display changes to show the current zone setting.
- RESET FOR ZONE INFO TO EXIT
- 6. Release the RESET control, then slowly press RESET down again.
- SETUP ZONE XX RESET IF DONE
- 7. Press the SET control repeatedly until the correct zone setting for your geographic location is displayed on the message center. To

displayed on the message center. To exit the zone setting mode press and release the RESET control.

8. Press the RESET control to start the compass calibration function.

RESET FOR CAL INFO TO EXIT

9. Slowly drive the vehicle in a circle (less than 5 km/h [3 mph]) until the CIRCLE SLOWLY TO CALIBRATE indicator changes to CALIBRATION COMPLETED. This

CIRCLE SLOWLY
TO CALIBRATE

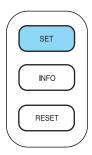
will take up to three circles to complete calibration.

10. The compass is now calibrated.

# Setup menu

Press this control for the following displays:

- Language
- Units (English/Metric)
- System Check



# Language

1. Select this function from the SETUP menu for the current language to be displayed.

each of the language choices.

2. Pressing the RESET control cycles the message center through

3. Press and hold the RESET control to set the language choice.

ENGLISH RESET FOR NEW

FOR ENGLISH HOLD RESET

> SET TO ENGLISH

## Units (English/Metric)

- 1. Select this function from the SETUP menu for the current units to be displayed.
- 2. Press the RESET control to change from English to Metric.

UNITS > ENG METRIC

#### System check

Selecting this function from the SETUP menu causes the message center to cycle through each of the systems being monitored. For each of the monitored systems, the

# PRESS RESET FOR SYS CHECK

message center will indicate either an OK message or a warning message for two to four seconds.

Pressing the RESET control cycles the message center through each of the systems being monitored.

The sequence of the system check report is as follows:

- 1. OIL PRESSURE
- 2. CHARGING SYSTEM
- 3. BRAKE FLUID LEVEL
- 4. FUEL LEVEL
- 5. DOORS CLOSED (If RESET control is pressed PLEASE CLOSE DOOR will be displayed).
- 6. PARK BRAKE STATUS
- 7. ENGINE TEMP
- 8. BRAKE SYSTEM
- 9. TRACTION CONTROL (if equipped)

#### System warnings

System warnings alert you to possible problems or malfunctions in your vehicle's operating systems.

In the event of a multiple warning situation, the message center will cycle the display to show all warnings by displaying each one for several seconds.

The message center will display the last selected feature if there are no more warning messages. This allows you to use the full functionality of the message center after you acknowledge the warning by pressing the RESET control and clearing the warning message.

Warning messages that have been reset are divided into three categories:

- They will not disappear until a condition is changed.
- They will reappear on the display ten minutes from the reset.
- They will not reappear until an ignition OFF-ON cycle has been completed.

This acts as a reminder that these warning conditions still exist within the vehicle.

Warnings	Status
Driver's door ajar	Warning cannot be reset (CLOSE DOOR TO RESET) will
Passenger door ajar	
Left rear door ajar	be displayed
Right rear door ajar	
Park brake engaged	RELEASE PARK BRAKE will be displayed
Check engine temp	Warning returns after 10
Transmission overheated	minutes
Check transmission	
Low fuel level	
Check fuel cap	
Check charging system	
Oil pressure low	
Check brake system	
Low brake fluid	Warning returns after the
Liftgate ajar (if equipped)	ignition key is turned from OFF
Check Traction Control (if equipped)	to RUN
Data error	

**DRIVER'S DOOR AJAR.** Displayed when the driver's door is not completely closed.

**PASSENGER DOOR AJAR.** Displayed when the passenger side door is not completely closed.

**LEFT REAR DOOR AJAR.** Displayed when the left rear door is not completely closed.

**RIGHT REAR DOOR AJAR.** Displayed when the right rear door is not completely closed.

**PARK BRAKE ENGAGED.** Displayed when the park brake is engaged. If the warning stays on after the park brake is off, contact your dealer as soon as possible.

**CHECK ENGINE TEMPERATURE.** Displayed when the engine coolant is overheating. Stop the vehicle as soon as safely possible, turn off the engine and let it cool. Check the coolant and coolant level. Refer

to Engine coolant in the Maintenance and specifications chapter. If the warning stays on or continues to come on, contact your dealer as soon as possible.

**TRANSMISSION OVERHEATED.** Indicates the transmission is overheating. This warning may appear when towing heavy loads or when driving in a low gear at a high speed for an extended period of time. Stop the vehicle as soon as safely possible, turn off the engine and let it cool. Refer to *Transmission fluid* in the *Maintenance and specifications* chapter. If the warning stays on or continues to come on, contact your dealer for transmission service as soon as possible.

**CHECK TRANSMISSION.** Indicates the transmission is not operating properly. If this warning stays on, contact your dealer as soon as possible.

**LOW FUEL LEVEL.** Displayed as an early reminder of a low fuel condition.

**CHECK FUEL CAP.** Displayed when the fuel filler cap is not properly installed. Check the fuel filler cap for proper installation. Refer to *Fuel filler cap* in the *Maintenance and specifications* chapter.

**CHECK CHARGING SYSTEM.** Displayed when the electrical system is not maintaining proper voltage. If you are operating electrical accessories when the engine is idling at a low speed, turn off as many of the electrical loads as possible. If the warning stays on or comes on when the engine is operating at normal speeds, have the electrical system checked as soon as possible.

**OIL PRESSURE LOW.** Displayed when the engine oil level is low. If this warning message is displayed, check the level of the engine oil. Refer to *Engine oil* in the *Maintenance and specifications* chapter for information about adding engine oil.

**CHECK BRAKE SYSTEM.** Displayed when the brake system needs servicing. If the warning stays on or continues to come on, contact your dealer as soon as possible.

**LOW BRAKE FLUID.** Indicates the brake fluid level is low and the brake system should be inspected immediately. Refer to *Checking and adding brake fluid* in the *Maintenance and specifications* chapter.

**LIFTGATE AJAR (if equipped).** Displayed when the liftgate is not completely closed.

**CHECK TRACTION CONTROL (if equipped).** Displayed when the Traction Control<sup>®</sup> system is not operating properly. If this warning stays on, contact your dealer for service as soon as possible. For further information, refer to *Traction control*® in the *Driving* chapter.

**DATA ERR.** These messages indicate improper operation of the vehicle network communication between electronic modules.

- Fuel computer
- · Charging system
- · Coolant system
- Traction control (if equipped)
- Door sensor
- Brake fluid
- Compass (if equipped)
- Outside temperature (if equipped)
- Engine sensor
- Transmission sensor
- Fuel cap sensor
- Seat belt sensor
- Park brake
- Oil pressure sensor

Contact your dealer as soon as possible if these messages occur on a regular basis.

#### **CENTER CONSOLE**

Your vehicle may be equipped with a variety of console features. These include:

- Utility compartment
- Bin mat (snap-in)
- Cupholders (front and rear)
- Coin holder slots
- Compact disc changer (if equipped)
- Tissue holder
- Rear A/C vent
- Rear ashtray (see your Ford, Lincoln Mercury dealer to obtain rear ashtray



Use only soft cups in the cupholder. Hard objects can injure you in a collision.

If your vehicle is equipped with the column shift and a bench seat, it has a center console in the center front seating position.

The center console has similar features as the full console. To open the storage compartment, raise the armrest and pull the strap on the seat up and toward the front of the vehicle. The rear seat area is provided with dual cupholders.

#### **CELL PHONE USE**

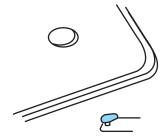
The use of Mobile Communications Equipment has become increasingly important in the conduct of business and personal affairs. However, drivers must not compromise their own or others' safety when using such equipment. Mobile Communications can enhance personal safety and security when appropriately used, particularly in emergency situations. Safety must be paramount when using mobile communications equipment to avoid negating these benefits.

Mobile Communication Equipment includes, but is not limited to cellular phones, pagers, portable email devices, in vehicle communications systems, telematics devices and portable two-way radios.

A driver's first responsibility is the safe operation of the vehicle. The most important thing you can do to prevent a crash is to avoid distractions and pay attention to the road. Wait until it is safe to operate Mobile Communications Equipment.

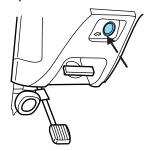
#### **POSITIVE RETENTION FLOOR MAT**

Position the driver floor mat so that the eyelet is over the pointed end of the retention post and rotate forward to lock in. Make sure that the mat does not interfere with the operation of the accelerator or the brake pedal. To remove the floor mat, reverse the installation procedure.



#### INTERIOR TRUNK CONTROL (IF EQUIPPED)

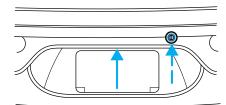
Press the remote trunk release control on the instrument panel to the left of the steering wheel.



#### LIFTGATE (WAGON ONLY)

You can open and close the liftgate and the liftgate window from outside the vehicle. It cannot be opened from inside the cargo area.

- To open the liftgate window, unlock the liftgate (with the key, the power door locks or the remote entry transmitter) and push the key lock cylinder.
- To open the liftgate, unlock the liftgate and pull up on the handle under the license plate lamp shield.



To lock the liftgate and the liftgate window, press the lock button down on the inside of the liftgate, use the key, the power door locks, or the remote entry key fob.

The liftgate and liftgate window should be closed before driving your vehicle. If not, possible damage may occur to the liftgate lift cylinders and attaching hardware.

#### **CARGO AREA FEATURES**

#### Storage compartment (Wagon)

Your vehicle comes equipped with a storage compartment in the floor of the cargo area. An additional compartment is in the rear trim panel on the right. Always put the load you are carrying as far forward as possible.

69

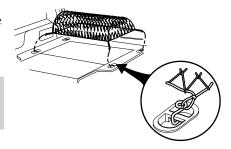
2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

#### Cargo net (if equipped) (Wagon)

The cargo net secures lightweight objects in the cargo area. Attach the net to the anchors provided. Do not put more than 22 kg (50 lbs.) in the net.



This net is not designed to restrain objects during a

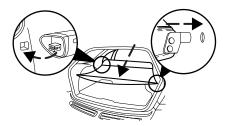


# Cargo cover (if equipped)

Your vehicle may be equipped with a cargo area shade that covers the luggage compartment of your vehicle.

To install the shade:

- 1. Fasten the cover into the mounting brackets (make sure the cover is right side up).
- 2. Pull the end of the shade toward you and hook the sides into the notches (right side first) in the rear trim panels.



panels.

To reduce the risk of injuries, the fasteners for cargo area cover must be properly attached to the mounting clips on the rear trim



Do not place any objects on the cargo area cover. They may obstruct your vision or strike occupants of the vehicle in the case of a sudden stop or collision.



The cover may cause injury in a sudden stop or accident if it is not securely installed.

#### Rewinding the shade

With extended use, the cargo shade may lose its spring tension. If this occurs, the shade must be manually rewound. This is a two-person operation.

- 1. Remove the shade from the vehicle and extend it with the smooth grain facing you.
- 2. Wrap the vinyl around the roller tube twice. Tuck the edges of the vinyl inside the end cap with each wrap.
- 3. Fold the edges of the vinyl towards the center, making sure that the edges clear the end cap slots. Use tape or a rubber band to hold the vinyl to the left side of the tube
- 4. Push in the right end cap (marked RH) about ¼ of the total length to disengage the clutch and hold the end cap in while turning the roller tube toward you 14 times.
- 5. Let go of the right end cap. The clutch will now engage and stop the shade from losing its spring tension.
- 6. Unfold the vinyl and place it into the end cap slots.
- 7. Insert the shade into the side mounting brackets and check to make sure that it operates properly.



The cover may cause injury in a sudden stop or accident if it is not securely installed.



The utility hooks located inside the trunk can be used to attach a cargo net to secure lightweight objects or hang small items on. Do not hang more than 12 kg (20 lbs) on the hooks.



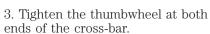
The hooks are not designed to restrain objects during a collision.

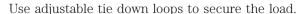
# **LUGGAGE RACK (IF EQUIPPED)**

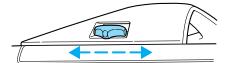
The rear cross-bar can be adjusted to fit the item being carried. The front cross-bar does not move. Do not load more than 44~kg~(100~lbs.) on the luggage rack.

To adjust cross-bar position:

- 1. Loosen the thumbwheel at both ends of the cross-bar.
- 2. Slide the cross-bar to the desired location.







#### **KEYS**

The key operates all locks on your vehicle. In case of loss, replacement keys are available from your dealer.

You should always carry a second key with you in a safe place in case you require it in an emergency.

Refer to SecuriLock® Passive Anti-Theft System for more information.

#### **POWER DOOR LOCKS**

Press control to unlock or lock all doors.



### Power door lock disable feature (if equipped)

The UNLOCK • feature on your power door locks will not work from inside the vehicle when:

- the ignition has been turned to the 3 (OFF) position, and
- 20 seconds elapse after all vehicle doors are closed and locked using the remote entry transmitter, the keyless entry pad, or the power door lock control (while the accompanying door is open).

The UNLOCK feature will work again after:

- a door has become ajar,
- the ignition is turned to the 4 (ON) position, or
- using the UNLOCK **1** control on your remote entry transmitter or unlocking via the keyless entry keypad.

### Deactivating/activating power door lock disable feature

You must complete Steps 1-7 within 30 seconds or the procedure will have to be repeated. If the procedure needs to be repeated, you must wait 30 seconds.

- 1. Turn the ignition key to the 4 (ON) position.
- 2. Press the power door unlock control three times.
- 3. Turn the ignition key from the 4 (ON) to the 3 (OFF) position.

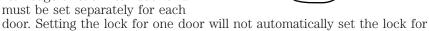
- 4. Press the power door unlock control three times.
- 5. Turn the ignition back to the 4 (ON) position. The horn will chirp.
- 6. Press the unlock control, then press the lock control. **Note:** The horn will chirp twice if autolock was deactivated or chirp twice then honk (two short and one long chirp) if autolock was activated.
- 7. Press the power door unlock control and then the lock control again in order to toggle the autolock/relock states.
- 8. Turn the ignition to the 3 (OFF) position. The horn will chirp once to confirm the procedure is complete.

### Childproof door locks

both doors.

- When these locks are set, the rear doors cannot be opened from the inside.
- The rear doors can be opened from the outside when the doors are unlocked.

The childproof locks are located on rear edge of each rear door and must be set separately for each



- Move lock control up to engage the childproof lock.
- Move control down to disengage childproof locks.

### INTERIOR LUGGAGE COMPARTMENT RELEASE

Your vehicle is equipped with a mechanical interior luggage compartment release handle that provides a means of escape for children and adults in the event they become locked inside the luggage compartment.

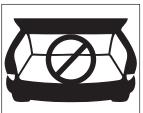
Adults are advised to familiarize themselves with the operation and location of the release handle.

To open the luggage compartment door (lid) from within the luggage compartment, pull the illuminated "T" shaped handle and push up on the trunk lid. The handle is composed of a material that will glow for hours in darkness following brief exposure to ambient light.

The "T" shaped handle will be located either on the luggage compartment door (lid) or inside the luggage compartment near the tail lamps.



Keep vehicle doors and luggage compartment locked and keep keys and remote transmitters out of a child's reach. Unsupervised children could lock themselves in the trunk and risk injury. Children should be taught not to play in vehicles.



On hot days, the temperature in the trunk or vehicle interior can rise very quickly. Exposure of people or animals to these high temperatures for even a short time can cause death or serious heat-related injuries, including brain damage. Small children are particularly at risk.

### REMOTE ENTRY SYSTEM (IF EQUIPPED)

This device complies with part 15 of the FCC rules and with RS-210 of Industry Canada. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) This device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

The typical operating range for your remote entry transmitter is approximately 10 meters (33 feet). A decrease in operating range could be caused by:

- weather conditions,
- nearby radio towers,
- structures around the vehicle, or
- other vehicles parked next to your vehicle.

The remote entry system allows you to:

- lock or unlock all vehicle doors,
- open the trunk or the liftgate, and
- sound the panic alarm.

If there is a problem with the remote entry system make sure to take **ALL remote entry transmitters** with you to the dealership, this will aid in troubleshooting the problem.

Unlocking the doors

- 1. Press **1** and release to unlock the driver's door. **Note:** The interior lamps will illuminate.
- 2. Press **1** and release again within three seconds to unlock all the doors and the liftgate (wagon).

The remote entry system comes with an illuminated entry feature. This feature turns on the interior lamps for 25 seconds or until the ignition is turned to the the 4 (ON) position. If the dome lamp control is in the **off** position the illuminated entry feature will not work.

The inside lights will not turn off if:

- they have been turned on using the dimmer control or
- any door is open.

The battery saver feature will turn off the interior lamps 10 minutes after the ignition is turned to the 3 (OFF) position.

76

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)



### Locking the doors

- 1. Press and release to lock all the doors and liftgate (wagon), turn off the interior lamps (if they were on) and arm the anti-theft system.

  Note: The parklamps will flash once if all doors and liftgate (wagon) are closed.
- 2. Press and release again within three seconds to confirm that all the doors and liftgate are closed and locked. **Note:** The doors will lock again, the horn will chirp once, and the parklamps will flash once.

If any of the doors or liftgate (wagon) are not properly closed the horn will make two quick chirps, and the parklamps will not flash. As soon as all vehicle doors and the liftgate (wagon) are closed, the parklamps will flash once to confirm that all doors and liftgate (wagon) are closed.

#### Sounding a panic alarm

Press () to activate the alarm. Both the horn will sound and the parklamps will flash for a maximum of 30 seconds. Press again or turn the ignition to the 4 (ON) position to deactivate, or wait for the alarm to timeout in 3 minutes.

**Note:** The panic alarm will only operate when the ignition is in the 1 (ACCESSORY), 2 (LOCK) or 3 (OFF) position.

### Opening the trunk

Press once to open the trunk or liftgate (wagon).

### Replacing the battery

The remote entry transmitter uses one coin type three-volt lithium battery CR2032 or equivalent.

To replace the battery:

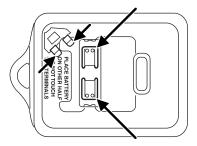
1. Twist a thin coin between the two halves of the remote entry transmitter near the key ring. DO NOT TAKE THE RUBBER COVER AND CIRCUIT BOARD OFF THE FRONT HOUSING OF THE REMOTE ENTRY TRANSMITTER.



77

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

2. Do not wipe off any grease on the battery terminals on the back surface of the circuit board.



- 3. Remove the old battery.
- 4. Insert the new battery. Refer to the diagram inside the remote entry transmitter for the correct orientation of the battery. Press the battery down to ensure that the battery is fully seated in the battery housing cavity.
- 5. Snap the two halves back together.

**Note:** Replacement of the battery will **not** cause the remote transmitter to become deprogrammed from your vehicle. The remote transmitter should operate normally after battery replacement.

### Replacing lost remote entry transmitters

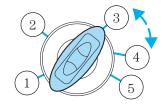
If you would like to have your remote entry transmitter reprogrammed because you lost one, or would like to buy additional remote entry transmitters, you can either reprogram them yourself, or take **all remote entry transmitters** to your authorized dealer for reprogramming.

### How to reprogram your remote entry transmitters

You must have **all remote entry transmitters** (maximum of four) available before beginning this procedure.

To reprogram the remote entry transmitters:

- 1. Ensure the vehicle is electronically unlocked.
- 2. Put the key in the ignition.
- 3. Turn the key from the 2 (LOCK) position to 3 (OFF).



- 4. Cycle eight times rapidly (within 10 seconds) between the 3 (OFF) position and 4 (ON). **Note:** The eighth turn must end in the 4 (ON) position.
- 5. The doors will lock, then unlock, to confirm that the programming mode has been activated.
- 6. Within 20 seconds press any button on the remote entry transmitter. **Note:** If more than 20 seconds have passed you will need to start the procedure over again.
- 7. The doors will lock, then unlock, to confirm that this remote entry transmitter has been programmed.
- 8. Repeat Step 6 to program each additional remote entry transmitter.
- 9. Turn the ignition to the 3 (OFF) position after you have finished programming all of the remote entry transmitters. **Note:** After 20 seconds, you will automatically exit the programming mode.
- 10. The doors will lock, then unlock, to confirm that the programming mode has been exited.

#### Illuminated entry

The interior lamps illuminate when the remote entry system is used to unlock the door(s) or sound the personal alarm.

The illuminated entry system will turn off the interior lights if:

- the ignition is turned to the 4 (ON) position, or
- the remote transmitter lock control is pressed, or
- the vehicle is locked using the keyless entry keypad (if equipped), or
- after 25 seconds of illumination.

The dome lamp control (if equipped) must **not** be set to the off position for the illuminated entry system to operate.

The inside lights will not turn off if:

- they have been turned on with the dimmer control, or
- any door is open.

The battery saver will shut off the interior lamps 10 minutes after the ignition has been turned to the 3 (OFF) position.

#### Perimeter lamps illuminated entry

The exterior lamps illuminate when the vehicle is unlocked using the remote entry system.

On vehicles equipped with the autolamps feature, the following items will illuminate:

- Puddle lamps (if equipped)
- Head lamps
- Park lamps
- Tail lamps

On vehicles not equipped with the autolamps feature, only the following items will illuminate:

- Puddle lamps (if equipped)
- Park lamps
- Tail lamps

The system will automatically turn off if:

- the ignition switch is turned to the 4 (ON) position, or
- the remote entry transmitter lock control is pressed, or
- the vehicle is locked using the keyless entry keypad (if equipped), or
- after 25 seconds of illumination.

### Deactivating/activating perimeter lamps

You may enable/disable this feature by having your vehicle serviced by your authorized dealer.

You may also perform the following power door lock sequence to enable/disable the perimeter lamps feature:

- 1. Turn the ignition to the 4 (ON) position, then press the power door unlock control 3 times.
- 2. Turn the ignition to the 3 (OFF) position, then press the power door unlock control 3 times.
- 3. Turn the ignition to the 4 (ON) position, and within five seconds press the power door unlock control 2 times. **Note:** The horn will chirp twice if the perimeter lamps feature was deactivated, or chirp twice then honk (two shorts, followed by one long) if the feature was activated.
- 4. Turn the ignition to the 3 (OFF) position to exit the procedure. **Note:** The horn will chirp once to confirm the procedure is complete.

**Note:** The puddle lamps (if equipped) cannot be deactivated; performing this procedure will only deactivate the head, park and tail lamps.

#### **KEYLESS ENTRY SYSTEM (IF EQUIPPED)**

You can use the keyless entry keypad to:



- lock or unlock the doors without using a key.
- open the trunk or liftgate (wagon).
- activate or deactivate the autolock feature.

The keypad can be operated with the factory set 5-digit entry code; this code is located on the owner's wallet card in the glove box, is marked on the computer module, and is available from your authorized dealer. You can also create your own 5-digit personal entry code.

When pressing the controls on the keypad, press the middle of the controls to ensure a good activation.

### Programming a personal entry code

To create your own personal entry code:

- 1. Enter the factory set code. **Note:** The keyless entry keypad and interior lights will illuminate and the driver's door will unlock.
- 2. Within five seconds press the  $1 \bullet 2$  on the keypad.
- 3. Enter your personal 5-digit code. Each number must be entered within five seconds of each other.
- 4. The doors will again lock then unlock, to confirm that your personal keycode has been programmed to the module.

#### Tips:

- Do not set a code that uses five of the same number.
- Do not use five numbers in sequential order.
- The factory set code will work even if you have set your own personal code.
- If you set a second personal code it will erase your first personal code.

**Note:** To exit programming mode, either wait 5 seconds after pressing 1  $\bullet$  2 on the keypad, or press the 7  $\bullet$  8 and 9  $\bullet$  0 pads simultaneously to lock all vehicle doors and end programming mode.

### Erasing personal codes

- 1. Enter the factory set 5-digit code. The keyless entry keypad and interior lights will illuminate and the driver's door will unlock.
- 2. Press and release the 1 2 within five seconds of completing step 1.

3. Press and hold the 1  $\bullet$  2 for two seconds to erase the customer programmed codes.

All personal codes are now erased and only the factory set 5–digit code will work.

**Note:** To exit programming mode, either wait 5 seconds after pressing 1 • 2 on the keypad, or press the 7 • 8 and 9 • 0 pads simultaneously to lock all vehicle doors and end programming mode.

### Unlocking and locking the doors using keyless entry

**To unlock the driver's door,** enter the factory set 5-digit code or your personal code. Each number must be pressed within five seconds of each other. The interior lamps will illuminate.

**To unlock all doors and the liftgate (wagon),** enter the factory set code or your personal code, then press the 3 • 4 control within five seconds.

**To open the trunk or unlock the liftgate (wagon),** enter the factory set code or your personal code, then press the 5 • 6 control within five seconds.

**To lock all doors,** press the 7 • 8 and the 9 • 0 at the same time. You **do not** need to enter the keypad code first.

#### Autolock (if equipped)

This feature automatically locks all vehicle doors when the following conditions are met:

- all the doors are closed,
- the engine is running,
- you shift into gear, putting the vehicle in motion, and.
- the vehicle's speed is greater than 5 km/h (3 mph).

#### Relock

The autolock feature repeats when the following conditions are met:

- any door is opened then closed while the engine is running, and
- you shift into gear, putting the vehicle in motion, and
- the vehicle's speed is greater than 5 km/h (3 mph).

# To deactivate/reactivate the autolock feature using the power door unlock control

You must complete Steps 1-7 within 30 seconds or the procedure will have to be repeated. If the procedure needs to be repeated, you must wait 30 seconds.

1. Turn the ignition key to the 4 (ON) position.

- 2. Press the power door unlock control three times.
- 3. Turn the ignition key from the 4 (ON) to the 3 (OFF) position.
- 4. Press the power door unlock control three times.
- 5. Turn the ignition back to the 4 (ON) position. The horn will chirp.
- 6. Press the unlock control, then press the lock control. **Note:** The horn will chirp twice if autolock was deactivated or chirp twice then honk (two short and one long chirp) if autolock was activated.
- 7. Press the power door unlock control and then the lock control again in order to toggle the autolock/relock states.
- 8. Turn the ignition to the 3 (OFF) position. The horn will chirp once to confirm the procedure is complete.

#### SECURILOCK® PASSIVE ANTI-THEFT SYSTEM

SecuriLock® passive anti-theft system is an engine immobilization system. This system is designed to prevent the engine from being started unless a **coded key programmed to your vehicle** is used. The use of the wrong type of coded key may lead to a "no-start" condition.

Your vehicle comes with two coded keys; additional coded keys may be purchased from your dealer. The dealer can program your spare keys to your vehicle or you can program the keys yourself. Refer to *Programming spare keys* for instructions on how to program the coded key.

**Note:** The SecuriLock passive anti-theft system is not compatible with non-Ford aftermarket remote start systems. Use of these systems may result in vehicle starting problems and a loss of security protection.

**Note:** Large metallic objects, electronic devices that are used to purchase gasoline or similar items, or a second coded key on the same key chain may cause vehicle starting issues. You need to prevent these objects from touching the coded key while starting the engine. These objects will not cause damage to the coded key, but may cause a momentary issue if they are too close to the key when starting the engine. If a problem occurs, turn the ignition off, remove all objects on the key chain away from the coded key and restart the engine.

### Theft indicator

The theft indicator is located in the instrument cluster.

• When the ignition is in the 2 (LOCK) position, the indicator will flash once every 2 seconds to indicate the SecuriLock® system is functioning as a theft deterrent.

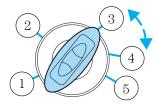
• When the ignition is in the 4 (ON) position, the indicator will glow for 3 seconds, then turn off to indicate normal system functionality.

If a problem occurs with the SecuriLock® system, the indicator will flash rapidly or glow steadily when the ignition is in the 4 (ON) position. If this occurs, the vehicle should be taken to an authorized dealer for service.

### **Automatic arming**

The vehicle is armed immediately after switching the ignition to the 3 (OFF) position.

The **THEFT** indicator will flash every two seconds when the vehicle is armed.



#### **Automatic disarming**

Switching the ignition to the 4 (ON) position with a **coded key** disarms the vehicle.

- The **THEFT** indicator will illuminate for three seconds and then go out.
- If the **THEFT** indicator stays on for an extended period of time or flashes rapidly, have the system serviced by your dealer.

### Replacement keys

If your keys are lost or stolen and you don't have an extra coded key, you will need to have your vehicle towed to a dealership. The key codes need to be erased from your vehicle and new coded keys will need to be programmed. Replacing coded keys can be very costly. Store an extra programmed key away from the vehicle in a safe place to help prevent any inconveniences. Please visit an authorized dealer to purchase additional spare or replacement keys.

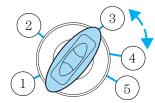
#### Programming spare keys

You can program your own coded keys to your vehicle. Please read and understand the entire procedure before you begin.

#### Tips:

- A maximum of eight keys can be coded to your vehicle.
- Only use Securilock<sup>®</sup> keys.
- You must have two previously programmed coded keys (keys that already operate your vehicle's engine) and the new unprogrammed key(s) readily accessible.

- If no previously programmed coded keys are available, you must take your vehicle to your dealer to have the spare key(s) programmed.
- 1. Insert a previously programmed coded key into the ignition.
- 2. Turn the ignition from the 3 (OFF) position to the 4 (ON) position. Keep the ignition in the 4 (ON) position for at least one second, but no more than 10 seconds.



- 3. Turn the ignition to the 3 (OFF) position, and remove the coded key from the ignition.
- 4. Within ten seconds of removing the previously programmed coded key, insert the other previously programmed coded key into the ignition.
- 5. Turn the ignition from the 3 (OFF) position to the 4 (ON) position. Keep the ignition in the 4 (ON) position for at least one second but not more than 10 seconds.
- 6. Turn the ignition to the 3 (OFF) position, and remove the second key from the ignition.
- 7. Within twenty seconds of removing the previously programmed coded key, insert the unprogrammed key (new/valet key) into the ignition.
- 8. Turn the ignition from the 3 (OFF) position to the 4 (ON) position. Keep the ignition in the 4 (ON) position for at least one second.
- 9. Your new unprogrammed key is now programmed.

If the key has been successfully programmed it will start the vehicle's engine and the theft indicator light will illuminate for three seconds and then go out. If the key was not successfully programmed, it will not start your vehicle's engine and the theft indicator light will flash on and off rapidly. If failure repeats, bring your vehicle to your dealer to have the new key(s) programmed.

To program additional new unprogrammed key(s), repeat this procedure from Step 1 for each additional key.

#### PERIMETER ALARM SYSTEM (IF EQUIPPED)

The perimeter anti-theft system will warn you in the event of an unauthorized entry to your vehicle.

If there is any potential perimeter anti-theft problem with your vehicle, ensure **ALL remote entry transmitters** are taken to the dealership to aid in troubleshooting.

#### Arming the system

When armed, this system will respond if unauthorized entry is attempted. When unauthorized entry occurs, the system will flash the headlamps and/or parking lamps and will sound the horn.

The system is ready to arm whenever key is removed from the ignition. Either of the following actions will prearm the alarm system:

- Press the **1** control on the remote entry transmitter.
- Press the 7 8 and the 9 0 on the keyless entry keypad (if equipped) at the same time.
- Open a door and press the power door lock control to lock all the doors.

**Note:** The hood, each door and the liftgate (wagon) arm individually, and if any of them are open, they must be closed in order to be armed.

When you press the **a** control on the remote entry transmitter twice within three seconds:

- the horn will chirp twice to indicate the hood, each door and the liftgate (wagon) are closed.
- the horn will chirp twice to indicate that either the hood, a door or the liftgate (wagon) is still open.

### Disarming the system

You can disarm the system by any of the following actions:

- Unlock the doors by pressing the **1** control on your remote entry transmitter.
- Unlock the doors by using the keyless entry pad.
- Unlock the doors with a key. Turn the key full travel (toward the front of the vehicle) to ensure the alarm disarms.
- Turn the ignition to the 4 (ON) position.
- Press the ) control on the remote entry transmitter. This will only shut the horn off when the alarm is sounding; the alarm system will still be armed.

#### Triggering the anti-theft system

The armed system will be triggered if:

- Any door, liftgate (wagon) or the hood is opened without using the key or the remote entry transmitter.
- The trunk key cylinder is forced.

#### **SEATING**

#### **Notes:**



Reclining the seatback can cause an occupant to slide under the seat's safety belt, resulting in severe personal injuries in the event of a collision.

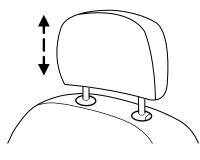


Do not pile cargo higher than the seatbacks to reduce the risk of injury in a collision or sudden stop.

### Adjustable head restraints (if equipped)

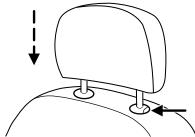
Head restraints help to limit head motion in the event of a rear collision. The seats in your vehicle may have adjustable head restraints. Adjust your head restraint so that it is located directly or as close as possible behind your head.

Raise the head restraint by pulling it upward.



To lower the head restraint:

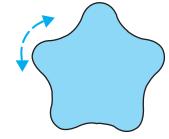
- Push the release control.
- Push down on the head restraint.



### Using the manual lumbar support (if equipped)

The lumbar control is located on the front of the seat cushion.

Turn to adjust lumbar support.



### Adjusting the front manual seat (if equipped)

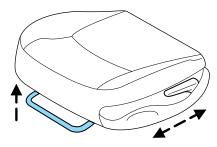


Never adjust the driver's seat or seatback when the vehicle is moving.  $\,$ 

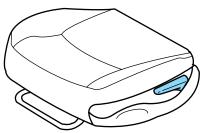


Always drive and ride with your seatback upright and the lap belt snug and low across the hips.

Lift handle to move seat forward or backward.



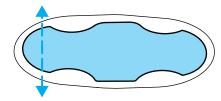
Pull lever up to adjust seatback.



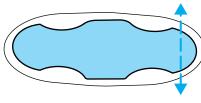
### Adjusting the front power seat (if equipped)

The control is located on the outboard side of the seat cushion.

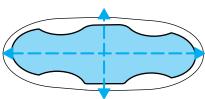
Press to raise or lower the front portion of the seat cushion.



Press to raise or lower the rear portion of the seat cushion.



Press the control to move the seat forward, backward, up or down.



#### **REAR SEATS**

### 2nd seat/Split-folding rear seat (if equipped)

Fold the seatback(s) down.



When raising the seatback(s), make sure you hear the seat latch into place.

89

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

Make sure that the safety belt for the rear center passenger is properly routed over the rear seatback.

### 3rd seat (if equipped) (wagon only)

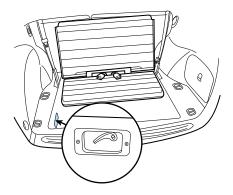
The third seat faces the rear of the vehicle. For height and weight limits, see the label on the seat cushion. When the seat is down, the back of your wagon has a flat surface for carrying cargo.

To open up the seat:

- 1. Unlock the floor panel with the key, then use the handle to fold the floor panel toward the front of the car.
- 2. Remove the cargo cover. The cargo cover must be removed or the seatback will not latch in the upright position.



3. Lift the remote latch release on the left side of the compartment and fold the remaining floor panel until it latches. Make sure the seatback is locked in the upright position.



To close the seat, make sure the safety belts are properly stowed, then lift the remote latch release and push the seat down until it latches. Pull up on the handle and push the floor panel into place.

#### **SAFETY RESTRAINTS**

#### Personal Safety System

The Personal Safety System provides an improved overall level of frontal crash protection to front seat occupants and is designed to help further reduce the risk of air bag-related injuries. The system is able to analyze different occupant classifications and conditions and crash severity before activating the appropriate safety devices to help better protect a range of occupants in a variety of frontal crash situations.

Your vehicle's Personal Safety System consists of:

- Driver and passenger dual-stage air bag supplemental restraints.
- Front safety belts with pretensioners, energy management retractors, and safety belt usage sensors.
- Driver's seat position sensor.
- Front crash severity sensor.
- Front passenger sensing system
- Passenger Air Bag Off indicator light.
- Restraints Control Module (RCM) with impact and safing sensors.
- Restraint system warning light and back-up tone.
- The electrical wiring for the air bags, crash sensor(s), safety belt pretensioners, front safety belt usage sensors, driver seat position sensor, and indicator lights.

### How does the personal safety system work?

The Personal Safety System can adapt the deployment strategy of your vehicle's safety devices according to crash severity and occupant classification and conditions. A collection of crash and occupant sensors provides information to the Restraints Control Module (RCM). During a crash, the RCM activates the safety belt pretensioners and/or either none, one, or both stages of the dual-stage air bag supplemental restraints based on crash severity and occupant classification and conditions.

The fact that the pretensioners or air bags did not activate for both front seat occupants in a collision does not mean that something is wrong with

the system. Rather, it means the Personal Safety System determined the accident conditions (crash severity, belt usage, etc.) were not appropriate to activate these safety devices. Front air bags and pretensioners are designed to activate only in frontal and near-frontal collisions, not rollovers, side-impacts, or rear-impacts unless the collision causes sufficient longitudinal deceleration.

#### Driver and passenger dual-stage air bag supplemental restraints

The dual-stage air bags offer the capability to tailor the level of air bag inflation energy. A lower, less forceful energy level is provided for more common, moderate-severity impacts. A higher energy level is used for the most severe impacts. Refer to *Air bag Supplemental Restraints* section in this chapter.

### Front crash severity sensor

The front crash severity sensor enhances the ability to detect the severity of an impact. Positioned up front, it provides valuable information early in the crash event on the severity of the impact. This allows your Personal Safety System to distinguish between different levels of crash severity and modify the deployment strategy of the dual-stage air bags and safety belt pretensioners.

#### Driver's seat position sensor

The driver's seat position sensor allows your Personal Safety System to tailor the deployment level of the driver dual-stage air bag based on seat position. The system is designed to help protect smaller drivers sitting close to the driver air bag by providing a lower air bag output level.

### Front passenger sensing system

For air bags to do their job they must inflate with great force, and this force can pose a potentially deadly risk to occupants that are very close to the air bag when it begins to inflate. For some occupants, like infants in rear-facing child seats, this occurs because they are initially sitting very close to the air bag. For other occupants, this occurs when the occupant is not properly restrained by seat belts or child safety seats and they move forward during pre-crash braking. The most effective way to reduce the risk of unnecessary injuries is to make sure all occupants are properly restrained. Accident statistics suggest that children are much safer when properly restrained in the rear seating positions than in the front.



Air bags can kill or injure a child in a child seat. **NEVER** place a rear-facing child seat in front of an active air bag. If you must use a forward-facing child seat in the front seat, move the seat all the way back.



Always transport children 12 years old and under in the back seat and always properly use appropriate child restraints.

The front passenger sensing system can automatically turn off the passenger front air bag. The system is designed to help protect small (child size) occupants from air bag deployments when they are improperly seated or restrained in the front passenger seat contrary to proper child-seating or restraint usage recommendations. Even with this technology, parents are **STRONGLY** encouraged to always properly restrain children in the rear seat. The sensor also turns off the air bag when the passenger seat is empty to prevent unnecessary replacement of the air bag(s) after a collision.

When the front passenger seat is occupied and the sensing system has turned off the passenger's frontal air bag, the "pass air bag off" indicator will light and stay lit to remind you that the front passenger frontal air bag is off. See Front passenger sensing system in the airbags section of this chapter.

#### Front safety belt usage sensors

The front safety belt usage sensors detect whether or not the driver and front outboard passenger safety belts are fastened. This information allows your Personal Safety System to tailor the air bag deployment and safety belt pretensioner activation depending upon safety belt usage. Refer to Safety Belt section in this chapter.

#### Front safety belt pretensioners

The safety belt pretensioners are designed to tighten the front outboard safety belts firmly against the occupant's body during a collision. This maximizes the effectiveness of the safety belts and helps properly position the occupant relative to the air bag to improve protection. The safety belt pretensioners can be either activated alone or, if the collision is of sufficient severity, together with the air bags.

### Front safety belt energy management retractors

The front outboard safety belt energy management retractors allow webbing to be pulled out of the retractor in a gradual and controlled

manner in response to the occupant's forward momentum. This helps reduce the risk of force-related injuries to the occupant's chest by limiting the load on the occupant. Refer to Safety Belt section in this chapter.

#### Determining if the Personal Safety System is operational

The Personal Safety System uses a warning light in the instrument cluster or a back-up tone to indicate the condition of the system. Refer to the Warning Light section in the Instrument Cluster chapter. Routine maintenance of the Personal Safety System is not required.

The Restraints Control Module (RCM) monitors its own internal circuits and the circuits for the air bag supplemental restraints, crash sensor(s), safety belt pretensioners, front safety belt buckle sensors, and the driver seat position sensor. In addition, the RCM also monitors the restraints warning light in the instrument cluster. A difficulty with the system is indicated by one or more of the following.

- The warning light will either flash or stay lit.
- The warning light will not illuminate immediately after ignition is turned on.
- A series of five beeps will be heard. The tone pattern will repeat periodically until the problem and warning light are repaired.

If any of these things happen, even intermittently, have the Personal Safety System serviced at your dealership or by a qualified technician immediately. Unless serviced, the system may not function properly in the event of a collision.

### Safety belt precautions



Always drive and ride with your seatback upright and the lap belt snug and low across the hips.



To reduce the risk of injury, make sure children sit where they can be properly restrained.



Never let a passenger hold a child on his or her lap while the vehicle is moving. The passenger cannot protect the child from injury in a collision.

All occupants of the vehicle, including the driver, should always properly wear their safety belts, even when an air bag supplemental restraint system (SRS) is provided.

It is extremely dangerous to ride in a cargo area, inside or outside of a vehicle. 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. Be sure everyone in your vehicle is in a seat and using a safety belt properly.



In a rollover crash, an unbelted person is significantly more likely to die than a person wearing a seat belt.

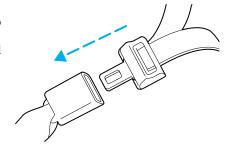
Each seating position in your vehicle has a specific safety belt assembly which is made up of one buckle and one tongue that are designed to be used as a pair. 1) Use the shoulder belt on the outside shoulder only. Never wear the shoulder belt under the arm. 2) Never swing the safety belt around your neck over the inside shoulder. 3) Never use a single belt for more than one person.



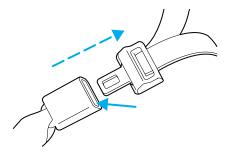
Always transport children 12 years old and under in the back seat and always properly use appropriate child restraints.

### Combination lap and shoulder belts

1. Insert the belt tongue into the proper buckle (the buckle closest to the direction the tongue is coming from) until you hear a snap and feel it latch. Make sure the tongue is securely fastened in the buckle.



2. To unfasten, push the release button and remove the tongue from the buckle.



### **Energy management retractors**

Your vehicle has a seat belt system equipped with energy management retractors at the driver and front outboard passenger seating positions.

An energy management retractor is a device which pays out webbing in a controlled manner. This feature is designed to help further reduce the risk of force-related injuries to the occupant.

Seat belt systems equipped with an energy management retractor must be replaced if they were in use during a frontal collision which resulted in deployment of the frontal air bags. Refer to the *Safety belt maintenance* section in this chapter.

#### Vehicle sensitive mode

This is the normal retractor mode, which allows free shoulder belt length adjustment to your movements and locking in response to vehicle movement. For example, if the driver brakes suddenly or turns a corner sharply, or the vehicle receives an impact of approximately 8 km/h (5 mph) or more, the combination safety belts will lock to help reduce forward movement of the driver and passengers.

#### Automatic locking mode

In this mode, the shoulder belt is automatically pre-locked. The belt will still retract to remove any slack in the shoulder belt. The automatic locking mode is not available on the driver safety belt.

This mode should be used **any time** a child safety seat is installed in the vehicle. Children 12 years old and under should be properly restrained in the rear seat whenever possible. Refer to *Safety restraints for children* or *Safety seats for children* later in this chapter.

### How to use the automatic locking mode

• Buckle the combination lap and shoulder belt.



• Grasp the shoulder portion and pull downward until the entire belt is pulled out.



• Allow the belt to retract. As the belt retracts, you will hear a clicking sound. This indicates the safety belt is now in the automatic locking mode

### How to disengage the automatic locking mode

Ford Motor Company recommends that all safety belt assemblies and attaching hardware should be inspected by a qualified technician after any collision. Safety belt assemblies not in use during a collision should also be inspected and replaced if either damage or improper operation is noted.

Disconnect the combination lap/shoulder belt and allow it to retract completely to disengage the automatic locking mode and activate the vehicle sensitive (emergency) locking mode.

After any vehicle collision, the seat belt system at all outboard seating positions (except driver, which has no "automatic locking retractor" feature) must be checked by a qualified technician to verify that the "automatic locking retractor" feature for child seats is still functioning properly. In addition, all seat belts should be checked for proper function.

BELT AND RETRACTOR ASSEMBLY MUST BE REPLACED if the seat belt assembly "automatic locking retractor" feature or any other seat belt function is not operating properly when checked according to the procedures in Workshop Manual.



Failure to replace the Belt and Retractor assembly could increase the risk of injury in collisions.

### Safety belt pretensioner

Your vehicle is equipped with safety belt pretensioners at the driver and front outboard passenger seating positions.

The safety belt pretensioners are designed to activate when the safety belt is fastened during certain frontal or near-frontal collisions, or in certain side collisions that result in side airbag activation (if the vehicle is equipped with side airbags). A safety belt pretensioner is a device which tightens the webbing of the lap and shoulder belts in such a way that they fit more snugly against the body.

When the front airbags are activated, the safety belt pretensioners for the driver and right front passenger seating positions will be activated when the respective safety belt is properly buckled. If a side airbag is activated, the safety belt pretensioner for that seating position will be activated if the seat belt is properly buckled.

The driver and front outboard passenger safety belt system (including retractors, buckles and height adjusters) must be replaced if the vehicle is involved in a collision that results in the activation of the safety belt pretensioners. Refer to the *Safety belt maintenance* section in this chapter.

The driver and the right front passenger seat belt system (including retractors, buckles and height adjusters) must be replaced if the vehicle is involved in a collision that results in deployment of front air bags or side airbags and safety belt pretensioners.

#### Safety belt usage sensors

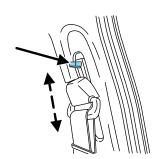
The driver and front outboard passenger safety belt buckles are equipped with sensors that detect if the safety belts are fastened. The sensors provide information to the Personal Safety System which can then adapt the air bag deployment or safety belt pretensioner activation based upon safety belt usage.

The Personal Safety System provides the most benefit to belted occupants. The system monitors and tailors the air bag deployment based upon safety belt usage. Failure to properly wear your safety belt will increase your risk of injury.

### Front safety belt height adjustment

Your vehicle has safety belt height adjustments for the driver and front passenger. Adjust the height of the shoulder belt so the belt rests across the middle of your shoulder.

To lower the shoulder belt height, pull the control down and slide the height adjuster down. To raise the height of the shoulder belt, slide the height adjuster up. To raise the height of the shoulder belt from



its lowest position, pull the control down and slide the height adjuster up. Pull down on the height adjuster to make sure it is locked in place.

Position the safety belt height adjusters so that the belt rests across the middle of your shoulder. Failure to adjust the safety belt properly could reduce the effectiveness of the seat belt and increase the risk of injury in a collision.

#### Lap belts

#### Adjusting the center front lap belt

The center front lap belt does not adjust automatically.

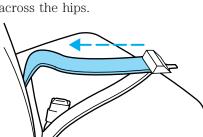


The lap belt should fit snugly and as low as possible around the hips, not across the waist.

Insert the tongue into the correct buckle (the buckle closest to the direction the tongue is coming from). To lengthen the belt, turn the tongue at a right angle to the belt and pull across your lap until it reaches the buckle. To tighten the belt, pull the loose end of the belt

through the tongue until it fits snugly across the hips.

Shorten and fasten the belt when not in use.



#### Safety belts for rear-facing occupants (wagon only)



Never use child safety seats in the third seat of a wagon.

Your vehicle is equipped with safety belts containing an adjust tongue at the rear-facing seating positions.

When the adjust tongue of the lap/shoulder combination seat belt is latched into the buckle, the tongue will allow the lap portion to become shorter, but locks the webbing in place to restrict it from becoming longer.

Before you reach and latch a combination lap and shoulder belt having an adjust tongue into the buckle, you may have to lengthen the lap belt portion of it. To lengthen the lap belt, pull some webbing out of the shoulder belt retractor. While holding the webbing below the tongue, grasp the tongue so that it is parallel to the webbing and slide the tongue upward. Provide enough length so that the tongue can reach the buckle.

100

**2004 Taurus** (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) **USA English** (fus)

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 tongue into the proper buckle for your seating position until you hear a snap and feel it latch. Make sure the tongue is securely fastened to the buckle by pulling on the tongue.



The lap belt should fit snugly and as low as possible around the hips, not across the waist.



Front and rear seat occupants, including pregnant women, should wear safety belts for optimum protection in an accident.

Each seating position in your vehicle has a specific safety belt assembly which is made up of one buckle and one tongue that are designed to be used as a pair. 1) Use the shoulder belt on the outside shoulder only. Never wear the shoulder belt under the arm. 2) Never swing the safety belt around your neck over the inside shoulder. 3) Never use a single belt for more than one person.

Due to folding rear seats, sometimes the buckles and tongues toward the center of the vehicle may be hidden by the rear edge of the seat cushion. Pull them out so they will be accessible.

While you are fastened in the seat belt, the shoulder belt adjusts to your movement. However, if you brake hard, turn hard or your vehicle receives an impact of 8 km/h (5 mph) or more, the safety belt will become locked and help reduce your forward movement.

To unfasten the belt, push the red release button on the end of the buckle. This allows the tongue to unlatch from the buckle. While the belt retracts, guide the tongue to its original position to prevent it from striking you or the vehicle.

### Safety belt warning light and indicator chime Å

The safety belt warning light illuminates in the instrument cluster and a chime sounds to remind the occupants to fasten their safety belts.

### Conditions of operation

If	Then
The driver's safety belt is not	The safety belt warning light
buckled before the ignition	illuminates 1-2 minutes and the
switch is turned to the ON	warning chime sounds 4-8 seconds.
position	
The driver's safety belt is	The safety belt warning light and
buckled while the indicator	warning chime turn off.
light is illuminated and the	
warning chime is sounding	
The driver's safety belt is	The safety belt warning light and
buckled before the ignition	indicator chime remain off.
switch is turned to the ON	
position	

#### BeltMinder

The BeltMinder feature is a supplemental warning to the safety belt warning function. This feature provides additional reminders by intermittently sounding a chime and illuminating the safety belt warning lamp in the instrument cluster when the driver's and front passenger's safety belt is unbuckled.

The BeltMinder feature uses information from the passenger occupant classification sensor to determine if a front seat passenger is present and therefore potentially in need of a warning. To avoid activating the BeltMinder feature for objects placed in the front passenger seat, warnings will only be given to large front seat occupants as determined by the passenger occupant classification sensor.

Both the driver's and passenger's safety belt usages are monitored and either may activate the BeltMinder feature. The warnings are the same for the driver and the front passenger. If the BeltMinder warnings have expired (warnings for approximately 5 minutes) for one occupant (driver or front passenger), the other occupant can still activate the BeltMinder feature.

If	Then
The driver's and front passenger's safety belts are buckled before the ignition switch is turned to the ON position or less than 1-2 minutes have elapsed since the ignition switch has been turned ON	The BeltMinder feature will not activate.
The driver's or front passenger's safety belt is not buckled when the vehicle has reached at least 5 km/h (3 mph) and 1-2 minutes have elapsed since the ignition switch has been turned to ON	The BeltMinder feature is activated - the safety belt warning light illuminates and the warning chime sounds for 6 seconds every 30 seconds, repeating for approximately 5 minutes or until the safety belts are buckled.
The driver's or front passenger's safety belt becomes unbuckled for approximately 1 minute while the vehicle is traveling at least 5 km/h (3 mph) and more than 1-2 minutes have elapsed since the ignition switch has been turned to ON	The BeltMinder feature is activated - the safety belt warning light illuminates and the warning chime sounds for 6 seconds every 30 seconds, repeating for approximately 5 minutes or until the safety belts are buckled.

The following are reasons most often given for not wearing safety belts: (All statistics based on U.S. data)  $\frac{1}{2}$ 

Reasons given	Consider
"Crashes are rare events"	36700 crashes occur every day. The more we drive, the more we are exposed to "rare" events, even for good drivers. 1 in 4 of us will be seriously injured in a crash during our lifetime.
"I'm not going far"	<ul><li>3 of 4 fatal crashes occur within</li><li>25 miles of home.</li></ul>

Reasons given	Consider
"Belts are uncomfortable"	We design our safety belts to enhance comfort. If you are uncomfortable - try different positions for the safety belt upper anchorage and seatback which should be as upright as possible; this can improve comfort.
"I was in a hurry"	Prime time for an accident. BeltMinder reminds us to take a few seconds to buckle up.
"Safety belts don't work"	Safety belts, when used properly, reduce risk of death to front seat occupants by 45% in cars, and by 60% in light trucks.
"Traffic is light"	Nearly 1 of 2 deaths occur in single-vehicle crashes, many when no other vehicles are around.
"Belts wrinkle my clothes"	Possibly, but a serious crash can do much more than wrinkle your clothes, particularly if you are unbelted.
"The people I'm with don't wear belts"	Set the example, teen deaths occur 4 times more often in vehicles with TWO or MORE people. Children and younger brothers/sisters imitate behavior they see.
"I have an air bag"	Air bags offer greater protection when used with safety belts. Frontal airbags are not designed to inflate in rear and side crashes or rollovers.
"I'd rather be thrown clear"	Not a good idea. <b>People</b> who are <b>ejected are 40 times more likely to DIE.</b> Safety belts help prevent ejection, WE CAN'T "PICK OUR CRASH".

Do not sit on top of a buckled safety belt to avoid the Belt Minder chime. Sitting on the safety belt will increase the risk of injury in an accident. To disable (one-time) or deactivate the Belt Minder feature please follow the directions stated below.

#### One time disable

If at any time the driver/front passenger quickly buckles then unbuckles the BeltMinder feature for that seating position, the BeltMinder is disabled for the current ignition cycle. The BeltMinder feature will re-enable during the same ignition cycle if the occupant buckles and remains buckled for approximately 30 seconds. Confirmation is not given for the one time disable.

### Deactivating/activating the BeltMinder feature

The driver and front passenger BeltMinder are deactivated/activated independently. When deactivating/activating one seating position, do not buckle the other position as this will terminate the process.

Read steps 1 - 4 thoroughly before proceeding with the deactivation/activation programming procedure.

The driver and front passenger BeltMinder features can be deactivated/activated by performing the following procedure:

Before following the procedure, make sure that:

- The parking brake is set
- The gearshift is in P (Park) (automatic transmission)
- The ignition switch is in the OFF position
- The driver and front passenger safety belts are unbuckled



To reduce the risk of injury, do not deactivate/activate the Belt Minder feature while driving the vehicle.

- 1. Turn the ignition switch to the RUN (or ON) position. (DO NOT START THE ENGINE)  $\,$
- 2. Wait until the safety belt warning light turns off. (Approximately 1 minute)
- Step 3 must be completed within 50 seconds after the safety belt warning light turns off.

- 3. For the seating position being disabled, buckle then unbuckle the safety belt 9 times, ending in the unbuckled state. (Step 3 must be completed within 50 seconds after the safety belt warning light turns off.)
- After step 3, the restraint system warning light (airbag light) will be turned on for three seconds.
- 4. Within 10 seconds of the light turning on, buckle then unbuckle the safety belt.
- This will disable the BeltMinder feature for that seating position if it is currently enabled. As confirmation, the restraint system warning light will flash 4 times per second for 3 seconds.
- This will enable the BeltMinder feature for that seating position if it is currently disabled. As confirmation, the restraint system warning light will flash 4 times per second for 3 seconds, followed by 3 seconds with the light off, then followed by the restraint system warning light flashing 4 times per second for 3 seconds again.

### Safety belt extension assembly

If the safety belt is too short when fully extended, there is a 20 cm (8 inch) safety belt extension assembly that can be added (part number 611C22). This assembly can be obtained from your dealer at no cost.

Use only extensions manufactured by the same supplier as the safety belt. Manufacturer identification is located at the end of the webbing on the label. Also, use the safety belt extension only if the safety belt is too short for you when fully extended.



Do not use extensions to change the fit of the shoulder belt across the torso.

#### Safety belt maintenance

Inspect the safety belt systems periodically to make sure they work properly and are not damaged. Inspect the safety belts to make sure there are no nicks, tears or cuts. Replace if necessary. All safety belt assemblies, including retractors, buckles, front seat belt buckle assemblies, buckle support assemblies (slide bar-if equipped), shoulder belt height adjusters (if equipped), shoulder belt guide on seatback (if equipped), child safety seat LATCH and tether anchors, and attaching hardware, should be inspected after a collision. Ford Motor Company recommends that all safety belt assemblies in use in vehicles involved in a collision be replaced. However, if the collision was minor and a

qualified technician finds that the belts do not show damage and continue to operate properly, they do not need to be replaced. Safety belt assemblies not in use during a collision should also be inspected and replaced if either damage or improper operation is noted.

Failure to inspect and if necessary replace the safety belt assembly under the above conditions could result in severe personal injuries in the event of a collision.

Refer to *Interior* in the *Cleaning* chapter.

#### AIR BAG SUPPLEMENTAL RESTRAINT SYSTEM (SRS)



The air bag supplemental restraint system (SRS) is designed to work in conjunction with the safety belts to help protect the driver and front outboard passenger from certain upper body injuries. The term "supplemental restraint" means the air bags are intended as a supplement to the safety belts. Air bags alone cannot protect as well as air bags plus safety belts in impacts for which the air bags are designed to deploy, and air bags do not offer any protection in crashes for which they do not deploy.

The air bag supplemental restraint system consists of:

- driver and passenger dual stage air bag modules (which include the inflators and air bags).
- side air bags (if equipped). Refer to *Side air bag system* later in this chapter.
- one or more impact and safing sensors.
- the same indicator light, RCM (restraints control module) and diagnostic unit used for the Personal safety system.
- Occupant Classification Sensor (OCS)

107

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

• Passenger air bag off indicator light.

The air bag supplemental restraints are an integral part of the Personal Safety System. They are designed to be deployed in cases where the Personal Safety System has determined the occupant conditions and crash severity are appropriate to activate these devices. Refer to the Personal Safety System section in this chapter.

### Important supplemental restraint system precautions

Air bags DO NOT inflate slowly or gently and the risk of injury from a deploying air bag is greatest close to the trim covering the air bag module.



All occupants of the vehicle, including the driver, should always properly wear their safety belts, even when an air bag supplemental restraint system (SRS) is provided.



Always transport children 12 years old and under in the back seat and always properly use appropriate child restraints.

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) recommends a minimum distance of at least 25 cm (10 inches) between an occupant's chest and the driver air bag module.



Never place your arm over the air bag module as a deploying air bag can result in serious arm fractures or other injuries.

Steps you can take to properly position yourself away from the airbag:

• Move your seat to the rear as far as you can while still reaching the pedals comfortably.

• Recline the seat slightly (one or two degrees) from the upright position.

Do not put anything on or over the air bag module. Placing objects on or over the air bag inflation area may cause those objects to be propelled by the air bag into your face and torso causing serious injury.

Do not attempt to service, repair, or modify the air bag supplemental restraint system (SRS) or its fuses. See your Ford or Lincoln Mercury dealer.



The front passenger air bag is not designed to offer protection to an occupant in the center front seating position.

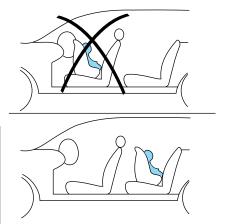
Modifying or adding equipment to the front end of the vehicle (including frame, bumper, front end body structure and tow hooks) may affect the performance of the air bag system, increasing the risk of injury. Do not modify the front end of the vehicle.

#### Children and air bags

Children must always be properly restrained. Accident statistics suggest that children are safer when properly restrained in the rear seating positions than in the front seating position. Failure to follow these instructions may increase the risk of injury in a collision.

Air bags can kill or injure a child in a child seat.

NEVER place a rear-facing child seat in front of an active air bag. If you must use a forward-facing child seat in the front seat, move the seat all the way back.



#### How do the air bag supplemental restraints work?

The air bags inflate and deflate rapidly upon activation. After air bag deployment, it is normal to notice a smoke-like, powdery residue or smell the burnt propellant. This may consist of cornstarch, talcum powder (to lubricate the bag) or sodium compounds (e.g., baking soda) that result from the combustion process that inflates the air bag. Small amounts of sodium hydroxide may be present which may irritate the skin and eyes, but none of the residue is toxic.



While the system is designed to help reduce serious injuries, contact with

a deploying air bag may also cause abrasions, swelling or temporary hearing loss. Because air bags must inflate rapidly and with considerable force, there is the risk of death or serious injuries such as fractures, facial and eye injuries or internal injuries, particularly to occupants who are not properly restrained or are otherwise out of position at the time of air bag deployment. Thus, it is extremely important that occupants be properly restrained as far away from the air bag module as possible while maintaining vehicle control.



Several air bag system components get hot after inflation. Do not touch them after inflation.

If the air bag has deployed, **the air bag will not function again and must be replaced immediately.** If the air bag is not replaced, the unrepaired area will increase the risk of injury in a collision.

#### Front passenger sensing system

The front passenger sensing system will turn off the front passenger's frontal airbag under certain conditions. For side airbag equipped vehicles, the front passenger sensing system will turn off the passenger seat side airbag if the seat is empty (unless for some reason the seat belt is properly buckled). The front passenger sensing system works with

sensors that are part of the front passenger's seat and safety belt. The sensors are designed to detect the presence of a properly-seated occupant and determine if the front passenger's frontal airbag should be enabled (may inflate) or not.

The front passenger sensing system is designed to meet the regulatory requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 208 and is designed to turn off the front passenger's frontal airbag if:

- the front passenger seat is unoccupied,
- the system determines that an infant is present in a rear-facing infant seat that is properly installed according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- the system determines that a small child is present in a forward-facing child restraint that is properly installed according to the manufacturer's instructions,
- the system determines that a small child is present in a booster seat,
- a front passenger takes his/her weight off of the seat for a period of time,
- the front passenger seat is occupied by a smaller person, such as a child who has outgrown child restraints or a very small person,



Even with the front passenger sensing system, children 12 and under should be properly restrained in the back seat.

When the front passenger seat is occupied and the sensing system has turned off the passenger's frontal airbag, the "passenger airbag off" or "pass airbag off" indicator will light and stay lit to remind you that



the front passenger frontal airbag is off. When the front passenger seat is not occupied (empty seat) or in the event that the front passenger frontal airbag is enabled (may inflate), the indicator light will be unlit.

The indicator light is located next to the climate controls on the bottom right corner of the center stack of the instrument panel.

The front passenger sensing system is designed to turn off the front passenger's frontal airbag when a rear facing infant seat, a forward-facing child restraint, or a booster seat is detected. If the child restraint has been installed and the indicator is not lit, then turn the vehicle off, remove the child restraint from the vehicle and reinstall the restraint following the child restraint manufacturer's directions.

The front passenger sensing system is designed to enable (may inflate) the right front passenger's frontal airbag anytime the system senses that a person of adult size is sitting properly in the front passenger seat. When the passenger sensing system has allowed the airbag to be enabled, the indicator will be unlit and stay unlit to remind you that the airbag is enabled (may inflate).

If a person of adult-size is sitting in the front passenger's seat, but the "passenger airbag off" or "pass airbag off" indicator is lit, it could be that the person isn't sitting properly in the seat. If this happens, turn the vehicle off and ask the person to place the seatback in the full upright position, then sit upright in the seat, centered on the seat cushion, with the person's legs comfortably extended. Restart the vehicle and have the person remain in this position for about two minutes. This will allow the system to detect that person and then enable the passenger's airbag. If the indicator lamp remains lit even after this, then the occupant should be advised to ride in the back seat.

After all occupants have adjusted their seats and put on seatbelts, it's very important that they continue to sit upright with their back against the seatback, with their feet comfortably extended on the floor while the vehicle is still in motion. Sitting improperly can increase the chance of injury in a crash event. For example, if an occupant slouches, lies down, turns sideways, sits forward, leans forward or sideways, or puts one or both feet up, the chance of injury during a crash is greatly increased.

Sitting improperly out of position or with the seat back reclined too far can take off weight from the seat cushion and affect the decision of the passenger sensing system, resulting in serious injury or death in a crash. Always sit upright against your seatback, with your feet on the floor.

In case there is a problem with the passenger sensing system, the airbag readiness light in the instrument cluster will stay lit. DO NOT attempt to repair or service the system; take your vehicle immediately to the dealer.



The front passenger airbag is not designed to offer protection to an occupant in the center seating position.



An out of position front center occupant could affect the decision of the front passenger sensing system.

If it is necessary to modify an advanced front airbag system to accommodate a person with disabilities, contact the Ford Customer Relationship Center at the phone number shown in the Customer Assistance section of this Owners Guide.

#### Determining if the system is operational

The supplemental restraint system uses a warning indicator in the instrument cluster or a back-up tone to indicate the condition of the system. Refer to the *Warning light* section in the *Instrument cluster* chapter. Routine maintenance of the air bag is not required.

A difficulty with the system is indicated by one or more of the following:

• The readiness light (same light for front and side air bag system) will either flash or stay lit.



- The readiness light will not illuminate immediately after ignition is turned on.
- A series of five beeps will be heard. The tone pattern will repeat periodically until the problem and/or light are repaired.

If any of these things happen, even intermittently, have the supplemental restraint system serviced at your dealership or by a qualified technician immediately. Unless serviced, the system may not function properly in the event of a collision.

# Side air bag system (if equipped)

Do not place objects or mount equipment on or near the air bag cover on the side of the seatbacks of the front seats or in front seat areas that may come into contact with a deploying air bag. Failure to follow these instructions may increase the risk of personal injury in the event of a collision.

Do not use accessory seat covers. The use of accessory seat covers may prevent the deployment of the side air bags and increase the risk of injury in an accident.



Do not lean your head on the door. The side air bag could injure you as it deploys from the side of the seatback.



Do not attempt to service, repair, or modify the air bag SRS, its fuses or the seat cover on a seat containing an air bag. See your Ford or Lincoln Mercury dealer.



All occupants of the vehicle should always wear their safety belts even when an air bag SRS is provided.

#### How does the side air bag system work?

The side air bag system consists of the following:

- An inflatable nylon bag (air bag) with a gas generator concealed behind the outboard bolster of the driver and front passenger seatbacks.
- A special seat cover designed to allow air bag deployment.
- The same warning light, electronic control and diagnostic unit as used for the front air bags.
- Two crash sensors located on the pillars between the front and rear

Side air bags, in combination with seat belts, can help reduce the risk of severe injuries in the event of a significant side impact collision.

The side air bags are fitted on the outboard side of the seatbacks of the front seats. In certain lateral collisions, the air bag on the side affected by the collision will be inflated, even if the respective seat is not occupied. The air bag was designed to inflate between the door panel and occupant to further enhance the protection provided occupants in side impact collisions.

The air bag SRS is designed to activate when the vehicle sustains lateral deceleration sufficient to cause the sensors to close an electrical circuit that initiates air bag inflation.

The fact that the air bags did not inflate in a collision does not mean that something is wrong with the system. Rather, it means the forces were

114

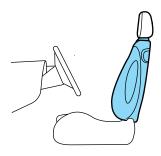
2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) **USA English** (fus)

not of the type sufficient to cause activation. Side air bags are designed to inflate in side-impact collisions, not roll-over, rear-impact, frontal or near-frontal collisions, unless the collision causes sufficient lateral deceleration.



Several air bag system components get hot after inflation. Do not touch them after inflation.

If the side air bag has deployed, the air bag will not function again. The side air bag system (including the seat) must be inspected and serviced by a qualified technician in accordance with the vehicle service manual. If the air bag is not replaced, the unrepaired area will increase the risk of injury in a collision.



#### Disposal of air bags and air bag equipped vehicles

For disposal of air bags or air bag equipped vehicles, see your local dealership or qualified technician. Air bags MUST BE disposed of by qualified personnel.

#### SAFETY RESTRAINTS FOR CHILDREN

See the following sections for directions on how to properly use safety restraints for children. Also see *Air bag supplemental restraint system (SRS)* in this chapter for special instructions about using air bags.

#### Important child restraint precautions

You are required by law to use safety restraints for children in the U.S. and Canada. If small children (generally children who are four years old or younger and who weigh 18 kg [40 lbs] or less) ride in your vehicle, you must put them in safety seats made especially for children. Many states require that children use approved booster seats until they are eight years old. Check your local and state or provincial laws for specific requirements regarding the safety of children in your vehicle. When possible, always place children under age 12 in the rear seat of your vehicle. Accident statistics suggest that children are safer when properly restrained in the rear seating positions than in the front seating position.



Never let a passenger hold a child on his or her lap while the vehicle is moving. The passenger cannot protect the child from injury in a collision.

Always follow the instructions and warnings that come with any infant or child restraint you might use.

#### Children and safety belts

If the child is the proper size, restrain the child in a safety seat. Children who are too large for child safety seats (as specified by your child safety seat manufacturer) should always wear safety belts.

Follow all the important safety restraint and air bag precautions that apply to adult passengers in your vehicle.

If the shoulder belt portion of a combination lap and shoulder belt can be positioned so it does not cross or rest in front of the child's face or neck, the child should wear the lap and shoulder belt. Moving the child closer to the center of the vehicle may help provide a good shoulder belt



Do not leave children, unreliable adults, or pets unattended in vour vehicle.

#### Child booster seats

Children outgrow a typical convertible or toddler seat when they weigh 40 pounds and are around 4 years of age. Although the lap/shoulder belt will provide some protection, these children are still too small for lap/shoulder belts to fit properly, which could increase the risk of serious injury.

To improve the fit of both the lap and shoulder belt on children who have outgrown child safety seats, Ford Motor Company recommends use of a belt-positioning booster.

Booster seats position a child so that safety belts fit better. They lift the child up so that the lap belt rests low across the hips and the knees bend comfortably. Booster seats also make the shoulder belt fit better and more comfortably for growing children.

#### When children should use booster seats

Children need to use booster seats from the time they outgrow the toddler seat until they are big enough for the vehicle seat and lap/shoulder belt to fit properly. Generally this is when they weigh about 80 lbs (about 8 to 12 years old).

116

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) **USA English** (fus)

Booster seats should be used until you can answer YES to ALL of these questions:

 Can the child sit all the way back against the vehicle seat back with knees bent comfortably at the edge of the seat without slouching?



- Does the lap belt rest low across the hips?
- Is the shoulder belt centered on the shoulder and chest?
- Can the child stay seated like this for the whole trip?

#### Types of booster seats

There are two types of belt-positioning booster seats:

• Those that are backless.

If your backless booster seat has a removable shield, remove the shield and use the lap/shoulder belt. If a seating position has a low seat back and no head restraint, a backless booster seat may place your child's head (top of ear level) above the top of the seat. In this case, move the backless booster to another



seating position with a higher seat back and lap/shoulder belts.

Those with a high back.

If, with a backless booster seat, you cannot find a seating position that adequately supports your child's head, a high back booster seat would be a better choice.



Both can be used in any vehicle in a seating position equipped with lap/shoulder belts if your child is over 40 lbs.

The shoulder belt should cross the chest, resting snugly on the center of the shoulder. The lap belt should rest low and snug across the hips, never up high across the stomach.

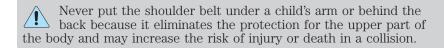
If the booster seat slides on the vehicle seat, placing a rubberized mesh sold as shelf or carpet liner under the booster seat may improve this condition.

#### The importance of shoulder belts

Using a booster without a shoulder belt increases the risk of a child's head hitting a hard surface in a collision. For this reason, you should never use a booster seat with a lap belt only. It is best to use a booster seat with lap/shoulder belts in the back seat- the safest place for children to ride.



Follow all instructions provided by the manufacturer of the booster seat.



Never use pillows, books, or towels to boost a child. They can slide around and increase the likelihood of injury or death in a collision.

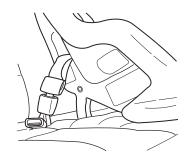
#### SAFETY SEATS FOR CHILDREN

#### Child and infant or child safety seats

Use a safety seat that is recommended for the size and weight of the child. Carefully follow all of the manufacturer's instructions with the safety seat you put in your vehicle. If you do not install and use the safety seat properly, the child may be injured in a sudden stop or collision.

When installing a child safety seat:

- Review and follow the information presented in the *Air Bag Supplemental Restraint System* section in this chapter.
- Use the correct safety belt buckle for that seating position.
- Insert the belt tongue into the proper buckle until you hear a snap and feel it latch. Make sure the tongue is securely fastened in the buckle.



- Keep the buckle release button pointing up and away from the safety seat, with the tongue between the child seat and the release button, to prevent accidental unbuckling.
- Place seat back in upright position.
- Put the safety belt in the automatic locking mode. Refer to *Automatic locking mode*.
- LATCH lower anchors are recommended for use by children up to 22 kg (48 pounds) in a child restraint. Top tether anchors can be used for children up to 27 kg (60 pounds) in a child restraint, and to provide upper torso restraint for children up to 36 kg (80 pounds) using an upper torso harness and a belt-positioning booster.

Ford recommends the use of a child safety seat having a top tether strap. Install the child safety seat in a seating position with LATCH and tether anchors. For more information on top tether straps and anchors, refer to *Attaching safety seats with tether straps* in this chapter. For more information of LATCH anchors refer to *Attaching safety seats with LATCH (Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children) attachments* in this chapter.

Carefully follow all of the manufacturer's instructions included with the safety seat you put in your vehicle. If you do not install and use the safety seat properly, the child may be injured in a sudden stop or collision.



Rear-facing child seats or infant carriers should never be placed in the front seats.

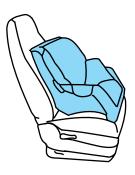
# Installing child safety seats with combination lap and shoulder

Air bags can kill or injure a child in a child seat. **NEVER** place a rear-facing child seat in front of an active air bag. If you must use a forward-facing child seat in the front seat, move the seat all the way back.



Children 12 and under should be properly restrained in the rear seat whenever possible.

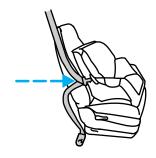
1. Position the child safety seat in a seat with a combination lap and shoulder belt.



2. Pull down on the shoulder belt and then grasp the shoulder belt and lap belt together.



3. While holding the shoulder and lap belt portions together, route the tongue through the child seat according to the child seat manufacturer's instructions. Be sure the belt webbing is not twisted.



4. Insert the belt tongue into the proper buckle (the buckle closest to the direction the tongue is coming from) for that seating position until you hear a snap and feel the latch engage. Make sure the tongue is latched securely by pulling on it.



5. To put the retractor in the automatic locking mode, grasp the shoulder portion of the belt and pull downward until all of the belt is pulled out and a click is heard.



6. Allow the belt to retract. The belt will click as it retracts to indicate it is in the automatic locking mode.

7. Pull the lap belt portion across the child seat toward the buckle and pull up on the shoulder belt while pushing down with your knee on the child seat.



- 8. Allow the safety belt to retract to remove any slack in the belt.
- 9. Before placing the child in the seat, forcibly move the seat forward and back to make sure the seat is securely held in place. To check this, grab the seat at the belt path and attempt to move it side to side and forward. There should be no more than one inch of movement for proper installation.



10. Try to pull the belt out of the retractor to make sure the retractor is in the automatic locking mode (you should not be able to pull more belt out). If the retractor is not locked, unbuckle the belt and repeat steps two through nine.

Check to make sure the child seat is properly secured before each use.

#### Installing child safety seats in the lap belt seating positions

- 1. Lengthen the lap belt. To lengthen the belt, hold the tongue so that its bottom is perpendicular to the direction of webbing while sliding the tongue up the webbing.
- 2. Place the child safety seat in the center seating position.
- 3. Route the tongue and webbing through the child seat according to the child seat manufacturer's instructions.
- 4. Insert the belt tongue into the proper buckle for the center seating position until you hear a snap and feel it latch. Make sure the tongue is securely fastened to the buckle by pulling on tongue.

- 5. Push down on the child seat while pulling on the loose end of the lap belt webbing to tighten the belt.
- 6. Before placing the child into the child seat, forcibly tilt the child seat from side to side and in forward direction to make sure that the seat is securely held in place. To check this, grab the seat at the belt path and attempt to move it side to side and forward and back. There should be no more than one inch of movement for proper installation.

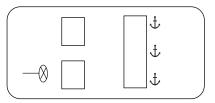
### Attaching child safety seats with tether straps .

Most new forward-facing child safety seats include a tether strap which goes over the back of the seat and hooks to an anchoring point. Tether straps are available as an accessory for many older safety seats. Contact the manufacturer of your child seat for information about ordering a tether strap.

The rear seats of your vehicle are equipped with built-in tether strap anchors located behind the seats as described below.

The tether anchors in your vehicle are located under a cover marked with the tether anchor symbol (shown with title).

The tether strap anchors in your vehicle are in the following positions (shown from top view):



Attach the tether strap only to the appropriate tether anchor as shown. The tether strap may not work properly if attached somewhere other than the correct tether anchor.

- 1. Position the child safety seat on the seat cushion.
- 2. Route the child safety seat tether strap over the back of the seat.

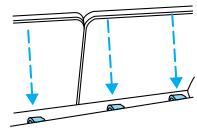
For vehicles with adjustable head restraints, route the tether strap under the head restraint and between the head restraint posts, otherwise route the tether strap over the top of the seatback.

3. Locate the correct anchor for the selected seating position.

• Sedan



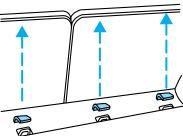
• Wagon



4. Open the tether anchor cover.



On wagons, snap the tether anchor cover off the anchor under the load floor.



- 5. Clip the tether strap to the anchor as shown.
- Sedan



• Wagon



Î

If the tether strap is clipped incorrectly, the child safety seat may not be retained properly in the event of a collision.

- 6. Install the child safety seat tightly using the LATCH anchors or safety belts. Follow the instructions in this chapter.
- 7. Tighten the child safety seat tether strap according to the manufacturer's instructions.



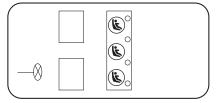
If the safety seat is not anchored properly, the risk of a child being injured in a collision greatly increases.

# Attaching safety seats with LATCH (Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children) attachments for child seat anchors

Some child safety seats have two rigid or webbing mounted attachments that connect to two anchors at certain seating positions in your vehicle. This type of child seat eliminates the need to use seat belts to attach the child seat. For forward-facing child seats, the tether strap must also be attached to the proper tether anchor. See *Attaching safety seats with tether straps* in this chapter.

Your vehicle has LATCH anchors for child seat installation at the seating positions marked with the child seat symbol.

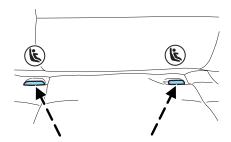
All the LATCH lower anchors are equally spaced, so that a single LATCH child seat can be installed at any rear seating position. If two child safety seats are installed using the LATCH lower anchors, they must be placed in the outboard seating positions only.



If three child safety seats are installed, use the LATCH lower anchors for the center child safety seat; however, you must use child safety seats with lap/shoulder belts and tether anchors for the outboard child seats.

Never attach two LATCH child safety seats to the same anchor. In a crash, one anchor may not be strong enough to hold two child safety seat attachments and may break, causing serious injury or death.

The lower anchors for child seat installation are located at the rear section of the rear seat between the cushion and seat back. The LATCH anchors are below the locator symbols on the seat back.



Follow the child seat manufacturer's instructions to properly install a child seat with LATCH attachments.



Attach LATCH lower attachments of the child seat only to the anchors shown.

If you install a child seat with rigid LATCH attachments, do not tighten the tether strap enough to lift the child seat off the vehicle seat cushion when the child is seated in it. Keep the tether strap just snug without lifting the front of the child seat. Keeping the child seat just touching the vehicle seat gives the best protection in a severe crash.

Each time you use the safety seat, check that the seat is properly attached to the lower anchors and tether anchor. Try to tilt the child seat from side to side. Also try to tug the seat forward. Check to see if the anchors hold the seat in place.



If the safety seat is not anchored properly, the risk of a child being injured in a crash greatly increases.

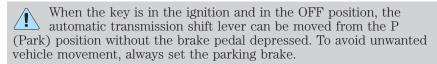
#### **STARTING**

#### Positions of the ignition

- 1. ACCESSORY, allows the electrical accessories such as the radio to operate while the engine is not running.
- 2. LOCK, locks the automatic transmission gearshift lever and allows key removal.
- 3. OFF, shuts off the engine without locking the steering wheel. This position also allows the automatic

transmission shift lever to be moved from the P (Park) position without the brake pedal being depressed.

2



- 4. ON, all electrical circuits operational. Warning lights illuminated with engine off. Key position when driving.
- 5. START, cranks the engine. Release the key as soon as the engine starts.

#### Preparing to start your vehicle

Engine starting is controlled by the powertrain control system. This system meets all Canadian Interference-Causing Equipment standard requirements regulating the impulse electrical field strength of radio noise.

When starting a fuel-injected engine, don't press the accelerator before or during starting. Only use the accelerator when you have difficulty starting the engine. For more information on starting the vehicle, refer to *Starting the engine* in this chapter.

Extended idling at high engine speeds can produce very high temperatures in the engine and exhaust system, creating the risk of fire or other damage.

Do not park, idle, or drive your vehicle in dry grass or other dry ground cover. The emission system heats up the engine compartment and exhaust system, which can start a fire.

Do not start your vehicle in a closed garage or in other enclosed areas. Exhaust fumes can be toxic. Always open the garage door before you start the engine. See *Guarding against exhaust fumes* in this chapter for more instructions.

If you smell exhaust fumes inside your vehicle, have your dealer inspect your vehicle immediately. Do not drive if you smell exhaust fumes.

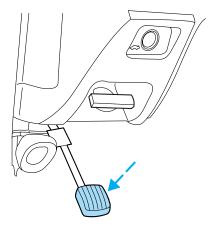
#### Important safety precautions

A computer system controls the engine's idle revolutions per minute (RPM). When the engine starts, the idle RPM runs higher than normal in order to warm the engine. If the engine idle speed does not slow down automatically, have the vehicle checked. Do not allow the vehicle to idle for more than 10 minutes at the higher engine RPM.

Before starting the vehicle:

1. Make sure all occupants buckle their safety belts. For more information on safety belts and their proper usage, refer to the *Seating and Safety Restraints* chapter.

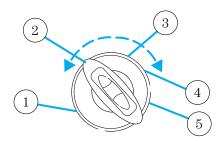
- 2. Make sure the headlamps and electrical accessories are off.
- Make sure the parking brake is set.



• Make sure the gearshift is in P (Park).



• Turn the key to 4 (ON) without turning the key to 5 (START).



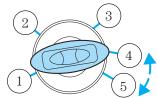


Make sure the corresponding lights illuminate or illuminate briefly. If a light fails to illuminate, have the vehicle serviced.

• If the driver's safety belt is fastened, the Å light may not illuminate.

#### Starting the engine

- 1. Turn the key to 4 (ON) without turning the key to 5(START).
- 2. Turn the key to 5 (START), then release the key as soon as the engine starts. Excessive cranking could damage the starter.



**Note:** If the engine does not start within five seconds on the first try, turn the key to OFF, wait 10 seconds and try again. If the engine still fails to start, press the accelerator to the floor and try again; this will allow the engine to crank with the fuel shut off in case the engine is flooded with fuel.

#### Cold weather starting (flexible fuel vehicles only)

In cold weather, ethanol fuel distributors should supply winter grade ( $\rm E_{\rm d}85$ ) ethanol. If summer grade ( $\rm E_{\rm d}85$ ) ethanol is used in cold weather, you may experience increased cranking times, rough idle or hesitation until the engine has warmed up. Consult your fuel distributor for the availability of winter grade ( $\rm E_{\rm d}85$ ) ethanol. High-quality blends of winter grade ( $\rm E_{\rm d}85$ ) ethanol will produce satisfactory cold weather starting and driving results.

Cold starting performance can also be improved by using an engine block heater. Engine block heaters are available as an option and can be obtained from your Ford dealer. Consult the engine block heater section for proper use of the engine block heater.

If you experience cold weather starting problems on  $(E_d85)$  ethanol, and neither an alternative brand of  $(E_d85)$  ethanol nor an engine block heater is available, adding unleaded gasoline to your tank will improve cold starting performance. Your vehicle is designed to operate on  $(E_d85)$  ethanol, unleaded gasoline alone, or any mixture of the two.

# If the engine fails to start using the preceding instructions (flexible fuel vehicles only)

- 1. Press and hold down the accelerator 1/3 to 1/2 way to floor, then crank the engine.
- 2. When the engine starts, release the key, then gradually release the accelerator pedal as the engine speeds up. If the engine still fails to start, repeat Step 1.

## Using the engine block heater (if equipped)

An engine block heater warms the engine coolant which aids in starting and heater/defroster performance. Use of an engine block heater is strongly recommended if you live in a region where temperatures reach -23° C (-10° F) or below. For best results, plug the heater in at least three hours before starting the vehicle. The heater can be plugged in the night before starting the vehicle.

To reduce the risk of electrical shock, do not use your heater with ungrounded electrical systems or two-pronged (cheater) adapters.

#### Guarding against exhaust fumes

Carbon monoxide is present in exhaust fumes. Take precautions to avoid its dangerous effects.

If you smell exhaust fumes inside your vehicle, have your dealer inspect your vehicle immediately. Do not drive if you smell exhaust fumes.

#### Important ventilating information

If the engine is idling while the vehicle is stopped for a long period of time, open the windows at least 2.5 cm (one inch) or adjust the heating or air conditioning to bring in fresh air.

#### **BRAKES**

Your service brakes are self-adjusting. Refer to the Scheduled Maintenance Guide for maintenance recommendations.

Occasional brake noise is normal and often does not indicate a performance concern with the vehicle's brake system. In normal operation, automotive brake systems may emit occasional or intermittent squeal or groan noises when the brakes are applied. Such noises are usually heard during the first few brake applications in the morning; however, they may be heard at any time while braking and can be aggravated by environmental conditions such as cold, heat, moisture, road dust, salt or mud. If a "metal-to-metal," "continuous grinding" or "continuous squeal" sound is present while braking, the brake linings may be worn-out and should be inspected by a qualified service technician.

If the vehicle has continuous vibration or shudder in the steering wheel while braking, the vehicle should be inspected by a qualified service technician.

132

**2004 Taurus** (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) **USA English** (fus)

Refer to *Brake system warning light* in the *Instrument Cluster* chapter for information on the brake system warning light.



#### Four-wheel anti-lock brake system (ABS) (if equipped)

On vehicles equipped with an anti-lock braking system (ABS), a noise from the hydraulic pump motor and pulsation in the pedal may be observed during ABS braking events. Pedal pulsation coupled with noise while braking under panic conditions or on loose gravel, bumps, wet or snowy roads is normal and indicates proper functioning of the vehicle's anti-lock brake system. The ABS performs a self-check after you start the engine and begin to drive away. A brief mechanical noise may be heard during this test. This is normal. If a malfunction is found, the ABS warning light will come on.

The ABS operates by detecting the onset of wheel lockup during brake applications and compensates for this tendency. The wheels are prevented from locking even when the brakes are firmly applied.

#### Using ABS

- In an emergency or when maximum efficiency from the four-wheel ABS is required, apply continuous force on the brake. The four wheel ABS will be activated immediately, thus allowing you to retain steering control of your vehicle and, providing there is sufficient space, will enable you to avoid obstacles and bring the vehicle to a controlled stop.
- The anti-lock system does not reduce stopping distance. Always leave enough room between your vehicle and the vehicle in front of you to stop.
- We recommend that you familiarize yourself with this braking technique. However, avoid taking any unnecessary risks.

### ABS warning lamp

The ABS lamp in the instrument cluster momentarily illuminates when the ignition is turned on. If the light does not illuminate during start up, remains on or flashes, the ABS may be disabled and may need to be serviced.



Even when the ABS is disabled, normal braking is still effective. (If your BRAKE warning lamp illuminates with the parking brake released, have your brake system serviced immediately.)



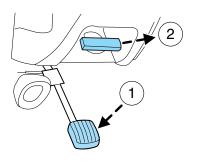
#### Parking brake

To set the parking brake (1), press the parking brake pedal down until the pedal stops.

To release, pull the lever (2).

Always set the parking brake fully and make sure that the gearshift is securely latched in P (Park).

The BRAKE warning lamp will illuminate and will remain





illuminated until the parking brake is released.

The parking brake is not recommended to stop a moving vehicle. However, if the normal brakes fail, the parking brake can be used to stop your vehicle in an emergency. Since the parking brake applies only the rear brakes, the vehicle's stopping distance will increase greatly and the handling of your vehicle will be adversely affected.

#### Park brake warning chime

Sounds when the parking brake is set, the engine is running, the vehicle speed is greater than 5 km/h (3 mph), and the transaxle is not in P (Park) or N (Neutral). The chime will shut off when the parking brake is disengaged.

#### TRACTION CONTROL® (IF EQUIPPED)

Your vehicle may be equipped with a Traction Control<sup>®</sup> system. This system helps you maintain the stability and steerability of your vehicle, especially on slippery road surfaces such as snow- or ice-covered roads and gravel roads. The system will allow your vehicle to make better use of available traction in these conditions.

134

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) **USA English** (fus)

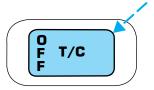
During Traction Control<sup>®</sup> operation, the traction control active light will illuminate, you may hear an electric motor type of sound coming from the engine compartment and the



engine will not "rev-up" when you push further on the accelerator. This is normal system behavior and should be no reason for concern.

Aggressive driving in any road conditions can cause you to lose control of your vehicle increasing the risk of severe personal injury or property damage. The occurrence of a Traction Control® event is an indication that at least some of the tires have exceeded their ability to grip the road; this may lead to an increased risk of loss of vehicle control, vehicle rollover, personal injury and death. If you experience a severe road event, SLOW DOWN.

The Traction Control® switch, located on the right-hand side of the instrument cluster, has an indicator light that illuminates when the system is off. The Traction Control® system will automatically turn on every time the ignition is turned off



and on. The Traction Control® system should normally be left on.

If you should become stuck in snow or ice or on a very slippery road surface, try switching the Traction Control<sup>®</sup> system off. This may allow excess wheel spin to "dig" the vehicle out and enable a successful "rocking" maneuver.

If a system fault is detected, the traction control active light will illuminate, the Traction Control<sup>®</sup> button will not turn the system on or off and your vehicle should be serviced.

#### **STEERING**

To prevent damage to the power steering system, never hold the steering wheel at its furthest turning points (until it stops) for more than a few seconds when the engine is running.

It is also important to maintain a proper power steering fluid level in the power steering fluid reservoir:

• Do not operate the vehicle with a low power steering pump fluid level (below the MIN mark on the reservoir).

- Some noise is normal during operation. If the noise is excessive, check for low power steering pump fluid level before seeking service by your dealer
- Heavy or uneven steering efforts may be caused by low power steering pump fluid level. Check for low power steering pump fluid level before seeking service by your dealer.
- Do not fill the power steering pump reservoir above the MAX mark on the reservoir, as this may result in leaks from the reservoir.

If the power steering system breaks down (or if the engine is turned off), you can steer the vehicle manually, but it takes more effort.

If the steering wanders or pulls, check for:

- an improperly inflated tire
- uneven tire wear
- loose or worn suspension components
- loose or worn steering components
- improper steering alignment

#### **AUTOMATIC TRANSAXLE OPERATION**

#### Brake-shift interlock

This vehicle is equipped with a brake-shift interlock feature that prevents the gearshift lever from being moved from P (Park) when the ignition is in the ON position unless brake pedal is depressed.

If you cannot move the gearshift lever out of P (Park) with ignition in the ON position and the brake pedal depressed:

- 1. Apply the parking brake, turn ignition key to LOCK, then remove the key.
- 2. Insert the key and turn it to OFF. Apply the brake pedal and shift to N (Neutral).

When the key is in the ignition and in the OFF position, the automatic transmission shift lever can be moved from the P (Park) position without the brake pedal depressed. To avoid unwanted vehicle movement, always set the parking brake.

3. Start the vehicle.

If it is necessary to use the above procedure to move the gearshift lever, it is possible that a fuse has blown or the vehicle's brakelamps are not operating properly. Refer to *Fuses and relays* in the *Roadside Emergencies* chapter.



Do not drive your vehicle until you verify that the brakelamps are working.

Always set the parking brake fully and make sure the gearshift is latched in P (Park). Turn the ignition to the LOCK position and remove the key whenever you leave your vehicle.

If the parking brake is fully released, but the brake warning lamp remains illuminated, the brakes may not be working properly. See your dealer or a qualified service technician.

#### Driving with an automatic overdrive transaxle

Your automatic overdrive transaxle provides fully automatic operation in either **()** (Overdrive) or D (Drive). Driving with the gearshift lever in (Overdrive) gives the best fuel economy for normal driving conditions. For manual control, start in 1 (First) and then shift manually.



If your vehicle is equipped with a console-mounted gearshift lever, you must press the thumb button on the side of the gearshift lever to move the gearshift lever from P (Park).

To put your vehicle in gear, start the engine, depress the brake pedal, then move the gearshift lever out of P (Park).



Hold the brake pedal down while you move the gearshift lever from P (Park) to another position. If you do not hold the brake pedal down, your vehicle may move unexpectedly and injure someone.

# Understanding the gearshift positions of the 4-speed automatic transaxle



This vehicle is equipped with an adaptive Transmission Shift Strategy. Adaptive Shift strategy offers the optimal transmission operation and shift quality. When the vehicle's battery has been disconnected for any type of service or repair, the transmission will need to relearn the normal shift strategy parameters, much like having to reset your radio stations when your vehicle battery has been disconnected. The Adaptive Transmission Strategy allows the transmission to relearn these operating parameters. This learning process could take several transmission upshifts and downshifts; during this learning process, slightly firmer shifts may occur. After this learning process, normal shift feel and shift scheduling will resume.

#### P (Park)

This position locks the transaxle and prevents the front wheels from turning.

To put your vehicle in gear:

- Start the engine
- Depress the brake pedal
- Move the gearshift lever into the desired gear

138

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

To put your vehicle in P (Park):

- Come to a complete stop
- Move the gearshift lever and securely latch it in P (Park)

Always set the parking brake fully and make sure the gearshift is latched in P (Park). Turn the ignition to the LOCK position and remove the key whenever you leave your vehicle.

#### R (Reverse)

With the gearshift lever in R (Reverse), the vehicle will move backward. Always come to a complete stop before shifting into and out of R (Reverse).

#### N (Neutral)

With the gearshift lever in N (Neutral), the vehicle can be started and is free to roll. Hold the brake pedal down while in this position.

# (Overdrive)

The normal driving position for the best fuel economy. The transaxle operates in gears one through four.

#### D (Drive)

- This position allows for all forward gears except overdrive.
- Provides more engine braking than **()** (Overdrive).
- Use when driving conditions cause excessive shifting from O/D to other gears. Examples: city traffic, hilly terrain, heavy loads, trailer towing and when engine braking is required.

#### 1 (First)

- Provides maximum engine braking.
- Allows upshifts by moving gearshift lever.
- Will not downshift into 1 (First) at high speeds; allows for 1 (First) when vehicle reaches slower speeds.

When parking, do not use the gearshift in place of the parking brake. Always set the parking brake fully and make sure that the gearshift is securely latched in Park (P). Turn off the ignition whenever you leave your vehicle. Never leave your vehicle unattended while it is running. If you do not take these precautions, your vehicle may move unexpectedly and injure someone.

### If your vehicle gets stuck in mud or snow

If your vehicle gets stuck in mud or snow, it may be rocked out by shifting from forward and reverse gears, stopping between shifts in a steady pattern. Press lightly on the accelerator in each gear.

If necessary, try turning the Traction Control<sup>®</sup> system off. This will allow the wheels to spin, which may help to free your stuck vehicle. For more information, refer to  $Traction\ Control^{®}\ (if\ equipped)$  in this chapter.

Do not rock the vehicle if the engine is not at normal operating temperature or damage to the transmission may occur.

Do not rock the vehicle for more than a minute or damage to the transmission and tires may occur, or the engine may overheat.

#### DRIVING THROUGH WATER

If driving through deep or standing water is unavoidable, proceed very slowly especially if the depth is not known. Never drive through water that is higher than the bottom of the hubs (for trucks) or the bottom of the wheel rims (for cars). Traction or brake capability may be limited and your vehicle may stall. Water may also enter your engine's air intake and severely damage your engine.

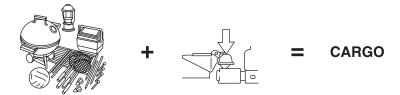
Once through the water, always dry the brakes by moving your vehicle slowly while applying light pressure on the brake pedal. Wet brakes do not stop the vehicle as quickly as dry brakes. **Driving through deep water where the transmission vent tube is submerged may allow water into the transmission and cause internal transmission damage.** 

#### **VEHICLE LOADING - WITH AND WITHOUT A TRAILER**

This section will guide you in the proper loading of your vehicle and/or trailer, to keep your loaded vehicle weight within its design rating capability, with or without a trailer. Properly loading your vehicle will provide maximum return of vehicle design performance. Before loading your vehicle, familiarize yourself with the following terms for determining your vehicle's weight ratings, with or without a trailer, from the vehicle's Safety Certification Label and Tire Label:

**Base Curb Weight** – is the weight of the vehicle including a full tank of fuel and all standard equipment. It does not include passengers, cargo, or optional equipment.

**Vehicle Curb Weight** – is the weight of your new vehicle when you picked it up from your dealer plus any aftermarket equipment.



**Cargo Weight** – includes all weight added to the Base Curb Weight, including cargo and optional equipment. When towing, trailer tongue load or king pin weight is also part of cargo weight.

**GAW (Gross Axle Weight)** – is the total weight placed on each axle (front and rear) – including vehicle curb weight and all payload.

GAWR (Gross Axle Weight Rating) – is the maximum allowable weight that can be carried by a single axle (front or rear). These numbers are shown on the Safety Compliance Certification Label located on the driver's door or door pillar. The total load on each axle must never exceed its GAWR.

Exceeding the Safety Certification Label axle weight rating limits could result in substandard vehicle handling, performance, engine, transmission and/or structural damage, serious damage to the vehicle, loss of control and personal injury.

**Note:** For trailer towing information refer to *Trailer towing* found in this chapter or the *RV and Trailer Towing Guide* provided by your dealership.



 $\mbox{\bf GVW (Gross Vehicle Weight)}$  – is the Vehicle Curb Weight + cargo + passengers.

GVWR (Gross Vehicle Weight Rating) – is the maximum allowable weight of the fully loaded vehicle (including all options, equipment, passengers and cargo). The GVWR is shown on the Safety Compliance Certification Label located on the driver's door or door pillar. The GVW must never exceed the GVWR.



Exceeding the Safety Certification Label axle weight rating limits could result in substandard vehicle handling, performance, engine, transmission and/or structural damage, serious damage to the vehicle, loss of control and personal injury.



**GCW** (**Gross Combined Weight**) – is the weight of the loaded vehicle (GVW) plus the weight of the fully loaded trailer.

GCWR (Gross Combined Weight Rating) – is the maximum allowable weight of the vehicle and the loaded trailer – including all cargo and passengers – that the vehicle can handle without risking damage. (Important: The towing vehicle's braking system is rated for operation at GVWR, not at GCWR. Separate functional brakes should be used for safe control of towed vehicles and for trailers where the GCW of the towing vehicle plus the trailer exceed the GVWR of the towing vehicle. The GCW must never exceed the GCWR.

**Maximum Loaded Trailer Weight** – is the highest possible weight of a fully loaded trailer the vehicle can tow. It assumes a vehicle with only mandatory options, no cargo (internal or external), a tongue load of 10–15% (conventional trailer) or king pin weight of 15–25% (fifth wheel trailer), and driver only (68 kg [150 lbs]). **Consult your dealership (or the** *RV and Trailer Towing Guide* **provided by your dealership) for more detailed information.** 

**Tongue Load or Fifth Wheel King Pin Weight** – refers to the amount of the weight that a trailer pushes down on a trailer hitch.

**Examples:** For a 2268 kg (5000 lbs.) conventional trailer, multiply 5000 by 0.10 and 0.15 to obtain a proper tongue load range of 227 to 340 kg (500 to 750 lbs.). For an 5216 kg (11,500 lbs.) fifth wheel trailer, multiply by 0.15 and 0.25 to obtain a proper king pin load range of 782 to 1304 kg (1,725 to 2,875 lbs.)



Do not exceed the GVWR or the GAWR specified on the certification label.

Do not use replacement tires with lower load carrying capacities than the originals because they may lower the vehicle's GVWR and GAWR limitations. Replacement tires with a higher limit than the originals do not increase the GVWR and GAWR limitations.



Exceeding any vehicle weight rating limitation could result in serious damage to the vehicle and/or personal injury.

#### TRAILER TOWING

Your vehicle is classified as a light duty towing vehicle. The amount of weight you can safely tow depends on the type of engine you have in your vehicle. Your vehicle does not come from the factory fully equipped to tow. No towing packages are available through Ford or Mercury/Lincoln dealers. Do not tow a trailer until your vehicle has been driven at least 800 km (500 miles). If towing with a station wagon, inflate the rear tires to 35 psi.

Towing a trailer places an additional load on your vehicle's engine, transaxle, brakes, tires and suspension. Inspect these components carefully after towing.

In order to identify your vehicle's engine, refer to *Identifying* components in the engine compartment in the Maintenance and specifications chapter.

The amount of weight that you can tow depends on the type of engine in your vehicle. See the following charts:

3.0L 2-Valve Vulcan Engine				
Model	Passenger Load	000	Max Trailer	
	- #/kg (lbs.)	kg (lbs.)	Wt kg (lbs.)	
Sedan	5/340 (750)	0	365 (800)	
	4/270 (600)	70 (150)	365 (800)	
	2/135 (300)	70 (150)	500 (1100)	
	2/135 (300)	0	565 (1250)	
Wagon	4/270 (600)	0	365 (800)	
	2/135 (300)	70 (150)	430 (950)	
	2/135 (300)	0	500 (1100)	

The above chart is based on the specified vehicle at a maximum GCW (Vehicle weight + Trailer weight) equal to 2,245 kg (4,950 lbs.).

3.0L 4-Valve Duratec Engine				
Model	Passenger Load	Luggage Load -	Max Trailer	
	- #/kg (lbs.)	kg (lbs.)	Wt kg (lbs.)	
Sedan	5/340 (750)	0	590 (1300)	
	2/135 (300)	70 (150)	725 (1600)	
	2/135 (300)	0	795 (1750)	
Wagon	5/340 (750)	70 (150)	455 (1000)	
	2/135 (300)	70 (150)	660 (1450)	
	2/135 (300)	0	725 (1600)	

The above chart is based on the specified vehicle at a maximum GCW (Vehicle weight + Trailer weight) equal to 2,470 kg (5,450 lbs.).



Do not exceed the GVWR or the GAWR specified on the certification label.

Towing trailers beyond the maximum recommended gross trailer weight exceeds the limit of the vehicle and could result in engine damage, transaxle damage, structural damage, loss of control, and personal injury.

### **Driving**

#### Preparing to tow

Use the proper equipment for towing a trailer and make sure it is properly attached to your vehicle. See your dealer or a reliable trailer dealer if you require assistance.

#### **Hitches**

Do not use hitches that clamp onto the vehicle bumper. Use a load carrying hitch. You must distribute the load in your trailer so that 10–15% of the total weight of the trailer is on the tongue.

#### Safety chains

Always connect the trailer's safety chains to the frame or hook retainers of the vehicle hitch. To connect the trailer's safety chains, cross the chains under the trailer tongue and allow slack for turning corners.

If you use a rental trailer, follow the instructions that the rental agency gives to you.

#### Do not attach safety chains to the bumper.

#### **Trailer brakes**

Electric brakes and manual, automatic or surge-type trailer brakes are safe if installed properly and adjusted to the manufacturer's specifications. The trailer brakes must meet local and Federal regulations.



Do not connect a trailer's hydraulic brake system directly to your vehicle's brake system. Your vehicle may not have enough braking power and your chances of having a collision greatly increase.

The braking system of the tow vehicle is rated for operation at the GVWR not GCWR.

#### **Trailer lamps**

Trailer lamps are required on most towed vehicles. Make sure all running lights, brake lights, turn signals and hazard lights are working. See your dealer or trailer rental agency for proper instructions and equipment for hooking up trailer lamps.

### **Driving**

#### Driving while you tow

When towing a trailer:

- Turn off the speed control. The speed control may shut off automatically when you are towing on long, steep grades.
- Consult your local motor vehicle speed regulations for towing a trailer.
- To eliminate excessive shifting, use a lower gear. This will also assist in transaxle cooling.
- Anticipate stops and brake gradually.

#### Servicing after towing

If you tow a trailer for long distances, your vehicle will require more frequent service intervals. Refer to your Scheduled Maintenance Guide for more information.

#### **Trailer towing tips**

- Practice turning, stopping and backing up before starting on a trip to get the feel of the vehicle trailer combination. When turning, make wider turns so the trailer wheels will clear curbs and other obstacles.
- Allow more distance for stopping with a trailer attached.
- If you are driving down a long or steep hill, shift to a lower gear. Do not apply the brakes continuously, as they may overheat and become less effective.
- The trailer tongue weight should be 10–15% of the loaded trailer weight.
- After you have traveled 80 km (50 miles), thoroughly check your hitch, electrical connections and trailer wheel lug nuts.
- To aid in engine/transmission cooling and A/C efficiency during hot weather while stopped in traffic, place the gearshift lever in P (Park).
- Vehicles with trailers should not be parked on a grade. If you must park on a grade, place wheel chocks under the trailer's wheels.

#### **RECREATIONAL TOWING**

Follow these guidelines for your specific powertrain combination to tow your vehicle with all four wheels on the ground (such as behind a recreational vehicle).

These guidelines are designed to ensure that your transmission is not damaged due to insufficient lubrication.

## **Driving**

#### All Front Wheel Drive (FWD) vehicles:

It is not recommended to tow front wheel drive vehicles with the front drive wheels on the ground. It is recommended to tow your vehicle with the drive wheels on a dolly or two wheel car hauling trailer.

In case of a roadside emergency with a disabled vehicle (without access to wheel dollies, car hauling trailer or flatbed transport vehicle) your vehicle can be flat towed (all wheels on the ground) under the following conditions:

- Place the transmission in N (Neutral).
- Maximum speed is 56 km/h (35 mph).
- Maximum distance is 80 km (50 miles).

#### **GETTING ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE**

To fully assist you should you have a vehicle concern, Ford Motor Company offers a complimentary roadside assistance program. This program is separate from the New Vehicle Limited Warranty. The service is available:

- 24-hours, seven days a week
- for the New Vehicle Limited Warranty period of three years or 60,000 km (36,000 miles), whichever occurs first on Ford and Mercury vehicles, and four years or 80,000 km (50,000 miles) on Lincoln vehicles.

Roadside assistance will cover:

- changing a flat tire
- jump-starts
- lock-out assistance
- limited fuel delivery
- towing of your disabled vehicle to the nearest Ford Motor Company dealership, or your selling dealer if within 56.3 km (35 miles) of the nearest Ford Motor Company dealership (one tow per disablement). Even non-warranty related tows, like accidents or getting stuck in the mud or snow, are covered (some exclusions apply, such as impound towing or repossession).

# Canadian customers refer to your Owner Information Guide for information on:

- coverage period
- exact fuel amounts
- towing of your disabled vehicle
- emergency travel expense reimbursement
- travel planning benefits

#### **USING ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE**

Complete the roadside assistance identification card and place it in your wallet for quick reference. In the United States, this card is found in the Owner Guide portfolio in the glove compartment in Ford vehicles and is mailed to you if you own a Mercury or Lincoln. In Canada, the card is found in the Owner Information Guide in the glove compartment.

U.S. Ford or Mercury vehicle customers who require roadside assistance, call 1–800–241–3673; Lincoln vehicle customers call 1–800–521–4140.

Canadian customers who require roadside assistance, call 1–800–665–2006.

If you need to arrange roadside assistance for yourself, Ford Motor Company will reimburse a reasonable amount. To obtain reimbursement information, U.S. Ford or Mercury vehicles customers call 1-800-521-4140.

Canadian customers who need to obtain reimbursement information, call 1–800–665–2006.

#### **ROADSIDE COVERAGE BEYOND BASIC WARRANTY**

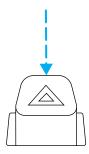
In the United States, you may purchase additional roadside assistance coverage beyond this period through the Ford Auto Club by contacting your Ford or Lincoln Mercury dealer.

Similarly in Canada, for uninterrupted Roadside Assistance coverage, you may purchase extended coverage prior to your Basic Warranty's Roadside Assistance expiring. For more information and enrollment, contact 1–877–294–2582 or visit our website at www.ford.ca.

### HAZARD FLASHER 🛕

The hazard flasher is located on the steering column, just behind the steering wheel. The hazard flashers will operate when the ignition is in any position or if the key is not in the ignition.

Push in the flasher control and all front and rear direction signals will flash. Press the flasher control again to turn them off. Use it when your vehicle is disabled and is creating a safety hazard for other motorists.



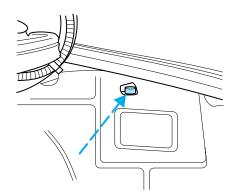
Note: With extended use, the flasher may run down your battery.

### FUEL PUMP SHUT-OFF SWITCH FUEL RESET

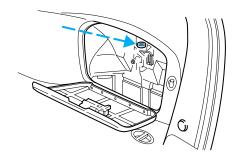
The fuel pump shut-off switch is a device intended to stop the electric fuel pump when your vehicle has been involved in a substantial jolt.

After a collision, if the engine cranks but does not start, the fuel pump shut-off switch may have been activated.

If your vehicle is a sedan, the fuel pump shut-off switch is located on the right side of the trunk behind the trunk liner.



If your vehicle is a wagon, the fuel pump shut-off switch is located behind the service panel on the right side of the cargo area.



Use the following procedure to reset the fuel pump shut-off switch.

- 1. Turn the ignition to the OFF position.
- 2. Check the fuel system for leaks.
- $3.\$ If no fuel leak is apparent, reset the fuel pump shut-off switch by pushing in on the reset button.
- 4. Turn the ignition to the ON position. Pause for a few seconds and return the key to the OFF position.
- 5. Make a further check for leaks in the fuel system.

150

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

#### **FUSES**

If electrical components in the vehicle are not working, a fuse may have blown. Blown fuses are identified by a broken wire within the fuse. Check the appropriate fuses before replacing any electrical components.



**Note:** Always replace a fuse with one that has the specified amperage rating. Using a fuse with a higher amperage rating can cause severe wire damage and could start a fire.

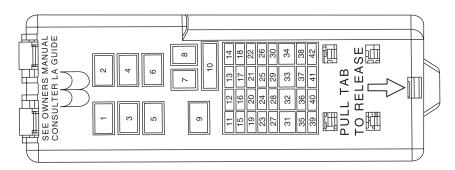
### Standard fuse amperage rating and color

COLOR					
Fuse rating	Mini fuses	Standard fuses	Maxi fuses	Cartridge Maxi fuses	Fuse link cartridge
2A	Grey	Grey		_	_
3A	Violet	Violet		_	_
4A	Pink	Pink		_	_
5A	Tan	Tan	_	_	_
7.5A	Brown	Brown	_	_	_
10A	Red	Red	_	_	_
15A	Blue	Blue	_	_	_
20A	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Blue	Blue
25A	Natural	Natural	_	_	_
30A	Green	Green	Green	Pink	Pink
40A	_	_	Amber	Green	Green
50A			Red	Red	Red
60A	_	_	Blue	_	Yellow
70A			Tan		Brown
80A	_	_	Natural	_	Black

#### Passenger compartment fuse panel

The fuse panel is located below and to the left of the steering wheel by the brake pedal. Remove the panel cover to access the fuses.

To remove a fuse use the fuse puller tool provided on the fuse panel cover.



The fuses are coded as follows.

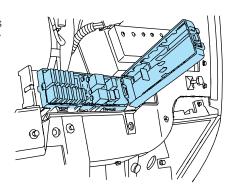
Fuse/relay location	Fuse amp rating	Passenger compartment fuse panel description
1		Accessory delay relay
2		Driver one touch down relay
3	_	Blower motor relay
4	_	Flasher relay
5	_	Not used
6	_	Not used
7	20A	Rear defrost grid feed (wagon only)/Rear defrost relay coil feed (sedan only)
8	40A	Blower motor
9	_	Rear defrost relay
10	30A CB	Power seats, Delayed accessory, Adjustable pedals
11	10A	Right headlamp
12	15A	Highbeam headlamps
13	_	Not used
14		Not used
15	10A	Left headlamp
16	10A	Not used (spare)

Fuse/relay	Fuse amp	Passenger compartment fuse panel	
location	rating	description	
17	15A	Stop lamp, Speed control deactivation switch	
18	15A	Parklamps, PWM (backlighting), Autolamps	
19	10A	Heated mirrors, Rear defrost switch indicator	
20	10A	Restraints (air bag module/OCS module)	
21	15A	Transmission range sensor (transmission position switch)	
22	15A	Front washer pump, Electrochromatic mirror, Compass, Cluster (RUN/ACC), Integrated Control Panel (ICP) logic, Rear wiper (wagon only), Rear washer (wagon only)	
23	30A	Front wiper motor	
24	_	Not used	
25	20A	Power point	
26	20A	Power locks, Liftgate (wagon)/Trunk (sedan) release	
27	10A	Anti-lock Brake System (ABS), Speed control, Traction control, Brake-shift interlock, A/C function switch (manual A/C only), Temperature blend door (manual A/C only), Defrost coil	
28	15A	Turn signals, Back-up lamps	
29	20A	Cigar lighter	
30	10A	Courtesy lighting, Battery saver, Power mirrors, Decklid lamp, Power antenna (wagon only), Pulse stretching module (wagon only)	
31	10A	Blower motor relay coil, Puddle lamp relay coil, Electronic Automatic Temperature Control (EATC) logic	

Fuse/relay location	Fuse amp rating	Passenger compartment fuse panel description
32	10A	Cluster, Flex fuel module, ICP logic, Passive anti-theft module (GEM power)
33	15A	Hazard flasher, Cluster power, ICP power, EATC
34	5A	GEM logic
35	10A	Backlighting
36	2A	Powertrain Control Module (PCM) relay, Fuel pump relay, A/C clutch
37	25A	Autolamp, Daytime Running Lamps (DRL), Flash-to-pass, Headlamp switch
38	15A	Horn, Diagnostic connector (OBD II)
39	_	Not used
40	_	Not used
41	_	Not used
42	_	Not used
CB - Circuit Brea	aker	

#### Power distribution box

The power distribution box is located in the engine compartment. The power distribution box contains high-current fuses that protect your vehicle's main electrical systems from overloads.

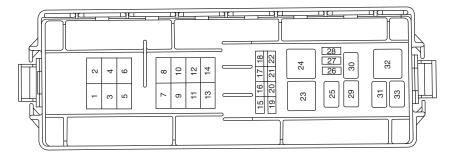




Always disconnect the battery before servicing high current fuses.

To reduce risk of electrical shock, always replace the cover to the Power Distribution Box before reconnecting the battery or refilling fluid reservoirs.

If the battery has been disconnected and reconnected, refer to the *Battery* section of the chapter.



The high-current fuses are coded as follows.

Fuse/relay	Fuse amp	Power distribution box	
location	rating	description	
1	60A**	Fuse junction panel	
2	30A**	Powertrain Control Module (PCM)	
3	60A**	Fuse junction panel	
4	10A CB	Low speed cooling fan	
5	40A**	Cooling fan	
6	_	Not used	
7	40A**	Starter relay, Ignition switch	
8	_	Not used	
9	20A**	Cooling fan (passenger side)	
10	20A**	Cooling fan (driver side)	
11	50A**	Rear defrost (sedan only)	
12	<u> </u>	Not used	

Fuse/relay	Fuse amp	Power distribution box	
location	rating	description	
13	40A**	Anti-lock Brake System (ABS)	
		module pump feed	
14	_	Not used	
15	20A*	ABS module valve solenoid	
16	20A*	Fuel pump relay	
17	20A*	CD	
18	10A*	A/C clutch relay, PCM keep alive	
		power	
19		Not used	
20	_	Not used	
21	_	Not used	
22	5A*	Heated PCV valve	
23	_	Starter motor relay	
24		Fan relay	
25	_	Wiper speed relay	
26	10A*	Alternator	
27	5A*	Rear control unit, Antenna	
28	15A*	HEGO sensor, Transmission shift	
		solenoid, Canister vent, A/C	
		clutch relay	
29	_	Wiper park relay	
30		Fuel pump relay	
31	_	PCM power relay	
32	_	Fan relay	
33		A/C clutch relay	
* - Mini Fuses **	- Maxi Fuses CB -	Circuit breaker	

### Relays

Relays are located in the power distribution box and should be replaced by qualified technicians.

#### **CHANGING THE TIRES**

If you get a flat tire while driving, do not apply the brake heavily. Instead, gradually decrease your speed. Hold the steering wheel firmly and slowly move to a safe place on the side of the road.



The use of tire sealants is not recommended and may damage your tires.

#### Temporary spare tire information

The temporary spare tire for your vehicle is labeled as such. It is smaller than a regular tire and is designed for emergency use only. Replace the temporary spare tire with a full-size tire as soon as possible.

If you use the temporary spare tire continuously or do not follow these precautions, the tire could fail, causing you to lose control of the vehicle, possibly injuring yourself or others.

When driving with the temporary spare tire **do not:** 

- use more than one temporary spare tire at a time
- exceed 80 km/h (50 mph)
- load the vehicle beyond maximum vehicle load rating listed on the Safety Compliance Label
- tow a trailer
- use tire chains
- drive through an automatic car wash, because of the vehicle's reduced ground clearance
- try to repair the temporary spare tire or remove it from its wheel
- use the wheel for any other type of vehicle

Use of a temporary spare tire at any one wheel location can lead to impairment of the following:

- handling, stability and braking performance
- comfort and noise
- ground clearance and parking at curbs
- Winter driving capability

#### Dissimilar spare tire/wheel information



Failure to follow these guidelines could result in an increased risk of loss of vehicle control, injury or death.

Your vehicle may be equipped with a dissimilar spare tire/wheel. A dissimilar spare tire/wheel is defined as a spare tire and/or wheel that is different in brand, size or appearance from the road tires and wheels. If you have a dissimilar spare tire/wheel, then it is intended for temporary use only. This means that if you need to use it, you should replace it as soon as possible with a road tire/wheel that is the same size and type as the road tires and wheels that were originally provided by Ford. If the dissimilar spare tire or wheel is damaged, it should be replaced rather than repaired.

When driving with the dissimilar spare tire/wheel, do not:

- Exceed 113 km/h (70 mph)
- Use more than one dissimilar spare tire/wheel at a time
- Use commercial car washing equipment
- Use snow chains on the end of the vehicle with the dissimilar spare tire/wheel

The usage of a dissimilar spare tire/wheel can lead to impairment of the following:

- Handling, stability and braking performance
- Comfort and noise
- Ground clearance and parking at curbs
- Winter weather driving capability
- Wet weather driving capability
- All-Wheel Driving Capability (if applicable)
- Load Leveling Adjustment (if applicable)

When driving with the dissimilar spare tire/wheel additional caution should be given to:

- Towing a trailer
- Driving vehicles equipped with a camper body
- Driving vehicles with a load on the cargo rack

Drive cautiously when using a dissimilar spare tire/wheel and seek service as soon as possible.

158

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

#### Tire change procedure

1. Park on a level surface, activate hazard flashers and set parking brake.

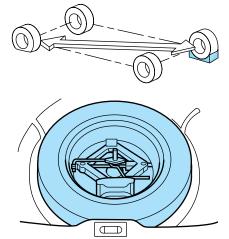
When one of the front wheels is off the ground, the transaxle alone will not prevent the vehicle from moving or slipping off the jack, even if the vehicle is in P (Park).

To help prevent the vehicle from moving when you change a tire, be sure the parking brake is set, then block (in both directions) the wheel that is diagonally opposite (other side and end of the vehicle) to the tire being changed.

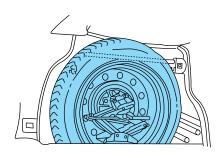


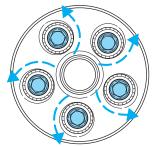
If the vehicle slips off the jack, you or someone else could be seriously injured.

- 2. Place gearshift lever in P (Park), turn engine OFF, block the diagonally opposite wheel, then remove the spare tire, jack and lug wrench.
- In the sedan, these are located in the trunk cargo area storage compartment.



- In the wagon, they are stored in the left side rear trim panel for the temporary spare and in the floor cargo area storage compartment for the full size spare.
- 3. If equipped with a wheel cover that's bolted on, loosen the five plastic nuts with the lug nut wrench.

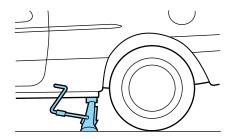




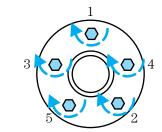
- 4. Remove the center ornament or wheel cover from the wheel with the tapered end of the wheel lug nut wrench that came with your vehicle. Insert and twist the handle, then pry against the wheel.
- 5. Loosen each wheel lug nut one-half turn counterclockwise but do not remove them until the wheel is raised off the ground.



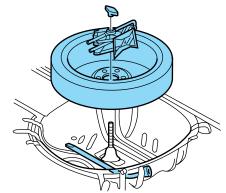
- 6. Put the jack in the jack notch next to the door of the tire you are changing. Turn the jack handle clockwise until the wheel is completely off the ground.
- 7. Remove the lug nuts with the lug nut wrench.



- 8. Replace the flat tire with the spare tire, making sure the valve stem is facing outward. Reinstall lug nuts until the wheel is snug against the hub. Do not fully tighten the lug nuts until the wheel has been lowered.
- 9. Lower the wheel by turning the jack handle counterclockwise.
- 10. Remove the jack and fully tighten the lug nuts in the order shown.



- 11. Return the flat tire, jack and lug wrench to their proper storage locations. Make sure the jack is fastened so it does not rattle when you drive.
- 12. Unblock the wheels.



#### Wheel lug nut torque specifications

Retighten the lug nuts to the specified torque at 800 km (500 miles) after any wheel disturbance (tire rotation, changing a flat tire, wheel removal, etc.).

Bolt size	Wheel lug nut torque*		
	N∙m	lb-ft	
M12 x 1.5	136	100	

<sup>\*</sup> Torque specifications are for nut and bolt threads free of dirt and rust. Use only Ford recommended replacement fasteners.

When a wheel is installed, always remove any corrosion, dirt or foreign materials present on the mounting surfaces of the wheel or the surface of the front disc brake hub and rotor that contacts the wheel. Installing wheels without correct metal-to-metal contact at the wheel mounting surfaces can cause the wheel nuts to loosen and the wheel to come off while the vehicle is in motion, resulting in loss of control.

#### JUMP STARTING YOUR VEHICLE

The gases around the battery can explode if exposed to flames, sparks, or lit cigarettes. An explosion could result in injury or vehicle damage.



Batteries contain sulfuric acid which can burn skin, eyes and clothing, if contacted.

Do not attempt to push-start your vehicle. Automatic transmissions do not have push-start capability; doing so may damage the catalytic converter.

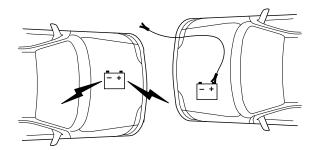
#### Preparing your vehicle

When the battery is disconnected or a new battery is installed, the transmission must relearn its shift strategy. As a result, the transmission may have firm and/or soft shifts. This operation is considered normal and will not affect function or durability of the transmission. Over time, the adaptive learning process will fully update transmission operation.

1. Use only a 12-volt supply to start your vehicle.

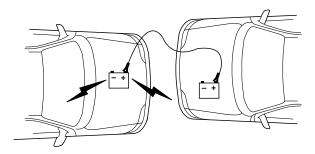
- 2. Do not disconnect the battery of the disabled vehicle as this could damage the vehicle's electrical system.
- 3. Park the booster vehicle close to the hood of the disabled vehicle making sure the two vehicles **do not** touch. Set the parking brake on both vehicles and stay clear of the engine cooling fan and other moving parts.
- 4. Check all battery terminals and remove any excessive corrosion before you attach the battery cables. Ensure that vent caps are tight and level.
- 5. Turn the heater fan on in both vehicles to protect any electrical surges. Turn all other accessories off.

#### Connecting the jumper cables

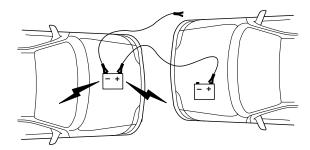


1. Connect the positive (+) jumper cable to the positive (+) terminal of the discharged battery.

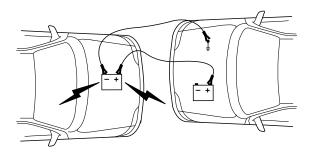
**Note:** In the illustrations, *lightning bolts* are used to designate the assisting (boosting) battery.



2. Connect the other end of the positive (+) cable to the positive (+) terminal of the assisting battery.



3. Connect the negative (-) cable to the negative (-) terminal of the assisting battery.



4. Make the final connection of the negative (-) cable. Make the connection to an exposed metal part of the stalled vehicle's engine, away from the battery and the carburetor/fuel injection system. **Do not** use fuel lines, engine rocker covers or the intake manifold as *grounding* points.

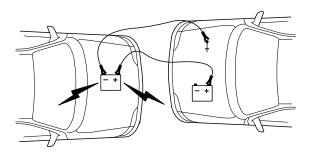
Do not connect the end of the second cable to the negative (-) terminal of the battery to be jumped. A spark may cause an explosion of the gases that surround the battery.

5. Ensure that the cables are clear of fan blades, belts, moving parts of both engines, or any fuel delivery system parts.

#### Jump starting

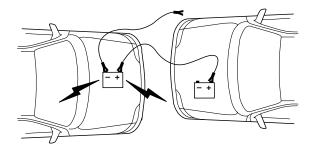
- 1. Start the engine of the booster vehicle and run the engine at moderately increased speed.
- 2. Start the engine of the disabled vehicle.
- 3. Once the disabled vehicle has been started, run both engines for an additional three minutes before disconnecting the jumper cables.

## Removing the jumper cables

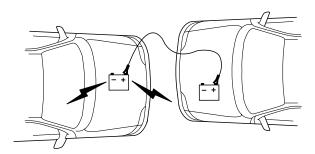


# Remove the jumper cables in the reverse order that they were connected. $\label{eq:connected}$

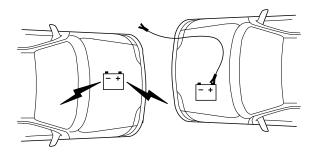
1. Remove the jumper cable from the ground metal surface.



 $2.\ \mbox{Remove}$  the jumper cable on the negative (-) connection of the booster vehicle's battery.



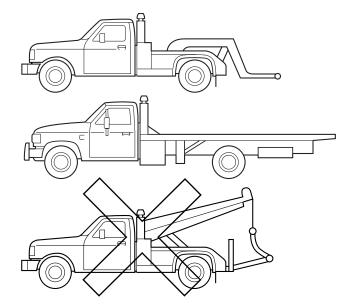
3. Remove the jumper cable from the positive (+) terminal of the booster vehicle's battery.



4. Remove the jumper cable from the positive (+) terminal of the disabled vehicle's battery.

After the disabled vehicle has been started and the jumper cables removed, allow it to idle for several minutes so the engine computer can relearn its idle conditions.

## WRECKER TOWING



If you need to have your vehicle towed, contact a professional towing service or, if you are a member of a roadside assistance program, your roadside assistance service provider.

It is recommended that your vehicle be towed with a wheel lift or flatbed equipment. Do not tow with a slingbelt. Ford Motor Company has not approved a slingbelt towing procedure.

If your vehicle is to be towed from the rear using wheel lift equipment, it is recommended that the front wheels (drive wheels) be placed on a dolly to prevent damage to the transaxle.

If your vehicle must be towed with the drive wheels on the ground:

- Place the transaxle in N (Neutral).
- DO NOT exceed the distance of 80 km (50 miles).
- DO NOT exceed the speed of 56 km/h (35 mph).

If the vehicle is towed by other means or incorrectly, vehicle damage may occur.

168

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

Ford Motor Company produces a towing manual for all authorized tow truck operators. Have your tow truck operator refer to this manual for proper hook-up and towing procedures for your vehicle.

#### **GETTING THE SERVICES YOU NEED**

#### At home

You must take your Ford vehicle to an authorized Ford dealer for warranty repairs. While any Ford dealership handling your vehicle line will provide warranty service, we recommend you return to your selling dealer who wants to ensure your continued satisfaction. Please note that certain warranty repairs require special training and/or equipment, so not all dealers are authorized to perform all warranty repairs. This means that, depending on the warranty repair needed, you may have to take your vehicle to another dealer. A reasonable time must be allowed to perform a repair after taking your vehicle to the dealership. Repairs will be made using Ford or Motorcraft parts, or remanufactured or other parts that are authorized by Ford.

If you have questions or concerns, or are unsatisfied with the service you are receiving, follow these steps:

- 1. Contact your Sales Representative or Service Advisor at your selling/servicing dealership.
- 2. If your inquiry or concern remains unresolved, contact the Sales Manager, Service Manager or Customer Relations Manager.
- 3. If you require assistance or clarification on Ford Motor Company policies or procedures, please contact the Ford Customer Relationship Center at the number below.

#### Away from home

If you own a Ford or Mercury vehicle and are away from home when your vehicle needs service, or if you need more help than the dealership could provide, after following the steps described above, contact the Ford Customer Relationship Center to find an authorized dealership to help you.

In the United States:

Ford Motor Company Customer Relationship Center P.O. Box 6248 Dearborn, MI 48121 1-800-392-3673 (FORD) (TDD for the hearing impaired: 1-800-232-5952) www.customersaskford.com

170

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

In Canada: Customer Relationship Centre Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited P.O. Box 2000 Oakville, Ontario L6J 5E4 1-800-565-3673 (FORD) www.ford.ca

If you own a Lincoln vehicle and are away from home when your vehicle needs service, or if you need more help than the dealership could provide, after following the steps described above, contact the Ford Customer Relationship Center to find an authorized dealership to help you.

In the United States:
Ford Motor Company
Customer Relationship Center
P.O. Box 6248
Dearborn, MI 48121
1-800-521-4140
(TDD for the hearing impaired: 1-800-232-5952)
www.customersaskford.com

In Canada:
Lincoln Centre
Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited
P.O. Box 2000
Oakville, Ontario L6J 5E4
1-800-387-9333
www.lincolncanada.com

In order to help you service your Lincoln vehicle, please have the following information available when contacting the Lincoln Centre:

- Your telephone number (home and business)
- The name of the dealer and the city where the dealership is located
- The year and make of your vehicle
- The date of vehicle purchase
- The current odometer reading
- The vehicle identification number (VIN)

If you still have a complaint involving a warranty dispute, you may wish to contact the Dispute Settlement Board (U.S.).

In some states (in the U.S.) you must directly notify Ford in writing before pursuing remedies under your state's warranty laws. Ford is also allowed a final repair attempt in some states.

In the United States, a warranty dispute must be submitted to the Dispute Settlement Board before taking action under the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act, or to the extent allowed by state law, before pursuing replacement or repurchase remedies provided by certain state laws. This dispute handling procedure is not required prior to enforcing state created rights or other rights which are independent of the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act or state replacement or repurchase laws.

#### FORD EXTENDED SERVICE PLAN

You can get more protection for your new car or light truck by purchasing Ford Extended Service Plan (Ford ESP) coverage. Ford ESP is an optional service contract which is backed by Ford Motor Company or Ford Motor Service Company (in the U.S.) and Ford of Canada (in Canada). It provides the following:

- Benefits during the warranty period depending on the plan you purchase (such as: reimbursement for rentals; coverage for certain maintenance and wear items).
- Protection against covered repair costs after your Bumper-to-Bumper Warranty expires.

You may purchase Ford ESP from any participating Ford and Lincoln Mercury and Ford of Canada dealer. There are several plans available in various time, distance and deductible combinations which can be tailored to fit your own driving needs. Ford ESP also offers reimbursement benefits for towing and rental coverage.

When you buy Ford ESP, you receive Peace-of-Mind protection throughout the United States and Canada, provided by a network of more than 5,000 participating Ford or Lincoln Mercury and Ford of Canada dealers.

If you did not take advantage of the Ford Extended Service Plan at the time of purchasing your vehicle, you may still be eligible. Since this information is subject to change, please ask your dealer for complete details about Ford Extended Service Plan coverage options, or visit the Ford ESP website at www.ford-esp.com.

#### THE DISPUTE SETTLEMENT BOARD (U.S. ONLY)

The Dispute Settlement Board is:

- an independent, third-party arbitration program for warranty disputes.
- available free to owners and lessees of qualifying Ford Motor Company vehicles.

The Dispute Settlement Board may not be available in all states. Ford Motor Company reserves the right to change eligibility limitations, modify procedures and/or to discontinue this service without notice and without incurring obligations per applicable state law.

#### What kinds of cases does the Board review?

Unresolved warranty repair concerns or vehicle performance concerns as on Ford and Lincoln Mercury cars and Ford and Lincoln Mercury light trucks which are within the terms of any applicable written new vehicle warranty are eligible for review, except those involving:

- a non-Ford product
- a non-Ford dealership
- sales disputes between customer and dealer except those associated with warranty repairs or concerns with the vehicle's performance as designed
- a request for reimbursement of consequential expenses unless a service or product concern is being reviewed
- items not covered by the New Vehicle Limited Warranty (including maintenance and wear items)
- alleged personal injury/property damage claims
- cases currently in litigation
- vehicles not used primarily for family, personal or household purposes (except in states where the Dispute Settlement Board is required to review commercial vehicles)
- vehicles with non-U.S. warranties

Concerns are ineligible for review if the New Vehicle Limited Warranty has expired at receipt of your application and, in certain states eligibility is dependent upon the customer's possession of the vehicle.

Eligibility may differ according to state law. For example, see the unique brochures for California, West Virginia, Georgia and Wisconsin purchasers/lessees.

#### **Board membership**

The Board consists of:

- Three consumer representatives
- A Ford or Lincoln Mercury dealership representative

Consumer candidates for Board membership are recruited and trained by an independent consulting firm. The dealership Board member is chosen

from Ford and Lincoln Mercury dealership management, recognized for their business leadership qualities.

#### What the Board needs

To have your case reviewed you must complete the application in the DSB brochure and mail it to the address provided on the application form. Some states will require you to use certified mail, with return receipt requested.

Your application is reviewed and, if it is determined to be eligible, you will receive an acknowledgment indicating:

- The file number assigned to your application.
- The toll-free phone number of the DSB's independent administrator.

Your dealership and a Ford Motor Company representative will then be asked to submit statements.

To properly review your case, the Board needs the following information:

- Legible copies of all documents and maintenance or repair orders relevant to the case.
- The year, make, model, and Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) listed on your vehicle ownership license.
- The date of repair(s) and mileage at the time of occurrence(s).
- The current mileage.
- The name of the dealer(s) who sold or serviced the vehicle.
- A brief description of your unresolved concern.
- A brief summary of the action taken by the dealer(s) and Ford Motor Company.
- The names (if known) of all the people you contacted at the dealership(s).
- A description of the action you expect to resolve your concern.

You will receive a letter of explanation if your application does not qualify for Board review.

#### Oral presentations

If you would like to make an oral presentation, indicate YES to question 6 on the application. While it is your right to make an oral presentation before the Board, this is not a requirement and the Board will decide the case whether or not an oral presentation is made. An oral presentation may be requested by the Board as well.

#### Making a decision

Board members review all available information related to each complaint, including oral presentations, and arrive at a fair and impartial decision. Board review may be terminated at any time by either party.

Every effort is made to decide the case within 40 days of the date that all requested information is received by the Board. Since the Board generally meets once a month, it may take longer for the Board to consider some cases.

After a case is reviewed, the Board mails you a decision letter and a form on which to accept or reject the Board's decision. The decisions of the Board are binding on Ford (and, in some cases, on the dealer) but not on consumers who are free to pursue other remedies available to them under state or federal law.

#### To request a DSB Brochure/Application

For a brochure/application, speak to your dealer or write/call the Board at the following address/phone number:

Dispute Settlement Board P.O. Box 1424 Waukesha, WI 53187–1424 1–800–428–3718

You may also contact the North American Customer Relationship Center at 1-800-392-3673 (Ford), TDD for the hearing impaired: 1-800-232-5952 or by writing to the Center at the following address:

Ford Motor Company Customer Relationship Center P.O. Box 6248 Dearborn, Michigan 48121

# UTILIZING THE MEDIATION/ARBITRATION PROGRAM (CANADA ONLY)

In those cases where you continue to feel that the efforts by Ford and the dealer to resolve a factory-related vehicle service concern have been unsatisfactory, Ford of Canada participates in an impartial third party mediation/arbitration program administered by the Canadian Motor Vehicle Arbitration Plan (CAMVAP).

The CAMVAP program is a straight-forward and relatively speedy alternative to resolve a disagreement when all other efforts to produce a settlement have failed. This procedure is without cost to you and is designed to eliminate the need for lengthy and expensive legal proceedings.

In the CAMVAP program, impartial third-party arbitrators conduct hearings at mutually convenient times and places in an informal environment. These impartial arbitrators review the positions of the parties, make decisions and, when appropriate, render awards to resolve disputes. CAMVAP decisions are fast, fair, and final; the arbitrator's award is binding both to you and Ford of Canada.

CAMVAP services are available in all territories and provinces. For more information, without charge or obligation, call your CAMVAP Provincial Administrator directly at 1-800-207-0685.

#### GETTING ASSISTANCE OUTSIDE THE U.S. AND CANADA

Before exporting your vehicle to a foreign country, contact the appropriate foreign embassy or consulate. These officials can inform you of local vehicle registration regulations and where to find unleaded fuel.

If you cannot find unleaded fuel or can only get fuel with an anti-knock index lower than is recommended for your vehicle, contact a district or owner relations/customer relationship office.

The use of leaded fuel in your vehicle without proper conversion may damage the effectiveness of your emission control system and may cause engine knocking or serious engine damage. Ford Motor Company/Ford of Canada is not responsible for any damage caused by use of improper fuel.

In the United States, using leaded fuel may also result in difficulty importing your vehicle back into the U.S.

If your vehicle must be serviced while you are traveling or living in Central or South America, the Caribbean, or the Middle East, contact the nearest Ford dealership. If the dealership cannot help you, write or call:

FORD MOTOR COMPANY

WORLDWIDE DIRECT MARKET OPERATIONS

1555 Fairlane Drive Fairlane Business Park #3 Allen Park, Michigan 48101

U.S.A.

Telephone: (313) 594-4857 FAX: (313) 390-0804

If you are in another foreign country, contact the nearest Ford dealership. If the dealership employees cannot help you, they can direct you to the nearest Ford affiliate office.

If you buy your vehicle in North America and then relocate outside of the U.S. or Canada, register your vehicle identification number (VIN) and new address with Ford Motor Company Worldwide Direct Market Operations.

176

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

#### ORDERING ADDITIONAL OWNER'S LITERATURE

To order the publications in this portfolio, contact Helm, Incorporated at: HELM, INCORPORATED P.O. Box 07150 Detroit, Michigan 48207

Or call:

#### For a free publication catalog, order toll free: 1-800-782-4356

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. EST

Helm, Incorporated can also be reached by their website: www.helminc.com.

(Items in this catalog may be purchased by credit card, check or money order.)

#### Obtaining a French owner's guide

French Owner's Guides can be obtained from your dealer or by writing to Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited, Service Publications, P.O. Box 1580, Station B, Mississauga, Ontario L4Y 4G3.

#### IN CALIFORNIA (U.S. ONLY)

California Civil Code Section 1793.2(d) requires that, if a manufacturer or its representative is unable to repair a motor vehicle to conform to the vehicle's applicable express warranty after a reasonable number of attempts, the manufacturer shall be required to either replace the vehicle with one substantially identical or repurchase the vehicle and reimburse the buyer in an amount equal to the actual price paid or payable by the consumer (less a reasonable allowance for consumer use). The consumer has the right to choose whether to receive a refund or replacement vehicle.

California Civil Code Section 1793.22(b) presumes that the manufacturer has had a reasonable number of attempts to conform the vehicle to its applicable express warranties if, within the first 18 months of ownership of a new vehicle or the first 29,000 km (18,000 miles), whichever occurs first:

- 1. Two or more repair attempts are made on the same non-conformity likely to cause death or serious bodily injury OR
- 2. Four or more repair attempts are made on the same nonconformity (a defect or condition that substantially impairs the use, value or safety of the vehicle) OR

3. The vehicle is out of service for repair of nonconformities for a total of more than 30 calendar days (not necessarily all at one time)

In the case of 1 or 2 above, the consumer must also notify the manufacturer of the need for the repair of the nonconformity at the following address:

Ford Motor Company 16800 Executive Plaza Drive Mail Drop 3NE-B Dearborn, MI 48126

#### REPORTING SAFETY DEFECTS (U.S. ONLY)

If you believe that your vehicle has a defect which could cause a crash or could cause injury or death, you should immediately inform the National Highway Traffic Safety



Administration (NHTSA) in addition to notifying Ford Motor Company.

If NHTSA receives similar complaints, it may open an investigation, and if it finds that a safety defect exists in a group of vehicles, it may order a recall and remedy campaign. However, NHTSA cannot become involved in individual problems between you, your dealer, or Ford Motor Company.

To contact NHTSA, you may either call the Auto Safety Hotline toll-free at 1-800-424-9393 (or 366-0123 in the Washington D.C. area) or write to:

NHTSA 400 Seventh Street U.S. Department of Transportation Washington, D.C. 20590

You can also obtain other information about motor vehicle safety from the Hotline.

178

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

## **Cleaning**

#### **WASHING THE EXTERIOR**

Wash your vehicle regularly with cool or lukewarm water and a neutral Ph shampoo, such as Motorcraft Detail Wash (ZC-3-A), which is available from your dealer.

- Never use strong household detergents or soap, such as dish washing or laundry liquid. These products can discolor and spot painted surfaces.
- Never wash a vehicle that is "hot to the touch" or during exposure to strong, direct sunlight.
- Always use a clean sponge or carwash mitt with plenty of water for best results.
- Dry the vehicle with a chamois or soft terry cloth towel in order to eliminate water spotting.
- It is especially important to wash the vehicle regularly during the winter months, as dirt and road salt are difficult to remove and cause damage to the vehicle.
- Immediately remove items such as gasoline, diesel fuel, bird droppings and insect deposits because they can cause damage to the vehicle's paintwork and trim over time.
- Remove any exterior accessories, such as antennas, before entering a car wash.
- Suntan lotions and insect repellents can damage any painted surface; if these substances come in contact with your vehicle, wash off as soon as possible.

#### **WAXING**

Applying a polymer paint sealant to your vehicle every six months will assist in reducing minor scratches and paint damage.

- Wash the vehicle first.
- Do not use waxes that contain abrasives.
- Do not allow paint sealant to come in contact with any non-body (low-gloss black) colored trim, such as grained door handles, roof racks, bumpers, side moldings, mirror housings or the windshield cowl area. The paint sealant will "gray" or stain the parts over time.

## **Cleaning**

#### **PAINT CHIPS**

Your dealer has touch-up paint and sprays to match your vehicle's color. Take your color code (printed on a sticker in the driver's door jam) to your dealer to ensure you get the correct color.

- Remove particles such as bird droppings, tree sap, insect deposits, tar spots, road salt and industrial fallout before repairing paint chips.
- Always read the instructions before using the products.

#### **ALUMINUM WHEELS AND WHEEL COVERS**

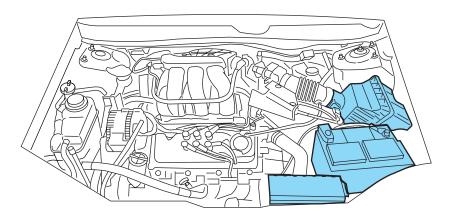
Aluminum wheels and wheel covers are coated with a clearcoat paint finish. In order to maintain their shine:

- Clean weekly with Motorcraft Wheel and Tire Cleaner (ZC-37-A), which is available from your dealer. Heavy dirt and brake dust accumulation may require agitation with a sponge. Rinse thoroughly with a strong stream of water.
- Never apply any cleaning chemical to hot or warm wheel rims or covers.
- Some automatic car washes may cause damage to the finish on your wheel rims or covers. Chemical-strength cleaners, or cleaning chemicals, in combination with brush agitation to remove brake dust and dirt, could wear away the clearcoat finish over time.
- Do not use hydrofluoric acid-based or high caustic-based wheel cleaners, steel wool, fuels or strong household detergent.
- To remove tar and grease, use Motorcraft Bug and Tar Remover (ZC-42), available from your dealer.

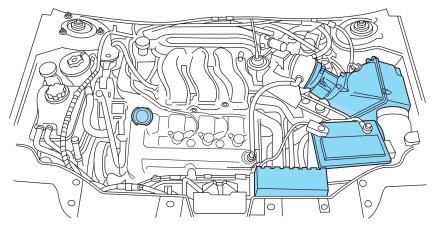
#### **ENGINE**

Engines are more efficient when they are clean because grease and dirt buildup keep the engine warmer than normal. When washing:

- Take care when using a power washer to clean the engine. The high-pressure fluid could penetrate the sealed parts and cause damage.
- Do not spray a hot engine with cold water to avoid cracking the engine block or other engine components.
- Spray Motorcraft Engine Shampoo and Degreaser (ZC-20) on all parts that require cleaning and pressure rinse clean.
- Cover the highlighted areas to prevent water damage when cleaning the engine.



### • 3.0L Vulcan engine



### • 3.0L Duratec engine

• Never wash or rinse the engine while it is running; water in the running engine may cause internal damage.

#### PLASTIC (NON-PAINTED) EXTERIOR PARTS

Use only approved products to clean plastic parts. These products are available from your dealer.

- For routine cleaning, use Motorcraft Detail Wash (ZC-3-A).
- If tar or grease spots are present, use Motorcraft Bug and Tar Remover (ZC-42).

#### WINDOWS AND WIPER BLADES

The windshield, rear and side windows and the wiper blades should be cleaned regularly. If the wipers do not wipe properly, substances on the vehicle's glass or the wiper blades may be the cause. These may include hot wax treatments used by commercial car washes, tree sap, or other organic contamination. To clean these items, please follow these tips:

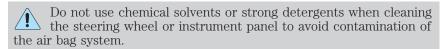
- The windshield, rear windows and side windows may be cleaned with a non-abrasive cleaner such as Motorcraft Ultra Clear Spray Glass Cleaner (ZC-23), available from your dealer.
- Do not use abrasives, as they may cause scratches.
- Do not use fuel, kerosene, or paint thinner to clean any parts.
- Wiper blades can be cleaned with isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol or windshield washer solution. Be sure to replace wiper blades when they appear worn or do not function properly.

Do not use sharp objects, such as a razor blade, to clean the inside of the rear window or to remove decals, as it may cause damage to the rear window defroster's heated grid lines.

#### **INSTRUMENT PANEL AND CLUSTER LENS**

Clean the instrument panel with a damp cloth, then dry with a dry cloth.

• Avoid cleaners or polish that increase the gloss of the upper portion of the instrument panel. The dull finish in this area helps protect the driver from undesirable windshield reflection.



 Be certain to wash or wipe your hands clean if you have been in contact with certain products such as insect repellent and suntan lotion in order to avoid possible damage to the interior painted surfaces.

#### **INTERIOR**

For fabric, carpets, cloth seats, safety belts and seats equipped with side air bags:

- Remove dust and loose dirt with a vacuum cleaner.
- Remove light stains and soil with Motorcraft Extra Strength Upholstery Cleaner (ZC-41).
- If grease or tar is present on the material, spot-clean the area first with Motorcraft Spot and Stain Remover (ZC-14).
- Never saturate the seat covers with cleaning solution.
- Do not use household cleaning products or glass cleaners, which can stain and discolor the fabric and affect the flame retardant abilities of the seat materials.



Do not use cleaning solvents, bleach or dye on the vehicle's safety belts, as these actions may weaken the belt webbing.

Do not use chemical solvents or strong detergents when cleaning the seat-mounted side air bag. Such products could contaminate the side air bag system and affect performance of the side air bag in a collision.

#### **LEATHER SEATS (IF EQUIPPED)**

Your leather seating surfaces have a clear, protective coating over the leather.

- To clean, use a soft cloth with Motorcraft Deluxe Leather and Vinyl Cleaner (ZC-11-A). Dry the area with a soft cloth.
- To help maintain its resiliency and color, use the Motorcraft Deluxe Leather Care Kit (ZC-11-D), available from your authorized dealer.
- Do not use household cleaning products, alcohol solutions, solvents or cleaners intended for rubber, vinyl and plastics, or oil/petroleum-based leather conditioners. These products may cause premature wearing of the clear, protective coating.

**Note:** In some instances, color or dye transfer can occur when wet clothing comes in contact with leather upholstery. If this occurs, the leather should be cleaned immediately to avoid permanent staining.

#### **INTERIOR TRIM**

• Clean the interior trim areas with a damp cloth, then dry by wiping with a dry, soft, clean cloth.

• Do not use household or glass cleaners as these may damage the finish.

#### **UNDERBODY**

Flush the complete underside of your vehicle frequently. Keep body and door drain holes free from packed dirt.

#### FORD, LINCOLN AND MERCURY CAR CARE PRODUCTS

Your Ford, Lincoln or Mercury dealer has many quality products available to clean your vehicle and protect its finishes. These quality products have been specifically engineered to fulfill your automotive needs; they are custom designed to complement the style and appearance of your vehicle. Each product is made from high quality materials that meet or exceed rigid specifications. For best results, use the following products or products of equivalent quality:

Motorcraft Custom Clearcoat Polish (ZC-8-A)

Motorcraft Custom Vinyl Protectant (not available in Canada) (ZC-40-A)

Motorcraft Vinyl Cleaner (Canada only) (CXC-93)

Motorcraft Vinyl Conditioner (Canada only) (CXC-94)

Motorcraft Deluxe Leather and Vinyl Cleaner (not available in Canada) (ZC-11-A)

Motorcraft Bug and Tar Remover (ZC-42)

Motorcraft Extra Strength Upholstery Cleaner (not available in Canada) (ZC-41)

Motorcraft Custom Bright Metal Cleaner (ZC-15)

Motorcraft Wheel and Tire Cleaner (ZC-37-A)

Motorcraft Dash and Vinyl Cleaner (ZC-38-A)

Motorcraft Car Care Kit (ZC-26)

Ford Premium Car Wash Concentrate (F2SZ-19523-WC)

Motorcraft Carlite Glass Cleaner (Canada only) (CXC-100)

Motorcraft Spot and Stain Remover (ZC-14)

Motorcraft Detail Wash (ZC-3-A)

Motorcraft Tire Clean and Shine (ZC-28)

Motorcraft Triple Clean (ZC-13)

Motorcraft Ultra-Clear Spray Glass Cleaner (not available in Canada) (ZC-23)

Motorcraft Engine Shampoo and Degreaser (ZC-20)

184

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

#### SERVICE RECOMMENDATIONS

To help you service your vehicle:

- We highlight do-it-yourself items in the engine compartment for easy location.
- We provide a scheduled maintenance guide which makes tracking routine service easy.

If your vehicle requires professional service, your dealership can provide the necessary parts and service. Check your *Warranty Guide/Owner Information Guide* to find out which parts and services are covered.

Use only recommended fuels, lubricants, fluids and service parts conforming to specifications. Motorcraft parts are designed and built to provide the best performance in your vehicle.

#### PRECAUTIONS WHEN SERVICING YOUR VEHICLE

- Do not work on a hot engine.
- Make sure that nothing gets caught in moving parts.
- Do not work on a vehicle with the engine running in an enclosed space, unless you are sure you have enough ventilation.
- Keep all open flames and other burning (cigarettes) material away from the battery and all fuel related parts.

#### Working with the engine off

- 1. Set the parking brake and shift to P (Park).
- 2. Turn off the engine and remove the key.
- 3. Block the wheels.

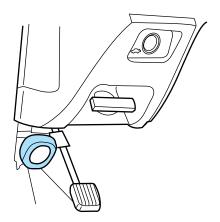
### Working with the engine on

- 1. Set the parking brake and ensure the gearshift is securely latched in P (Park).
- 2. Block the wheels to prevent the vehicle from moving unexpectedly.

**Note:** Do not start your engine with the air cleaner removed and do not remove it while the engine is running.

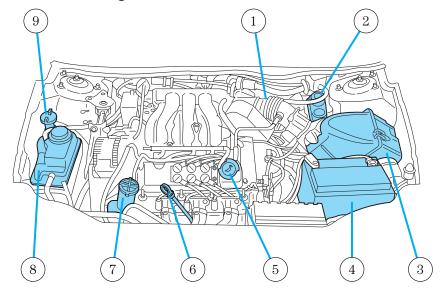
### OPENING THE HOOD

- 1. Inside the vehicle, pull the hood release handle located under the bottom of the instrument panel.
- 2. Go to the front of the vehicle and release the auxiliary latch located in the center between the hood and the grille.
- 3. Lift the hood until the lift cylinders hold it open.



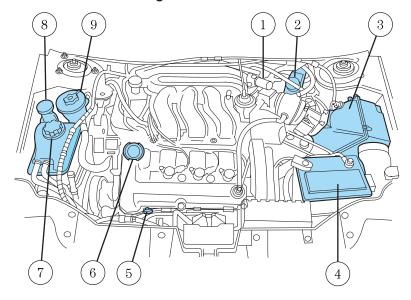
### IDENTIFYING COMPONENTS IN THE ENGINE COMPARTMENT

### 3.0L V6 Vulcan engine



- 1. Automatic transmission fluid dipstick
- 2. Brake fluid reservoir
- 3. Air filter assembly
- 4. Battery
- 5. Engine oil filler cap
- 6. Engine oil dipstick
- 7. Power steering fluid reservoir
- 8. Engine coolant reservoir
- 9. Windshield washer fluid reservoir

### 3.0L DOHC V6 Duratec engine



- 1. Automatic transmission fluid dipstick
- 2. Brake fluid reservoir
- 3. Air filter assembly
- 4. Battery
- 5. Engine oil dipstick
- 6. Engine oil filler cap
- 7. Engine coolant reservoir
- 8. Windshield washer fluid reservoir
- 9. Power steering fluid reservoir

188

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

### WINDSHIELD WASHER FLUID 🗇

Add fluid to fill the reservoir if the level is low. In very cold weather, do not fill the reservoir completely.

Only use a washer fluid that meets Ford specification WSB-M8B16–A2. Refer to *Lubricant specifications* in this chapter.



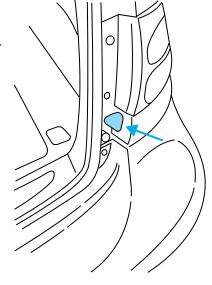
State or local regulations on volatile organic compounds may restrict the use of methanol, a common windshield washer antifreeze additive. Washer fluids containing non-methanol antifreeze agents should be used only if they provide cold weather protection without damaging the vehicle's paint finish, wiper blades or washer system.

If you operate your vehicle in temperatures below 4.5° C (40° F), use washer fluid with antifreeze protection. Failure to use washer fluid with antifreeze protection in cold weather could result in impaired windshield vision and increase the risk of injury or accident.

**Note:** Do not put washer fluid in the engine coolant reservoir. Washer fluid placed in the cooling system may harm engine and cooling system components.

### Checking and adding washer fluid for the liftgate (if equipped)

The opening for the reservoir is located on the passenger side under the tail lamp. Refill this reservoir with the same fluid you use for your windshield.



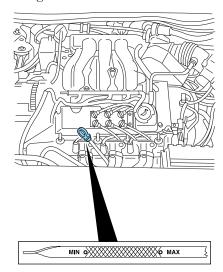
### ENGINE OIL

### Checking the engine oil

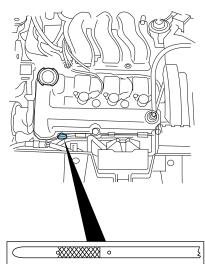
Refer to the scheduled maintenance guide for the appropriate intervals for checking the engine oil.

- 1. Make sure the vehicle is on level ground.
- 2. Turn the engine off and wait a few minutes for the oil to drain into the oil pan.
- 3. Set the parking brake and ensure the gearshift is securely latched in P.

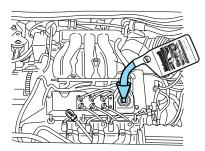
- 4. Open the hood. Protect yourself from engine heat.
- 3.0L Vulcan engine



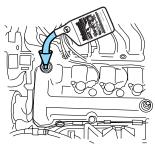
- 3.0L Duratec engine
- 5. Locate and carefully remove the engine oil indicator (dipstick).



- 6. Wipe the indicator clean. Insert the indicator fully, then remove it again.
- If the oil level is **between the two holes or between the MIN and MAX marks (depending on application),** the oil level is acceptable. **DO NOT ADD OIL.**
- 3.0L Vulcan engine



• 3.0L Duratec engine



- If the oil level is below the add 1QT or MIN mark, add enough oil to raise the level within the 1QT-FULL or the MIN-MAX range (depending on application).
- Oil levels above the F in FULL or above the MAX mark, may cause engine damage. Some oil must be removed from the engine by a service technician.
- 7. Put the indicator back in and ensure it is fully seated.

#### Adding engine oil

- 1. Check the engine oil. For instructions, refer to  $\it Checking\ the\ engine\ oil$  in this chapter.
- 2. If the engine oil level is not within the normal range, add only certified engine oil of the recommended viscosity. Remove the engine oil filler cap and use a funnel to pour the engine oil into the opening.
- 3. Recheck the engine oil level. Make sure the oil level is not above the MAX mark or the letter F in FULL on the engine oil level indicator (dipstick).

- 4. Install the indicator and ensure it is fully seated.
- 5. Fully install the engine oil filler cap by turning the filler cap clockwise until it stops.

To avoid possible oil loss, DO NOT operate the vehicle with the engine oil level indicator and/or the engine oil filler cap removed.

### Engine oil and filter recommendations

Look for this certification trademark.



#### Use SAE 5W-20 engine oil.

Only use oils "Certified For Gasoline Engines" by the American Petroleum Institute (API). To protect your engine's warranty use Motorcraft SAE 5W-20 or an equivalent 5W-20 oil meeting Ford specification WSS-M2C153–H. **SAE 5W-20 oil provides optimum fuel economy and durability performance meeting all requirements for your vehicle's engine**.

Do not use supplemental engine oil additives, cleaners or other engine treatments. They are unnecessary and could lead to engine damage that is not covered by Ford warranty.

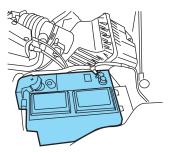
Change your engine oil according to the appropriate schedule listed in the scheduled maintenance guide.

Ford production and aftermarket (Motorcraft) oil filters are designed for added engine protection and long life. If a replacement oil filter is used that does not meet Ford material and design specifications, start-up engine noises or knock may be experienced.

It is recommended you use the appropriate Motorcraft oil filter (or another brand meeting Ford specifications) for your engine application.

### BATTERY [-+]

Your vehicle is equipped with a Motorcraft maintenance-free battery which normally does not require additional water during its life of service.



However, for severe usage or in high temperature climates, check the battery electrolyte level. Refer to the *Scheduled Maintenance Guide* for the service interval schedules.

# Keep the electrolyte level in each cell up to the "level indicator". Do not overfill the battery cells.

If the electrolyte level in the battery is low, you can add plain tap water to the battery, as long as you do not use hard water (water with a high mineral or alkali content). If possible, however, try to only fill the battery cells with distilled water. If the battery needs water often, have the charging system checked.

## If your battery has a cover/shield, make sure it is reinstalled after the battery has been cleaned or replaced.

For longer, trouble-free operation, keep the top of the battery clean and dry. Also, make certain the battery cables are always tightly fastened to the battery terminals.

If you see any corrosion on the battery or terminals, remove the cables from the terminals and clean with a wire brush. You can neutralize the acid with a solution of baking soda and water.

Batteries normally produce explosive gases which can cause personal injury. Therefore, do not allow flames, sparks or lighted substances to come near the battery. When working near the battery, always shield your face and protect your eyes. Always provide proper ventilation.

When lifting a plastic-cased battery, excessive pressure on the end walls could cause acid to flow through the vent caps, resulting in personal injury and/or damage to the vehicle or battery. Lift the battery with a battery carrier or with your hands on opposite corners.

Keep batteries out of reach of children. Batteries contain sulfuric acid. Avoid contact with skin, eyes or clothing. Shield your eyes when working near the battery to protect against possible splashing of acid solution. In case of acid contact with skin or eyes, flush immediately with water for a minimum of 15 minutes and get prompt medical attention. If acid is swallowed, call a physician immediately.



Battery posts, terminals and related accessories contain lead and lead compounds. **Wash hands after handling.** 

Because your vehicle's engine is electronically controlled by a computer, some control conditions are maintained by power from the battery. When the battery is disconnected or a new battery is installed, the engine must relearn its idle and fuel trim strategy for optimum driveability and performance. To begin this process:

- 1. With the vehicle at a complete stop, set the parking brake.
- 2. Put the gearshift in P (Park), turn off all accessories and start the engine.
- 3. Run the engine until it reaches normal operating temperature.
- 4. Allow the engine to idle for at least one minute.
- 5. Turn the A/C on and allow the engine to idle for at least one minute.
- 6. Release the parking brake. With your foot on the brake pedal and with the A/C on, put the vehicle in D (Drive) and allow the engine to idle for at least one minute.
- 7. Drive the vehicle to complete the relearning process.
- The vehicle may need to be driven 16 km (10 miles) or more to relearn the idle and fuel trim strategy.
- If you do not allow the engine to relearn its idle trim, the idle quality of your vehicle may be adversely affected until the idle trim is eventually relearned.

If the battery has been disconnected or a new battery has been installed, the clock and radio settings must be reset once the battery is reconnected.

 Always dispose of automotive batteries in a responsible manner. Follow your local authorized standards for disposal. Call your local authorized recycling center to find out more about recycling automotive batteries.



#### **ENGINE COOLANT**

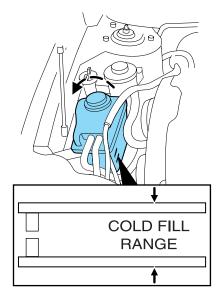
#### Checking engine coolant

The concentration and level of engine coolant should be checked at the mileage intervals listed in the *Scheduled Maintenance Guide*. The coolant concentration should be maintained at 50/50 coolant and distilled water, which equates to a freeze point of -36° C (-34° F). Coolant concentration testing is possible with a hydrometer or antifreeze tester (such as the Rotunda Battery and Antifreeze Tester, 014–R1060). The level of coolant should be maintained at the "cold full" of "cold fill range" level in the coolant reservoir. If the level falls below, add coolant per the instructions in the *Adding engine coolant* section.

Your vehicle was factory-filled with a 50/50 engine coolant and water concentration. If the concentration of coolant falls below 40% or above 60%, the engine parts could become damaged or not work properly. A 50–50 mixture of coolant and water provides the following:

- Freeze protection down to -36° C (-34° F).
- Boiling protection up to 129° C (265° F).
- Protection against rust and other forms of corrosion.
- Enables calibrated gauges to work properly.

When the engine is cold, check the level of the engine coolant in the reservoir.



- The engine coolant should be at the "cold fill level" or within the "cold fill range" as listed on the engine coolant reservoir (depending upon application).
- Refer to the *Scheduled Maintenance Guide* for service interval schedules.
- Be sure to read and understand *Precautions when servicing your vehicle* in this chapter.

If the engine coolant has not been checked at the recommended interval, the engine coolant reservoir may become low or empty. If the reservoir is low or empty, add engine coolant to the reservoir. Refer to *Adding engine coolant* in this chapter.

**Note:** Automotive fluids are not interchangeable; do not use engine coolant, antifreeze or windshield washer fluid outside of its specified function and vehicle location.

#### Adding engine coolant

When adding coolant, make sure it is a 50/50 mixture of engine coolant and distilled water. Add the mixture to the coolant reservoir, **when the engine is cool**, until the appropriate fill level is obtained.



Do not add engine coolant when the engine is hot. Steam and scalding liquids released from a hot cooling system can burn you badly. Also, you can be burned if you spill coolant on hot engine parts.

Do not put engine coolant in the windshield washer fluid container. If sprayed on the windshield, engine coolant could make it difficult to see through the windshield.

• Add Motorcraft Premium Gold Engine Coolant (yellow-colored), VC-7-A (U.S., except CA and OR), VC-7-B (CA and OR only), meeting Ford Specification WSS-M97B51-A1.

Note: Use of Motorcraft Cooling System Stop Leak Pellets, VC-6, may darken the color of Motorcraft Premium Gold Engine Coolant from yellow to golden tan.

- Do not add/mix an orange-colored, extended life coolant such as Motorcraft Speciality Orange Engine Coolant, VC-2 (US) or CXC-209 (Canada), meeting Ford specification WSS-M97B44-D with the factory-filled coolant. Mixing Motorcraft Speciality Orange Engine Coolant or any orange-colored extended life product with your factory filled coolant can result in degraded corrosion protection.
- A large amount of water without engine coolant may be added, in case of emergency, to reach a vehicle service location. In this instance, the cooling system must be drained and refilled with a 50/50 mixture of engine coolant and distilled water as soon as possible. Water alone (without engine coolant) can cause engine damage from corrosion, overheating or freezing.
- Do not use alcohol, methanol, brine or any engine coolants mixed with alcohol or methanol antifreeze (coolant). Alcohol and other liquids can cause engine damage from overheating or freezing.
- Do not add extra inhibitors or additives to the coolant. These can be harmful and compromise the corrosion protection of the engine coolant.

For vehicles with overflow coolant systems with a non-pressurized cap on the coolant recovery system, add coolant to the coolant recovery reservoir when the engine is cool. Add the proper mixture of coolant and water to the "cold full" level. For all other vehicles, which have a coolant degas system with a pressurized cap, or if it is necessary to remove the

coolant pressure relief cap on the radiator of a vehicle with an overflow system, follow these steps to add engine coolant.

To reduce the risk of personal injury, make sure the engine is cool before unscrewing the coolant pressure relief cap. The cooling system is under pressure; steam and hot liquid can come out forcefully when the cap is loosened slightly.

- 1. Before you begin, turn the engine off and let it cool.
- 2. When the engine is cool, wrap a thick cloth around the coolant pressure relief cap on the coolant reservoir (a translucent plastic bottle). Slowly turn cap counterclockwise (left) until pressure begins to release.
- 3. Step back while the pressure releases.
- 4. When you are sure that all the pressure has been released, use the cloth to turn it counterclockwise and remove the cap.
- 5. Fill the coolant reservoir slowly with the proper coolant mixture (see above), to within the "cold fill range" or the "cold full" level on the reservoir. If you removed the radiator cap in an overflow system, fill the radiator until the coolant is visible and radiator is almost full.
- 6. Replace the cap. Turn until tightly installed. (Cap must be tightly installed to prevent coolant loss.)

After any coolant has been added, check the coolant concentration, refer to *Checking engine coolant*. If the concentration is not 50/50 (protection to  $-34^{\circ}$  F/ $-36^{\circ}$  C), drain some coolant and adjust the concentration. It may take several drains and additions to obtain a 50/50 coolant concentration.

Whenever coolant has been added, the coolant level in the coolant reservoir should be checked the next few times you drive the vehicle. If necessary, add enough 50/50 concentration of engine coolant and distilled water to bring the liquid level to the proper level.

If you have to add more than 1.0 liter (1.0 quart) of engine coolant per month, have your dealer check the engine cooling system. Your cooling system may have a leak. Operating an engine with a low level of coolant can result in engine overheating and possible engine damage.

#### Recycled engine coolant

Ford Motor Company does NOT recommend the use of recycled engine coolant in vehicles originally equipped with Motorcraft Premium Gold Engine Coolant since a Ford-approved recycling process is not yet available.

Used engine coolant should be disposed of in an appropriate manner. Follow your community's regulations and standards for recycling and disposing of automotive fluids.

#### Coolant refill capacity

To find out how much fluid your vehicle's cooling system can hold, refer to *Refill capacities* in this section.

Fill your engine coolant reservoir as outlined in *Adding engine coolant* in this section.

#### Severe climates

If you drive in extremely cold climates (less than -36° C [-34° F]):

- It may be necessary to increase the coolant concentration above 50%.
- NEVER increase the coolant concentration above 60%.
- Increased engine coolant concentrations above 60% will decrease the overheat protection characteristics of the engine coolant and may cause engine damage.
- Refer to the chart on the coolant container to ensure the coolant concentration in your vehicle will provide adequate freeze protection at the temperatures in which you drive in the winter months.

If you drive in extremely hot climates:

- It is still necessary to maintain the coolant concentration above 40%.
- NEVER decrease the coolant concentration below 40%.
- Decreased engine coolant concentrations below 40% will decrease the corrosion protection characteristics of the engine coolant and may cause engine damage.
- Decreased engine coolant concentrations below 40% will decrease the freeze protection characteristics of the engine coolant and may cause engine damage.
- Refer to the chart on the coolant container to ensure the coolant concentration in your vehicle will provide adequate protection at the temperatures in which you drive.

Vehicles driven year-round in non-extreme climates should use a 50/50 mixture of engine coolant and distilled water for optimum cooling system and engine protection.

# WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT AUTOMOTIVE FUELS Important safety precautions



Do not overfill the fuel tank. The pressure in an overfilled tank may cause leakage and lead to fuel spray and fire.

The fuel system may be under pressure. If the fuel filler cap is venting vapor or if you hear a hissing sound, wait until it stops before completely removing the fuel filler cap. Otherwise, fuel may spray out and injure you or others.

If you do not use the proper fuel filler cap, excessive pressure or vacuum in the fuel tank may damage the fuel system or cause the fuel cap to disengage in a collision, which may result in possible personal injury.



Automotive fuels can cause serious injury or death if misused or mishandled.



Fuel ethanol and gasoline may contain benzene, which is a cancer-causing agent.

Observe the following guidelines when handling automotive fuel:

- Extinguish all smoking materials and any open flames before fueling your vehicle.
- Always turn off the vehicle before fueling.
- Automotive fuels can be harmful or fatal if swallowed. Fuels such as gasoline and ethanol are highly toxic and if swallowed can cause death or permanent injury. If fuel is swallowed, call a physician immediately, even if no symptoms are immediately apparent. The toxic effects of fuel may not be visible for hours.
- Avoid inhaling fuel vapors. Inhaling too much fuel vapor of any kind can lead to eye and respiratory tract irritation. In severe cases, excessive or prolonged breathing of fuel vapor can cause serious illness and permanent injury.

- Avoid getting fuel liquid in your eyes. If fuel is splashed in the eyes, remove contact lenses (if worn), flush with water for 15 minutes and seek medical attention. Failure to seek proper medical attention could lead to permanent injury.
- Fuels can also be harmful if absorbed through the skin. If fuel is splashed on the skin and/or clothing, promptly remove contaminated clothing and wash skin thoroughly with soap and water. Repeated or prolonged skin contact with fuel liquid or vapor causes skin irritation.
- Be particularly careful if you are taking "Antabuse" or other forms of disulfiram for the treatment of alcoholism. Breathing gasoline and/or ethanol vapors, or skin contact could cause an adverse reaction. In sensitive individuals, serious personal injury or sickness may result. If fuel is splashed on the skin, promptly wash skin thoroughly with soap and water. Consult a physician immediately if you experience an adverse reaction.
- FFV fuel tanks may contain zero to 85 percent ethanol. Any fuel blends containing gasoline and ethanol should be treated the same as "Fuel Ethanol". To identify if your vehicle is an FFV, check your VIN or the label on the inside of your fuel filler door. When checking the VIN look for the engine type identifier (8th character). If your vehicle is an FFV, then the character will be labeled as a "2."

Pure ethanol is the alcohol which is the intoxicating agent in liquor, beer and wine. It is distilled from the fermentation of plants such as field corn and sugar cane. When ethanol is used in the making of motor fuels, a small amount of a bad tasting chemical is added to discourage beverage use. The resulting fuel is called  $E_{\rm d}100$  meaning 100% pure ethanol diluted by 2% to 5% gasoline as the "denaturant."

Fuel ethanol (summer  $blend_d$ ) is then made by adding 15% more unleaded gasoline. The resulting fuel also has a higher octane rating than unleaded regular gasoline and other properties which allow engine designs with greater efficiency and power.

Winter blends may contain up to 30% (E70) unleaded gasoline (25% plus the denaturant) to enhance cold engine starts. Severely cold weather may require additional measures for reliable starting. Refer to Cold Weather Starting in the Driving chapter.

Ethanol is more chemically active than gasoline. It corrodes some metals and causes some plastic and rubber components to swell, break down or become brittle and crack, especially when mixed with gasoline. Special materials and procedures have been developed for flexible fuel vehicles and the dispensers used by ethanol fuel providers.

Flexible fuel components and standard unleaded gasoline fuel components are not interchangeable. If your vehicle is not serviced in accordance with flexible fuel vehicles procedures, damage may occur and your warranty may be invalidated.

When refueling always shut the engine off and never allow sparks or open flames near the filler neck. Never smoke while refueling. Fuel vapor is extremely hazardous under certain conditions. Care should be taken to avoid inhaling excess fumes.

The flow of fuel through a fuel pump nozzle can produce static electricity, which can cause a fire if fuel is pumped into an ungrounded fuel container.

Use the following guidelines to avoid static build-up when filling an ungrounded fuel container:

- Place approved fuel container on the ground.
- DO NOT fill a fuel container while it is in the vehicle (including the cargo area).
- Keep the fuel pump nozzle in contact with the fuel container while filling.
- DO NOT use a device that would hold the fuel pump handle in the fill position.

#### **Fuel Filler Cap**

Your fuel tank filler cap has an indexed design with a 1/8 turn on/off feature.

When fueling your vehicle:

- 1. Turn the engine off.
- 2. Carefully turn the filler cap counterclockwise 1/8 of a turn until it stops.
- 3. Pull to remove the cap from the fuel filler pipe.
- 4. To install the cap, align the tabs on the cap with the notches on the filler pipe.
- 5. Turn the filler cap clockwise 1/8 of a turn until it stops.

If the "Check Fuel Cap" indicator comes on or if "Service Engine Soon/Check Engine" indicator comes on and stays on when you start the

engine, the fuel filler cap may not be properly installed. Turn off the engine, remove the fuel filler cap, align the cap properly and reinstall it.

If you must replace the fuel filler cap, replace it with a fuel filler cap that is designed for your vehicle. The customer warranty may be void for any damage to the fuel tank or fuel system if the correct genuine Ford or Motorcraft fuel filler cap is not used.

The fuel system may be under pressure. If the fuel filler cap is venting vapor or if you hear a hissing sound, wait until it stops before completely removing the fuel filler cap. Otherwise, fuel may spray out and injure you or others.

If you do not use the proper fuel filler cap, excessive pressure or vacuum in the fuel tank may damage the fuel system or cause the fuel cap to disengage in a collision, which may result in possible personal injury.

### Choosing the right fuel

Use only UNLEADED FUEL. The use of leaded fuel is prohibited by law and could damage your vehicle.

If your vehicle is a flexible fuel vehicle (FFV), use only UNLEADED FUEL and (E85) FUEL ETHANOL. The use of leaded fuel is prohibited by law and could damage your vehicle.

Do not use fuel containing methanol. It can damage critical fuel system components.

Your vehicle was not designed to use fuel or fuel additives with metallic compounds, including manganese-based additives.

Repairs to correct the effects of using a fuel for which your vehicle was not designed may not be covered by your warranty.

#### Octane recommendations

Do not be concerned if your engine sometimes knocks lightly. However, if it knocks heavily under most driving conditions while you are using fuel with the recommended



octane rating, see your dealer or a qualified service technician to prevent any engine damage.

#### Unleaded Gasoline engines

Your vehicle is designed to use "Regular" unleaded gasoline with an (R+M)/2 octane rating of 87. We do not recommend the use of gasolines labeled as "Regular" that are sold with octane ratings of 86 or lower in high altitude areas.

#### FFV engine (if equipped)

Your vehicle is designed to use (E85) Fuel Ethanol, "Regular" unleaded gasoline or any percentage of the two fuels combined.

U.S. government regulations require fuel ethanol dispensing pumps to have a small, square, orange and black label with the common abbreviation or the appropriate percentage for that region. Use of other fuels such as Fuel Methanol may cause powertrain damage, a loss of vehicle performance, and your warranty may be invalidated.

#### **Fuel quality**

Many of the world's automakers approved the World-wide Fuel Charter that recommends gasoline specifications to provide improved performance and emission control system protection for your vehicle. Gasolines that meet the World-wide Fuel Charter should be used when available. Ask your fuel supplier about gasolines that meet the World-wide Fuel Charter.

It should not be necessary to add any aftermarket products to your fuel tank if you continue to use high quality fuel of the recommended octane rating. Aftermarket products could cause damage to the fuel system. Repairs to correct the effects of using an aftermarket product in your fuel may not be covered by your warranty.

#### **Unleaded Gasoline engines**

If you are experiencing starting, rough idle or hesitation driveability problems during a cold start, try a different brand of "Regular" unleaded gasoline. "Premium" unleaded gasoline is not recommended (particularly in the United States) because it may cause these problems to become more pronounced. If the problems persist, see your dealer or a qualified service technician.

#### FFV engine (if equipped)

Your FFV will operate well on ordinary "Regular" unleaded gasoline, but only the highest quality fuel ethanol will provide the same level of protection and performance. To identify if your vehicle is an FFV, check your VIN or the label on the inside of your fuel filler door. When

checking the VIN, look for the engine type identifier (8th character). If your vehicle is an FFV, then the character will be labeled as a "2".

If you operate your vehicle 50% or more of the time on ethanol, you should follow a different maintenance schedule. See the *Scheduled Maintenance Guide* for more information.

If you are experiencing a rough or rolling idle after start-up with the outside temperature above  $27^{\circ}$  C ( $80^{\circ}$  F), the idle should improve within 10 to 30 seconds. If the problems persist below this temperature, see your dealer or a qualified service technician.

#### Cleaner air

Ford endorses the use of reformulated "cleaner-burning" gasolines to improve air quality.

### Running out of fuel

Avoid running out of fuel because this situation may have an adverse affect on powertrain components.

If you have run out of fuel:

- You may need to cycle the ignition from OFF to ON several times after refueling, to allow the fuel system to pump the fuel from the tank to the engine.
- The indicator may come on. For more information on the *Service engine soon* indicator, refer to the *Instrument Cluster* chapter.

#### **Fuel Filter**

For fuel filter replacement, see your dealer or a qualified service technician. Refer to the scheduled maintenance guide for the appropriate intervals for changing the fuel filter.

Replace the fuel filter with an authorized Motorcraft part. The customer warranty may be void for any damage to the fuel system if an authorized Motorcraft fuel filter is not used.

#### **ESSENTIALS OF GOOD FUEL ECONOMY**

### Measuring techniques

Your best source of information about actual fuel economy is you, the driver. You must gather information as accurately and consistently as possible. Fuel expense, frequency of fill-ups or fuel gauge readings are

NOT accurate as a measure of fuel economy. We do not recommend taking fuel economy measurements during the first 1,600 km (1,000 miles) of driving (engine break-in period). You will get a more accurate measurement after 3,000 km-5,000 km (2,000 miles-3,000 miles).

#### Filling the tank

The advertised fuel capacity of the fuel tank on your vehicle is equal to the rated refill capacity of the fuel tank as listed in the *Refill capacities* section of this chapter.

The advertised capacity is the amount of the indicated capacity and the empty reserve combined. Indicated capacity is the difference in the amount of fuel in a full tank and a tank when the fuel gauge indicates empty. Empty reserve is the small amount of fuel remaining in the fuel tank after the fuel gauge indicates empty.

The amount of usable fuel in the empty reserve varies and should not be relied upon to increase driving range. When refueling your vehicle after the fuel gauge indicates empty, you might not be able to refuel the full amount of the advertised capacity of the fuel tank due to the empty reserve still present in the tank.

For consistent results when filling the fuel tank:

- Turn the engine/ignition switch to the off position prior to refueling, an error in the reading will result if the engine is left running.
- Use the same filling rate setting (low medium high) each time the tank is filled.
- Allow no more than 2 automatic click-offs when filling.
- Always use fuel with the recommended octane rating.
- Use a known quality gasoline, preferably a national brand.
- Use the same side of the same pump and have the vehicle facing the same direction each time you fill up.
- Have the vehicle loading and distribution the same every time.

Your results will be most accurate if your filling method is consistent.

#### Calculating fuel economy

- 1. Fill the fuel tank completely and record the initial odometer reading (in kilometers or miles).
- 2. Each time you fill the tank, record the amount of fuel added (in liters or gallons).
- 3. After at least three to five tank fill-ups, fill the fuel tank and record the current odometer reading.

- $4.\ \,$  Subtract your initial odometer reading from the current odometer reading.
- 5. Follow one of the simple calculations in order to determine fuel economy:

Calculation 1: Multiply liters used by 100, then divide by total kilometers traveled.

Calculation 2: Divide total miles traveled by total gallons used.

Keep a record for at least one month and record the type of driving (city or highway). This will provide an accurate estimate of the vehicle's fuel economy under current driving conditions. Additionally, keeping records during summer and winter will show how temperature impacts fuel economy. In general, lower temperatures give lower fuel economy.

#### Driving style — good driving and fuel economy habits

Give consideration to the lists that follow and you may be able to change a number of variables and improve your fuel economy.

#### **Habits**

- Smooth, moderate operation can yield up to 10% savings in fuel.
- Steady speeds without stopping will usually give the best fuel economy.
- Idling for long periods of time (greater than one minute) may waste fuel.
- Anticipate stopping; slowing down may eliminate the need to stop.
- Sudden or hard accelerations may reduce fuel economy.
- Slow down gradually.
- Driving at reasonable speeds (traveling at 88 km/h [55 mph] uses 15% less fuel than traveling at 105 km/h [65 mph]).
- Revving the engine before turning it off may reduce fuel economy.
- Using the air conditioner or defroster may reduce fuel economy.
- You may want to turn off the speed control in hilly terrain if unnecessary shifting between third and fourth gear occurs.
   Unnecessary shifting of this type could result in reduced fuel economy.
- Warming up a vehicle on cold mornings is not required and may reduce fuel economy.
- Resting your foot on the brake pedal while driving may reduce fuel economy.

• Combine errands and minimize stop-and-go driving.

#### Maintenance

- Keep tires properly inflated and use only recommended size.
- Operating a vehicle with the wheels out of alignment will reduce fuel economy.
- Use recommended engine oil. Refer to *Lubricant specifications* in this chapter.
- Perform all regularly scheduled maintenance items. Follow the recommended maintenance schedule and owner maintenance checks found in your vehicle scheduled maintenance guide.

#### **Conditions**

- Heavily loading a vehicle or towing a trailer may reduce fuel economy at any speed.
- Carrying unnecessary weight may reduce fuel economy (approximately 0.4 km/L [1 mpg] is lost for every 180 kg [400 lb] of weight carried).
- Adding certain accessories to your vehicle (for example bug deflectors, rollbars/light bars, running boards, ski/luggage racks) may reduce fuel economy.
- Using fuel blended with alcohol may lower fuel economy.
- Fuel economy may decrease with lower temperatures during the first 12–16 km (8–10 miles) of driving.
- Driving on flat terrain offers improved fuel economy as compared to driving on hilly terrain.
- Transmissions give their best fuel economy when operated in the top cruise gear and with steady pressure on the gas pedal.
- Close windows for high speed driving.

#### **EPA** window sticker

Every new vehicle should have the EPA window sticker. Contact your dealer if the window sticker is not supplied with your vehicle. The EPA window sticker should be your guide for the fuel economy comparisons with other vehicles.

It is important to note the box in the lower left corner of the window sticker. These numbers represent the Range of L/100 km (MPG) expected on the vehicle under optimum conditions. Your fuel economy may vary depending upon the method of operation and conditions.

### EMISSION CONTROL SYSTEM ( )

Your vehicle is equipped with various emission control components and a catalytic converter which will enable your vehicle to comply with applicable exhaust emission standards. To make sure that the catalytic converter and other emission control components continue to work properly:

- Use only unleaded fuel (or E85, if equipped with the 3.0L FFV V6 engine).
- Avoid running out of fuel.
- Do not turn off the ignition while your vehicle is moving, especially at high speeds.
- Have the items listed in your *Scheduled Maintenance Guide* performed according to the specified schedule.

The scheduled maintenance items listed in the *Scheduled Maintenance Guide* are essential to the life and performance of your vehicle and to its emissions system.

If other than Ford, Motorcraft or Ford-authorized parts are used for maintenance replacements or for service of components affecting emission control, such non-Ford parts should be equivalent to genuine Ford Motor Company parts in performance and durability.

Do not park, idle, or drive your vehicle in dry grass or other dry ground cover. The emission system heats up the engine compartment and exhaust system, which can start a fire.

Illumination of the indicator, charging system warning light or the temperature warning light, fluid leaks, strange odors, smoke or loss of engine power, could indicate that the emission control system is not working properly.



Exhaust leaks may result in entry of harmful and potentially lethal fumes into the passenger compartment.

Do not make any unauthorized changes to your vehicle or engine. By law, vehicle owners and anyone who manufactures, repairs, services, sells, leases, trades vehicles, or supervises a fleet of vehicles are not permitted to intentionally remove an emission control device or prevent it from working. Information about your vehicle's emission system is on the Vehicle Emission Control Information Decal located on or near the engine. This decal identifies engine displacement and gives some tune up specifications.

Please consult your Warranty Guide for complete emission warranty information.

#### On board diagnostics (OBD-II)

Your vehicle is equipped with a computer that monitors the engine's emission control system. This system is commonly known as the On Board Diagnostics System (OBD-II). This OBD-II system protects the environment by ensuring that your vehicle continues to meet government emission standards. The OBD-II system also assists the service technician in properly servicing your vehicle. When the *Check engine/Service engine soon* light illuminates, the OBD-II system has detected a malfunction. Temporary malfunctions may cause your *Check engine/Service engine soon* light to illuminate. Examples are:

- 1. The vehicle has run out of fuel. (The engine may misfire or run poorly.)
- 2. Poor fuel quality or water in the fuel.
- 3. The fuel cap may not have been securely tightened.

These temporary malfunctions can be corrected by filling the fuel tank with good quality fuel and/or properly tightening the fuel cap. After three driving cycles without these or any other temporary malfunctions present, the *Check engine/Service engine soon* light should turn off. (A driving cycle consists of a cold engine startup followed by mixed city/highway driving.) No additional vehicle service is required.

If the *Check engine/Service engine soon* light remains on, have your vehicle serviced at the first available opportunity.

### Readiness for Inspection/Maintenance (I/M) testing

In some localities, it may be a legal requirement to pass an I/M test of the on-board diagnostics system. If your indicator is on, refer to the description in the *Warning lights and chimes* section of the *Instrument Cluster* chapter. Your vehicle may not pass the I/M test with the indicator on.

If the vehicle's powertrain system or its battery has just been serviced, the on-board diagnostics system is reset to a "not ready for I/M test" condition. To ready the on-board diagnostics system for I/M testing, a minimum of 30 minutes of city and highway driving is necessary as described below:

- First, at least 10 minutes of driving on an expressway or highway.
- Next, at least 20 minutes driving in stop-and-go, city-type traffic with at least four idle periods.

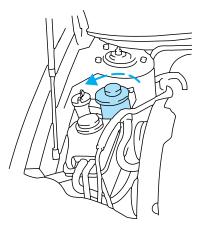
Allow the vehicle to sit for at least eight hours without starting the engine. Then, start the engine and complete the above driving cycle. The engine must warm up to its normal operating temperature. Once started, do not turn off the engine until the above driving cycle is complete.

#### **CHECKING AND ADDING POWER STEERING FLUID**

• 3.0L Vulcan engine



• 3.0L Duratec engine



Check the power steering fluid. Refer to the scheduled maintenance guide for the service interval schedules. If adding fluid is necessary, use only MERCON® ATF.

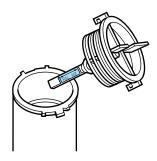
- 1. Start the engine and let it run until it reaches normal operating temperature (the engine coolant temperature gauge indicator will be near the center of the normal area between H and C).
- $2. \ \mbox{While}$  the engine idles, turn the steering wheel left and right several times.
- 3. Turn the engine off.

212

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

### 3.0L V6 Vulcan engine

4. Check the fluid level on the dipstick. It should be between the arrows in the FULL HOT range. Do not add fluid if the level is within this range.



5. If the fluid is low, add fluid in small amounts, continuously checking the level until it reaches the FULL HOT range. Be sure to put the dipstick back in the reservoir.

### 3.0L DOHC V6 Duratec engine

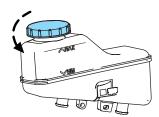
4. Check the fluid level in the reservoir. It should be between the MIN and MAX lines. Do not add fluid if the level is within this range.



5. If the fluid is low, add fluid in small amounts, continuously checking the level until it reaches the range between the MIN and MAX lines. Be sure to put the cap back on the reservoir.

### **BRAKE FLUID RESERVOIR**

The fluid level will drop slowly as the brakes wear, and will rise when the brake components are replaced. Fluid levels between the "MIN" and "MAX" lines are within the normal operating range, there is no need to add fluid. If the fluid levels are outside of the normal operating range, the performance of your brake system could be compromised, seek service from your dealer immediately.



#### TRANSMISSION FLUID

### Checking automatic transmission fluid

Refer to your *Scheduled Maintenance Guide* for scheduled intervals for fluid checks and changes. Your transaxle does not consume fluid. However, the fluid level should be checked if the transaxle is not working properly, i.e., if the transaxle slips or shifts slowly or if you notice some sign of fluid leakage.

Automatic transmission fluid expands when warmed. To obtain an accurate fluid check, drive the vehicle until it is warmed up (approximately 30 km [20 miles]). If your vehicle has been operated for an extended period at high speeds, in city traffic during hot weather or pulling a trailer, the vehicle should be turned off for about 30 minutes to allow fluid to cool before checking.

- 1. Drive the vehicle  $30~\mathrm{km}$  ( $20~\mathrm{miles}$ ) or until it reaches normal operating temperature.
- 2. Park the vehicle on a level surface and engage the parking brake.
- 3. With the parking brake engaged and your foot on the brake pedal, start the engine and move the gearshift lever through all of the gear ranges. Allow sufficient time for each gear to engage.
- 4. Latch the gearshift lever in P (Park) and leave the engine running.
- 5. Remove the dipstick, wiping it clean with a clean, dry lint free rag. If necessary, refer to *Identifying components in the engine compartment* in this chapter for the location of the dipstick.
- 6. Install the dipstick making sure it is fully seated in the filler tube.

7. Remove the dipstick and inspect the fluid level. The fluid should be in the designated areas for normal operating temperature.

#### Low fluid level

Do not drive the vehicle if the fluid level is at the bottom of the dipstick and the outside temperatures are above 10°C (50°F).



#### Correct fluid level

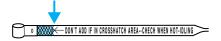
The transmission fluid should be checked at normal operating temperatures  $66^{\circ}\text{C-}77^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $150^{\circ}\text{F-}170^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) on a level surface. The normal operating temperature can be reached after approximately 30 km (20 miles) of driving.

The transmission fluid should be in this range if at normal operating temperature (66°C-77°C [150°F-170°F]).



### High fluid level

Fluid levels above the safe range may result in transaxle failure. An overfill condition of transmission fluid may cause shift and/or



engagement concerns and/or possible damage.

High fluid levels can be caused by an overheating condition.

### Adjusting automatic transmission fluid levels

Before adding any fluid, make sure the correct type is used. The type of fluid used is normally indicated on the dipstick and also in the *Lubricant specifications* section in this chapter.

# Use of a non-approved automatic transmission fluid may cause internal transaxle component damage.

If necessary, add fluid in  $250~\mathrm{mL}$  (1/2 pint) increments through the filler tube until the level is correct.

If an overfill occurs, excess fluid should be removed by a qualified technician.

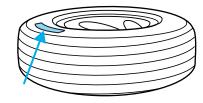


An overfill condition of transmission fluid may cause shift and/or engagement concerns and/or possible damage.

Do not use supplemental transmission fluid additives, treatments or cleaning agents. The use of these materials may affect transmission operation and result in damage to internal transmission components.

#### INFORMATION ABOUT UNIFORM TIRE QUALITY GRADING

New vehicles are fitted with tires that have a rating on them called Tire Quality Grades. The Quality grades can be found where applicable on the tire sidewall between tread shoulder and maximum section width. For example:



#### • Treadwear 200 Traction AA Temperature A

These Tire Quality Grades are determined by standards that the United States Department of Transportation has set.

Tire Quality Grades apply to new pneumatic tires for use on passenger cars. They do not apply to deep tread, winter-type snow tires, space-saver or temporary use spare tires, tires with nominal rim diameters of 10 to 12 inches or limited production tires as defined in Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations Part 575.104(c)(2).

**U.S. Department of Transportation-Tire quality grades:** The U.S. Department of Transportation requires Ford to give you the following information about tire grades exactly as the government has written it.

#### 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. For example, a tire graded 150 would wear one and one-half (1 1/2) times as well on the government course as a tire graded 100. The relative performance of tires depends upon the actual conditions of their use, however, and may depart significantly from the norm due to variations in driving habits, service practices, and differences in road characteristics and climate.

### **Traction AA A B C**

The traction grades, from highest to lowest are AA, A, B, and C. The grades represent the tire's ability to stop on wet pavement as measured under controlled conditions on specified government test surfaces of asphalt and concrete. A tire marked C may have poor traction performance.

The traction grade assigned to this tire is based on straight-ahead braking traction tests, and does not include acceleration, cornering, hydroplaning or peak traction characteristics.

### Temperature A B C

The temperature grades are A (the highest), B and C, representing the tire's resistance to the generation of heat and its ability to dissipate heat when tested under controlled conditions on a specified indoor laboratory test wheel. Sustained high temperature can cause the material of the tire to degenerate and reduce tire life, and excessive temperature can lead to sudden tire failure. The grade C corresponds to a level of performance which all passenger car tires must meet under the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 109. Grades B and A represent higher levels of performance on the laboratory test wheel than the minimum required by law.

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.

#### **TIRES**

Tires are designed to give many thousands of miles of service, but they must be maintained in order to get the maximum benefit from them.

#### Glossary of tire terminology

- **Tire label:** A label showing the OE (Original Equipment) tire sizes, recommended inflation pressure and the maximum weight the vehicle can carry.
- **Tire Identification Number (TIN):** A number on the sidewall of each tire providing information about the tire brand and manufacturing plant, tire size and date of manufacturer.
- **Inflation pressure:** A measure of the amount of air in a tire.
- **Standard load:** A class of P-metric or Metric tires designed to carry a maximum load at 35 psi [37 psi (2.5 bar) for Metric tires]. Increasing the inflation pressure beyond this pressure will not increase the tires load carrying capability.
- Extra load: A class of P-metric or Metric tires designed to carry a heavier maximum load at 41 psi [43 psi (2.9 bar) for Metric tires]. Increasing the inflation pressure beyond this pressure will not increase the tires load carrying capability.

- kPa: Kilopascal, a metric unit of air pressure.
- **PSI:** Pounds per square inch, a standard unit of air pressure.
- **B-pillar:** The structural member at the side of the vehicle behind the front door.
- **Bead area of the tire:** Area of the tire next to the rim.
- **Sidewall of the tire:** Area between the bead area and the tread.
- **Tread area of the tire:** Area of the perimeter of the tire that contacts the road when mounted on the vehicle.
- **Rim:** The metal support (wheel) for a tire or a tire and tube assembly upon which the tire beads are seated.

#### INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THE TIRE SIDEWALL

Federal law requires tire manufacturers to place standardized information on the sidewall of all tires. This information identifies and describes the fundamental characteristics of the tire and also provides a U.S. DOT Tire Identification Number for safety standard certification and in case of a recall.

## Information on "P" type tires

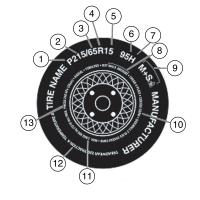
P215/65R15 95H is an example of a tire size, load index and speed rating. The definitions of these items are listed below. (Note that the tire size, load index and speed rating for your vehicle may be different than this example.)

1. **P:** Indicates a tire, designated by the Tire and Rim Association (T&RA), that may be used for service on cars, SUVs, minivans and light trucks.

**Note:** If your tire size does not begin with a letter this may mean it is designated by either ETRTO

(European Tire and Rim Technical Organization) or JATMA (Japan Tire Manufacturing Association).

2. **215:** Indicates the nominal width of the tire in millimeters from sidewall edge to sidewall edge. In general, the larger the number, the wider the tire.



- 3. **65:** Indicates the aspect ratio which gives the tire's ratio of height to width.
- 4. **R:** Indicates a "radial" type tire.
- 5. **15:** Indicates the wheel or rim diameter in inches. If you change your wheel size, you will have to purchase new tires to match the new wheel diameter
- 6. **95:** Indicates the tire's load index. It is an index that relates to how much weight a tire can carry. You may find this information in your owner's guide. If not, contact a local tire dealer.

**Note:** You may not find this information on all tires because it is not required by federal law.

7. **H:** Indicates the tire's speed rating. The speed rating denotes the speed at which a tire is designed to be driven for extended periods of time under a standard condition of load and inflation pressure. The tires on your vehicle may operate at different conditions for load and inflation pressure. These speed ratings may need to be adjusted for the difference in conditions. The ratings range from 159 km/h (99 mph) to 299 km/h (186 mph). These ratings are listed in the following chart.

**Note:** You may not find this information on all tires because it is not required by federal law.

Letter rating	Speed rating - km/h (mph)
Q	159 km/h (99 mph)
R	171 km/h (106 mph)
S	180 km/h (112 mph)
Т	190 km/h (118 mph)
U	200 km/h (124 mph)
Н	210 km/h (130 mph)
V	240 km/h (149 mph)
W	270 km/h (168 mph)
Y	299 km/h (186 mph)

**Note:** For tires with a maximum speed capability over 240 km/h (149 mph), tire manufacturers sometimes use the letters ZR. For those with a maximum speed capability over 299 km/h (186 mph), tire manufacturers always use the letters ZR.

8. **U.S. DOT Tire Identification Number (TIN):** This begins with the letters "DOT" and indicates that the tire meets all federal standards. The next two numbers or letters are the plant code where it was

manufactured, the next two are the tire size code and the last four numbers represent the week and year the tire was built. For example, the numbers 317 mean the 31st week of 1997. After 2000 the numbers go to four digits. For example, 2501 means the 25th week of 2001. The numbers in between are marketing codes used at the manufacturer's discretion. This information is used to contact customers if a tire defect requires a recall.

9. M+S or M/S: Mud and Snow. or

**AT:** All Terrain. or **AS:** All Season.

- 10. **Tire Ply Composition and Material Used:** Indicates the number of plies or the number of layers of rubber-coated fabric in the tire tread and sidewall. Tire manufacturers also must indicate the ply materials in the tire and the sidewall, which include steel, nylon, polyester, and others.
- 11. **Maximum Load:** Indicates the maximum load in kilograms and pounds that can be carried by the tire. Refer to the tire label or the safety certification label, located on the B-Pillar or the driver's door, for the correct tire pressure for your vehicle

### 12. Treadwear, Traction and Temperature Grades

- **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. For example, a tire graded 150 would wear one and one-half (1½) times as well on the government course as a tire graded 100.
- **Traction:** The traction grades, from highest to lowest are AA, A, B, and C. The grades represent the tire's ability to stop on wet pavement as measured under controlled conditions on specified government test surfaces of asphalt and concrete. A tire marked C may have poor traction performance.
- **Temperature:** The temperature grades are A (the highest), B and C, representing the tire's resistance to the generation of heat and its ability to dissipate heat when tested under controlled conditions on a specified indoor laboratory test wheel.
- 13. **Maximum Permissible Inflation Pressure:** Tire manufactures maximum permissible pressure and/or the pressure at which the maximum load can be carried by the tire. This pressure is normally higher than the manufacturer's recommended cold inflation pressure which can be found on either the tire label or certification label which is located on the structure by the trailing edge of the driver's door or the edge of the driver's door. The cold inflation pressure should never be set lower than the recommended pressure on the vehicle label.

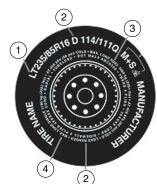
**Note:** You may not find this information on all tires because it is not required by federal law.

The tire suppliers may have additional markings, notes or warnings such as standard load, radial tubeless, etc.

# Additional information contained on the tire sidewall for "LT" type tires

"LT" type tires have some additional information than those of "P" type tires; these differences are described below:

- 1. **LT:** Indicates a tire, designated by the Tire and Rim Association (T&RA), that is intended for service on light trucks.
- 2. **Load Range/Load Inflation Limits:** Indicates the tires load-carrying capabilities and its inflation limits.
- 3. Maximum Load Dual kg (lbs.)
  at kPa (psi) cold: Indicates the
  maximum load and tire pressure
  when the tire is used as a dual; a
  dual is defined as when four tires are put on the rear axle (a total of six
  or more tires on the vehicle).
- 4. **Maximum Load Single kg (lbs.) at kPa (psi) cold:** Indicates the maximum load and tire pressure when the tire is used as a single; a single is defined as when two tires (total) are put on the rear axle.

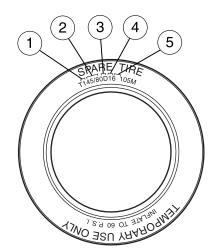


### Information on "T" type tires

T145/80D16 is an example of a tire size.

**Note:** The temporary tire size for your vehicle may be different than this example.

- 1. **T:** Indicates a type of tire, designated by the Tire and Rim Association (T&RA), that is intended for temporary service on cars, SUVs, minivans and light trucks.
- 2. **145:** Indicates the nominal width of the tire in millimeters from sidewall edge to sidewall edge. In general, the larger the number, the wider the tire.



- 3. **80:** Indicates the aspect ratio which gives the tires ratio of height to width. Numbers of 70 or lower indicate a short sidewall.
- 4. **D:** Indicates a "diagonal" type tire.
- **R:** Indicates a "radial" type tire.
- 5. **16:** Indicates the wheel or rim diameter in inches. If you change your wheel size, you will have to purchase new tires to match the new wheel diameter.

### Location of the tire label

You will find a tire label containing tire inflation pressure by tire size and other important information located on the B-Pillar or the driver's door.

#### **TIRE CARE**

Improper or inadequate vehicle maintenance can also cause tires to wear abnormally. Here are some of the important maintenance items:

#### Tire inflation pressure

Use a tire gauge to check the tire inflation pressure, including the spare, at least monthly and before long trips. You are strongly urged to buy a reliable tire pressure gauge, as automatic service station gauges may be inaccurate. Ford recommends the use of a digital or dial type tire pressure gauge rather than a stick type tire pressure gauge.

Use the recommended cold inflation pressure for optimum tire performance and wear. Under-inflation or over-inflation may cause uneven treadwear patterns.

Under-inflation is the most common cause of tire failures and may result in severe tire cracking, tread separation or "blowout", with unexpected loss of vehicle control and increased risk of injury. Under-inflation increases sidewall flexing and rolling resistance, resulting in heat buildup and internal damage to the tire. It also may result in unnecessary tire stress, irregular wear, loss of vehicle control and accidents. A tire can lose up to half of its air pressure and not appear to be flat!

When weather temperature changes occur, tire inflation pressures also change. A 6° C ( $10^{\circ}$  F) temperature change can cause a corresponding drop of 7 kPa (1 psi) in inflation pressure. Check your tire pressures frequently and adjust them to the proper pressure which can be found on the tire label or certification label.

If you are checking tire pressure when the tire is hot, (i.e. driven more than 1.6 km [1mile]), never "bleed" or reduce air pressure. The tires are hot from driving and it is normal for pressures to increase above recommended cold pressures. A hot tire at or below recommended cold inflation pressure could be significantly under-inflated.

To check the pressure in your tire(s):

1. Make sure the tires are cool, meaning they are not hot from driving even a mile.

**Note:** If you have to drive a distance to get air for your tire(s), check and record the tire pressure first and add the appropriate air pressure when you get to the pump. It is normal for tires to heat up and the air pressure inside to go up as you drive. Never "bleed" or reduce air pressure when tires are hot.

- 2. Remove the cap from the valve on one tire, then firmly press the tire gauge onto the valve.
- 3. Add air to reach the recommended air pressure

**Note:** If you overfill the tire, release air by pushing on the metal stem in the center of the valve. Then recheck the pressure with your tire gauge.

4. Replace the valve cap.

5. Repeat this procedure for each tire, including the spare.

**Note:** Some spare tires require higher inflation pressure than the other tires. Check the tire label on the B pillar or the driver's door for the recommended spare tire pressure.

- 6. Visually inspect the tires to make sure there are no nails or other objects embedded that could poke a hole in the tire and cause an air leak.
- 7. Check the sidewalls to make sure there are no gouges, cuts, bulges or other irregularities.

### Tire and wheel alignment

A bad jolt from hitting a curb or pothole can cause the front end of your vehicle to become misaligned or damage to your tires. If your vehicle seems to pull to one side when you're driving, the wheels may be out of alignment. Have a qualified technician at a Ford or Lincoln/Mercury dealer check the wheel alignment periodically.

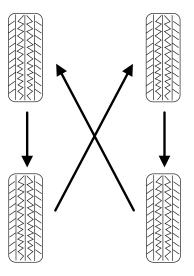
Wheel misalignment in the front or the rear can cause uneven and rapid treadwear of your tires and should be corrected by a qualified technician at a Ford or Lincoln/Mercury dealer. Front wheel drive (FWD) vehicles, and those with an independent rear suspension require alignment of all four wheels.

The tires should also be balanced periodically. An unbalanced tire and wheel assembly may result in irregular tire wear.

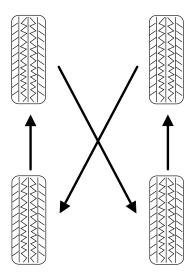
#### Tire rotation

Rotating your tires at the recommended interval (as indicated in the *Scheduled Maintenance Guide* that comes with your vehicle) will help your tires wear more evenly providing better tire performance and longer tire life. Unless otherwise specified, rotate the tires approximately every 8,000 km (5,000 miles).

• Front Wheel Drive (FWD) vehicles (front tires at top of diagram)



• Rear Wheel Drive (RWD) vehicles/Four Wheel Drive (4WD) vehicles (front tires at top of diagram)



Sometimes irregular tire wear can be corrected by rotating the tires.

**Note:** If your tires show uneven wear ask a qualified technician at a Ford or Lincoln/Mercury dealership to check for and correct any wheel misalignment, tire imbalance or mechanical problem involved before tire rotation

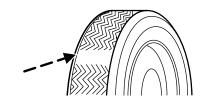
**Note:** Your vehicle may be equipped with a dissimilar spare tire/wheel. A dissimilar spare tire/wheel is defined as a spare tire and/or wheel that is different in brand, size or appearance from the road tires and wheels. If you have a dissimilar spare tire/wheel it is intended for temporary use only and should not be used in a tire rotation.

**Note:** After having your tires rotated, inflation pressure must be checked and adjusted to the vehicle requirements.

#### Tire wear

Measure and inspect the tire tread on all your tires periodically. Advanced and unusual tire wear can reduce the ability of tread to grip the road in adverse (wet, snowy, etc.) conditions. Visually check your tires for uneven wear, looking for high and low areas or unusually smooth areas. Also check for signs of tire damage.

When the tread is worn down to 4 mm (1/16th of an inch), tires must be replaced to prevent your vehicle from skidding and hydroplaning. Built-in treadwear indicators, or "wear bars", which look like narrow strips of smooth rubber across the tread will appear on the tire when



the tread is worn down to 4mm (1/16th of an inch). When you see these "wear bars", the tire is worn out and should be replaced.

Inspect your tires frequently for any of the following conditions and replace them if one or more of the following conditions exist:

- Fabric showing through the tire rubber
- Bulges in the tread or sidewalls
- Cracks or cuts on the sidewalls
- Cracks in the tread groove
- Impact damage resulting from use
- Separation in the tread
- Separation in the sidewall

226

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

• Severe abrasion on the sidewall

If your vehicle has a leak in the exhaust system, a road tire or the spare tire may be exposed to hot exhaust temperatures requiring the tire to be replaced.

### **Tire Replacement Requirements**

Your vehicle is equipped with tires designed to provide safe ride and handling capability.

Only use replacement tires and wheels that are the same size and type (such as P-metric versus LT-metric or all-season versus all-terrain) as those originally provided by Ford. Use of any tire or wheel not recommended by Ford can affect the safety and performance of your vehicle, which could result in an increased risk of loss of vehicle control, vehicle rollover, personal injury and death. Additionally the use of non-recommended tires and wheels could cause steering, suspension, axle or transfer case/power transfer unit failure. If you have questions regarding tire replacement, see an authorized Ford or Lincoln/Mercury dealer.

Make sure all tires and wheels on the vehicle are of the same size, type, tread design, brand, load-carrying capacity and speed rating because it can affect the safety and performance of your vehicle, which could result in an increased risk of loss of vehicle control, vehicle rollover, personal injury and death.

You should replace the spare tire when you replace the other road tires due to the aging of the spare tire.

#### Safety practices

Driving habits have a great deal to do with your tire mileage and safety.

- Observe posted speed limits
- Avoid fast starts, stops and turns
- · Avoid potholes and objects on the road
- Do not run over curbs or hit the tire against a curb when parking

If your vehicle is stuck in snow, mud, sand, etc., **do not** rapidly spin the tires; spinning the tires can tear the tire and cause an explosion. A tire can explode in as little as three to five seconds.



Tire explosions can cause death, personal injury or property damage. Do not allow anyone to stand near, directly ahead or behind the spinning tire.



Never spin the tires in excess of the 55 km/h (35 mph) point indicated on the speedometer.

## Highway hazards

No matter how carefully you drive there's always the possibility that you may eventually have a flat tire on the highway. Drive slowly to the closest safe area out of traffic. This may further damage the flat tire, but your safety is more important.

If you feel a sudden vibration or ride disturbance while driving, or you suspect your tire or vehicle has been damaged, immediately reduce your speed. Drive with caution until you can safely pull off the road. Stop and inspect the tire for damage. If the tire is under-inflated or damaged, deflate it, remove wheel and replace it with your spare tire and wheel. If you cannot detect a cause, have the vehicle towed to the nearest repair facility or tire dealer to have the vehicle inspected.

#### SNOW TIRES AND CHAINS



Snow tires must be the same size and grade as the tires you currently have on your vehicle.

The tires on your vehicle have all weather treads to provide traction in rain and snow. However, in some climates, you may need to use snow tires and chains. If you need to use snow tires and chains, it is recommended that steel wheels are used of the same size and specifications as those originally installed.

Follow these guidelines when using snow tires and chains:

- Use only cable type chains offered by Ford as an accessory or equivalent. SAE class "S" or other conventional link type chains may cause damage to the vehicle's wheel house and/or body.
- Install cable chains securely, verifying that the cables do not touch any wiring, brake lines or fuel lines.
- Drive cautiously. If you hear the cables rub or bang against your vehicle, stop and re-tighten the cables. If this does not work, remove the cables to prevent damage to your vehicle.

228

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) **USA English** (fus)

- If possible, avoid fully loading your vehicle.
- Remove the tire cables when they are no longer needed. Do not use tire cables on dry roads.
- The suspension insulation and bumpers will help prevent vehicle damage. Do not remove these components from your vehicle when using snow tires and cables.
- Do not exceed 48 km/h (30 mph) with tire cables on your vehicle.

#### MOTORCRAFT PART NUMBERS

Component	3.0L V6 Vulcan engine	3.0L FFV V6 engine	3.0L DOHC V6 Duratec engine
Air filter element <sup>1</sup>	FA-1683	FA-1683	FA-1683
Fuel filter	FG-1060	FG-1060	FG-1060
Battery (standard)	BXT-36R	BXT-36R	BXT-36R
Battery (optional)	BXT-36R	N/A	N/A
Oil filter	FL-400-S	FL-400-S	FL-820-S
PCV valve	2	-	
Spark plugs	3		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Do not use oil-impregnated air filter elements. Failure to use the correct air filter element may result in severe engine damage. The customer warranty may be voided for any damage to the engine if the correct air filter element is not used.

<sup>2</sup>The PCV valve is a critical emission component. It is one of the items listed in the *Scheduled Maintenance Guide* and is essential to the life and performance of your vehicle and to its emissions system.

For PCV valve replacement, see your dealer or a qualified service technician. Refer to the *Scheduled Maintenance Guide* for the appropriate intervals for changing the PCV valve.

Replace the PCV valve with one that meets Ford material and design specifications for your vehicle, such as a Motorcraft or equivalent replacement part. The customer warranty may be void for any damage to the emissions system if such a PCV valve is not used

<sup>3</sup>For spark plug replacement, see your dealer or a qualified service technician. Refer to the *Scheduled Maintenance Guide* for the appropriate intervals for changing the spark plugs.

Replace the spark plugs with ones that meet Ford material and design specifications for your vehicle, such as Motorcraft or equivalent replacement parts. The customer warranty may be void for any damage to the engine if such spark plugs are not used.

Refer to Vehicle Emissions Control Information (VECI) decal for spark plug gap information.

## **REFILL CAPACITIES**

Fluid	Ford Part Name	Application	Capacity
Brake fluid	Motorcraft High Performance DOT 3 Motor Vehicle Brake Fluid	All	Between MAX and MIN on reservoir
Engine coolant <sup>1</sup>	Motorcraft Premium Gold Engine Coolant	3.0L V6 Vulcan engine 3.0L V6 Duratec	11.0L (11.6 quarts) 10.0L
Engine oil (includes filter change) <sup>2</sup>	(yellow-colored) Motorcraft SAE 5W-20 Premium Synthetic Blend Motor	engine 3.0L V6 Vulcan engine	(10.6 quarts) 4.25L (4.5 quarts)
	Oil (US) Motorcraft SAE 5W-20 Super Premium Motor Oil (Canada)	3.0L V6 Duratec engine	5.7L (6.0 quarts)
Fuel tank capacity	N/A	All vehicles	68.1L (18.0 gallons)

Fluid	Ford Part Name	Application	Capacity
Power steering fluid	Motorcraft MERCON® ATF	3.0L V6 Vulcan engine	Fill to line on dipstickFill to line on reservoir
		3.0L V6 Duratec engine	Fill to line on reservoir
Automatic transaxle - 4F50N	Motorcraft MERCON®V ATF	3.0L V6 Vulcan engine 3.0L V6 Duratec engine	12.8L (13.5 quarts) 12.7L (13.4 quarts)
Windshield washer fluid - Front	Motorcraft Premium Windshield Washer Concentrate	All	2.8L (94.7 oz.)
Windshield washer fluid - Rear	Motorcraft Premium Windshield Washer Concentrate	Wagon	1.8L (60.9 oz.)

 $<sup>^1\!\</sup>mathrm{Add}$  the coolant type originally equipped in your vehicle.

 $<sup>^2</sup>$ Use of synthetic or synthetic blend motor oil is not mandatory. Engine oil need only meet the requirements of Ford specification WSS-M2C153–H and the API Certification mark.

## **LUBRICANT SPECIFICATIONS**

Items	Ford Part Name or equivalent	Ford Part Number	Ford Specification
Brake fluid	Motorcraft High Performance DOT 3 Motor Vehicle Brake Fluid	PM-1	ESA-M6C25-A and DOT 3
Door latch, hood latch, auxiliary hood latch, seat tracks, trunk and liftgate latches	Multi-Purpose Grease	XG-4 or XL-5	ESR-M1C159-A or ESA-M1C93-B
Lock cylinders	Penetrating and Lock Lubricant	Motorcraft XL-1	none
Automatic transaxle (4F50N <sup>1</sup> )	Motorcraft MERCON®V ATF	XT-5-QM	MERCON®V
Engine oil	Motorcraft SAE 5W-20 Premium Synthetic Blend Motor Oil (US) Motorcraft SAE 5W-20 Super Premium Motor Oil (Canada)	XO-5W20-QSP (US) CXO-5W20-LSP12 (Canada)	WSS-M2C153-H and API Certification Mark
Constant velocity joints	CV Joint Grease (High Temp.)	XG-5	WSS-M2C258-A1
Engine coolant	Motorcraft Premium Gold Engine Coolant (yellow-colored)	VC-7-A (U.S., except CA and OR), VC-7-B (CA and OR only)	WSS -M97B51–A1

Items	Ford Part Name or equivalent	Ford Part Number	Ford Specification
Power steering fluid	Motorcraft MERCON® ATF	XT-2-QDX	MERCON®
Windshield washer fluid	Motorcrarft Premium Windshield Washer Concentrate	ZC-32-A	WSB-M8B16-A2

<sup>1</sup>Ensure the correct automatic transmission fluid is used. Transmission fluid requirements are indicated on the dipstick or on the dipstick handle. Check the container to verify the fluid being added is of the correct type. Refer to your *Scheduled Maintenance Guide* to determine the correct service interval.

Some transmission fluids may be labeled as dual usage, such as MERCON® and MERCON® V. These dual usage fluids are not to be used in an automatic transmission that requires use of the MERCON® type fluid. However, these dual usage fluids may be used in transmissions that require the MERCON® V type fluid.

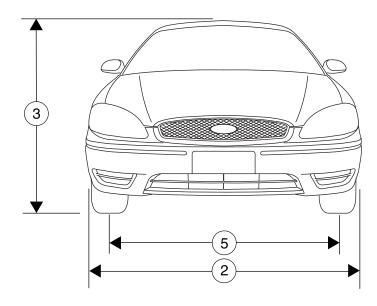
MERCON® and MERCON® V type fluids are not interchangeable. DO NOT mix MERCON® and MERCON® V. Use of a transmission fluid that indicates dual usage (MERCON® and MERCON® V) in an automatic transmission application requiring MERCON® may cause transmission damage. Use of any fluid other than the recommended fluid may cause transmission damage.

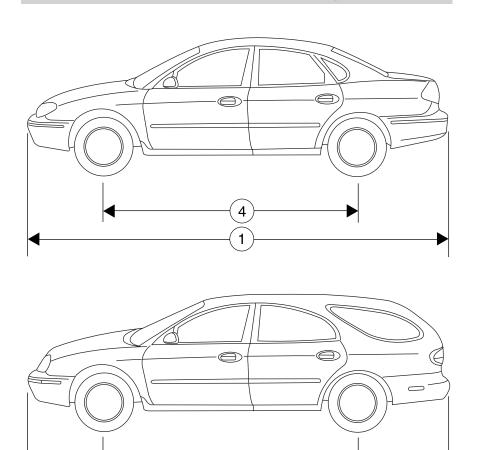
#### **ENGINE DATA**

Engine	3.0L V6 Vulcan engine	3.0L FFV V6 engine	3.0L DOHC V6 Duratec engine
Cubic inches	182	182	181
Required fuel	87 octane	87 octane or Ethanol (E 85)	87 octane
Firing order	1-4-2-5-3-6	1-4-2-5-3-6	1-4-2-5-3-6
Ignition system	EDIS	EDIS	Coil on plug
Compression ratio	9.7:1	9.7:1	10.0:1

## **VEHICLE DIMENSIONS**

<b>Vehicle dimensions</b>	Sedan mm (in)	Wagon mm (in)
(1) Overall length	5020 (197.6)	5022 (197.7)
(2) Overall width	1855 (73.0)	1855 (73.0)
(3) Overall height	1426 (56.1)	1468 (57.8)
(4) Wheelbase	2757 (108.5)	2757 (108.5)
(5) Track - Front	1566 (61.6)	1566 (61.6)
(5) Track - Rear	1577 (62.1)	1570 (61.8)





#### **IDENTIFYING YOUR VEHICLE**

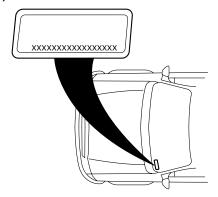
### **Certification label**

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Regulations require that a Certification label be affixed to a vehicle and prescribe where the Certification label may be located. The Certification label is located on the front door latch pillar on the driver's side.

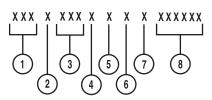


### Vehicle identification number (VIN)

The vehicle identification number is attached to a metal tag and is located on the driver side instrument panel. (Please note that in the graphic XXXX is representative of your vehicle identification number.)



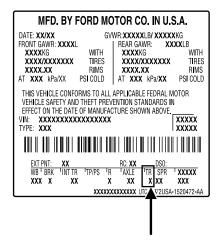
- 1. World manufacturer identifier
- 2. Brake type and gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR)
- 3. Vehicle line, series, body type
- 4. Engine type
- 5. Check digit
- 6. Model year
- 7. Assembly plant
- 8. Production sequence number



## **Engine number**

The engine number (the last eight numbers of the vehicle identification number) is stamped on the engine block and transaxle.

### Transmission/Transaxle code designations



You can find a transmission/transaxle code on the vehicle certification label which is located on the door pillar. The following table tells you which transmission or transaxle each code represents.

237

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

## Truck application:

Code	Transmission Description
	Manual transmission
M	Manual 5-speed (AKK))
С	Manual 5-speed overdrive (Close ratio)
W	Manual 5-speed overdrive (Dana ZF)
G	Manual 6-speed ZF
	Automatic transmission
Y	Automatic 4-speed overdrive (CD4E)
U	Automatic 4-speed overdrive (4R70W)
Т	Automatic 4-speed overdrive (4R44E)
E	Automatic 4-speed overdrive (4R100)
J	Automatic 5-speed overdrive (5R55E)
	Electric
Н	One speed electric
D	Automatic 5-speed overdrive (5R44E)
R	Automatic 5-speed overdrive (5R55S)

## Passenger car application:

Code	Transmission/Transaxle Description
	Front wheel drive manual transaxle
R	5-speed overdrive (MTX75)
W	5-speed overdrive (M5)
	Front wheel drive automatic transaxle
A	4–speed overdrive (4F27E)
Е	4–speed overdrive (4FE)
J	3-speed (Mazda)
L	4–speed overdrive (AX4S)
P	4-speed overdrive (4F20E)
X	4-speed overdrive (4F50N)
Y	4–speed overdrive (CD4E)
	Rear wheel drive manual transaxle
5	5-speed (Mazda M5)

Code	Transmission/Transaxle Description	
	Rear wheel drive automatic transmission	
U	4–speed overdrive (4R70W)	
A	5-speed overdrive (5R55N)	

## **Accessories**

#### **GENUINE FORD ACCESSORIES FOR YOUR VEHICLE**

A wide selection of Genuine Ford Accessories are available for your vehicle through your local authorized Ford or Ford of Canada dealer. These quality accessories have been specifically engineered to fulfill your automotive needs; they are custom designed to complement the style and aerodynamic appearance of your vehicle. In addition, each accessory is made from high quality materials and meets or exceeds Ford's rigorous engineering and safety specifications. Ford Motor Company will repair or replace any properly dealer-installed Genuine Ford Accessory found to be defective in factory-supplied materials or workmanship during the warranty period, as well as any component damaged by the defective accessory. The accessory will be warranted for whichever provides you the greatest benefit:

- 12 months or 20,000 km (12,000 miles) (whichever occurs first), or
- the remainder of your new vehicle limited warranty.

This means that Genuine Ford Accessories purchased along with your new vehicle and installed by the dealer are covered for the full length of your New Vehicle's Limited Warranty — 3 years or 60,000 km (36,000 miles) (whichever occurs first). Contact your dealer for details and a copy of the warranty.

#### Not all accessories are available for all models.

The following is a list of several Genuine Ford Accessory products for your vehicle. Not all accessories are available for all models. For a complete listing of the accessories that are available for your vehicle, please contact your dealer or visit our online store at: www.fordaccessoriesstore.com.

### **Exterior style**

Bug shields

Deflectors

Exterior trim kits

Front end covers

Grille inserts

Headlamps, fog lights and Daytime Running Lamps (DRLs)

Splash guards

Wheels

## Interior style

Cell phone holders

Electrochromatic compass/temperature interior mirrors

240

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

### **Accessories**

Floor mats
Interior trim kits
Leather wrapped steering wheels
Scuff plates
Speed control

### Lifestyle

Bike racks

Cargo organization and management Engine block heaters and blankets

#### Peace of mind

Airbag anti-theft locks
First aid and safety kits
Full vehicle covers
Locking gas cap
Navigation systems
Remote start

Vehicle security systems

For maximum vehicle performance, keep the following information in mind when adding accessories or equipment to your vehicle:

- When adding accessories, equipment, passengers and luggage to your vehicle, do not exceed the total weight capacity of the vehicle or of the front or rear axle (GVWR or GAWR as indicated on the Safety Compliance Certification label). Consult your dealer for specific weight information.
- The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Canadian Radio Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) regulate the use of mobile communications systems such as two-way radios, telephones and theft alarms that are equipped with radio transmitters. Any such equipment installed in your vehicle should comply with FCC or CRTC regulations and should be installed only by a qualified service technician.
- Mobile communications systems may harm the operation of your vehicle, particularly if they are not properly designed for automotive

A	acid, treating emergencies194 jumping a disabled battery162
Accessory delay49	maintenance-free194
Air bag supplemental restraint	replacement, specifications229
system107–108, 113	servicing194
and child safety seats109	BeltMinder102
description108, 113	Brakes132
disposal115 driver air bag108, 110, 114	anti-lock
indicator light113	anti-lock brake system (ABS)
operation108, 110, 114	warning light133
passenger air bag108, 110, 114	fluid, checking and adding214
side air bag113	fluid, refill capacities230
Air cleaner filter229	fluid, specifications232–233
Air conditioning26	lubricant specifications232–233
Antifreeze	parking134 shift interlock136
(see Engine coolant)196	
Anti-lock brake system	Bulbs35
(see Brakes)133	C
Anti-theft system85	C
arming the system86	Capacities for refilling fluids230
disarming a triggered system86	Cargo area shade70
Audio system	Cargo cover70
(see Radio)15–16, 19	Cargo net69–70
Automatic transaxle	CD changer21
fluid, adding	CD-single premium15–16, 19
fluid, checking214 fluid, refill capacities230	
fluid, specification233	Cell phone use68
Automatic transmission	Certification Label236
driving an automatic	Changing a tire157
overdrive138	Child safety restraints116
Auxiliary power point48	child safety belts116
Axle	Child safety seats118
lubricant specifications232	attaching with tether straps123
	in front seat120
В	in rear seat120, 122
<b>5</b>	Cigar lighter
Battery194	Power Point48
242	

2004 Taurus (tau) Owners Guide (post-2002-fmt) USA English (fus)

Cleaning your vehicle engine compartment 180 instrument panel 182 interior 183 interior trim 183 plastic parts 182 washing 179 waxing 179 wheels 180 wiper blades 182	The Dispute Settlement Board
Climate control (see Air conditioning or Heating)26	Defrost rear window28
Clock adjust AM/FM Stereo	Dipstick automatic transmission fluid214 engine oil190
Compass, electronic set zone adjustment61	Doors lubricant specifications232
Console	Driving under special conditions
Coolant checking and adding	E Electronic message center58 Emergencies, roadside jump-starting162 Emergency Flashers
Customer Assistance	Emission control system

Engine oil	G
dipstick	Garage Door Opener (see Homelink wireless control system)
Exhaust fumes132	(see Fuel economy)206 Gauges13
F	Н
Flexible Fuel Vehicle (FFV)201	Hazard flashers149
Floor mats68	Headlamps30
Fluid capacities230	aiming31–32
Fuel	autolamp system
safety information relating to automotive fuels	Ignition

Instrument panel cleaning	Lubricant specifications232–233 Luggage rack
Jack	Message center
Lamps autolamp system	Octane rating

Power Point Cigar lighter48	Seat belts (see Safety restraints)91
Power steering	Seats
Power Windows49	Servicing your vehicle185
R	Setting the clock AM/FM stereo
Radio15–16, 19	AM/FM/Tape17 Spare tire
Rear window defroster28	(see Changing the Tire)157
Relays	Spark plugs, specifications229, 233–234
Remote entry system illuminated entry	Specification chart, lubricants232–233
Roadside assistance148	Speed control51
Roof rack72	Starting a flex fuel vehicle131
S	Starting your vehicle
Safety Belt Maintenance106	Steering wheel
Safety belts (see Safety restraints)91, 94–97, 99	tilting47
Safety defects, reporting178	T
Safety restraints	Tilt steering wheel       47         Tires       157, 216–217         alignment       224         care       222         changing       157, 159, 162         checking the pressure       222         label       222         replacing       227         rotating       224         safety practices       227         sidewall information       218         snow tires and chains       228

spare tire       158         terminology       217         tire grades       217         treadwear       216, 226         Towing       143         recreational towing       146         trailer towing       143	Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)
wrecker	Warning chimes 134
Traction control	Warning chimes
Trunk	Windshield washer fluid and wipers
Vehicle dimensions234	Wrecker towing168