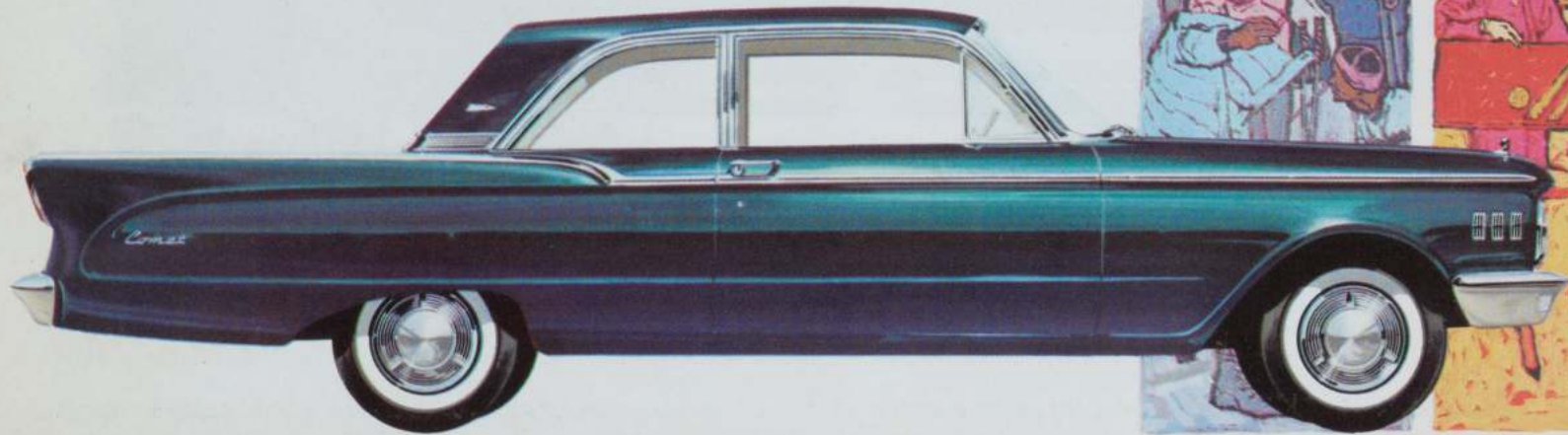


1961 COMET





Comet 4-Door Sedan shown in Saxon Green Metallic.

← FINE-CAR STYLING ... BIG-CAR RIDE ... SMALL-CAR HANDLING →

the look of success ... the size of success ... the feel of success

Comet

THE BETTER COMPACT CAR

... only compact car with fine-car styling ... priced with or below the other compacts

The only compact with fine-car styling. A spirited sense of proportion gives Comet the most successful styling in its field. New rust-proof aluminum grille, exquisite interiors, fine-car touches everywhere.

The first family-size compact. Comet's 114" wheelbase—longer than any other compact's—provides spacious comfort that other compacts sacrifice. In fact, Comet is the same size as most popular cars of a few years ago. And there's over 28 cubic feet of trunk space.

Big-car ride—small-car handling. Comet's fine suspension (plus 114" wheelbase) makes the ride smoother than many standard cars. Still Comet parks and handles almost as easily as a baby carriage.

Priced with or below the other compacts. For all its fine-car flair, family-size comfort and big-car ride, Comet's price is surprisingly low.

New Thrift-Power 170 engine for '61. Comet now offers two economy engines—the new, optional, high-performance Thrift-Power 170 and the standard Thrift-Power Six. Engines are mounted up front for better weight distribution and safer driving.

Choose from two- and four-door wagons, too. With over 76 cubic feet of cargo space and retractable rear window for easier loading, a Comet wagon is one of the most efficient on the road. Wide tailgate opening makes the 9-foot-long load space easily accessible.

COMET 2-DOOR SEDAN



Shown in Sheffield Gray Metallic.

Easy to maneuver in busy traffic, Comet is a cinch to park. While nearly two feet shorter on the outside than conventional-size cars, there's plenty of stretch-out room on the inside. The 114-inch wheelbase provides stable, secure handling and a smoother ride. Comet's gleaming finish is tough, durable Super-Enamel.

With luxury like this, you'd hardly guess Comet is a low-price car. All-vinyl interior (shown) is optional.



COMET 4-DOOR SEDAN



Shown in Regency Turquoise Metallic.

Low, wide and spacious, Comet rivals standard-size cars for six-passenger room and solid comfort. Comet's fine suspension system and sound-silencing insulation make the ride both smooth and restful. With its added features and driving fun, you'll enjoy going places in Comet!

Interior fabrics are handsome, sturdy tweed and Moroccan vinyls—color-keyed to match exteriors.



COMET 2-DOOR STATION WAGON



Shown in Columbia Blue Metallic.

Comet wagons feature a huge 76-cubic-foot cargo deck and roll-down rear window which eliminates the old-fashioned liftgate and affords better ventilation. For added convenience, a power-operated rear window is available at slight additional cost. Front and rear seats are foam-padded. Flooring is scuff-proof rubber.

Station wagon fabrics are durable, easy to clean. They are color-harmonized to exteriors.



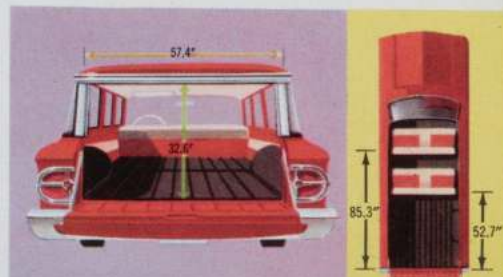
COMET 4-DOOR STATION WAGON



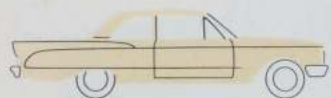
Shown in Signal Red.

The thin roof line, large glass areas and thin-pillared design give Comet wagons a fleet and airy look. Standard are dual headlights, safety steering wheel, dual horns, tandem-action windshield wipers—and more! And Comet's low price enables *everyone* to enjoy fashionable, functional station wagon living.

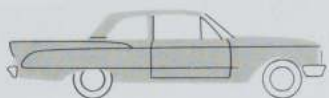
Tailgate folds level with cargo floor for a wide, flat, 9-foot long loading surface. Illustration below shows space to end of cargo compartment floor. With tailgate open, you get an additional 23.7 inches of space.



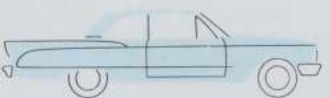
COMET'S FIESTA OF COLORS



Sultana White



Sheffield Gray Metallic



Blue Haze



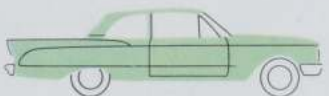
Columbia Blue Metallic



Empress Blue Metallic



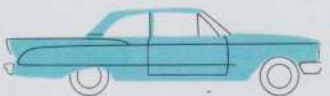
Presidential Black



Green Frost



Saxon Green Metallic



Regency Turquoise Metallic



Signal Red

Adding to Comet's high-fashioned styling, beautiful color-keyed fabrics and leather-soft vinyls bring unusual luxury to the interior. Materials are durable, easy to clean. On the outside, Comet offers you a wide selection of

beautiful colors (shown above)—all in longer-lasting Super-Enamel, to keep your Comet bright and gleaming with only an occasional washing to restore the showroom finish. Choose either distinctive solids or two-tone combinations.

For a complete selection of standard and optional interior and exterior colors and fabrics, ask a Comet salesman to show you the 1961 Comet Color and Upholstery Book.

COMET'S RIDE

—SMOOTH, AGILE, SILENT
AND SECURE

... the ride of success



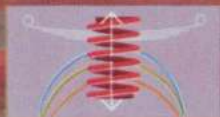
Comet offers you the kind of superior ride you'd expect only in a much larger car. Finger-light steering and obedient handling reduce driver fatigue. You get less road shock because the suspension system absorbs bumps and jars. Optional Comet Drive automatic transmission brings you whisper-quiet, fully automatic shifting at a budget price. The standard 3-speed conventional drive is unusually smooth and responsive.



Shadow car: wheelbase of average compact. Yellow wheels: Comet's longer, 114" wheelbase. Added length helps cut road shock.



Roof, floor, luggage compartment, dash panel, doors, hood, wheel housings are heavily insulated to bring you fine-car quiet.



Ball-joint front suspension, coil springs, stabilizer bar add to Comet's new ride. At the rear are 50" long, 5-leaf springs.



Brake linings: 131 sq. in. in sedans, 150.6 sq. in. in wagons. Efficient cooling makes stopping safer.

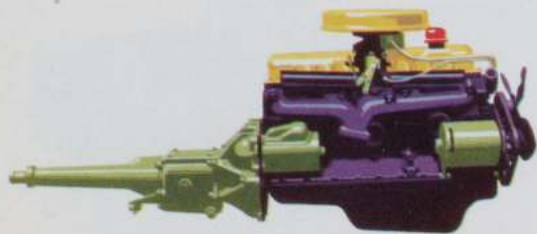


Comet's low center of gravity offers greater stability, better all-around handling. Comet offers firm, constant control, easy steering and parking.



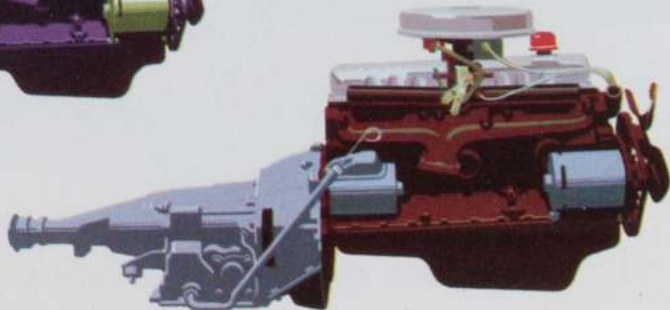
Comet's unit-built body is strongly reinforced with double ribs and cross-members for greater strength and rigidity, added safety.

COMET OFFERS NEW PERFORMANCE WITH A CHOICE OF 2 ENGINES



THRIFT-POWER SIX with 3-speed manual transmission (standard). Second- and third-drive gears are synchronized . . . practically eliminates clashing gears when shifting.

THRIFT-POWER 170 with Comet Drive automatic transmission (both optional). Smooth, automatic shifting at a budget price. Simplified design reduces maintenance.



The Comet Thrift-Power Six engine (standard). This proved engine delivers maximum economy with excellent performance. It gives swift, sure response to your every command. Easy to service, the Thrift-Power Six provides outstanding fuel economy on regular gas. It is mounted up front for better weight distribution and safer driving.

New for '61 . . . is the Thrift-Power 170 engine. Developed to bring increased, sprightly performance to Comet, this easy-to-service engine combines the most spirited "go" with real economy. Like the standard Thrift-Power Six, it operates on regular-grade gasoline. Available on all models at a small additional cost.

COMET'S FINE CAR EXTRAS

MORE VALUE—MORE ECONOMY



Comet's careful attention to detail is found in numerous new styling appointments and features which are standard: front armrests, stabilizer bar for improved control and smoother ride, oil filter and dual sun visors, among others,

1. Long-wearing, easy-to-clean vinyl head-

linings harmonize perfectly with over-all color scheme. Roof is heavily insulated against sound and heat for quiet, comfortable driving. 2. Windshield wipers operate in tandem—overlap to clear the center area. Windshield is compound-curved laminated safety plate glass. 3. Comet's 3-spoke, deep-dish safety steering wheel is a plus feature for added protection in case of sudden stops. 4. There's space to spare in Comet's 28.5 cubic-foot trunk.

Spare tire is mounted flat, out of the way. 5. In Comet, there's plenty of head, shoulder, hip and leg room for six adults to sit in solid comfort. 6. This sedan front seat is chair-high, foam-padded for greater comfort. Special spring design provides firm, posture-right support. 7. Dual headlights add to your nighttime driving safety. Set in attractive, rust-free aluminum grille, they are scientifically angled for better road illumination.



1



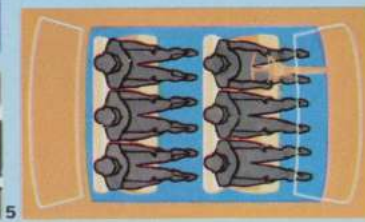
2



3



4



6



7

SPECIFICATIONS

BODY AND SUSPENSION

Unit-Built Construction: With rust-resistant zinc-coated underbody members; reinforced with double ribs and cross-members.

Front Suspension: Ball-joint, front suspension with anti-dive provision. Coil front springs. Hydraulic shock absorbers mounted inside coil springs.

Rear Suspension: Alloy steel, leaf-type rear springs. Hotchkiss drive. Direct-acting, angle-mounted hydraulic shock absorbers.

Steering: Re-circulating ball-and-nut type steering gear. Over-all ratio: 27 to 1.

Parking Brake: Independent mechanical; operating on rear wheels.

ENGINE

Thrift-Power Six: High-economy in-line 6-cylinder engine. Overhead valves. Displacement: 144.3 cubic inches; compression ratio: 8.7 to 1; recommended fuel: regular grade.

Thrift-Power 170*: In-line 6-cylinder engine. Overhead valves. Displacement: 170 cubic inches; compression ratio: 8.7 to 1; recommended fuel: regular grade.

Engine Lubrication: Full-pressure lubrication. Rotor-type oil pump with non-floating screened inlet. Oil capacity (with filter change): 4.5 quarts.

Engine Cooling: Downflow, pressurized radiator. Full-length water jackets around all cylinders. Capacity without heater: 8.7 quarts; with heater: 9.3 quarts.

Fuel System: Carburetor: single barrel, downdraft type. Mechanical diaphragm fuel pump with vacuum-booster. Dry-type air cleaner with replaceable element. Fuel filter locations: fuel tank, fuel line.

Electrical: 12-volt system. 54-plate battery. Full-vacuum spark control. Positive engagement starter. 18mm. anti-fouling spark plugs.

TRANSMISSION AND REAR AXLE

Automatic Transmission*: 5-position selector lever: P(Park), R(Reverse), N(Neutral), D(Drive), L(Low). Fully automatic fluid torque converter with 2-speed planetary gearset.

Three-Speed Manual Shift Transmission: Selective gear type with three forward speeds. Gear ratios: First gear, 3.29 to 1; Second gear, 1.75 to 1; Third gear, 1.00 to 1; Reverse gear, 4.46 to 1. Both second and third gears synchronized.

Clutch: Non-centrifugal, single dry-plate type. Outside diameter: 8½ inches.

Rear Axle: Semi-floating type with hypoid gears. Two-pinion differential, tapered roller bearings.

COMET SEDANS

WHEELBASE	114.0"
OVER-ALL LENGTH	194.8"
TREAD (front)	55.0"
(rear)	54.5"

Specifications shown herein were in effect at the time this book was approved for printing. Lincoln-Mercury Division of Ford Motor Company, Dearborn, Michigan, reserves the right, however, to discontinue or change at any time, specifications, designs, or prices without notice and without incurring any obligation. White sidewall tires, accessories and any other equipment that is not standard equipment are optional at extra cost. *Optional at extra cost

OVER-ALL HEIGHT	54.5"
OVER-ALL WIDTH	70.4"

Brakes: Hydraulic, internal-expanding. Total lining area: 131.0 sq. in. Brake drum diameter: 9 in.

Wheel and Tires: Stamped steel disc wheels, 13-inch diameter. Tyrex cord tire size: 6.00 x 13, 4-ply rating.

COMET STATION WAGONS

WHEELBASE	109.5"
OVER-ALL LENGTH	191.8"
TREAD (front)	55.0"
(rear)	54.5"
OVER-ALL HEIGHT	55.1"
OVER-ALL WIDTH	70.4"

Brakes: Hydraulic, internal-expanding. Total brake lining area: 150.6 sq. in. Brake drum diameter: 9 in.

Wheel and Tires: Stamped steel disc wheels, 13-inch diameter. Tyrex cord tire size: 6.50 x 13, 4-ply rating.