

From Third Generation Gold Card Judges Stewart Jones and Terry McCoy

The Boss is Back

Although the muscle car era was at its peak in 1969, the final chapter for the GT was being written. Not until 1982 would those two beloved letters reappear on America's favorite pony car.

But when Ford announced "The Boss is Back" they meant it in a big way. This new GT was the beginning of a new evolution for the Mustang. The 5.0L power plant was back after a two-year absence. It was freshened and became known as the 5.0 H.O. Ads referred to it as "Mustang's magic metal. The 5-liter HO V-8."

A horsepower rating of 157 was achieved through the use of a new marine camshaft coupled with a four-speed transmission and traction lok rear axle. Ford advertising used references such as "The Boss is Back" and "Ford Mustang GT - No

changes that through the years would peak with a horsepower rating of 225.

As these changes occurred, the aftermarket platform became a tinkerer's dream come true. Nearly every component imaginable and even those too wild for the imagination became available to further enhance Ford's handiwork. Through the years, names synonymous with performance worked their way to the forefront; names such as Saleen, Steeda, Kenny Brown, etc.

The 1982 GT Mustang earns the respect of all GT owners, both pre- and post-1982, for carrying on the GT name in such a bold statement throughout the third generation years. The GT is still around today with a new look and new motor creating it's own permanent place in Mustang history.



1982 GT Mustang owned by Farrel and Brenda Buis

stripes, just a serious mean streak." The stage was set for

NOS Replacement Made Easy

- The hood insulator pad is very easy to replace - just order all new clips to make the job easier.
- Available from Ford are door gaskets for 1979-93 convertibles and hatchbacks.
- New clutch and brake pedal pads add a clean look.
- Plastic scratches easily, so replace those worn scuff plates. Only four screws hold them in place.
- Exterior parts still available from Ford include 5.0 emblems along with some SVO and GT decals.
- Clean up those foggy 1987-93 headlights with new plastic.

Unfortunately all of this won't be around forever. Parts for 1979-86 cars are nearly gone or are obsolete. The good news is that what is still on the shelves is under \$50! A cheap price to pay for NOS components!

Did You Know? Topic: 1982 Mustang

1. The 1982 GT was the first to sport the new 5.0 H.O.
2. With the new H.O. came new traction bars.
3. The first/last year for aluminum rear brake drums.
4. The new H.O. has a marine camshaft. The spark plug wires are routed like a 351.
5. The '82 GT front end design was a one-year deal.
6. Last year for vertical taillights.
7. Last year for running horse logo to be imbedded in hood as emblem.
8. Last year for white/black lettering on Marchal fog lamp covers.
9. In keeping with tradition, a toggle switch was used for the fog lamps.

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Answers from last month's issue

1. In 1982, the Boss is back with a 157 hp 2 barrel V8.
2. In 1979 Ford offered a Cobra option package including Cobra graphics.
3. The 1985 Mustang had the most performance upgrades requiring the use of Gatorbacks.
4. All automakers must adhere to D.O.T. regulations. In 1986 one of those was a third brake light. Ford styled the luggage rack around the brake light.
5. The California emissions system was an option on cars shipped there in 1988. In 1989, all 5.0 H.O. Mustangs had mass air.
6. The 1990 (7-up) LX 5.0L H.O. convertible made a splash with options such as a black/white dash.