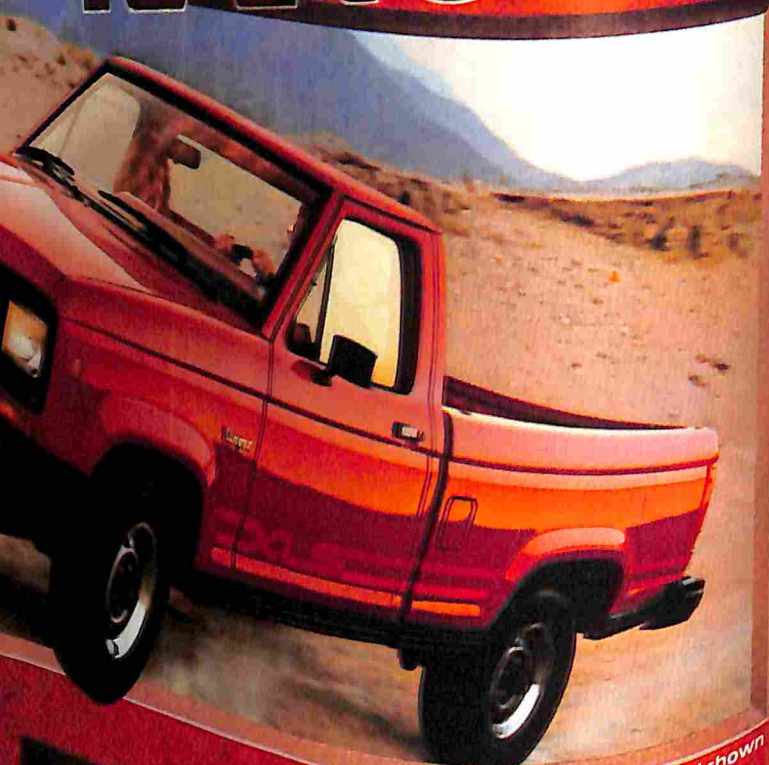


MINI-SIZE '83 FORD

# RANGER



Ranger XLS model shown

**TWIN-I-BEAM suspension.**  
The only small truck with it. And it's computer-tuned for smooth ride.

**DOUBLE-WALL box sides**  
mean dings on inside won't mar the outside. No import has it.

**1625-LBS. payload option.**  
More than most compacts and many standard-size pickups.

**CHOICES include:** 6- or 7-ft. box. 2.0L or 2.3L 4-cylinder truck engine. Trailer Towing Package. Auxiliary fuel tank.

**AMERICA'S TRUCK.  
BUILT FORD TOUGH.**

**FORD**

FORD DIVISION

LIKE THE BIG ONES,  
LIKE THE SMALL ONES.



Good thing it can tread.

Page 32

EDITOR/PUBLISHER  
David E. Davis, Jr.

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR  
Don Sherman

EDITOR AT LARGE  
Patrick Bedard

MANAGING EDITOR  
Don Coulter

ART DIRECTOR  
Linda Golightly Moser

ASSOCIATE EDITORS  
Rich Ceppos, Larry Griffin  
Jean Lindamood

TECHNICAL EDITOR  
Csaba Csere

PRODUCTION EDITOR  
Gail Etter

COPY EDITOR  
Suzanne Wise

ASSISTANT ART DIRECTOR  
Andrea Lynn Stork

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT  
Cheryl Ritchey

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
Harriet W. Stemberger

EUROPEAN CORRESPONDENT  
L.J.K. Setright

ASIAN CORRESPONDENT  
Yasushi Ishiwatari

MILITARY AFFAIRS EDITOR  
Steve Smith

BAJA PALOS VERDES DESK  
Michael Jordan

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS  
David Abrahamson, Gordon Baxter  
Charles Fox, Anne Hope  
Bruce McCall, John McGovern  
P.J. O'Rourke, Warren Weith

CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS  
Pete Biro, Rich Chenet  
Ken Dallison, Robert Harmeyer, Jr.  
Don Hunter, Dick Kelley  
Aaron Kiley, George Lepp, Bill Neale  
Robin Riggs, Humphrey Sutton

RECEPTIONIST  
Mary Ann Pickney

BLADE RUNNER  
Michael Brueger

Car and Driver, ISSN 0008-6002  
Published monthly at One Park Avenue,  
New York, N.Y. 10016, by Ziff-Davis Publishing  
Company—Richard P. Frieser, President;  
Company—Richard P. Frieser, President;  
Selwyn Taubman, Treasurer; Bertram A.  
Abrams, Secretary. Second-class postage paid at  
New York, N.Y. 10016, and at additional mailing  
offices. Authorized as second-class mail by the  
Post Office Department, Ottawa, Canada, and for  
payment of postage in cash. One-year subscrip-  
tion rate for U.S. and Possessions, \$11.98.  
Postmaster: Send address changes to Car and  
Driver, P.O. Box 2770, Boulder, Colo. 80302.

# CAR and DRIVER

SEPTEMBER 1982

VOLUME 28, NUMBER 3

## RACY RUBBER

- 32 **TRIAL BY TIRE** Nine high-performance radials take the front-drive test in a blue-smoke, black-dust tournament of traction  
**READING THE RUBBER** 225/60HR-14, and all that

## ROAD TESTS

- 43 **RENAULT ALLIANCE LIMITED** At Franco-American Motors, prodigy is the most important product—by *Don Sherman*  
51 **DRIVING IMPRESSION: BENTLEY MULSANNE TURBO**  
Power to the power elite—by *Michael Jordan*  
59 **1983 FORD ESCORT GT** Now that Middle America is taken care of, Ford's built one for us—by *Jean Lindamood*

## FEATURES

- 64 **THE RISE AND FALL OF RALPH NADER** Doesn't anyone want to be saved from the automobile anymore?—by *Rich Ceppos*  
**DRIVING DRUNK** Some people are MADD as hell  
**SAFETY IN NUMBERS?** GM cars are the safest, sort of  
75 **FANTASYLAND IN CHICAGO, FRANKFURT, BEVERLY HILLS** Classic Motors has the \$100,000 car for you—by *Larry Griffin*

## SHORT TAKES

- 48 **HONDA CIVIC FE** The only thing you give up is a few gas stops—by *Csaba Csere*  
110 **MAZDA B2200 DIESEL PICKUP** By its TVW shall ye know it—by *Pete Lyons*  
114 **CHEVY S-10 4X4S** Less is not more anymore—by *Pete Lyons*  
124 **HARLEY-DAVIDSON FXR SUPER GLIDE II** A contemporary classic that makes you feel as good as it looks—by *Csaba Csere*

## COLUMNS

- 9 **DRIVER'S SEAT** Detroit and the Grand Prix: right place, right time  
10 **LETTERS** Goat glands, kidney belts, and ignorant schmucks  
16 **BEDARD** Trying to get a lap up on the undertaker  
21 **BAXTER** A 32 B in a 38 C  
116 **ROAD TEST REVIEW**  
144 **SETRIGHT** Of pebbles, polymers, and hobnailed boots

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

- 23 **NEW & IMPROVED** Mid-engined Ford two-seater, VW GTIs for the U.S., Buick T-type sport models, and the return of the Hurst Olds  
25 **MIRAGE II TURBO** Eight on the floor and wheels of fire  
26 **HI-TECH** See the U.S.A. from a Can-Am Chevrolet

## SPORT

- 126 **DETROIT GRAND PRIX** A day of righteous achievement, brilliant racing, and skyrocketing Motown spirit—by *Larry Griffin, Michael Jordan, and Jean Lindamood*  
**THE GREENING OF THE MOTOR CITY** Step two  
Cover photography by *Aaron Kiley*

COPYRIGHT © 1982 BY ZIFF-DAVIS PUBLISHING COMPANY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

SEPTEMBER 1982



NEW FOR '83 Ford Escort GT • Renault Alliance

# CAR and DRIVER

SEPTEMBER 1982 • \$1.50

## TIRE TEST!

Pirelli P7 • Goodyear Eagle GT  
Phoenix Stahlflex • Dunlop D3  
B.F. Goodrich Comp T/A  
Bridgestone Potenza  
Avon Turbospeed  
Yokohama 352  
Goodyear NCT



MerchMart.com®  
Gift Quality Vintage Magazines

094BT  
22155  
MIN 55122  
T SCHREINER  
1766 SILVERBELL RD  
ST PAUL  
490320 SHR 17665090  
38XON B1411 NOV82  
1402414275

YE, RALPH NADER  
The decline and fall of the safety fanatics