



## The "Light-of-Hand" Performer

If there is one characteristic aside from the lines of the car that distinguishes the Thunderbird, it's the *light touch*.

Never before has any car come so close to becoming an extension of the driver himself.

**To begin with**, it is neither a midget nor a giant. Rather it is a tidy package with plenty of leg room and plenty of shoulder room. And its body is all-steel as it should be.

And from then on it's the light-touch control that you will find so delightfully different from any car you have ever driven.

Of course, the major part of this control stems directly from the power plant. Its 292-cubic-inch (just under 5 liters) overhead-valve Y-block V-8 has a special 4-barrel carburetor and high-compression heads. It puts 198 brake horsepower at your disposal. And this, in a car with an over-all road weight of just over 3000 pounds, is a fact that lifts many a European eyebrow!

For the man who enjoys his own box work, the straight-stick Thunderbird leaves nothing to be desired especially if the car is ordered with the optional Automatic Overdrive. But for the man

who can't be bothered or who has car-minded womenfolk, the Thunderbird's own automatic transmission is duck soup with sherry.

**Now what about steering?** Ford engineers don't go along with the idea that a high-performance car such as the Thunderbird should have overly fast steering for the American highway. It steers with the ease you are accustomed to and you can have it power-assisted if you wish.

**As for brakes**, Thunderbird brakes are bigger than they need be—11 inches in diameter—and give you velvet-smooth, straight-line stops. Easily, too, because they are of the self-energizing duo-servo type . . . use the car's energy of motion for extra stopping power.

**As for the ride**, it's level. It's firm. It's comfortable. An all-day trip is refreshing—not fagging. You get real all-weather protection, too. Proper roll-up windows. A hard top that lifts on or off with ease and/or a fabric top that's snug and smooth.

Finally—a Thunderbird is never farther than your Ford Dealer's for service. Incidentally, if the Thunderbird urge is perched on your shoulder—he's the man to see!

Ford THUNDERBIRD



An exciting original by Ford