

1956 FORD

Fairlane



1956 FORD

Fairlane

The *Fairlane Series*

6 New and Distinguished Cars from Ford



## ... a model to match your own good taste

IN THE FORD FAIRLANE SERIES for '56, you'll find just what you want in a motor car, no matter how *fine* you expect it to be. You can be sure there's a distinguished Ford Fairlane model to match your own good taste.

Here is true styling elegance, inspired by America's favorite dream car—the Ford Thunderbird. Your heartbeat will quicken when you see the long, low lines . . . the brilliant use of color . . . the new, wide chrome body moldings . . . the rich, inviting interiors . . . *all* the things that make these Fairlane models stand out in the most distinguished company.

Here is elegance in action, too! Beneath each Fairlane hood purrs a mighty power plant—the new Thunderbird Y-8—the same basic engine for which the Ford Thunderbird is famous.



You'll command a great new reserve of power that gives you instant response . . . when instants count.

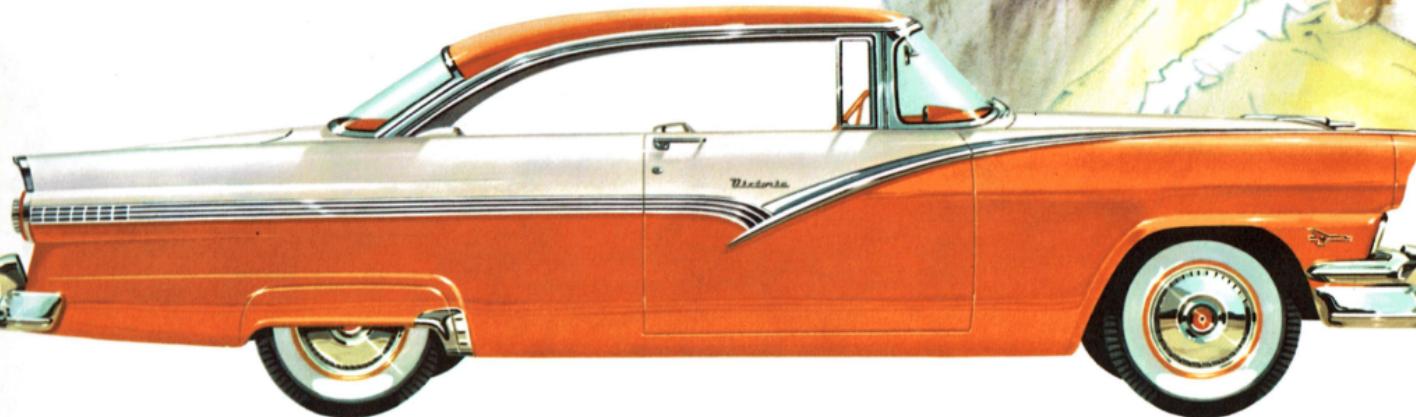
And, for '56, Ford brings you the first significant contribution to driver and passenger protection in the event of an accident—new Lifeguard Design—a Ford first for "Safety First."

Lifeguard Design is a new group of safety features that will give you and your family greater peace of mind . . . a new sense of well-being in all your driving. On page 11 you'll find Ford's new Lifeguard safety features pictured and described.

In the following pages, consider *everything* these new 1956 Fairlane Fords have to offer. The fact stands out—you can't make a finer buy.

## The Fairlane Victoria

HERE'S DISTINCTION that's evident *wherever* you go. A lower, more flattering roof line gives this new Fairlane Victoria a new and distinguished silhouette . . . yet there's more than ample head room. Side windows roll down out of sight, leaving no center posts in view! And the stunning new luxury interiors harmonize handsomely with the exterior finish of your choice. Smart as a convertible, snug as a sedan, this distinctive new Victoria is a style-leading member of the Fairlane family—the fine cars that are winning more and more new friends for Ford.



## The Fairlane Crown Victoria

THIS PROUD BEAUTY with its distinctive "crown of chrome" adds even more "lustre" to the distinguished Fairlane Series for '56. Its unusually low roof line . . . its chrome-trimmed hull . . . its smart new wrap-around parking lights . . . and its first-class "living quarters" (with folding arm rest in rear) are the last word in modern décor. Another version, the Skyliner, has a tinted transparent "sky-view" over driver's compartment.



## The Fairlane Sunliner

IS IT ANY WONDER most people who prefer convertibles prefer the Ford Sunliner? And this new Sunliner is still more glamorous for '56! Take your choice of 25 harmonized body-color-upholstery ensembles with new all-vinyl two-tone interiors. And there's a new lovely to look at, easy-to-read Thunderbird-type control panel. A snug-fitting top gives you open-car freedom or closed-car comfort at the touch of a switch.



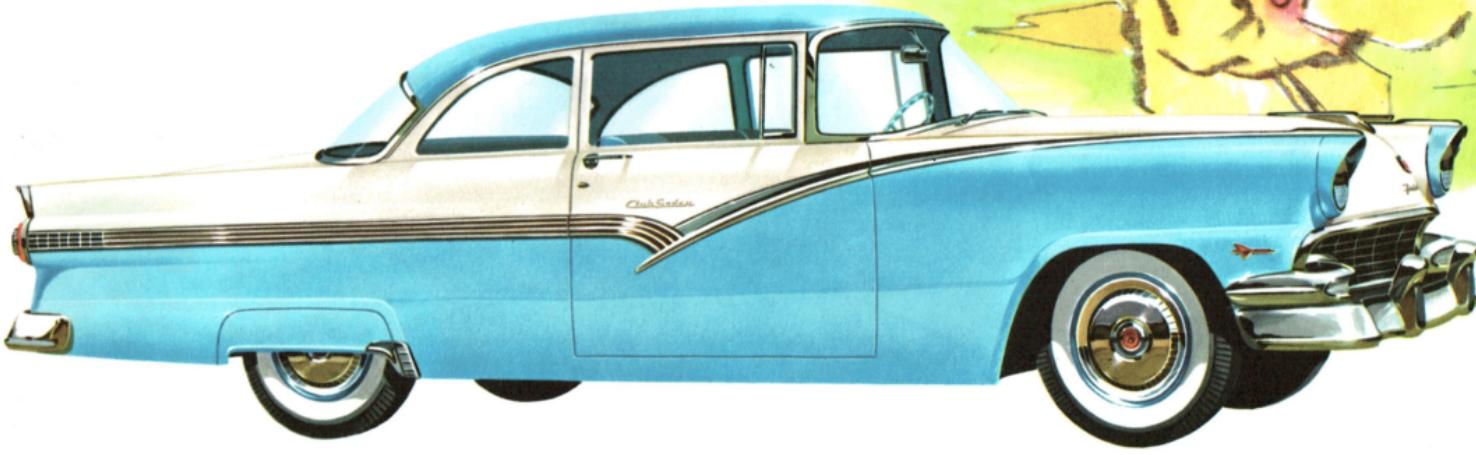


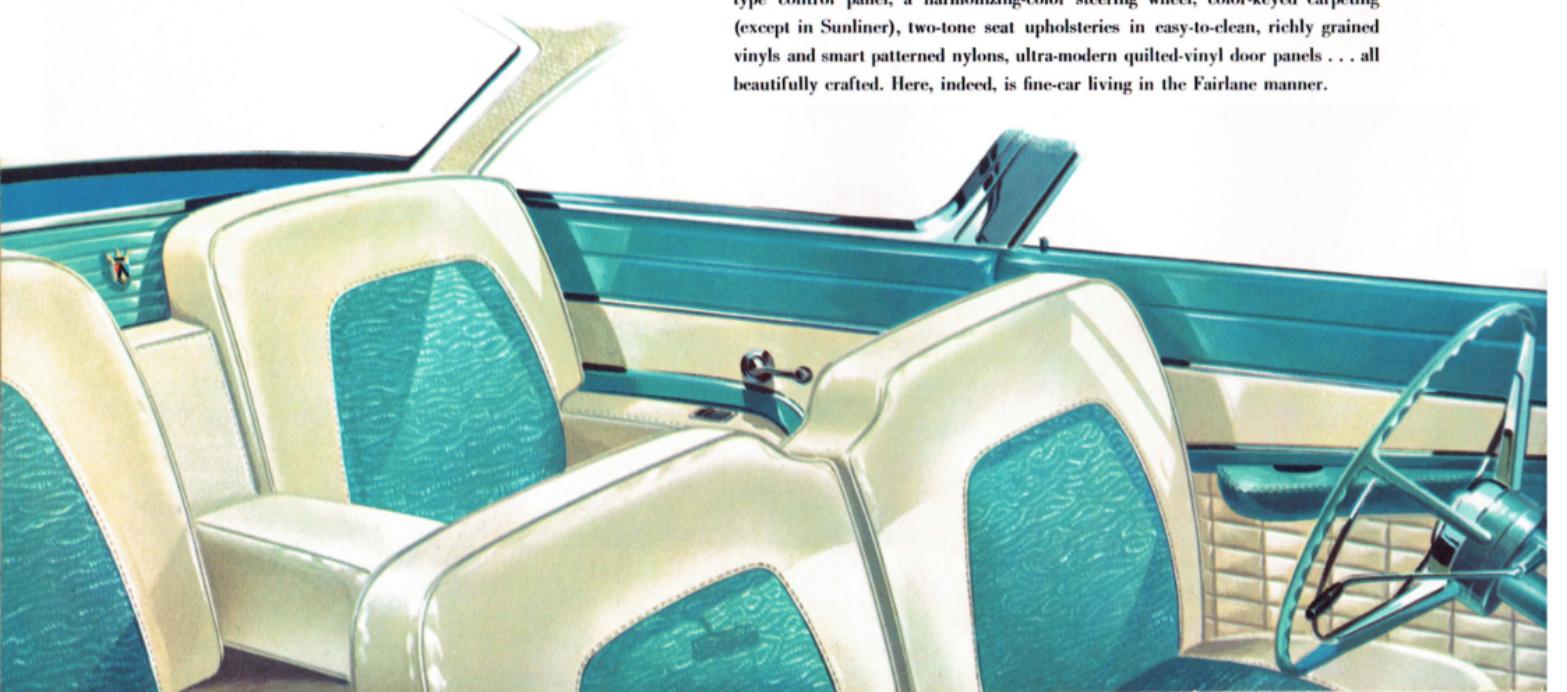
## The Fairlane Town Sedan

HERE IS ONE of the most refined, most comfortable of all 4-door sedans . . . with the longest, lowest lines in Ford history . . . a new low roof line . . . the roomiest, most luxurious interiors. Upholstery is custom-colored, custom-tailored . . . the Thunderbird-type control panel is color-matched to the interior . . . as is the new deep-center steering wheel. You get the protection of new, exclusive Lifeguard Design, as in all '56 Fords. And you can choose any or all of Ford's fine-car power assists.

## The Fairlane Club Sedan

WHEN IT COMES TO 6-passenger sedans, two-door style . . . this trim beauty has no peer. The Club Sedan is as striking in a Country Club setting as it is practical when you set out for a week-end jaunt. Doors are extra wide . . . front seat backs fold toward the center as well as down for easy entry to rear passenger compartment. You'll see the ultra-modern motif of Ford's fine-textured upholsteries color-keyed to the finish you select. Ten solid colors, 11 Style-Tone color combinations to cater to your fine taste.





## The Fairlane touch through and through

IN FAIRLANE LUXURY LOUNGE interiors you own a "living room" on wheels. You enjoy the utmost in good taste, no matter which selection strikes your fancy and meets your needs. Fresh, new ideas are everywhere! There's a two-tone Thunderbird-type control panel, a harmonizing-color steering wheel, color-keyed carpeting (except in Sunliner), two-tone seat upholsteries in easy-to-clean, richly grained vinyls and smart patterned nylons, ultra-modern quilted-vinyl door panels . . . all beautifully crafted. Here, indeed, is fine-car living in the Fairlane manner.

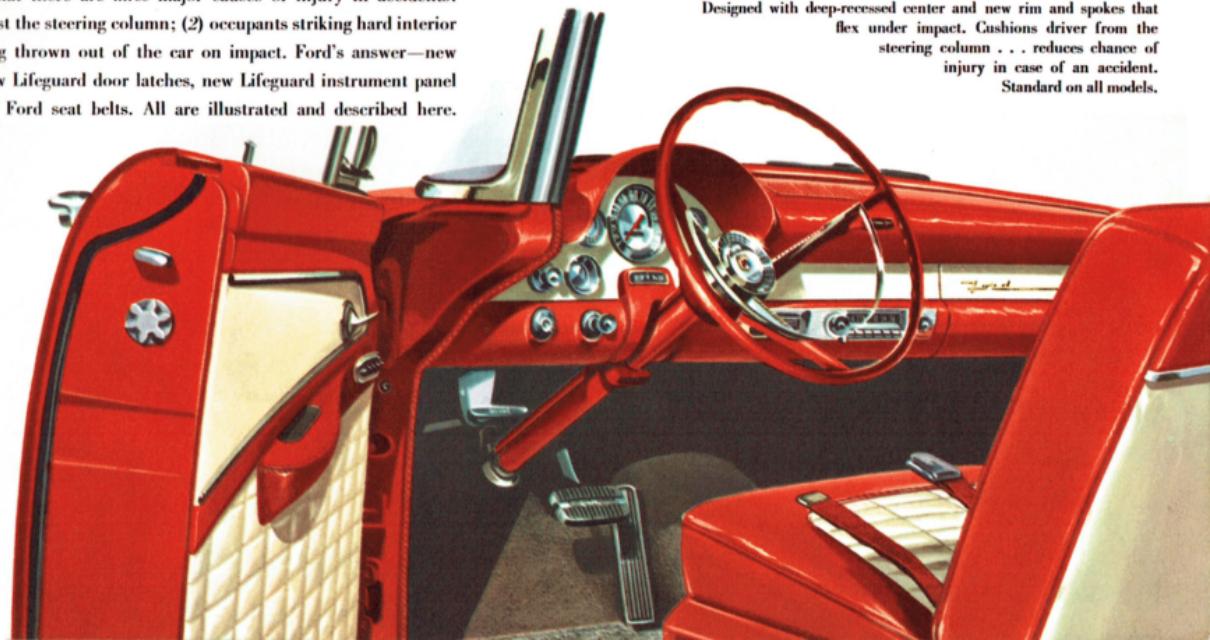
## Ford's exclusive Lifeguard Design

LIFEGUARD DESIGN is an entirely new approach to passenger and driver safety in event of an accident. After intensive research, Ford is first with the safeguards you need for today's more congested driving.

Ford, in cooperation with medical societies, universities, and leading independent safety experts, determined that there are *three* major causes of injury in accidents: (1) driver being thrown against the steering column; (2) occupants striking hard interior surfaces; (3) occupants being thrown out of the car on impact. Ford's answer—new Lifeguard steering wheel, new Lifeguard door latches, new Lifeguard instrument panel and sun visor padding, new Ford seat belts. All are illustrated and described here.

### New Lifeguard Door Latches

Ford's easy-to-operate door latches now have a *double* grip to reduce the possibility of doors springing open under impact. It's another safety *first* from Ford! Standard on all models.



### New Lifeguard Padding

As a safety cushion for the control panel and windshield header, Ford now makes available *special* protective panel padding and cushioned sun visors made of the same special shock-absorbent material.

### New Ford Seat Belts

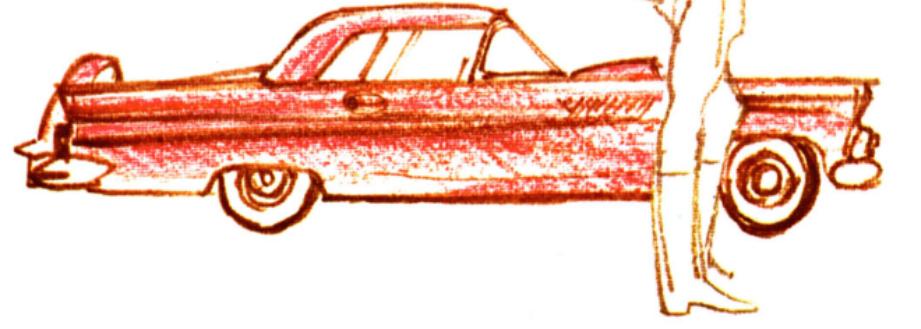
These strong, thoroughly tested seat belts give you and your family new protection, comfort, and peace of mind. They feature easy, one-hand adjustment and release. Available for front and rear seats, all models, in a wide array of colors to harmonize with interior.

### New Lifeguard Steering Wheel

Designed with deep-recessed center and new rim and spokes that flex under impact. Cushions driver from the steering column . . . reduces chance of injury in case of an accident. Standard on all models.

## The new Thunderbird Y-8 Power of the 1956 Ford

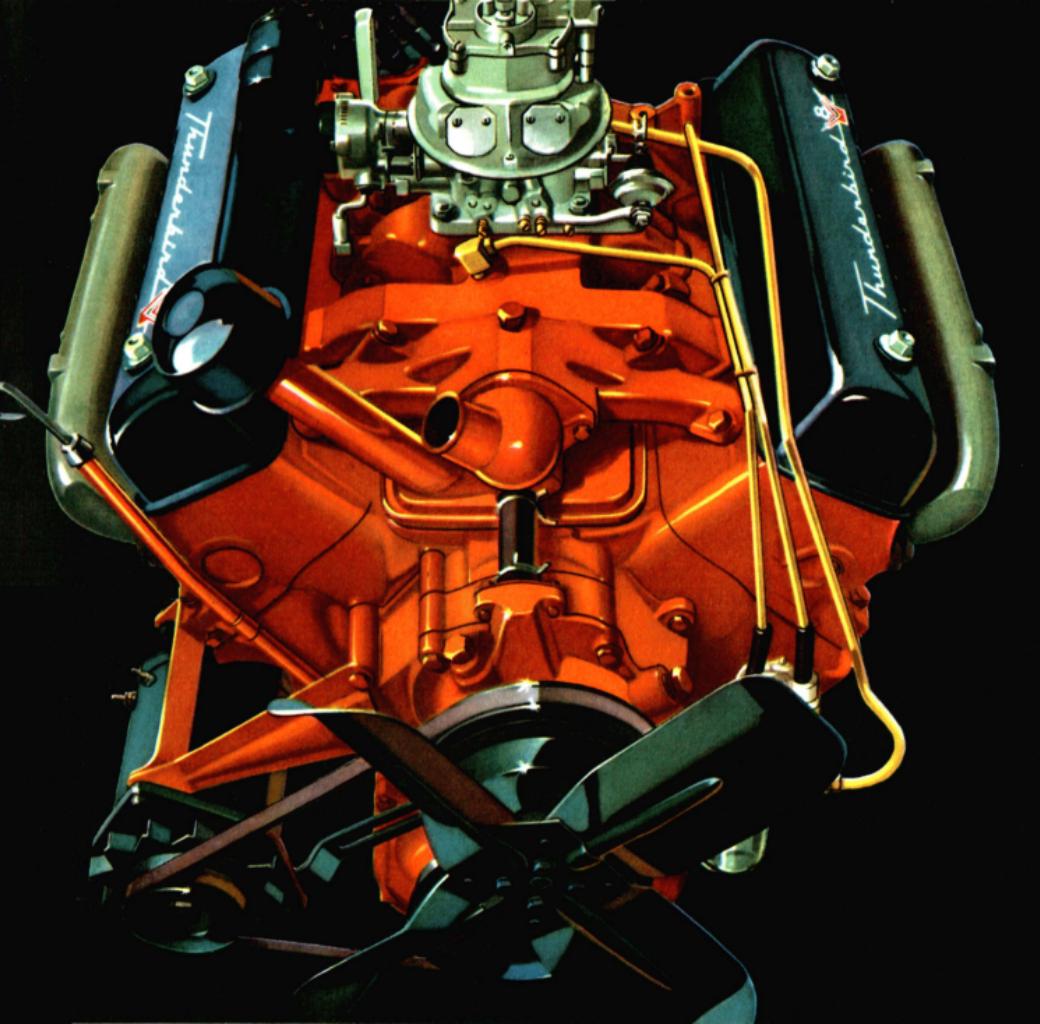
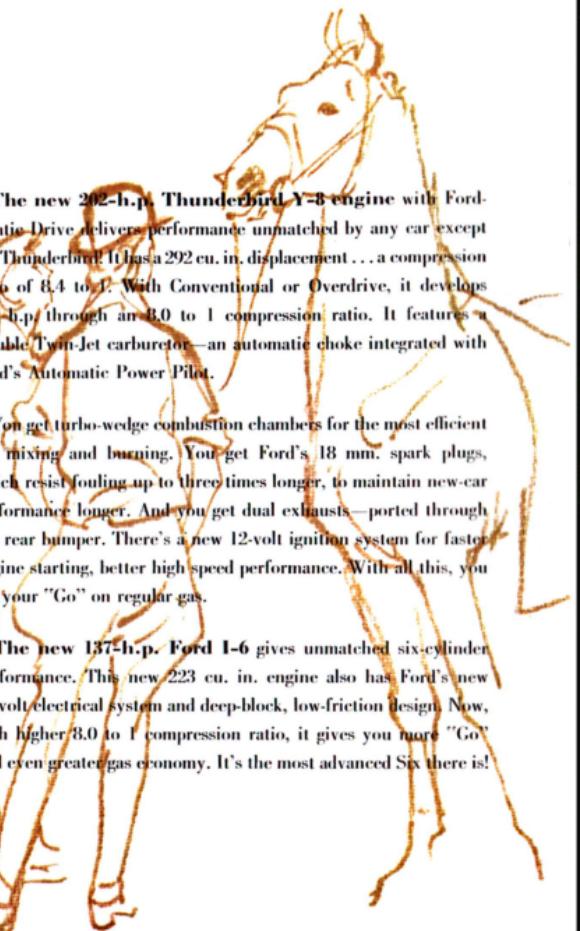
NOW THE NEW Thunderbird Y-8 engine is standard on all Ford Fairlane models. This is the same basic engine that made the Thunderbird famous. It's the successor to the V-8—and what a difference it makes in *all* your driving! Passing is reassuringly quick . . . traffic driving is more pleasant . . . you will feel a new confidence wherever you travel. With its deep-block, low-friction design—the Thunderbird Y-8 runs smoother, quieter, lasts longer! For those who prefer, the new, more powerful Ford 1-6 is also offered.



**The new 202-h.p. Thunderbird Y-8 engine** with Fordomatic Drive delivers performance unmatched by any car except the Thunderbird! It has a 292 cu. in. displacement . . . a compression ratio of 8.4 to 1. With Conventional or Overdrive, it develops 200 h.p. through an 8.0 to 1 compression ratio. It features a Double Twin-Jet carburetor—an automatic choke integrated with Ford's Automatic Power Pilot.

You get turbo-wedge combustion chambers for the most efficient gas mixing and burning. You get Ford's 18 mm. spark plugs, which resist fouling up to three times longer, to maintain new-car performance longer. And you get dual exhausts—ported through the rear bumper. There's a new 12-volt ignition system for faster engine starting, better high speed performance. With all this, you get your "Go" on regular gas.

**The new 137-h.p. Ford 1-6** gives unmatched six-cylinder performance. This new 223 cu. in. engine also has Ford's new 12-volt electrical system and deep-block, low-friction design. Now, with higher 8.0 to 1 compression ratio, it gives you more "Go" and even greater gas economy. It's the most advanced Six there is!



### Speed-Trigger Fordomatic Drive

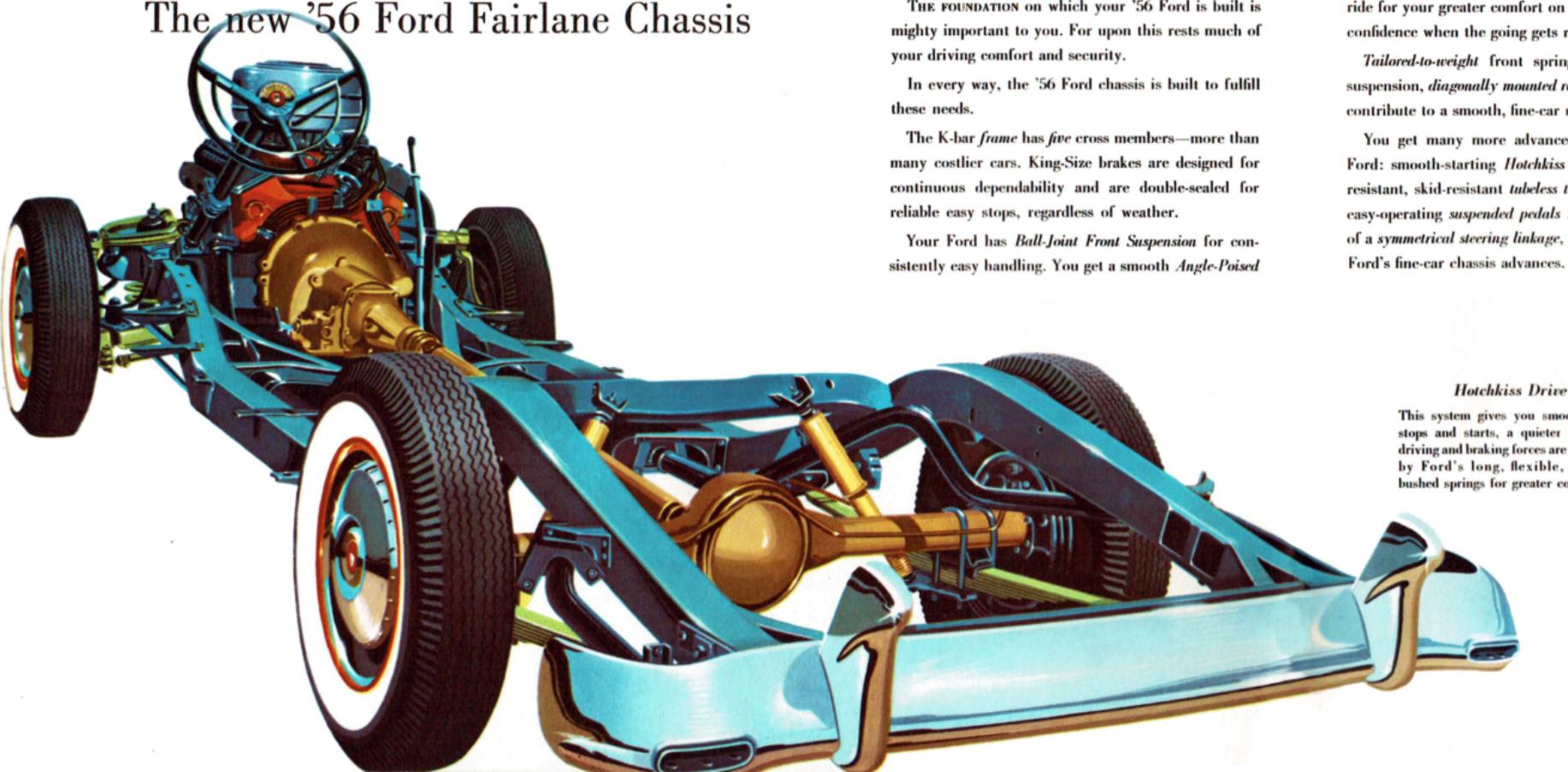
YOU CAN PAY HUNDREDS of dollars more and never buy a more versatile automatic drive! For extra-fast, speed-trigger starts with selector in the normal Drive (D) position, just press the accelerator all the way down. You *automatically* start in low, with *automatic* shifts to intermediate, then high. For ordinary starts, Fordomatic gets you going in intermediate gear—then *automatically* shifts to high. The Fordomatic Safety-Sequence drive selector is mounted in the control panel and lighted for easy night visibility.

### Overdrive

MAKES DRIVING SMOOTH, quiet, relaxing. And, Overdrive is thrifty, too! An automatic "4th gear" lets your engine loaf along at 35 m.p.h. while your car is going 50 . . . saves you up to 15% on gas!

### Conventional Drive

IT NOW HAS newly designed gears to go with the greatest Ford engine power for '56. It's the easiest manual shifting of all.



## The new '56 Ford Fairlane Chassis

THE FOUNDATION on which your '56 Ford is built is mighty important to you. For upon this rests much of your driving comfort and security.

In every way, the '56 Ford chassis is built to fulfill these needs.

The K-bar frame has five cross members—more than many costlier cars. King-Size brakes are designed for continuous dependability and are double-sealed for reliable easy stops, regardless of weather.

Your Ford has *Ball-Joint Front Suspension* for consistently easy handling. You get a smooth *Angle-Poised*

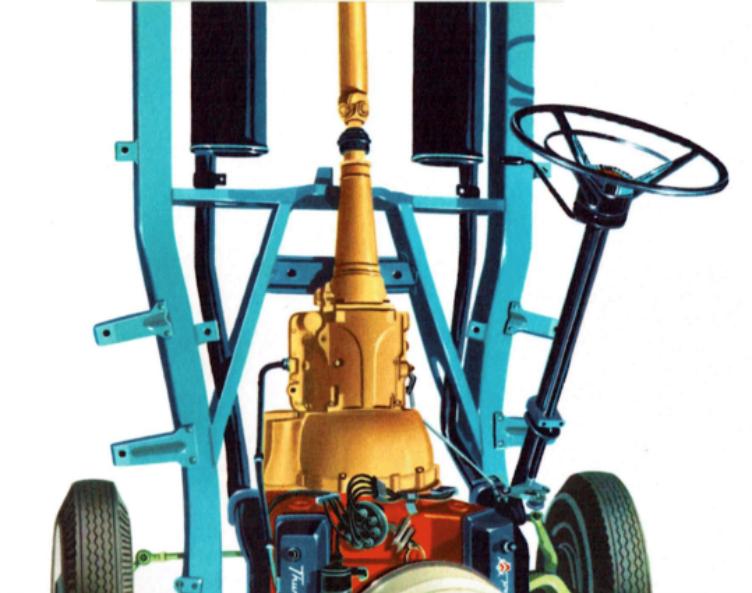
ride for your greater comfort on *all* roads—for greater confidence when the going gets rough.

*Tailored-to-weight* front springs, *Variable-rate* rear suspension, *diagonally mounted rear shock absorbers* also contribute to a smooth, fine-car ride.

You get many more advanced chassis features in Ford: smooth-starting *Hotchkiss* drive . . . puncture-resistant, skid-resistant *tubeless* tires . . . space-saving, easy-operating *suspended pedals* . . . the true steering of a *symmetrical steering linkage*, to name only a few of Ford's fine-car chassis advances.

### Hotchkiss Drive

This system gives you smooth, easy stops and starts, a quieter ride. All driving and braking forces are absorbed by Ford's long, flexible, rubber-bushed springs for greater comfort.



### A Ford exclusive — Angle-Poised Ride

You get a smoother, quieter ride on all roads. By tilting front suspension arms, Ford allows the front springs to cushion out *head-on* shock of bumps, as well as *up-down* bump shocks (see illustrations).



*Ball-Joint Suspension*, with its wide-spread control arms, is retained in all 1956 Ford models. It keeps wheels in line longer and has anti-bind seats for consistently easy handling . . . simplifies servicing.



**OLD:** Conventional front springs cushion out *up-down* shock of bumps, but not *head-on* shock of bumps.



**NEW:** Springs tilted back allow front wheels to absorb *head-on* as well as *up-down* shocks.

### King-Size Brakes

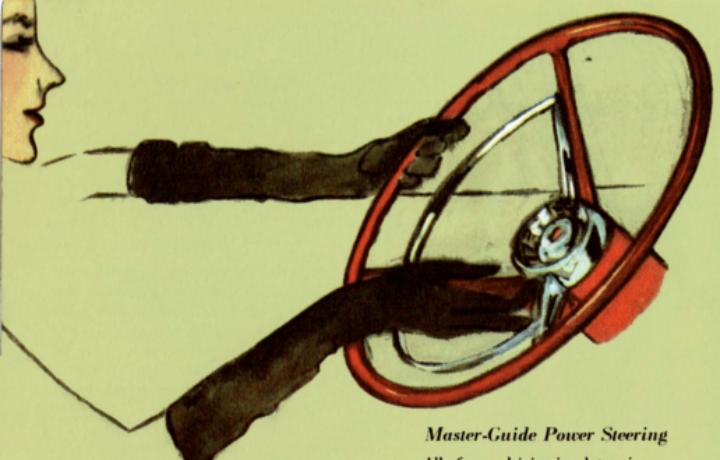
Ford's rugged, high quality brakes have greater ability to withstand emergency stops at high speeds. You get Ford's easy-acting suspended brake pedal. And the brake master cylinder is mounted on the front of the dash for easy servicing.

### K-bar frame

Ford frames have a special twist-resisting K-bar member included with five sturdy cross members. Side members are made of rugged box-section beams. The Sunliner has a special X-type frame. Everything is designed to give you high strength chassis dependability.

### Tubeless Tires

All 1956 Fords are equipped with anti-skid, anti-squeal tubeless tires. They resist punctures and blowouts . . . give you a super-soft ride . . . easy, quiet cornering.



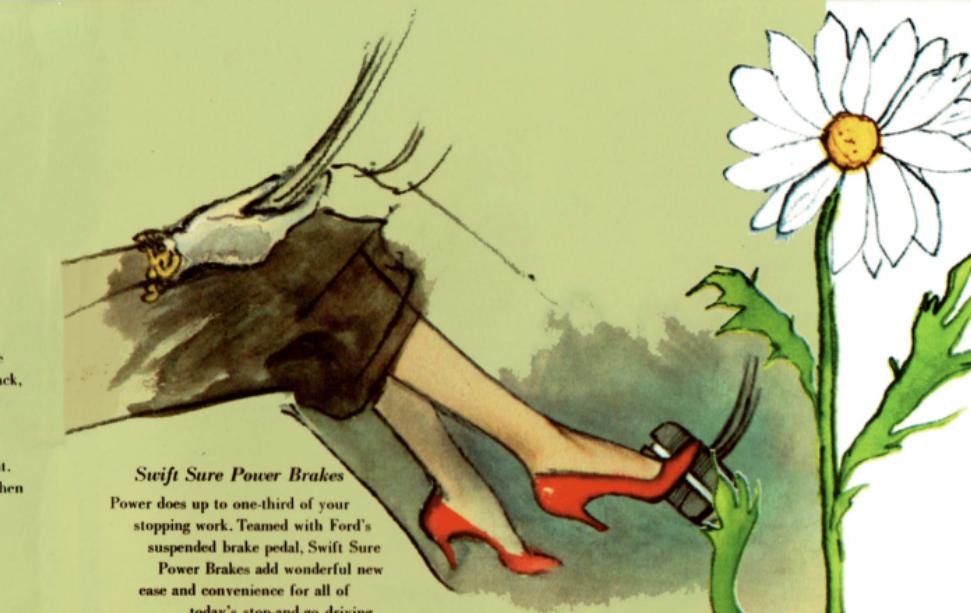
#### Master-Guide Power Steering

All of your driving is a lot easier with this truly modern power steering. It does up to 75% of your steering work, makes parking a veritable one-finger operation. It eases you around the curves, yet leaves you with normal steering "feel" on the straightaways.



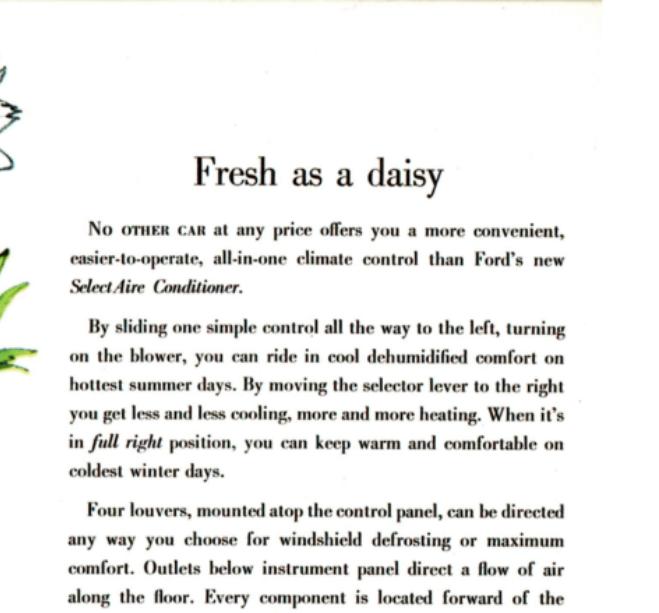
#### 4-Way Power Seat

Not only does power move your front seat forward or back, it moves it up and down to give the driving position most comfortable for you. And a single button controls it. Also a great convenience when various-sized people in your family do the driving.



#### Swift Sure Power Brakes

Power does up to one-third of your stopping work. Teamed with Ford's suspended brake pedal, Swift Sure Power Brakes add wonderful new ease and convenience for all of today's stop-and-go driving.



#### Power-Lift Windows

When the weather turns cool in the evening . . . when it starts to rain while you're driving . . . when you're preparing to lock up or after returning to your car . . . here's a real convenience! Push buttons on the driver's door let you control all four windows. Each passenger has his own control button, too!

Available on all Fairlanes except the Club Sedan.

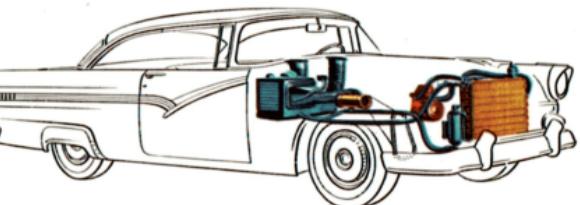
## The most modern power assists let you travel in the lap of luxury

FORD OFFERS YOU the finest power assists in any car at any price. And they help you to relax, be a safer driver. Power helps you steer, stop, open the windows, move the front seat. You can have Speed-Trigger Fordomatic to relieve your mind, your hands, your feet of the job of shifting. And you can have Ford's new SelectAire conditioning to keep you fresh as a daisy on hottest days, warm and comfortable when it's below freezing outside.



#### Speed-Trigger Fordomatic Drive

Here's the most versatile automatic drive of all. Touch the gas pedal and your toe-tip signals for a lower gear when you want to pass or "get going" in a hurry. Shifting is so smooth you'll hardly feel it, because Ford includes not only automatic gears, but smooth torque converter action as well.

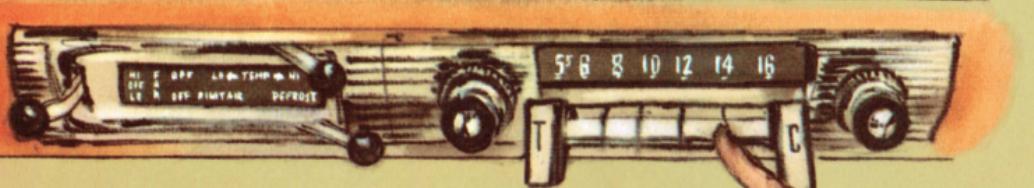


## Fresh as a daisy

NO OTHER CAR at any price offers you a more convenient, easier-to-operate, all-in-one climate control than Ford's new SelectAire Conditioner.

By sliding one simple control all the way to the left, turning on the blower, you can ride in cool dehumidified comfort on hottest summer days. By moving the selector lever to the right you get less and less cooling, more and more heating. When it's in *full right* position, you can keep warm and comfortable on coldest winter days.

Four louvers, mounted atop the control panel, can be directed any way you choose for windshield defrosting or maximum comfort. Outlets below instrument panel direct a flow of air along the floor. Every component is located forward of the control panel. Nothing takes up passenger or luggage space!

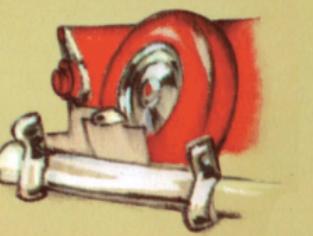


#### MagicAire System

Here's a superior heating, ventilating and defrosting system! You get even heat distribution—complete car ventilation—full windshield defrosting through *four* defroster nozzles.

#### Signal-Seek Radio

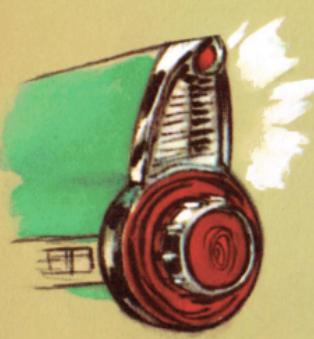
New 9-tube radio automatically tunes in stations in *either* direction of the dial. Town button (T) tunes local stations, Country button (C) gives broad coverage. 6-tube radio also available.



#### Sports Spare Wheel Carrier

It's as smart looking as it is practical. It gives your Ford a "continental" look and leaves a lot more luggage space inside the trunk. Any Ford Dealer can make installation.

## New Genuine Ford Accessories for 1956



#### Back-Up Lights

For easy, safer back-up at night, Ford's back-up lights are specially designed to install above tail lights. They flood area behind car with twin beams of light while car is in reverse gear.



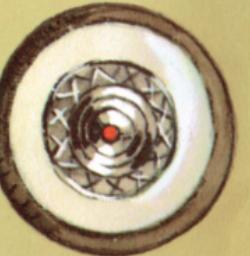
#### Seat Belts

Can be installed front and rear by your Ford Dealer in colors to complement your Ford's interior. They keep you safer and more comfortable in *all* driving. Easy, one-hand release.



#### Auto-Wipe Windshield Washer

Each time you press the washer foot-pedal, windshield is sprayed with two jets of water—and wipers go into action *automatically*. Release pedal, and wipers *automatically* stop.



#### Wire Wheel Covers

Give car the distinction of "wire wheel" appearance, at moderate cost. Easily installed over standard hub caps. Spokes are stainless steel.

## THESE OTHER FINE FORD ACCESSORIES AVAILABLE AT YOUR FORD DEALER'S

Auto-Home Electric Shaver  
Body Mount Rear View Mirror  
Bumper Wing Guards  
Deluxe Rear Antenna  
Door Edge Guards  
Dual Exhaust System  
Electric Clock  
Engine Compartment Light  
Exhaust Deflectors  
Floor Mats  
Ford Crest Wheel Covers  
Front Fender Antenna  
Front Fender Shields  
Governors  
Grille Guard  
Hand Brake Signal  
Inside Non-Glare Rear View Mirror  
Locking Gas Cap  
Luggage Compartment Light  
Map Light  
Door Top Mirror  
Outside Visor  
Parcel Locker Light  
Portable Spot and Utility Light  
Rear Deck Guard  
Rear Fender Shields  
Rear Seat Radio Speaker  
Recirculating Heater and Defroster  
Rocker Panel Trim  
Seat Coverings  
Side Shades  
Spotlight  
Spotlight with Mirror  
Tire Chains  
Tissue Dispenser  
Turn Indicator  
Vanity Mirror  
Wheel Trim Rings  
Winter-Rite Wiper Blade

## Selections . . . and Facts for the Mechanically Minded

8.0 to 1 compression ratio; available in all models with all transmissions.

**Engine Features:** Short-stroke, low-friction design, deep-block construction; free-turning, overhead, intake and exhaust valves; 3-ring, super-fitted aluminum alloy pistons; full-pressure lubrication; 12-volt electrical system; turbo-action 18 mm. spark plugs; 55-amp.-hr. battery; high-output 30-amp. generator.

**Clutch & Transmission:** Semi-centrifugal clutch with suspended pedal. Conventional Drive has 3 forward speeds and 1 reverse. Overdrive has automatic 4th gear that cuts in at about 28 mph., cuts out at about 22 mph.

**Speed-Trigger Fordomatic:** Air-cooled torque converter combined with automatic gear mechanism; automatic "low-gear" starts with selector in "D" position; Safety-Sequence Selector with illuminated dial.

Dimensions:

115½" wheelbase; 58" front, 56" rear treads. Over-all length, 198.5".

**Other Available Equipment:** Full-flow oil filter, oil bath air cleaner for 1-6 engine, Lifeguard instrument panel and sun visor padding, Ford seat belts for front and rear seats, 4-Way Power Seat, Swift Sure Power Brakes, Master-Guide Power Steering, Power-Lift Windows (except Club Sedan), I-Rest tinted safety glass, Fordomatic, Overdrive, Select-Air Conditioner for models with Thunderbird Y-8 engine only, white sidewall tires, special fuel and vacuum pump unit.

**Front Suspension:** Angle-Poised Ball-Joint design with 3-piece stabilizer, tubular shock absorbers and tailored-to-model coil springs.

**Rear Suspension:** Variable-rate type with tension-type shackles; diagonally mounted tubular shock absorbers; 5 leaves with friction-control inserts.

**Front Axles:** Hypoid, semi-floating type with pressed steel, banjo-type housing.

**Axle Ratios (to 1):** Conventional Drive with Thunderbird Y-8, 292 cu. in. displacement; 3.75" bore x 3.30" stroke, 4-venturi carburetor, dual exhausts, automatic choke; 200-h.p., 8.0 to 1 compression ratio, with Standard or Overdrive transmission; 202-h.p., 8.4 to 1 compression ratio with Fordomatic Drive. Ford 1-6 optional—137-h.p., 223 cu. in. displacement; 3.62" bore x 3.60" stroke;

standard, 3.89 optional. Fordomatic with Thunderbird Y-8 or 1-6, 3.22 standard, 3.56 optional.

**Steering:** Parallelogram-linkage; 25.3 to 1 overall ratio; 18-inch 3-spoke Lifeguard steering wheel. Approx. 41" turning diameter. Master-Guide Power Steering optional at extra cost.

**Brakes:** Double-seal King-Size hydraulic; suspended pedal; 11" drum; 180.2 sq. in. lining area. Swift Sure Power Brakes optional at extra cost.

**Tires:** 4-ply tubeless on all models, 7.10 x 15 on Victoria, Crown Victoria and Sunliner with Thunderbird Y-8 engine and Fordomatic, 6.70 x 15 on all other models.

**Dimensions:** 115½" wheelbase; 58" front, 56" rear treads. Over-all length, 198.5".

**Front Suspension:** Angle-Poised Ball-Joint design with 3-piece stabilizer, tubular shock absorbers and tailored-to-model coil springs.

**Rear Suspension:**

Variable-rate type with tension-type shackles; diagonally mounted tubular shock absorbers; 5 leaves with friction-control inserts.

**Front Axles:**

Hypoid, semi-floating type with pressed steel, banjo-type housing.

**Axle Ratios (to 1):**

Conventional Drive with Thunderbird Y-8, 3.78 standard, 3.89 optional. With 1-6, 3.89 standard, 4.11 optional. Overdrive with Thunderbird Y-8, 3.89 standard, 3.78 optional; With 1-6, 4.11

The specifications contained herein were in effect at the time this catalog was prepared for printing. The Ford Division of Ford Motor Company reserves the right to discontinue models at any time, or change specifications or design, without notice and without incurring obligation.

