



**contour**  
ninety nine







Contour SE with optional Sport Group shown in Tropic Green Clearcoat Metallic.





Jeff would simply never ask for directions, and

sometimes it drove Valerie crazy. One night, on the

way back from a friend's wedding in Lewisport,

**Jeff got himself a little  
turned around.** "I'll just head

south," he said. "We'll get there." "Why don't you just

stop and ask someone?" she protested. Jeff knew he

was about to test more than Contour's advanced

road-handling suspension, but insisted, "Directions

will only get us there quicker. And what fun is that?"



## Contour SE



Contour SE with optional Comfort Group in Deep Navy Blue Clearcoat Metallic.

Contour captures the **essence of driving enjoyment.**

Its exceptional ride and handling make even the most ordinary

drive extraordinary, and its advanced engineering gives you

**maximum control and precision** for every twist

and turn of the road. Its unparalleled engineering is matched

only by its high level of convenience features. The Contour offers

**sports car-like handling** in a sedan, making it the

perfect car for anyone who enjoys driving.



The optional SE Sport Group includes an aerodynamic rear spoiler.



Speed control and tilt wheel are standard for driver comfort.



Contour SE with optional Sport Group offers bodyside cladding with a 15" aluminum wheel for a sporty and stylish look.





Contour SE in Cabernet Red Clearcoat Metallic with optional 15" aluminum wheels.

# Contour



Contour LX shown in Silver Frost Clearcoat Metallic.

Contour's design incorporates the **sophisticated technology** and styling of European sedans. Its combination of sleek styling and carefully crafted engineering appeals to even the most discriminating of drivers, while its **aggressive performance** can handle virtually any challenge the road offers. The Contour is a world-class car whose performance complements its **smooth ride and handling**.



The available power moonroof on Contour SE enhances the open-air driving experience.



Halogen headlights provide excellent illumination for better visibility.



Contour's particulate air filtration system removes over 90% of particles larger than 3 microns, such as pollen and dust, allowing you to breathe easier.



Most of her friends had gone the corporate route, but Carol

had a dream. Her own line of handbags. **With a**

**trunk full of samples,**  
**she hit the road** in the “company”

Contour. And after lots of straight-aways, numerous

S-curves and an occasional tight hairpin, the orders

were starting to come in. Which meant, unlike her

corporate friends, a reserved parking spot at some

big company was definitely out of the picture.

Which is fine with Carol, because she’s anything

but reserved and parking just isn’t her bag.





# performance & handling



The Contour suspension system provides a responsive, confident ride.

Contour has a reputation for **premium performance and handling**. It offers the choice of two powerful

multi-valve engines: the 2.5-liter Duratec V6 engine and Zetec

2.0-liter engine. Both engines offer **responsive power**

**and torque** for a smooth ride, while allowing for 100,000

miles between tune-ups.\* Better handling control is assured with

Contour's independent **rear quadralink suspension**

**system** and optional traction control. All in all, Contour

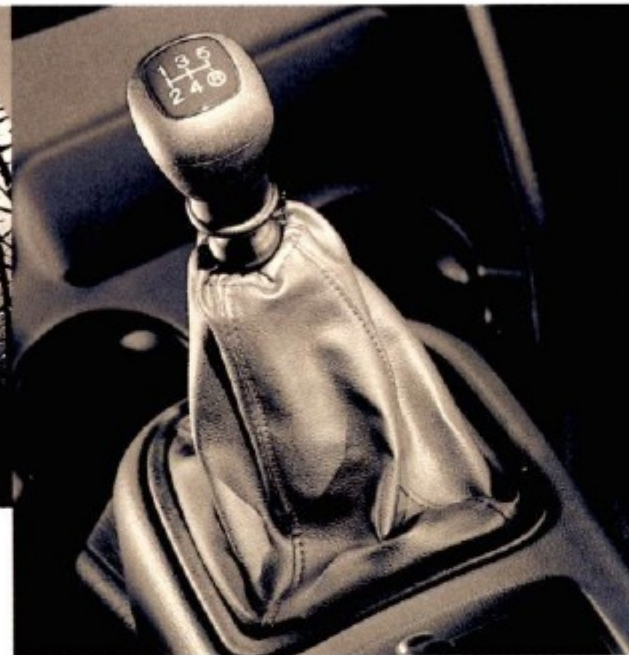
provides a precision drive for the driving enthusiast.



The power-efficient 2.5-liter Duratec 170-hp V6 system is a high-performance engine allowing for quick acceleration and confident passing.



The quadralink suspension system is designed for a smooth ride by keeping all tires level to the ground despite road obstacles.



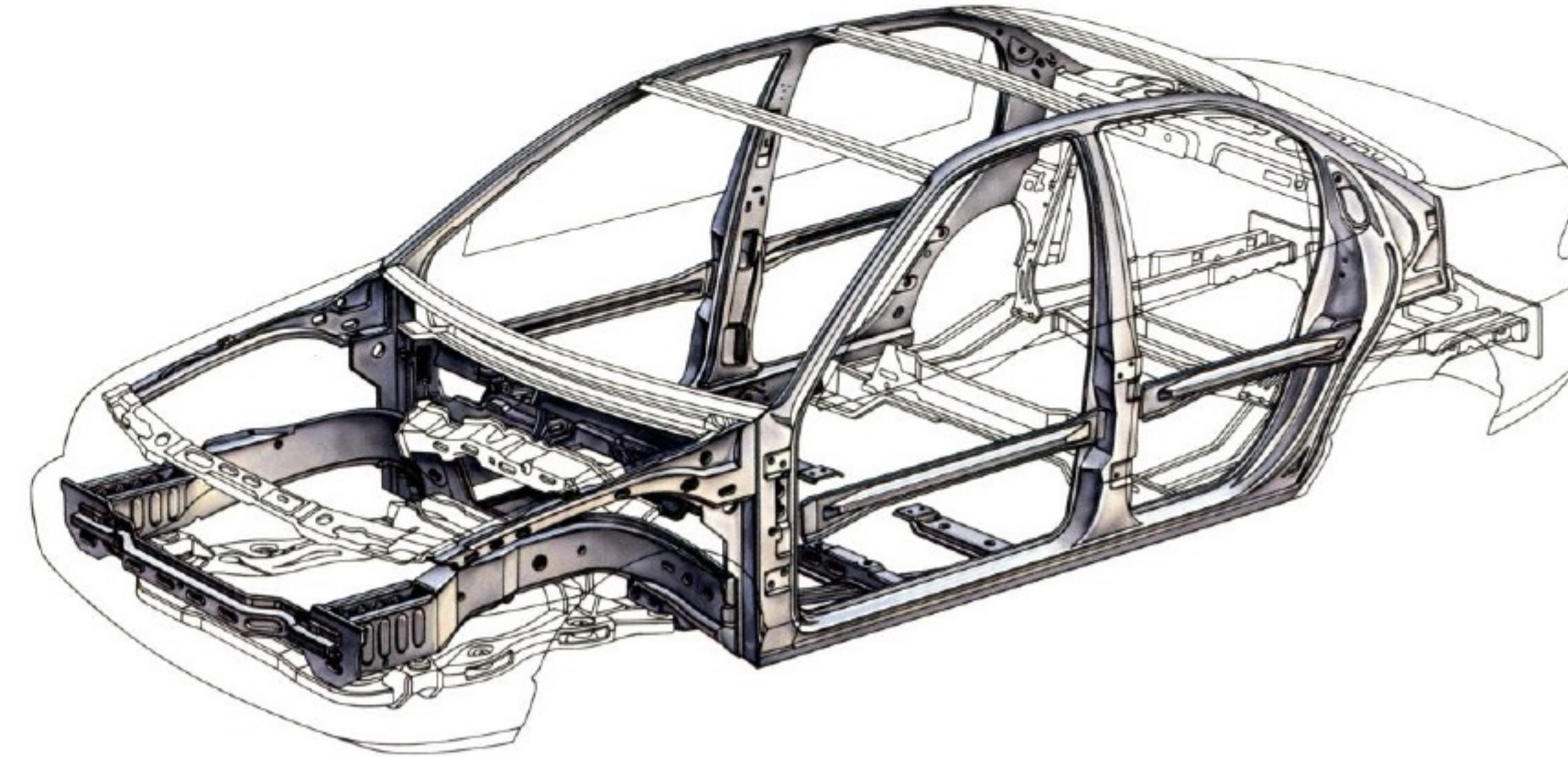
Manual 5-speed transaxle shifter offers a sports car-like feel and maximum driver control.



All-speed traction control monitors the wheel speed and corrects slippage, providing better control and handling especially on wet, slippery or uneven surfaces.

\*Under normal driving conditions with routine fluid/filter changes.

# safety



Safety cell construction provides occupant protection in a frontal, side or rear impact.

All Contour models are designed with your safety in mind.

Features such as the Second Generation Depowered dual airbags\*

are standard, while the **safety cell construction**

provides protection in a frontal, side or rear impact. Available

anti-lock brakes and **all-speed traction control**

provide better handling and control under most adverse

driving conditions, even on wet or slippery surfaces. And

Contour offers **standard 3-point safety belts**

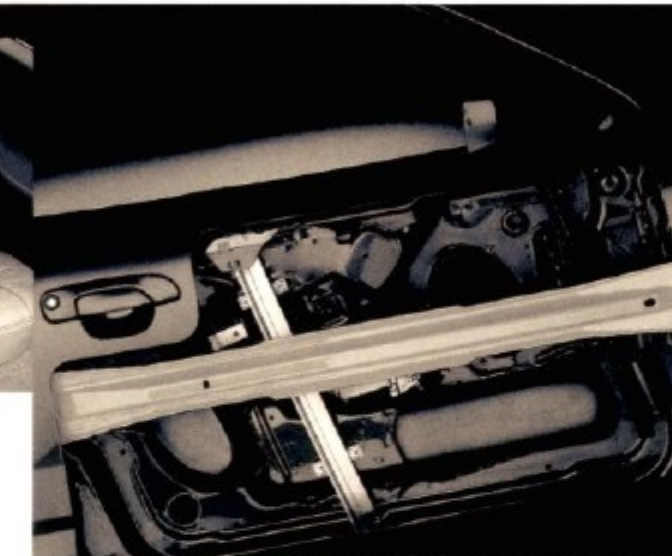
for all passengers.



Standard Second Generation dual airbags are depowered to further enhance protection for the driver and passenger.

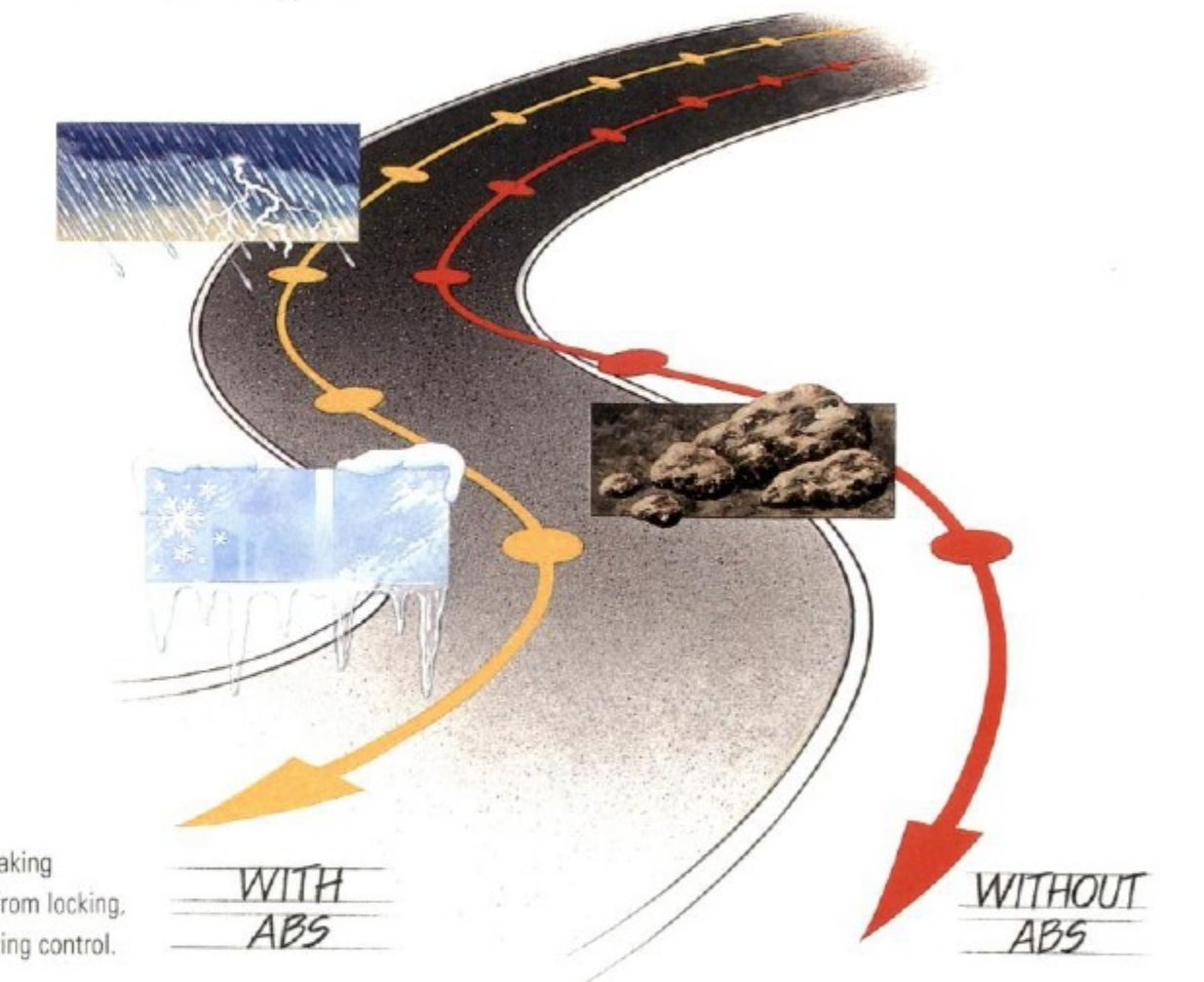


3-point safety belts for all front and rear passengers are standard.



Boron steel side door intrusion beams provide added protection, while engineered for safety and durability.

The available anti-lock braking system prevents wheels from locking, allowing for greater steering control.



\*Always wear your safety belt and secure children in the rear seat.





## safety, performance & handling

Today, automotive design must satisfy many more demands than it did even just a few years ago. Styling is important, of course, but considerations like safety and durability continue to grow in importance as customers weigh their purchase decisions ever more carefully.

Like all Ford vehicles, Contour has been designed to protect its occupants and to provide years of dependable service to its owners.







Contour SE with optional Sport Group and leather seating surfaces in Greystone.

## Interior



Contour SE with optional Sport Group shown in Greystone cloth.

Contour is a refined blend of **comfort and convenience.**

Its roomy interior allows you to comfortably seat five while features such as the optional power-controlled driver seat provide added convenience. Its **sleek styling**, uniquely designed instrument panel and sporty seating add a sophisticated touch. Optional AM/FM stereo radio with single CD player gives you premium sound quality. This attention to detail and **luxury features** makes Contour a truly enjoyable car to drive.



Molded cupholders are designed to fit most size cups and are easily accessible to the driver.



Driver's side integral armrest offers added comfort for even the longest drives.



Flow-through heat ducts provide rear passenger comfort.



Optional 60/40 split/fold rear seat offers versatility in accommodating your cargo needs.



Paint Colors



EXTERIOR PAINT		INTERIOR TRIM		
Contour LX, SE	Medium Dark Prairie Tan	Midnight Blue	Greystone	
Performance White Clearcoat	•	•	•	
Silver Frost Clearcoat Metallic		•	•	
Light Prairie Tan Clearcoat Metallic	•	•	•	
Cabernet Red Clearcoat Metallic	•	•	•	
Toreador Red Clearcoat Metallic	•	•	•	
Tropic Green Clearcoat Metallic	•		•	
Spruce Green Clearcoat Metallic	•		•	
Medium Steel Blue Clearcoat Metallic		•	•	
Deep Navy Blue Clearcoat Metallic	•	•	•	
Black Clearcoat	•	•	•	

Optional Equipment Groups

SE Comfort Group

- 6-way power driver's seat
- Power antenna
- 15" 12-spoke aluminum wheels
- Leather-wrapped steering wheel and shift knob
- Fog lamps
- Variable-timed interval wipers
- Illuminated passenger visor mirror

SE Sport Group

- 2.5L Duratec V6 engine
- 15" 8-spoke aluminum wheels
- Tachometer
- Leather-wrapped steering wheel and shift knob
- Sport cloth reclining bucket seats
- Sport floor mats
- Rear spoiler
- Fog lamps
- Lower bodyside cladding
- Variable-timed interval wipers
- Illuminated passenger visor mirror
- Sport badging



- A** Standard 14" wheel covers with bolt-on appearance
- B** 15" 12-spoke aluminum wheels (included with SE Comfort Group and optional on Contour SE)
- C** 15" 8-spoke aluminum wheels (optional with SE and included in SE Sport)

Exterior Features	LX	SE
Solar tinted semi-flush glass	S	S
Flush headlamps with halogen bulbs and integral park/turn indicators	S	S
5-mph color-keyed, polycarbonate bumpers	S	S
Dripless roof construction with water management system	S	S
Power remote-control mirrors (color-keyed)	S	S
Color-keyed bodyside moldings	S	S
P185/70R14 BSW all-season tires	S	S
P195/65R14 performance BSW tires (included with Duratec V6 engine only)	0	0
P205/60R15 all-season tires	—	0
14" wheel covers with bolt-on appearance	S	S
15" 8-spoke aluminum wheels	—	0

Safety and Security

"Safety cell" structure with high-tensile steel door beams and cross-car beam	S	S
Deploying Trim System side impact protection	S	S
Second Generation Depowered dual front airbags, driver and passenger	S	S
Manual lap/shoulder belts for all seating positions (front are height-adjustable)	S	S
Height-adjustable head restraints	S	S
Clutch interlock at start-up with manual transaxle; brake shift interlock with optional automatic transaxle	S	S
Fuel tank forward of rear suspension	S	S
Shielded interior door locks	S	S
Childproof rear door locks	S	S
SecuriLock™ passive anti-theft system (included with Duratec V6 engine only)	0	0
Remote Keyless Entry system	0	0
4-wheel anti-lock braking system	0	0
All-speed traction control (available only with Duratec V6 and ABS option)	—	0

Comfort and Convenience Features

Air conditioning	S	S
Power moonroof	—	0
Particulate air filtration system	S	S
Low-profile floor console with cassette/CD storage and twin molded cupholders	S	S
Soft-fool driver-oriented instrument panel, side window demisters and four registers	S	S
Front shoulder safety belt height adjusters	S	S
Analog gauges and warning lights	S	S
Tilt steering column	S	S
Speed control	0	S
Driver's left footrest	S	S

Comfort/Convenience Cont.	LX	SE
Front passenger grab handle	S	S
Remote decklid release	S	S
Power door locks	—	S
Power windows with "express-down" driver's window, illuminated switches and rear window lockout feature	—	S
Light Group: rear door courtesy light switches; front map/reading light; front footwell illumination; illuminated entry	—	S
Rear window defroster	0	S
Single-speed intermittent wipers	S	S
Variable-timed interval windshield wipers	—	G
Driver and passenger visor mirrors	S	S
Illuminated passenger visor mirror	—	G
Front door trim panel storage bins	S	S
Digital clock (in radio)	S	S
Rear seat compartment heat ducts	S	S
AM/FM stereo	S	—
AM/FM stereo/cassette	0	S
AM/FM stereo/cassette/Premium Sound	—	0
AM/FM stereo/single CD radio/Premium Sound	—	0
6-disc remote-controlled CD changer (dealer installed)	0	0
Power antenna	—	0
Carpeted front and rear floor mats	0	0
Smoker's Package	0	0

Seating

Cloth reclining bucket seats and 3-passenger rear bench seat	S	S
Sport cloth reclining bucket seats	—	G
60/40 split fold-down carpeted rear seat backs (releases located in trunk for security)	0	0
Leather seating surfaces (brakes 60/40 split fold-down carpeted rear seat backs)	—	0
6-way power driver's seat: adjusts up/down, forward/back and tilt forward/back	—	0

Powerteams

Zetec 2.0L, 16-valve, DOHC 14 engine	S	S
5-speed manual overdrive transaxle	S	S
Duratec 2.5L, 170-horsepower, 24-valve DOHC V6 engine with SecuriLock™ passive anti-theft system and P195/65R14 performance BSW tires (4-wheel disc brakes are included when manual transaxle is ordered)	0	0
Electronic 4-speed automatic transaxle	0	0

S=Standard 0=Optional G=Option Group Only —=Not Available

Specifications

**Drivetrain:** front-wheel drive

**Engines:** Zetec 2.0-liter 16-valve, DOHC 14 (standard); Duratec 2.5-liter 24-valve, DOHC V6 (optional and included in SE Sport Group)

**Induction system:** sequential electronic fuel injection and EEC-V computer

**Compression ratios:** 9.8:1 (Zetec 14); 9.7:1 (Duratec V6)

**Tune-up interval:** 100,000 miles (under normal driving conditions with routine fluid and filter changes)

**Transaxles:** 5-speed manual overdrive standard; electronic 4-speed automatic overdrive optional

**Horsepower, SAE net:** 125 @ 5500 rpm (Zetec 14); 170 @ 6250 rpm (Duratec V6)

**Torque, SAE net:** 130 @ 4000 rpm (Zetec 14); 165 @ 4250 rpm (Duratec V6)

**Battery:** 55 AH maintenance-free

**Alternator:** 130-amp

**Body construction:** unitized with separate front rubber-mounted subframe

**Front suspension:** independent strut-type with A-arms, strut-mounted coil springs and stabilizer bar

**Rear suspension:** independent quadralink design with stabilizer bar; plus sport tuning in SE

**Steering:** rack-and-pinion, power-assisted

**Brakes:** power front disc/rear drum (standard); 4-wheel disc (standard with V6 engine and manual transmission); 4-wheel anti-lock braking system (optional on all models)

**Tires:** P185/70R14 BSW all-season (standard); P195/65R14 performance BSW tires (included with Duratec V6); P205/60R15 BSW all-season (included with 15" wheels)

Dimensions

Wheelbase	106.5"
Length	184.6"
Height	54.5"
Width	69.1"
Front tread	59.2"
Rear tread	58.5"
Trunk capacity (cu. ft.)	15.5
Passenger capacity	5

Competitive comparisons based on published 1998 competitive data.

**Product Changes and Options Availability:** Following publication of the catalog, certain changes in standard equipment, options, prices and the like, or product delays, may have occurred which would not be included in these pages. Your Ford Dealer is your best source for up-to-date information. Ford Division reserves the right to change product specifications at any time without incurring obligations. Options shown or described are available at extra cost and may be offered only in combination with other options or subject to additional ordering requirements or limitations.

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