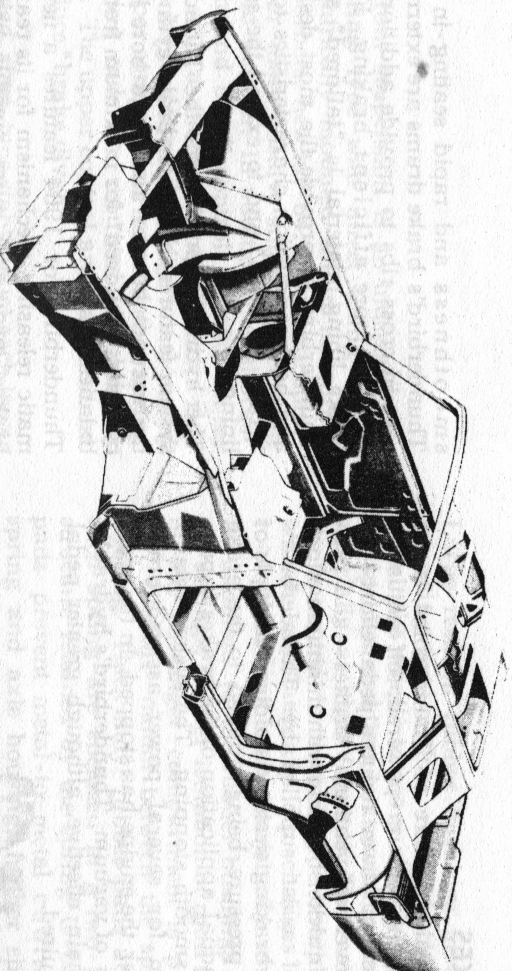


THUNDERBIRD BODIES



CONSTRUCTION

Thunderbird's superior unitized body is constructed of heavy-gage steel throughout. Deep-section reinforcements, double panels, strengthening braces, and many other body structural features found only in luxury-grade automobiles have been pioneered by Thunderbird.

Strength and rigidity best describe Thunderbird's body design—

- Extra welds and extra-heavy-gage panels minimize disturbing vibrations.
- Heavy-gage box-section roof framing all around.
- Two sturdy hat-section roof cross braces.
- Extra-strong roof quarter panels, box-section rocker panels with diagonal strengthening webs.
- Extra-rigid cowl construction.
- Deep-ribbed floor pan and seat mounting areas.
- Extra-rigid box-section underbody members.
- Extra-rugged seat belt anchor plates to withstand pulling loads up to 5000 pounds.
- To compensate for the absence of roof panels, the Convertible body has extra reinforcements to provide rigidity and strength comparable to Hardtop models.

All body components are welded together by the most modern methods to make Thunderbird's body strong, solid, and silent.

RUST PREVENTION

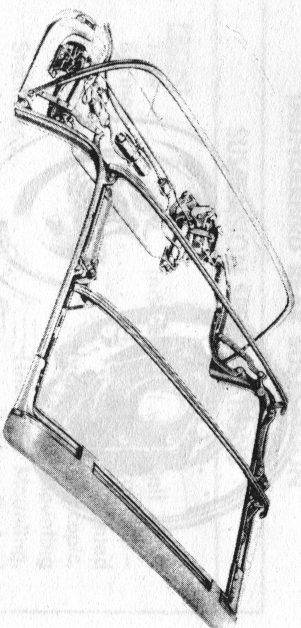
The latest materials and most modern methods are used to provide a complete rust-inhibiting treatment to Thunderbird bodies. The underbody front side rails, center side rails, rear side rails, torque boxes, rocker panels and the majority of the underbody crossmembers are all manufactured from Zinclad steel. The heavy galvanized coating of this steel affords maximum protection to these parts, retarding rust and corrosion for long-life protection. Zinc-rich primer is applied to the lower interior surfaces of the various body panels, pillars, doors, fenders, and to the splash areas of the wheel housings. The zinc-rich primer is over 90 percent zinc, providing superior antirust protection in these critical areas. Two coats of special epoxy-resin primer are then carefully sprayed on, providing a smooth, tough undercoat for the exterior finish.

Finally, selected areas of the underbody are given a generous coating of high-quality undercoating to complete the extensive Thunderbird antirust protection treatment. All body seams, joints, and openings are then thoroughly sealed to help keep out dirt and water.

CONVERTIBLE TOP

The Thunderbird Convertible top is automatic, fully retractable, and, when lowered, completely concealed under the rear deck. The top is lowered by releasing two clamps at the windshield header, then operating the control switch on the floor console.

An electro-hydraulic power unit is used to raise and lower the top and deck lid, while an electric motor drive folds and unfolds the package tray extension panel. The deck lid is released or locked by a third drive motor. Deck lid and panel rise automatically to permit the top to fold neatly into the luggage compartment. When the top is folded, deck lid and panel close automatically to form a smooth, completely flush rear body section.



THUNDERBIRD CONVERTIBLE TOP CONSTRUCTION

Durable attractive top covering material of the highest quality available is used on Thunderbird tops. Heavy, satin-grained vinyl, two layers of cotton fabric, and butyl rubber adhesive film are permanently bonded together to form a single thickness of tough, waterproof top material. Main seams are solidly bonded to reduce the possibility of separation, and top material is firmly anchored to all roof bows to prevent "ballooning." All Thunderbird tops have a black undersurface for a neat interior appearance.