California Special Kicks Mustang Style Into High Gear

Mustang introduces the limited-edition 2007 Mustang GT/CS - or "California Special." April 26, 2006

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The Mustang GT/California Special arrives in late summer as a full, stand-alone option package on the 2007 Mustang. Much like the 1968 GT/CS that was inspired by the Shelby GT, the new California Special also draws some cues from the 2007 Shelby. The upcoming Shelby GT500 is cnsidered to be the most powerful factory Mustang ever produced.

"As a Mustang enthusiast and SVTOA Chapter Director, I've long known about the original California Special and the mystique that surrounds it, so when I was given the chance to work on the program, I jumped on it," said Mark Wilson, who works in Car Project Management at Ford's Vehicle Personalization group, and is the program manager for the California Special. Mark is a true Mustang fanatic, he races is 1993 Cobra R and 2004 Mustang in the American V-8 Super Car Series. "I believe the 2007 GT/CS is true to the original car's heritage, while also setting itself apart from the base Mustang GT with styling cues that clearly differentiate it from any angle.'

The GT/CS was originally a limited-production 1968 Mustang coupe fitted with Shelby Mustang dress-up pieces and sold only though dealerships in California. It was available with any engine, and either with or without the GT option. The 2007 California Special can be ordered as either a coupe or convertible and will be available though Ford dealerships across the country. The 2007 version has an aggressive front fascia with an integrated chin spoiler that sits 1.5 inches lower than the Mustang GT to provide a larger air opening for increased cooling performance. Familiar "California Special" style bodyside racing stripes run from the front fenders across the doors and fade-out at the end of the door.

Exclusive touches carry over to the inside of the new California Special, as well. Starting with the array of bright-polished and satin-aluminum finished items in the Interior Upgrade Package (which is required to order a Mustang GT/CS), the cabin comes dressed in either Dove or Parchment environments, including black leather seats with unique Cal Special Dove or Parchment "GT Leather" inserts. Plus, matching front floormats include special Mustang badging to further distinguish the GT/CS interior.

There's even more style under the hood of the new California Special: The Mustang GT's 300-horsepower 3-valve 4.6-liter V-8 gets treated to a unique engine cover that gives the engine compartment the kind of dressed-up look that you'd only expect to see at custom car show. The Ford Racing Performance Group also offers the Ford Racing Power Pack, which includes a 90mm Cold Air kit, a performance Muffler Kit and the special Ford Racing engine calibration - good for about 20 additional horsepower at the rear wheels. Visit www.fordracingparts.com for details.

2007 FORD MUSTANG GT/CS PRODUCT HIGHLIGHTS

- 2007 Mustang GT "California Special" first of planned Mustang V-8 "Feature Cars"
- New GT/CS pays homage to the original California Special model produced in 1968
- Restyled front and rear fascias compliment classic side scoops and GT/CS stripes
- \$1,895 option package bows this summer nationwide on coupe or convertible in 5 colors

The 2007 Mustang GT/CS goes on sale later this summer. The GT Cal Special option package adds \$1,895 to the price of a Mustang GT (available with either a five-speed manual or automatic transmission) with the requisite Premium and Interior Upgrade packages. Exterior color choices are limited to Redfire Metallic, Performance White, Vista Blue Metallic and Black. Valencia Yellow is to be added later in the model run.

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