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Ford Windstar

1996 Ford Windstar Owner's Manual: Comprehensive Guide

Your essential resource for understanding and maintaining your 1996 Ford Windstar.

Introduction to Your Owner's Manual

This guide provides an overview of the original 1996 Ford Windstar Owner's Manual. The manual is designed to help you understand the features, operation, and maintenance requirements of your vehicle. Familiarizing yourself with its contents will ensure safe operation and proper care, contributing to the longevity and performance of your Ford Windstar.

1. Getting Started: Navigating Your Manual

The 1996 Ford Windstar Owner's Manual is typically organized into several sections, each dedicated to a specific aspect of your vehicle. It is recommended to review the initial pages for an overview of the manual's structure and any safety warnings.



Image: The main Owner Guide for the 1996 Ford Windstar. This blue cover features the Ford logo, '1996 WINDSTAR', and 'OWNER GUIDE' with a globe graphic.

Key sections often include:

- **Introduction:** General information and important safety notices.

- **Controls and Features:** Detailed explanations of dashboard controls, steering wheel functions, and interior features.
- **Driving:** Information on starting, stopping, transmission operation, and driving tips.
- **Safety:** Details on airbags, seatbelts, child safety seats, and other safety systems.
- **Maintenance:** Schedules and procedures for routine vehicle care.
- **Troubleshooting:** Guidance for common issues and what to do in an emergency.
- **Specifications:** Technical data about your vehicle.

2. Vehicle Operation and Controls

This section of your owner's manual provides comprehensive instructions on how to operate your 1996 Ford Windstar. It covers:

- **Dashboard Layout:** Identification and function of all gauges, indicator lights, and warning lamps.
- **Starting and Stopping the Engine:** Correct procedures for ignition and shutdown.
- **Transmission Operation:** How to use the automatic transmission, including parking, reverse, neutral, and drive gears.
- **Lighting Systems:** Operation of headlights, taillights, turn signals, and interior lights.
- **Wipers and Washers:** Controls for windshield wipers and washer fluid.
- **Climate Control:** Instructions for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems.
- **Audio System:** Basic operation of the factory-installed radio and cassette player.

3. Safety and Security Systems

Your owner's manual details the safety features designed to protect occupants and the security systems to safeguard your vehicle.

- **Seatbelts:** Proper use, adjustment, and maintenance of seatbelts for all seating positions.
- **Airbag System:** Explanation of the Supplemental Restraint System (SRS), including airbag locations and deployment conditions.
- **Child Safety:** Guidelines for installing child safety seats and using child safety locks.
- **Vehicle Security:** Information on the anti-theft system and remote keyless entry.

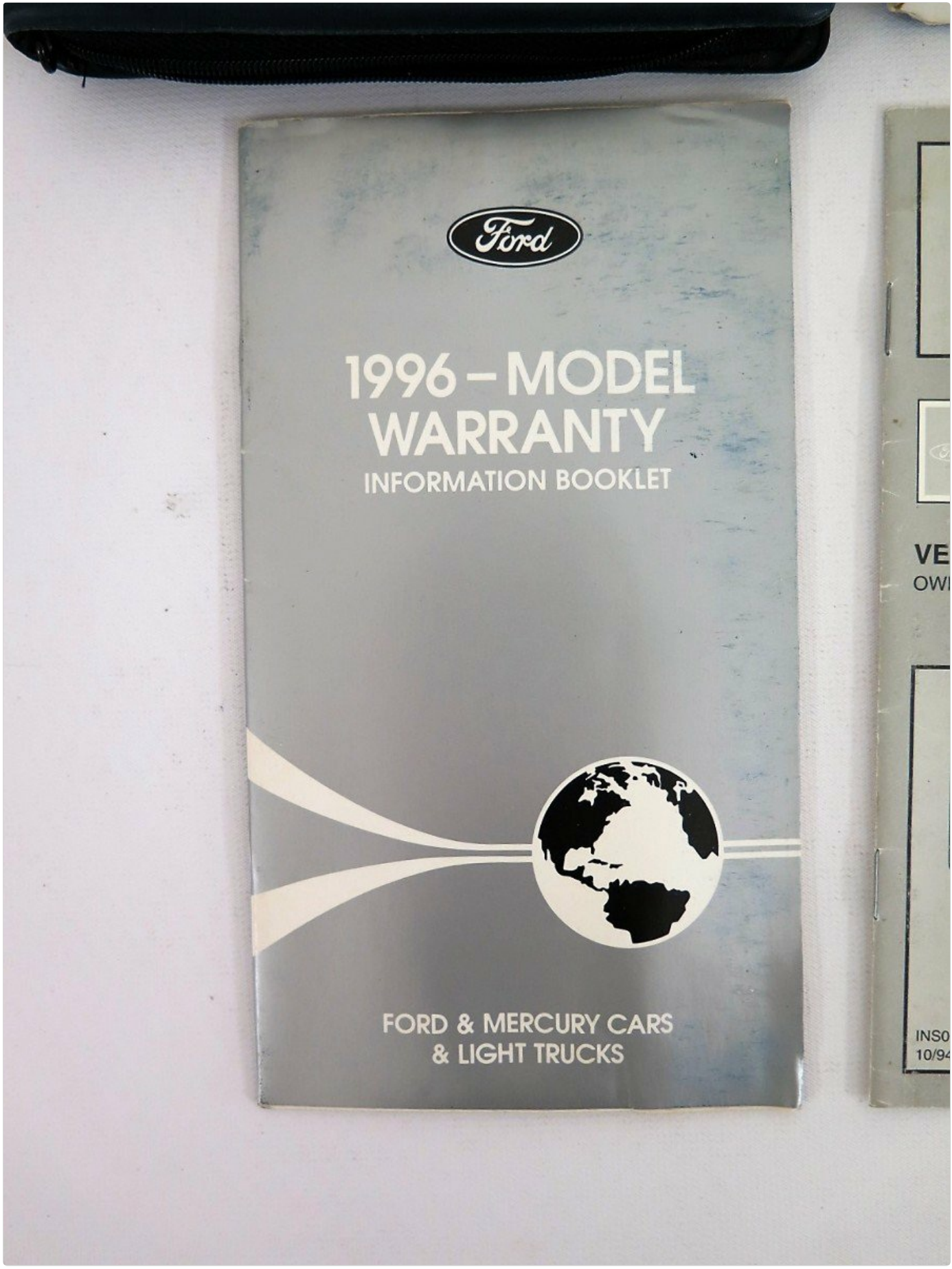


Image: A separate manual for the '600 Plus Vehicle Security Systems'. This gray cover features the Ford, Mercury, and Lincoln logos, and a graphic of a Ford remote control.

4. Maintenance and Care

Regular maintenance is crucial for the performance and longevity of your Windstar. This section outlines:

- **Maintenance Schedule:** Recommended service intervals for various components.
- **Fluid Checks:** How to check and replenish engine oil, coolant, brake fluid, power steering fluid, and washer fluid.
- **Tire Care:** Information on tire pressure, rotation, and replacement.
- **Battery Maintenance:** Tips for battery care and jump-starting procedures.
- **Bulb Replacement:** Instructions for replacing exterior and interior light bulbs.
- **Cleaning:** Recommendations for cleaning the interior and exterior of your vehicle.

5. Troubleshooting Common Issues

This part of the manual helps you diagnose and address minor problems that may arise:

- **Warning Lights:** What various dashboard warning lights indicate and recommended actions.
- **Engine Problems:** Basic troubleshooting for starting issues or unusual engine noises.
- **Brake System:** What to do if brake performance changes.
- **Electrical Issues:** Guidance for problems with lights, radio, or power windows.
- **Flat Tire:** Instructions for changing a flat tire and using the spare.

6. Specifications and Capacities

For detailed technical information about your 1996 Ford Windstar, refer to this section. It typically includes:

- **Engine Specifications:** Engine type, displacement, horsepower, and torque.
- **Fluid Capacities:** Recommended volumes for engine oil, coolant, transmission fluid, and fuel tank.
- **Tire Specifications:** Recommended tire sizes and pressures.
- **Dimensions:** Vehicle length, width, height, and wheelbase.
- **Towing Information:** Maximum towing capacity and related guidelines.

7. Warranty Information

The owner's manual package often includes a separate booklet detailing the vehicle's warranty coverage. This booklet provides information on:

- **New Vehicle Limited Warranty:** Coverage period and what is included.
- **Powertrain Warranty:** Specific coverage for engine and transmission components.
- **Corrosion Warranty:** Protection against rust-through.
- **Emissions Warranty:** Coverage for emissions-related components.
- **Warranty Limitations and Exclusions:** Conditions that may void warranty coverage.
- **Claim Procedures:** How to make a warranty claim.

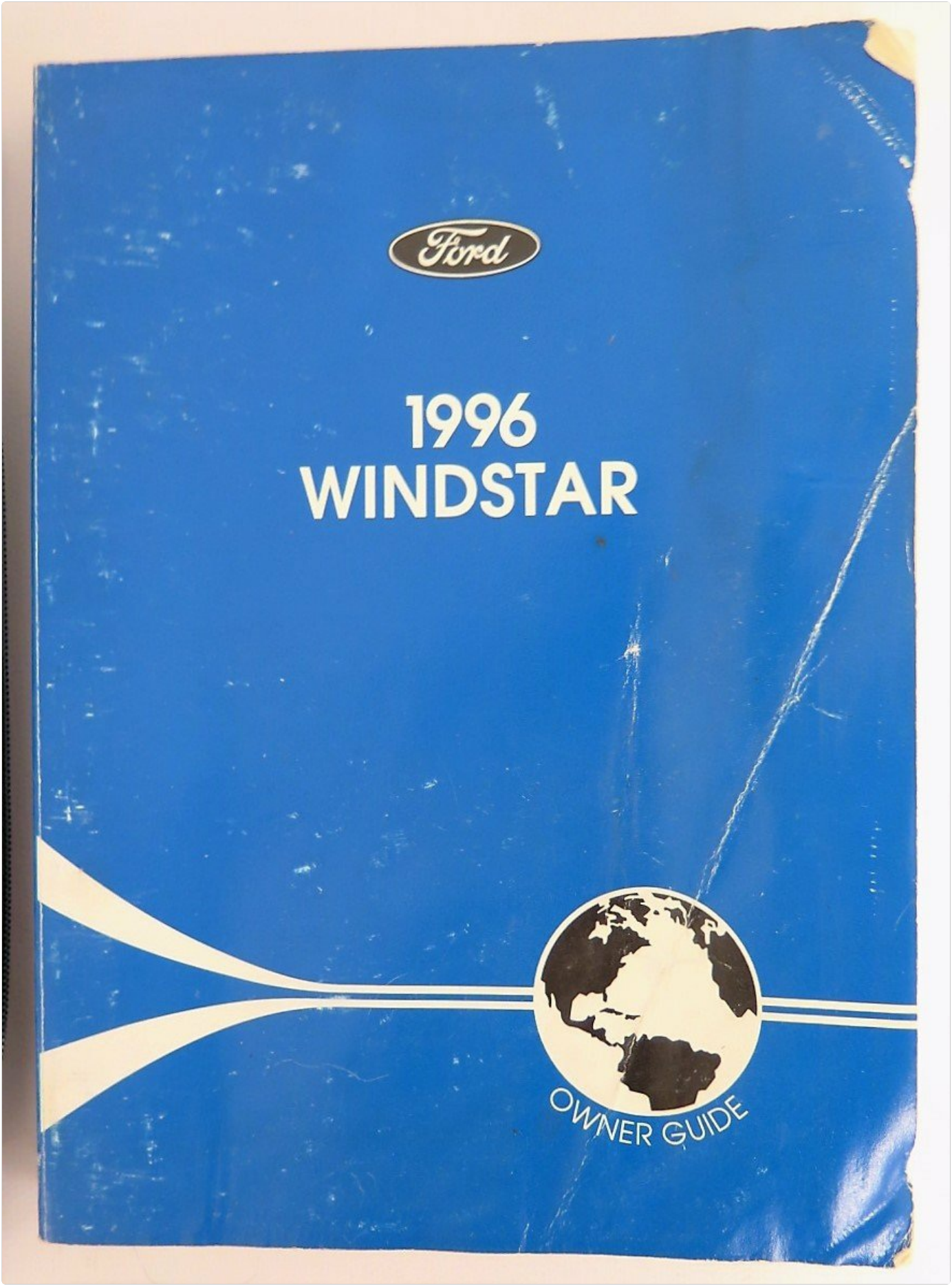


Image: The '1996 - MODEL WARRANTY INFORMATION BOOKLET' cover. This gray booklet features the Ford logo and a globe graphic, indicating it covers Ford & Mercury Cars & Light Trucks.

8. Additional Resources and Support

Your owner's manual may also direct you to additional resources for support:

- **Ford Dealerships:** Contact information for authorized service centers.
- **Customer Assistance:** Phone numbers or websites for Ford customer service.
- **Roadside Assistance:** Details on any included roadside assistance programs.



Image: A dark blue zippered case, embossed with the Ford logo and 'WINDSTAR', designed to hold the complete set of owner's manuals and related documents.

This guide is for informational purposes only and refers to the original 1996 Ford Windstar Owner's Manual.

Ask a question about this manual

Ask about setup, troubleshooting, compatibility, parts, safety, or missing instructions. Manuals+ will review the question and use this page's manual context to help answer it.

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Question

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

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