

Ford Bronco

1987 Ford Bronco Owner's Manual

Your Guide to Operation, Maintenance, and Care

INTRODUCTION

This owner's manual provides essential information for the safe and efficient operation, maintenance, and care of your 1987 Ford Bronco. Familiarize yourself with its contents to ensure a thorough understanding of your vehicle's features and capabilities. Proper use and regular maintenance are crucial for the longevity and performance of your Bronco. Please read this manual completely before operating your vehicle. Pay special attention to all warnings and cautions to prevent injury or damage.

SETUP AND INITIAL CHECKS

Before driving your 1987 Ford Bronco, perform the following initial checks to ensure safe operation:

- **Tire Pressure:** Verify all tires are inflated to the recommended pressure levels, including the spare. Refer to the tire placard located on the driver's side door jamb for specific values.
- **Fluid Levels:** Check engine oil, coolant, brake fluid, power steering fluid, and windshield washer fluid levels. Top up as necessary.
- **Lights and Signals:** Confirm all exterior lights (headlights, taillights, turn signals, brake lights) and interior lights are functioning correctly.
- **Wipers and Washer:** Ensure windshield wipers operate smoothly and the washer system dispenses fluid effectively.
- **Brakes:** Test brake pedal feel and ensure the parking brake engages and disengages properly.

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OPERATING YOUR BRONCO

Understanding your Bronco's controls and driving characteristics is essential for a safe and enjoyable experience.

Starting the Engine

1. Ensure the transmission is in Park (P) for automatic or Neutral (N) for manual.
2. Insert the key into the ignition and turn it to the 'ON' position.

3. For carbureted engines, depress the accelerator pedal once to set the choke, then release.
4. Turn the key to the 'START' position. Release the key once the engine starts. Do not crank for more than 15 seconds.

Driving Controls

- **Steering Wheel:** Controls vehicle direction.
- **Accelerator Pedal:** Increases engine speed and vehicle velocity.
- **Brake Pedal:** Slows or stops the vehicle.
- **Turn Signal Lever:** Located on the left side of the steering column. Push up for right turn, down for left turn.
- **Headlight Switch:** Typically located on the dashboard. Pull out to turn on headlights.
- **Four-Wheel Drive (4WD) System:** If equipped, refer to the specific instructions for engaging and disengaging 4WD, usually via a floor-mounted lever or dashboard switch. Engage 4WD only when necessary for traction on slippery or uneven surfaces.

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MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE AND PROCEDURES

Regular maintenance is vital for the performance, safety, and longevity of your 1987 Ford Bronco. Adhere to the recommended service intervals.

Routine Checks (Every 3,000 miles or 3 months)

- Change engine oil and filter.
- Check and top up all fluid levels (coolant, brake, power steering, transmission, differential).
- Inspect tires for wear and proper inflation. Rotate tires as recommended.
- Check all lights and signals.
- Inspect wiper blades.

Periodic Maintenance (Every 12,000 miles or 12 months)

- Replace air filter.
- Inspect brake pads, rotors, and lines.
- Check suspension components and steering linkage.
- Inspect drive belts and hoses.
- Lubricate chassis components.

Advanced Maintenance (As needed or specified)

- Replace spark plugs and ignition wires.
- Service transmission fluid and filter.
- Flush cooling system.
- Replace fuel filter.

For detailed instructions on specific maintenance tasks, consult the relevant sections of this manual or a qualified Ford service technician.

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TROUBLESHOOTING COMMON ISSUES

This section addresses common problems you might encounter with your 1987 Ford Bronco and provides basic troubleshooting steps.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Engine cranks but won't start	Dead battery, no fuel, faulty ignition, clogged fuel filter	Check battery terminals, fuel level, spark plugs. Consult a mechanic if issues persist.
Engine overheats	Low coolant, faulty thermostat, radiator blockage, failing water pump	Stop immediately, allow engine to cool. Check coolant level. Do not open radiator cap when hot.
Brakes feel spongy	Air in brake lines, low brake fluid, worn brake pads	Check brake fluid level. Have brakes inspected by a qualified technician.
Warning light illuminated	Indicates a system malfunction (e.g., oil pressure, check engine, battery)	Refer to the dashboard warning light section in this manual for specific meanings. Address the issue promptly.

For complex issues or if you are unsure about a repair, it is always recommended to seek assistance from a certified Ford service center or a qualified mechanic.

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SPECIFICATIONS

The following are general specifications for the 1987 Ford Bronco. Specific details may vary based on trim level and optional equipment.

- **Engine Options:** Typically included a 4.9L (300 cu in) I6 or a 5.0L (302 cu in) V8.
- **Transmission:** Manual (e.g., 4-speed or 5-speed) or Automatic (e.g., 3-speed C6 or 4-speed AOD).
- **Fuel Capacity:** Approximately 32 gallons (121 liters).
- **Wheelbase:** Approximately 104.7 inches (2659 mm).
- **Overall Length:** Approximately 180.5 inches (4585 mm).
- **Overall Width:** Approximately 79.1 inches (2009 mm).
- **Curb Weight:** Varies by configuration, typically around 4,000 - 4,500 lbs (1814 - 2041 kg).

For precise measurements and capacities for your specific vehicle, refer to the data plate or contact a Ford dealership with your Vehicle Identification Number (VIN).

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WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For information regarding your vehicle's original warranty coverage, please refer to the warranty booklet provided at the time of purchase. Warranty terms and conditions are subject to the original purchase date and mileage.

For technical assistance, service inquiries, or to locate an authorized Ford service center, please contact Ford Customer Service or visit the official Ford website. When contacting support, have your Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) readily available.

Ford Customer Service: Consult your local Ford dealer for contact information.

Official Ford Website: www.ford.com

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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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