

**“The family car of the future...
for the next 25 years!”**

POPULAR MECHANICS



DASHER

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“This VW was engineered with foresight and awareness of what kind of car is truly needed, now and in years ahead.” POPULAR MECHANICS

“In the age when so many cars are designed by accountants as much as by engineers, it’s always a refreshing experience to encounter one where knowledgeable technicians have had the major say—so in its makeup, and technological advancement has been one of the major design objectives. The VW Dasher is a prime example of such a car. Almost from the moment you settle behind the wheel, you realize that here’s something different—a quantum jump in automotive design. The message is so strong that it comes through to car experts and non-experts alike. The Dasher came from a

clean drawing board, illuminated by the harsh light of the real world and rays that loom over the horizon from the future. And what a car it is!” (ROAD TEST Magazine)

“This car... has amazed everyone that has driven it. VW has achieved almost the unheard of—excellent performance, fuel economy and driveability... But what drew the most comments on the Dasher was the superb layout of the car, its handling and superior workmanship.” (Guide to Car Economy)

“The top rung of the imported sales ladder still belongs to VW... With the Dasher, VW gives notice it plans to hang on with both hands for the next decade.” (Car & Driver)



"Dasher has a level of performance and handling that few drivers have the skill to exploit."

ROAD & TRACK

"The first thing that strikes you is the uncannily light and responsive steering. The car can be steered with the thumb and forefinger, even at low speeds. The agility and ease with which the car can be made to negotiate an obstacle course... is nothing short of amazing." (ROAD TEST Magazine)

"The Dasher has outstanding handling... Its compact front wheel drive and self-centering steering system... lets changes in road surface go practically unnoticed, even under severe braking... The car is that smooth and refined." (Guide to Car Economy)

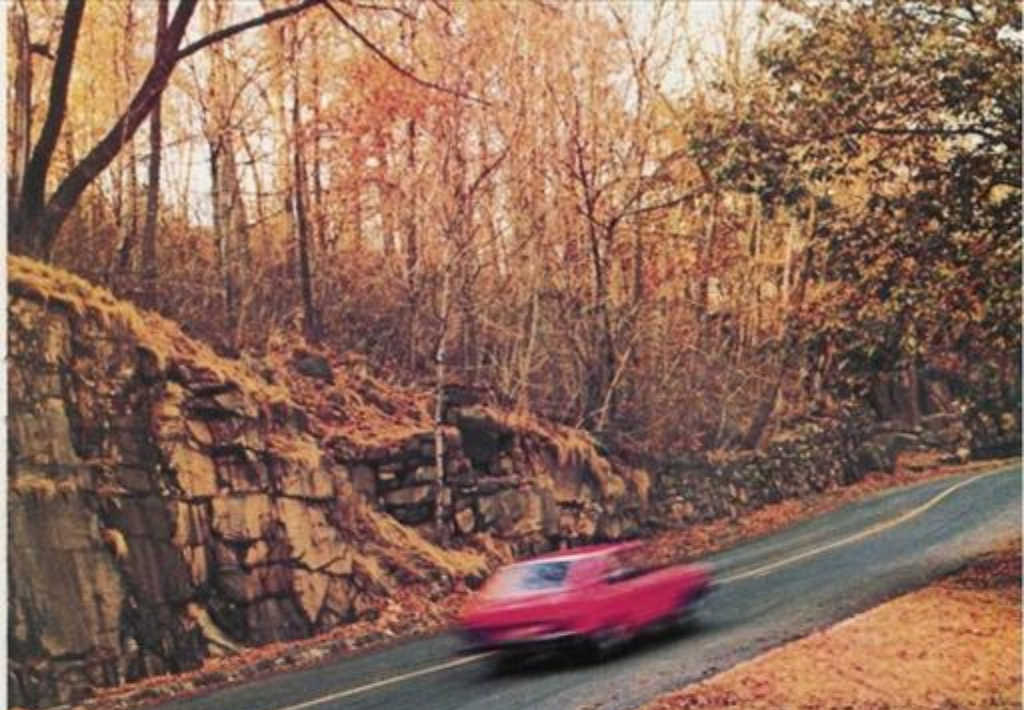
"You can fairly well leap your way through

traffic, if you desire." (ROAD TEST Magazine)

"The Dasher's engine is part of the fun. Driven hard, it sounds virile and provides a lot of performance. It's also extremely economical for such a performer." (Road & Track)

"The Dasher chews up pavement with enough gusto to turn a stout 76.9 mph in the quarter-mile in an elapsed time of 17.8 seconds. That will give it a long jump on many of the Super Coupes we tested." (Car & Driver)

"The Dasher can lead a dual life—as a highly enjoyable, sporting car for one or two people and as a family workhorse with adequate performance and comfort." (Road & Track)





**"You get a rather amazing ride
which would be
hard to duplicate
in a car that's
1,000 pounds
heavier."**

IMPORTED CAR PERFORMANCE

"Just about every other car of comparable size and accommodations currently being manufactured weighs at least 500 pounds more." (ROAD TEST Magazine)

"In a day of 2,600-lb. Pintos and Vegas, the Dasher rolls down the road at a bantam 1,935 lbs. VW met the same roof-crush, side-impact, and 5-mph bumper standards as everybody else, but the Dasher didn't leave the drawing boards with a load of ballast." (Car & Driver)

"In keeping with the general tenor of the Dasher, the ride is outstanding, which when you take into account the car's modest wheel-base and handling qualities is even more remarkable.

"The car has ... straight-line stability and insensitiveness to crosswinds." (ROAD TEST Magazine)

"You don't crawl up hills in the Dasher for want of a few more horsepower, and you don't have to leave half your luggage home for lack of space." (Car & Driver)

"It is, by the way, much roomier and better-riding than the Vega despite being shorter, narrower and 450 lb. lighter." (Road & Track)

"In accommodation and spaciousness, a similarly scaled car, such as the Mustang II, comes off poorly indeed." (Popular Mechanics)





**"The Dasher is small on the outside
and big on the inside, with
uncramped
seating."** ROAD TEST MAGAZINE

"The Dasher passenger compartment, having no intrusions from drive-line components, takes full advantage of space. It's spacious and airy (greenhouse or window area is about 27 sq. ft.) with generous front legroom, ample rear legroom and headroom for a six-footer—even in the rear of the two-door fastback coupe." (Popular Mechanics)

"Its back seat is wide enough for three passengers. In fact, Volkswagen has provided three rear-seat lap belts in celebration of that fact..." (Car & Driver)

"Space utilization is so outstanding that the Dasher will seat four in perfect comfort, carry a weekend's worth of their gear and still have enough room for a bag of golf clubs... Inside, the Dasher displays... bigness and well thought out design. Headroom is outstanding, legroom good and seats very comfortable." (Guide to Car Economy)

"The trunk is bigger than some Manhattan apartments. And you can stack every seat full of passengers with no complaints about lack of room. Six-footers can sit bolt upright in the back with no rub from the ceiling. There's plenty of legroom to go around, and the interior feels expansive because every passenger has a picture window to see out of." (Car & Driver)





**"The body, whether two-door,
four-door or station wagon,
is a perfect
combination
of styling
and engineering."**

POPULAR MECHANICS

"Crowds gather whenever its brake lights flash on. It draws enthusiastic audiences like a slow-motion streaker ... People who don't normally raise an eyebrow when a Lamborghini rolls by want to paw over the Dasher, peer at its most intimate parts and know all about it." (Car & Driver)

"Only after driving it and living with it awhile do you recognize the delightful subtleties of the Dasher and appreciate the quality of planning and execution that brought it to be."

"It's not that there's anything radical or revolutionary about the Dasher's design or specifications. Rather, it's how all of its components go together and work together." (ROAD TEST Magazine)

"All major controls fall readily at hand and the instrumentation is right in the driver's line of sight. With its generous glass area, visibility is excellent in all directions." (Guide to Car Economy)

"You could simply pass off the Dasher's roominess as thin wall construction, but VW engineers deserve far more credit than that. They've used vast expanses of glass in the body—partly because that approach offers a more efficient exterior wall than sheet metal lined with soft trim ... Body contours are relatively flat, and they're matched closely by unobtrusive interior panels. So you get a lot of space for the room you displace on the road." (Car & Driver)

"Also first-class is engine accessibility. Everything is right out in the open, clearly labeled."

"Styling is crisp and clean and very functional." (Guide to Car Economy)

"Dasher's overall design... earns it high marks for every attribute important to a family car." POPULAR MECHANICS

"Even during hard driving, stops at the gas pump should be nearly 300 miles apart in the Dasher ... There are few cars that can touch the Dasher's tight-fisted way with a gallon of gas." (Car & Driver)

"On extended highway trips at 60 mph or under, the indication is that mileages in the high twenties are attainable. With its 12-gallon tank, which doesn't sound like a lot, the Dasher nevertheless has a range approaching 300 miles." (ROAD TEST Magazine)

"Ease of service is certainly one of the Dasher's craftiest achievements." (Imported Car Performance)

"It was designed from the ground up for easy service and low cost, extended interval maintenance; it's backed by what is unquestionably the strongest and most numerous service organization of any import; it has one of the better warranties and an exclusive 'Owner's Security Blanket with Computer Analysis' check-up program." (ROAD TEST Magazine)





"It's over 4 grand, but you get what you pay for."

IMPORTED CAR PERFORMANCE

"In defense of the price, it can be pointed out that it comes standard with hundreds of dollars' worth of equipment that would be extra cost on domestic cars.

"An electric rear window defogger is standard, as are a pair of outlets from the defrosting system that perform the same function on the front side windows." (ROAD TEST Magazine)

"Power-assisted disc brakes are in front, drums in rear." (Popular Mechanics)

"Fit and finish, something that is often neglected these days, is on par with German automobiles costing twice to three times as much." (Guide to Car Economy)

"The car was totally free of panel vibration, sounds of 'oil canning,' squeaks or rattles... As far as the ear could determine there is very little wind noise at normal highway speeds." (ROAD TEST Magazine)

"In addition to careful workmanship and finish, there are many details that make the

Dasher safe, comfortable and generally pleasant to live with—all standard. I liked some especially: Interior: fully reclining front seats, full carpeting, windshield-wiper and high-beam controls on steering column. Safety: child-proof back door locks, electric window defogger." (Bill Hartford, Auto Editor, Popular Mechanics)

"And throughout the interior, there is evidence of careful, if not lavish, attention to finish details. The carpeting is smoothly molded in place for a perfect fit. Plastic in the instrument panel matches up as tightly as it does in a Mercedes. And the car's nervous system is neatly tucked away behind panels that effectively close the gap between the instrument panel and the floor so the Dasher doesn't force you to stare at cables and hoses on a daily basis.

"What this means is that the Dasher is one economy car you can enjoy instead of endure." (Car & Driver)



VW Dasher

1975 Technical Specifications

Engine

No. of cylinders	4
Bore/stroke	. 81/3.15 in. (76.5/80.0 mm)
Displacement	88.7 cu. in. (1471 cc)
Compression ratio	8.5:1
Horsepower—SAE Net	71 @ 6000 rpm
Max. torque	81 ft. lb. @ 4000 rpm
Fuel requirement	Regular, low-lead or lead-free
Engine block	Cast iron
Cylinder head	Aluminum alloy
Valve train	Spur-belt driven overhead cam
Cooling media, drive	Water, belt-driven pump; electric radiator fan, thermostatically controlled
Fuel/air supply	Downdraft carburetor, automatic choke

Electrical System

Rated voltage	12V
Battery capacity	12V, 54 amp/h
Alternator	Max. 770 W
Firing order	1 - 3 - 4 - 2

Drive Train

Transmission	4-speed synchro-transaxle
Final drive	Front-wheel drive. Double-jointed drive axles.
Clutch	Single disc, dry

Chassis and Suspension

Chassis	Unitized body/chassis. Bolt-on front fenders.
Front suspension	Independent front coil suspension struts, stabilizer bar.
Rear suspension	Torsion crank axle with progressive coil springs, panhard rod for lateral stability

Brakes and Wheels

Service brake	Power-assisted, dual diagonal hydraulic system. Self-adjusting front disc brakes. Mechanical, on rear wheels.
Emergency brake	5 J x 13.
Rim size	Radial ply 155 SR 13
Tire size	Rack and pinion, steering damper
Steering	

Dimensions

Length	172.6 in.
Width	63.0 in.
Height (unloaded)	53.5 in.
Wheelbase	97.2 in.
Front track	52.7 in.
Rear track	52.5 in.
Ground clearance	4.7 in.
Overhang front	30.5 in.
Ramp-angle front	26°
Overhang rear	37.2 in.
Ramp-angle rear	13°
Turning circle	34.0 ft.

Performance Data

Top and cruising speed	100 mph
Fuel consumption (EPA)	33-38 mpg
Highway Mileage	33-34 mpg
City Mileage	22-24 mpg

All specifications described in this catalog are subject to change without notice.

Volkswagen Owner's Security Blanket

If an owner maintains and services his 1975 model Volkswagen as prescribed in the Volkswagen Maintenance Schedule, any factory parts found to be defective in material or workmanship within 12 months or 20,000 miles, whichever comes first (except tires and filters), will be repaired or replaced by any U.S. or Canadian VW dealer. And this will be done free of charge.

An additional policy covers major internal engine and transmission parts for 24 months or 24,000 miles, whichever comes first. See your dealer for details. VWoA warrants every new and factory rebuilt part and accessory distributed by VWoA and sold by authorized VW dealers in the U.S. and Canada to be free from defects under normal use for a period of 6 months or 6,000 miles, whichever comes first (excluding normal wear and tear, maintenance and service items). Any authorized VW dealer will replace or repair defective parts free of charge including labor cost.

In addition, authorized VW dealers in the U.S. and Canada will guarantee their workmanship on all repairs for a period of 6 months or 6,000 miles, whichever comes first, excluding service, maintenance items and normal wear and tear. This workmanship guarantee is extended by the original servicing dealer, who will arrange for corrective repairs. As a part of the VW Owner's Security Blanket, VW dealers will make every effort to provide qualified owners, by appointment, with substitute transportation without charge (subject to availability) whenever a new vehicle warranty repair cannot be completed on the day scheduled. In this event, authorized VW dealers will provide to the owner of the car being repaired a courtesy vehicle for local use until the repair has been completed.

Sources:

Car & Driver, June 1974
 Guide to Car Economy, 1974
 Imported Car Performance, May 1974
 Popular Mechanics, February 1974
 Road & Track, June 1974
 Road Test, May 1974

Paint	Cloth*	Leatherette
 Agate Brown	 Saddle Tan	 Saddle Tan
 Spanish Green	 Saddle Tan	 Saddle Tan
 Rallye Yellow	 Nut Brown	 Nut Brown
 African Red	 Leva	 Cameo White
 Delft Blue	 Saddle Tan	 Cameo White
 Miami Blue	 Nut Brown	 Black
 Ceylon Beige	 Nut Brown	 Nut Brown

*Cloth not available for Dasher Wagon