

THAMES 15 CWT. VAN and EXPRESS BUS





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More versatility, more thrift and 180 cu. ft. In every 15 cwt. job, this van cuts costs

of load capacity - and time, increases working efficiency.

THAMES

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This smart modernly styled van has what it takes to make 15 cwt. payloads really pay . . . easier manoeuvrability through forward control and shorter wheelbase . . . chassis strength without wasteful weight . . . big economies in fuel and maintenance . . . and a rectangular load-space area design which allows maximum possible payload capacity and, weight for size, is a miracle of compactness. Body capacity is 170 cubic feet plus an additional 10 cubic ft. with passenger seat removed. Floor level is a low 26" to eliminate unnecessary lifting . . . rear doors open full width and have large vision windows . . . side panels are husky all-steel . . . and the floor is of $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick resin bonded plywood. Kerb-side front door is detachable and optional side - loading door gives even further load access ease.



Thames Express Bus - smooth, roomy comfort

for eight people – and an all-purpose usefulness with big and easily accessible load space.

With a smartness of appearance that matches its many-purpose usefulness, this Express Bus is built on the same 84" wheelbase as the 15 cwt. Van. The load area is immense, from floor to roof, from the front seats right to full-width rear double doors that give instant access. And should you need extra passenger facilities one trip, extra load facilities the next, it's a matter of seconds to install or remove the back seats. Side doors are wide for easy entry and the second kerb-side door has an automatic folding step. Big, slide-opening windows give landscape vision for eight people. Added to the extra ease of forward control is a brilliant, thrifty performance. The 16.9 h.p. O.H.V. 4-cylinder "oversquare" engine has big, "easy" power development and consistent fuel economy.



Side-loading door gives driver added accessibility and every feature increases his ease.

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In the design of both the 15 cwt. Van and Express Bus, there are time and fatigue is saving features for the driver. On the van, as optional equipment, a $31\frac{3}{4}$ " wide side-loading door allows unloading and loading directly to or from the pavement. This increases even further the fast load accessibility given by the full-width-opening rear doors and the fact that the kerb-side front door is detachable. Everything is planned for practical time-saving — even to detachable skirt panels which save the van from being off the road during any panel-beating repair.

On both vehicles, extra wide doors open right out for one-step entry and exit . . . driving seat is foam rubber upholstered and adjustable . . . full forward control positioning, big windscreen and big, slide-opening side windows give all-seeing vision . . . all controls are easy to hand including steering column placement of gear-shift . . . 35 ft. turning circle and featherweight steering lessen handling effort . . . even the foot pedals were specially designed for maximum response with minimum effort.

Rugged foundation to take the bulkiest of loads

Versatile Thames Van is built tough to take 15 cwt. loads of any type, no matter how bulky. Its sturdy "Outrigger" frame has strong, wide cross-members which provide firm anchorage to body uprights. This frame is designed to give the safest and the most economical distribution of the load.



When your business demands special-purpose bodywork, the advanced features of Thames chassis and cab are ideal for a large range of specialised body types. The availability of this chassis and cab allows special bodywork to be built on to the frame whilst retaining the comfortable Thames cab. The cab is complete with fully upholstered and trimmed seats, ready-fitted front doors and windows, rubber flooring, headlining etc. In the building of special bodies the use of the standard cab means big economies.

No matter what business you're in — or whether you want a single vehicle or a large fleet — Thames will do the job *best* for you.

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Advanced Thames features that increase

performance and all-round efficiency

There aren't any "lost corners" in the spacious body interior of the Thames 15 cwt. van, and from the exterior its clean lines blend into the most stylish shape on four wheels you've ever seen!

The new type torsion-bar rear door catches save endless time and irritation. There's nothing to rattle, nothing to go wrong, and they're positive in action, even in the highest wind. Two-position opening, 90° for kerbside safety, 180° for loading bays. Extra-large rear window glass area is a standard feature.

The Thames 15 cwt. van offers

outstanding manoeuvrability. Just

look at the small turning circle -

only 35 ft., thanks to the ultra-short wheelbase



Large curved wind-screen, with really slim door-pillars, gives unbroken visibility - unsurpassed by any vehicle in the light delivery field

THAMES/





Another advantage of Thames engineering is the use of taper roller bearings in the front wheels to improve both front suspension and roadability. This type of bearing enables easier and finer adjustment of the front wheel hubs and drums and also accommodates side thrust loading when cornering

Superb new-design independent

front suspension - a scaled version

of the American ball-joint system -

gives the driver saloon-car riding

comfort, making the job less tiring





The Thames "Outrigger"

frame, with its full-width cross-

possible by new-design carrier. Just raise the "Thames" nameplate, give a few turns of the wheel-nut wrench, and the spare wheel is resting on the ground. Replacing the spare wheel is just as easy, takes only a few seconds

Jltra-fast wheelchange made

All the advantages of Ford's proven "oversquare" 4 cyl. O.H.V. engine

Hollow cast crankshaft, free from whip, vibration, and fatigue, lighter yet stronger than ever before, giving better acceleration, greater economy, longer life.

The modern O.H.V. engine which powers Thames has an R.A.C. rating of 16.9 h.p. and develops 55 b.h.p. Its "Oversquare" principle and advanced features combine with a favourable power to weight ratio for smoothness, instant responsiveness and an 'easier' performance whether pulling or cruising. This effortless power output is achieved with fuel economy that adds to the profitable use of Thames in constant delivery work. A further economy factor is that oversquare design lessens wear and tear thereby greatly increasing life and lessening maintenance costs,



Thermostatically controlled by-pass

Super-cooled valves promise

enormously increased valve

life through greater mechan-

ical accuracy and decrease in

valve operating temperatures.

The last word in driverstyled cabs. Wide-opening doors can be slipped off the hinges for local delivery work. Driving compartment is low to the ground, easy to enter from cither door. Big, wellplaced steering wheel, big hand-brake lever for frequent parking, steeringcolumn gear-change and smooth-operating hydraulically assisted clutch and brake controls.



matically takes up wear in timing gear, thereby ensuring permanent quiet running.

Ingenious hydraulic chain-tensioner auto-

valve in cooling system ensures rapid warming up of the whole cylinder block, cuts cold-starting engine wear, brings the heater (optional equipment) more quickly into action.



Specifications

15 cwt. VAN, EXPRESS BUS

ENGINE: Four cylinder overhead valve — Bore 3.25 in. Stroke 3.13 in. Cubic Capacity 103.9 cubic inches. Compression Ratio 6.9 : 1. B.H.P. 55 at 4,200 r.p.m. Torque 87 Ft/Lbs at 2,300 r.p.m. Three bearing dynamically balanced crankshaft. Detachable cast iron cylinder head. Autothermic aluminium alloy pistons. Chain driven camshaft with timing chain tensioner. 3 point suspension in rubber of engine and gear box.

ENGINE LUBRICATION: Pressure fed by submerged gear type pump to main bearings, camshaft bearings and connecting rod bearings.

IGNITION: 12 volt battery, oil filled ignition coil, automatic advance and retard ignition control by mechanical governor weights in conjunction with vacuum diaphragm. Spark plug size 14 mm.

FUEL SYSTEM: Diaphragm type fuel pump. Downdraft type carburettor with combined air cleaner and silencer. Fuel tank capacity 8 imperial gallons.

TRANSMISSION: Steering column change mechanism with 3 forward speeds. Synchromesh on second and top. Overall ratios 1st 15.10:1; 2nd 7.81:1; Top 4.62:1; Reverse 18.34:1. Gearbox lubricant capacity 2½ imperial pints. Single dry plate clutch 8.5 ins. diameter.

REAR AXLE: $\frac{1}{2}$ floating hypoid crown wheel and pinion with a two pinion differential. Dynamically balanced open drive shaft with needle roller bearing universal joints. Axle ratio 4.62 : 1. Lubricant capacity $2\frac{1}{2}$ imperial pints.

FRONT SUSPENSION: Independent ball joint with rubber mounted unequal length wishbones. Direct action shock absorbers coaxial with coil springs. Anti-roll bar standard fitting.

REAR SUSPENSION: Longitudinal semi-elliptic leaf springs mounted in rubber. Lever arm rear shock absorbers.

BRAKES: Hydraulically operated on all four wheels. Front brakes (9 ins. diameter $x 2\frac{1}{2}$ ins. wide shoes) two leading shoe type, independent cylinder each shoe. Rear shoes (9 ins. diameter $x 1\frac{1}{4}$ ins. wide shoes) operated by single cylinder. Lining area 147 sq. inches. Mechanical handbrake to rear wheels.

STEERING: Worm and Peg type. Ratio 14.00 : 1. Two spoke steering wheel. Diameter 16.5 inches. Turning circle 35 feet.

WHEELS & TYRES: Pressed wheel disc wide base rims (15 ins. diameter with 4.5 ins. wide x 1.25 ins. offset). 5-stud fitting with chrome hub caps. Tyres 6.40 - 15/6 ply.

ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT: Generator — 2 brush ventilated type. Drive, adjustable wedge belt. Compensated voltage control. 12 volt starter motor. Electrical high frequency type horn operated by control button at centre of steering column.

BATTERY: Lead acid 12 volt 9 plates per cell. 45 amp. hour capacity at 20 hour rate, positive terminal earthed.

INSTRUMENTS: Housed in a concave binnacle set into the belt rail panel in front of the steering column; incorporating speedometer, odometer, fuel gauge, temperature gauge, oil warning light, high beam indicator and direction indicator warning lights.

CONTROLS: Choke and starter knobs. Ignition, lighting and instrument lighting switches, windscreen wiper controls and foot operated headlamp dimmer switch. Direction indicator switch.

BODY: Bodies are of single skin, steel welded construction. Lower skirt panels being detachable for ease of repair Front doors hinged at the front, lockable from inside or outside. Double rear doors. Large one-piece curved windscreen. Sliding front door windows with locking device. Dual sun visors — ashtray mounted in centre of facia panel. Bucket type seats. Two additional 3-man bench type seats provided in Express Bus. Side loading door optional extra on Van, standard on Express Bus with automatic fold-away passenger step. Drivers seat adjustable to convenient position. Steel and wood flooring. Spare wheel located underneath rear of body.



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| 84″ | 158.9″ | 36.6″ | 78.7″ | 70″ | 53″ | 55″ | 46.3" | 47.8* | 31.75″ | 45.8" | 59.25" | 95″ | 44″ | 51.5" |

GENERAL DIMENSIONS: Overall length 158.94 ins. Overall height 78.68 ins. Body capacity 170 cu. ft. extra 10 cu. ft. if passenger seat removed. Gross Vehicle Weight Van 4,280 lbs., Express Bus 4315 lbs. Rear Door Opening: Width 47.78 inches; Height 46.30 inches.

GENERAL EQUIPMENT: Vacuum operated dual windscreen wipers. Moisture proof flush fitting headlamps. Twin tail lights and reflectors — approved flashing type direction indicators. Rear number plate illumination light. Two externally mounted rear view mirrors. Provision for heater and demisters.

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