

1981 PLYMOUTH TRAIL DUSTER



Trail Duster...new styling for '81.

STYLISH NEW COMFORT, SPORTY NEW CONVENIENCE FEATURES

New style outside

The Plymouth Trail Duster has an all-new look for 1981. New styling front and rear. New wrapover glass treatment. Durable upholstery choices. New instrument panel with easy-to-read gauges and turn-some styling touches.

The dramatic new wrapover rear quarter windows are functional and stylishly integrated into the integral steel roof for 1981. They and all windows in all Trail Dusters are tinted this year for passenger comfort.



Comfort inside

The standard Trail Duster for 1981 offers seating for two, or optional seating for three, five or six people, depending on the seating package you prefer.

Built to last

Trail Duster's striking appearance is very obvious. What you don't see is the tough construction beneath it all.

Start with a 36,000-psi carbon steel frame. It's built to take punishment and last. Add seven crossmembers to the frame to flex on rough roads and come back for more. The generous use of galvanized steel in critical rust-prone areas helps protect Trail Duster against corrosion and the elements. For these reasons and more, we say that the new 1981 Plymouth Trail Duster is one tough sport utility.



"Sure," you say. "A sport utility has to be tough. But how about the average driver who spends most of his time on smooth highways and driving errands within the city limits?" Our engineers thought about that. They responded with leaf springs at each wheel on the four-wheel-drive models, plus a front stabilizer bar. All this for a smooth ride over normal roads, yet tough enough to absorb all kinds of punishment off the road. Our two-wheel-drive model features independent front coil suspension.

Two-wheel or four-wheel drive

Trail Duster uses a part-time four-wheel-drive system on the PW150 for improved economy. With the transfer case shift selector in the "Two-Wheel High" mode, you drive with rear power only. When the system is in two-wheel drive, the front axle is disconnected and not in operation. Thus, the running friction losses originating from these driving components in "full-time" four-wheel drive are eliminated. So there you have it. Plymouth Trail Duster for 1981. New style. New comfort. New durability. The finest sport utility vehicle Plymouth has ever offered.

Totally new for 1981

The Trail Duster Sport instrument panel provides excellent gauge visibility and easy access to controls. Items shown include a leather-wrapped steering wheel with black horn pad and woodtone insert, woodtone instrument panel faceplate and bright trim. The instrument cluster features an oil pressure gauge, cigar lighter, engine temperature gauge and trip odometer. This panel for four-wheel-drive models shows the four-wheel-drive indicator light. Also shown are optional digital clock, air conditioning and AM/FM stereo radio with cassette player.

30-Day Satisfaction Money-Back Guarantee

If you are not completely satisfied with your Trail Duster bring it back within 30 days or 1,000 miles (whichever comes first) in good condition with no metal damage. Once your dealer receives your title we'll refund your purchase less finance and insurance charges and less the difference, if any, between the trade-in retail value (as shown on the "Trade-In Refund Agreement") and the trade-in value allowed on the retail sales contract. One refund per customer. See your dealer for details.

About this catalog: We have tried to make this catalog as complete as possible. And we hope you find it useful. However, since the time of printing, some of the information (such as fuel economy) may have been updated. Also, some of the equipment shown or described throughout this catalog is available at extra cost. Your dealer for details and you should ask him for current information before ordering.



The newly designed liftgate is a breeze to open, thanks to its lightweight fiberglass construction and two pneumatic-assist cylinders. Opened, it gives you plenty of usable luggage space with the rear seat folded forward. Closed, the 1981 Trail Duster's rear styling is handsome, and then some.



Low-back bucket seats are standard on Trail Duster models and are available as an option on the Trail Duster Sport. The rear console is standard on Sport and optional with the Custom. The Trail Duster Sport door trim panel is shown.



The deluxe vinyl split-back front bench seat is available on the Trail Duster Custom or Trail Duster Sport as an extra-cost option. A three-passenger fold-down rear bench seat in matching front seat trim is also available.



High-back Command bucket seats are standard with the Trail Duster Sport Package, which includes color-keyed door trim panels with assist strap and woodtone trim, carpeting, and lockable console with removable styrofoam beverage chest. A three-passenger fold-down rear bench seat in matching front seat trim is also standard on Trail Duster Sport models.

Trail Duster... build it your way.



Macho Trail Duster shown in Glossy Black and Graphic Yellow.

Macho Trail Duster (left) sets the style for rugged outdoor individualism. This optional package goes on and on with Sport Interior, special two-tone exterior paint, macho tape, stripe, high gloss black front and rear bumpers, five outline white-lettered steel-belted radials, four radial-ribbed aluminum wheels on PW150 (steel-spoke orange wheels with black accent on PW150), plus a heavy-duty stabilizer bar on the PW150.

Selected optional packages

- ☐ **Convenience Package**
 - Windshield wipers—two-speed intermittent wipe • Day/night interior 15-inch rear vision mirror • Glove box lock and light • Ashtray/light • In-cab-actuated hood lock release
- ☐ **Protection Package**
 - Door edge protectors • Bright front bumper and guards with steel strips • Bright rear bumper with nerf strips
- ☐ **Trail Duster Sport**
 - Exterior:** • Bright windshield molding • Bright drip rail molding • Bright tailgate handle • Grille—bright aluminum with chrome plastic insert and headlamp doors • Upper and lower D-pillar moldings with bright applique panel • Power steering on PW150 model
 - Interior:** • Woodgrain trim applique on doors • Assist straps • Carpeting on lower door panels • Color-keyed driver and front passenger side back Command bucket seats with cloth and vinyl trim • Inboard fold-down armrests on seats • Lockable console with removable hydraulic beverage chest • Color-keyed folding rear bench seat with cloth and vinyl trim • Color-keyed soft headliner • Color-keyed carpeting throughout with underlayment • Color-keyed built-in radiant system • Color-keyed rear side and 18-gauge metal trim panels • Woodgrain instrument cluster faceplate • Black leather-wrapped steering wheel with black horn pad and woodgrain insert • Color-keyed spare tire cover (NA w/10035 trim) • Cigar lighter • Dual horns • Bright front door sill work plate • Insulation under hood panel • Oil pressure, engine temperature gauges • Color-keyed cold air trim panels • Trip odometer

Selected options

- ☐ **Trailer Towing Packages**
 - ☐ Light Duty—Available PW150 and PW150
 - ☐ Heavy Duty—Available PW150 only
- ☐ **Air Conditioning**
- ☐ **Alternators**
 - ☐ 63-amp ☐ 117-amp
- ☐ **Batteries**
 - ☐ 59-amp hour/375-amp Cold Crank
 - ☐ 70-amp hour/430-amp Cold Crank (Maintenance Free)
 - ☐ 85-amp hour/500-amp Cold Crank Long-Life
- ☐ **Bumpers**
 - ☐ Rear—Step type, painted
- ☐ **Clock—Electric digital**
- ☐ **Console—Lockable (standard on Sport)**
- ☐ **Cooler—Auxiliary transmission oil-to-air**
- ☐ **Cooling—Maximum engine**
- ☐ **Gauges**
 - ☐ Oil Pressure, Engine Temp., Trip Odometer
- ☐ **Glass—Sun screen, privacy**
- ☐ **Grille—Bright insert and headlamp doors**
- ☐ **Headlamps—Halogen**
- ☐ **Heaters**
 - ☐ Deluxe—Hi-level • ☐ Engine Block



Digital Clock



Air Conditioning



Power Windows



Steel Plate



Sport Steering Wheel



Bright Front Door



AM/FM Stereo with Cassette Tape Player



Aluminum Radial Ribbed Road Wheel

- ☐ **Hood Lock Release**—In-cab-actuated
- ☐ **Mats**—Rubber (accessory type, two)
- ☐ **Mirrors**—Dual
- ☐ **Low Mount**—Bright 6-inch by 9-inch
- ☐ **Low Mount Extended**—Bright 7 1/2-inch by 10 1/2-inch
- ☐ **Moldings—Exterior**
 - ☐ Lower ☐ Upper
- ☐ **Power Assists**
 - ☐ Power Door Locks—Front doors only
 - ☐ Power Steering—Standard on PW150
 - ☐ Power Windows—Front doors only
- ☐ **Radio**
 - ☐ AM/FM ☐ AM/FM Stereo
 - ☐ AM/FM Stereo/Cassette Tape Player, Dolby® Noise Reduction System
 - ☐ AM/FM Stereo/Eight-Track Tape Player
 - ☐ AM/FM Stereo/Electronic Search-Tune
 - ☐ AM/FM Stereo with 40-Channel CB Transceiver

*Dolby is a trademark of Dolby Laboratories, Inc.

- ☐ **Shocks**—Five-inch heavy-duty front and rear
- ☐ **Skid Plates**
 - ☐ Shield—Fuel Tank
 - ☐ Shield—Transfer Case (NA PW150)
- ☐ **Speed Control**—Automatic
- ☐ **Sport Bar**
- ☐ **Stabilizer Bar**—Front (standard on PW150)
- ☐ **Stabilizer Bar**—Front heavy-duty (NA on PW150)

- ☐ **Steering Column**—Tilt type
- ☐ **Steering Wheel**—Four-spoke "Sport"
- ☐ **Sun Roof**—Sky Lite

- ☐ **Wheel Covers**—Four
- ☐ **Bright**
- ☐ **Premium**—Not available PW150

- ☐ **Wheels**—Road type: 15-inch by 7.0-inch (front), conventional steel spare wheel included
- ☐ **Aluminum Radial Ribbed**
- ☐ **Chrome Disc**—Five slot
- ☐ **Painted Steel Spoke**—White
- ☐ **Spare Wheel**—Road type (available only with matching road wheels)

- ☐ **Windshield Wipers**—Two-speed/intermittent wipe

'81 Sno-Commander Package

Ask your Plymouth dealer about the 4WD Trail Duster with complete factory-installed snow removal equipment that is custom-fitted to the vehicle.



Standard equipment

- Air Cleaner—Dry type
- Alternator—12-volt, 48-amp
- Antifreeze—Protection to minus 20°F
- Ashtray—Driver's compartment
- Battery—48-amp-hr/325-amp Cold Crank
- Bumpers—Front and rear; bright finish
- Choke—Automatic
- Cleaner Air System
- Coolant Reserve System
- Dash Liner—Insulated
- Directional Signals—Parking and tail-lights, front and rear
- Door—Inner trim panels and armrests (color-keyed)
- Electronic Ignition System
- Exhaust Emission Control System
- Floor Mat—Black with padding (padding not available in rear compartment)
- Fuel Tank—35-gallon, mounted aft of rear axle
- Glass—Tinted, all windows
- Glove Box—With door
- Grille—Aluminum with painted plastic insert and headlamp doors
- Headlamps—Single rectangular
- Heater—Fresh air with defrosters
- Horn—Single, electric
- Hubcaps—Bright
- Hubs—Front wheel, locking (PW150)
- Instrumentation—Speedometer, odometer, ammeter and fuel gauge; oil pressure and engine temperature indicator lights
- Instrument Panel—Padded
- Jack—Axle type, 3,300-pound capacity
- Lights
 - Backup, stop, taillamp and license plate
 - Combination map/courtesy light on instrument panel
 - Combined side marker light and reflector
 - front—amber (two)
 - rear—combined with taillamps
 - Rear compartment courtesy lights
- Mirrors
 - Exterior: Dual bright finish short arm, 5-inch by 7-inch
 - Interior: 10-inch rear vision
- Oil Filter—Throwaway type
- Power Front Disc Brakes
- Power Steering—PW150
- Radio—AM
- Roof Vent—Rear
- Seats—Driver and passenger; deluxe vinyl low-back buckets including Unibelt restraint system
- Shock Absorbers—Front and rear
- Spare Tire Mounting—Inside behind right rear wheel well
- Stabilizer Bar—Front (PW150)
- Sun Visors—Driver and passenger; color-keyed
- Traffic Hazard Warning Switch
- Transfer Case—Two-speed NP208; on part-time four-wheel-drive models
- Window Moldings—Quarter side; bright
- Windshield Washers—Dual jet
- Windshield Wipers—Two-speed

1981 Plymouth Trail Duster specifications

MODEL	PD150 TWO-WHEEL DRIVE ⁽¹⁾	PW150 PART-TIME FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE
GVW Rating (lbs)	5,300	5,850
Maximum Loading Rating (lbs) ⁽²⁾	1,450	1,485
Axle, Front—Type	Chrysler	Spicer
Capacity (lbs)	3,000	3,500
Axle, Rear—Type	Chrysler	Chrysler
Capacity (lbs)	3,550	3,600
Ratios ⁽³⁾	2.94 (S) 3.21 (opt)	3.21 (S)—w/4-speed trans. 2.94 (S)—w/auto. trans. 3.55 (opt)
Brakes, Service—Type	hydraulic dual braking system with power assist	hydraulic dual braking system with power assist
Front	disc—11.75" x 1.25"	disc—11.75" x 1.25"
Rear	drum—10" x 2.5"	drum—10" x 2.5"
Brakes, Parking—Type	rear wheel, internal expanding	rear wheel, internal expanding
Control Area	foot pedal	foot pedal
Area	97.6 sq in.	97.6 sq in.
Clutch—Dia (area)	—	11"—123.0 sq in.
Electrical: Alternator	48-amp	48-amp
Batteries	48-amp hr/325-amp Cold Crank	48-amp hr/325-amp Cold Crank
Engines	5.2-liter (318 CID) 2-bbl V-8 (S)	5.2-liter (318 CID) 2-bbl V-8 (S) 5.2-liter (318 CID) 4-bbl V-8 (opt) 5.9-liter (360 CID) 4-bbl V-8 (opt)
Frame—Type and section modulus	drop frame 2.86	drop frame 2.86
Shock Absorbers (dia)		
Front	1.0" (S) 1.56" (opt)	1.0" (S) 1.56" (opt)
Rear	1.0" (S) 1.56" (opt)	1.0" (S) 1.56" (opt)
Springs: Front—Type	independent front suspension coil	48" x 2.5"—leaf
Capacity @ ground (lbs)	1,300 (S) 1,400 heavy-duty (opt)	1,640 (S) 1,800 heavy-duty (opt)
Springs: Rear—Type	52" x 2.5"—leaf	52" x 2.5"—leaf
Capacity @ ground (lbs)	1,820	1,820
Stabilizer Bar—Front, diameter	1.0" (opt)	1.0" (S) 1.56" heavy-duty (opt)
Steering—Type	manual steering	power steering
Turning dia	37'3"	36'9"
Tires: Front and rear		
—std	P235/75R15 BSW GBR	P235/75R15 BSW GBR
—opt	P235/75R15 WSW GBR	P235/75R15 WSW GBR
BSW—Black Sidewall	P235/75R15 WSW SBR	P235/75R15-XL BSW SBR
WSW—White Sidewall	P235/75R15-XL BSW SBR	P235/75R15 WSW SBR
OWL—Outline White Letters	P255/70R15 OWL SBR	P255/70R15 OWL SBR
GBR—Glass-Belted Radial		LR60-15B OWL ABR
SBR—Steel-Belted Radial		10R-15LT-B OWL SBR
ABR—Aramid-Belted Radial		7.00R15D BSW SBR
Transfer Case	—	NP208 2-speed
Transmissions	3-speed automatic	NP435 4-speed manual (S) 3-speed automatic (opt)
Wheels		
Conventional five-stud disc	15" x 6.50"	15" x 6.50"

S—Standard equipment. Opt—Optional equipment. ⁽¹⁾PD150 two-wheel-drive Trail Duster is not available in California.

⁽²⁾Must be reduced by weight of vehicle occupants and optional equipment.

⁽³⁾Specific axle ratios may be restricted for use with certain engine-transmission combinations. See your Plymouth dealer for details.

Standard safety features

- Backup lights
- Brake system warning light
- Dual braking system with separate brake fluid reservoirs in the master cylinder
- Electric windshield washers and wipers
- Energy-absorbing steering column
- Fade-resistant front disc brakes
- Glare-reduction measures for windshield wipers, instrument panel and steering wheel
- Ignition and steering column lock
- Inside and outside rearview mirrors
- Padded instrument panel and sun visors
- Rear liftgate-open warning light
- Recessed inside door release handles
- Resilient window crank knobs
- Safety-Rim 15-inch wheels
- Side marker lights and reflectors
- Traffic hazard warning flasher
- Turn signals
- Unibelt restraint system

Exterior colors.



NOTE: Due to occasional printing irregularities, the colors shown may vary slightly from actual hues. See your Plymouth dealer for accurate color chips.



5/50 Protection Plan

This optional service contract, the longest protection plan* of any domestic manufacturer, covers major power train components for five years or 50,000 miles (whichever comes first) from the time you take delivery of your new Trail Duster. Coverage begins after the limited warranty expires. The plan, which has a \$50 deductible per repair visit, also has an allowance for alternate transportation and towing. Ask your dealer for full details, including plan availability in your area.

*Provisions of plans may vary with manufacturer.



Trail Duster... engineered for quality, versatility and durability. Buy or lease a Plymouth Trail Duster.

All product illustrations and specifications are based on authorized information. Although descriptions are believed correct at publication approval, accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Some of the equipment shown on product illustrations is optional, at extra cost. Chrysler Corporation reserves the right to make changes from time to time without notice or obligation in prices, specifications, colors and materials and to change or discontinue models. Certain models, packages and options are subject to specific restrictions, requirements and late availability. See your dealer for the latest information.

Litho in U.S.A. 8/80 (300M)

Form No. 81-005-1006

MOPAR parts are engineered by Chrysler Corporation for use in your new Plymouth. When replacement is necessary be sure to specify MOPAR parts. Used by professional mechanics all over the world.

