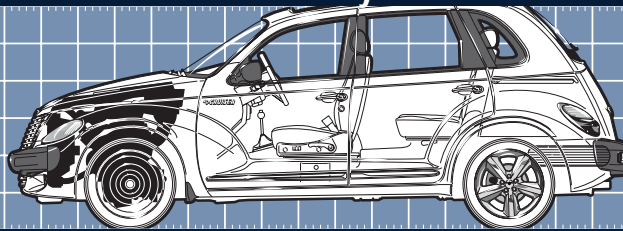




2003 Chrysler PT Turbo

Chrysler Corporation
1000 Chrysler Dr., Auburn Hills, Mich. 48326; www.chrysler.com

List Price: **\$22,290**
Price as Tested: **\$24,710**



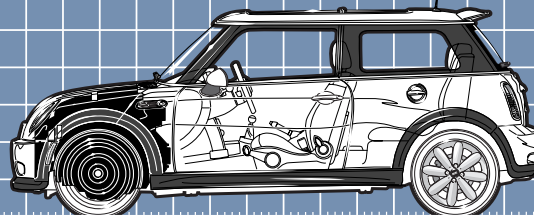
SCALE: 10 IN./254mm DIMENSIONS
DRAWING BY TIM BARKER

Price as tested incl std equip. (dual front airbags, ABS, cruise control, air cond, tilt leather-wrapped steering wheel, sport seats w/driver's lumbar adj, AM/FM/CD, anti-theft sys, keyless entry: pwr windows, door locks & mirrors), chrome wheels (\$600), side airbags (\$390), 4-sp auto. trans (\$290), Inferno Red paint (\$200), Auto Stick seq. shift (\$150), pwr height adj. for driver's seat (\$100), cassette player upgrade (\$100), dest charge (\$590).

2002 Mini Cooper S

Mini, a Division of BMW of North America
300 Chestnut Ridge Rd., Woodcliff Lake, N.J. 07677; www.miniusa.com

List Price: **\$19,300**
Price as Tested: **\$22,350**



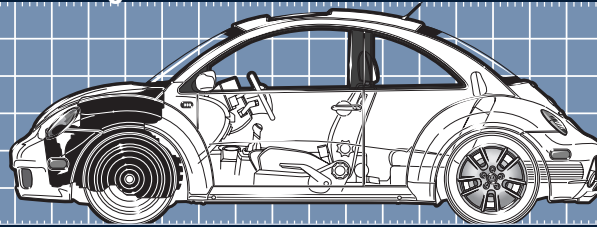
SCALE: 10 IN./254mm DIMENSIONS
DRAWING BY TIM BARKER

Price as tested incl std equip. (dual front, side & side-curtain airbags, ABS, Electronic Brake Distribution, traction control, cruise control, AM/FM/CD, anti-theft sys, keyless entry: pwr windows, door locks & mirrors), Premium pkg (panoramic sunroof, auto. air cond, onboard computer) \$1250, Sport pkg (stability control, sport seats, foglamps, spoiler, 17-in. wheels, runflat tires w/flat monitor, xenon headlights) \$1250, dest charge (\$550).

2002 Volkswagen New Beetle Turbo S

Volkswagen of America, Inc.
3800 Hamlin Rd., Auburn Hills, Mich. 48326; www.vw.com

List Price: **\$23,400**
Price as Tested: **\$24,050**



SCALE: 10 IN./254mm DIMENSIONS
DRAWING BY TIM BARKER

Price as tested incl std equip. (dual front & side airbags, ABS, stability control, cruise control, air cond, AM/FM/cassette, 2-tone leather sport seats, tilt/telescope steering wheel, anti-theft sys, foglights, keyless entry: pwr windows, moonroof, door locks & mirrors), California & Northeast emissions equip. (\$100), dest charge (\$550).

| | Chrysler PT Turbo | Mini Cooper S | Volkswagen New Beetle Turbo S |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|
| General Data | | | |
| Curb weight | 3335 lb | 2730 lb | 3020 lb |
| Test weight | 3470 lb | 2910 lb | 3160 lb |
| Weight dist (with driver), f/r, % | 60/40 | 59/41 | 62/38 |
| Wheelbase | 103.0 in. | 97.1 in. | 98.7 in. |
| Track, f/r | 58.3 in./58.2 in. | 57.2 in./57.5 in. | 59.4 in./58.8 in. |
| Length | 168.8 in. | 143.9 in. | 161.1 in. |
| Width | 67.1 in. | 66.5 in. | 67.9 in. |
| Height | 63.0 in. | 55.7 in. | 59.0 in. |
| Chassis & Body | | | |
| Layout | front engine/front drive | front engine/front drive | front engine/front drive |
| Body/frame | unit steel | unit steel | unit steel |
| Brakes, f/r | 11.0-in. vented discs/ 10.6-in. discs; vac asst, ABS | 10.9-in. vented discs/ 10.2-in. discs; vac asst, ABS, EBD | 11.3-in. vented discs/ 9.1-in. discs; vac asst, ABS |
| Wheels | cast alloy, 17 x 6 | cast alloy, 17 x 7J | cast alloy, 17 x 7J |
| Tires | Goodyear Eagle RS-A, P205/50R-17 93H M+S | Pirelli Eufori@ Run-Flats, P205/45R-17 84V | Michelin Pilot HX MXM4, 225/45R-17 90H M+S |
| Steering | rack & pinion, power assist | rack & pinion, vari elect./hydraulic assist | rack & pinion, power assist |
| Overall ratio | 17.2:1 | 11.1:1 | 15.9:1 |
| Turns lock to lock | 2.6 | 2.5 | 3.0 |
| Suspension, f/r | MacPherson struts, lower control arms, coil springs, tube shocks, anti-roll bar/ twist beam on trailing arms , Watt linkage, coil springs, tube shocks, anti-roll bar | MacPherson struts, lower A-arms, coil springs, tube shocks, anti-roll bar/ multilink , coil springs, tube shocks, anti-roll bar | MacPherson struts, lower control arms, coil springs, tube shocks, anti-roll bar/ twist beam on trailing arms , coil springs, tube shocks, integral anti-roll bar |
| Accommodations | | | |
| Seating capacity | 5 | 4 | 4 |
| Head room, f/r | 39.0 in./37.3 in. | 37.3 in./36.0 in. | 38.5 in./34.0 in. |
| Front-seat leg room | 43.0 in. | 44.3 in. | 43.3 in. |
| Rear-seat knee room | 26.5 in. | 20.3 in. | 22.5 in. |
| Trunk space | 19.0 + 45.2 cu ft | 5.7 cu ft | 12.0 + 15.1 cu ft |

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Chrysler PT Turbo | Mini Cooper S | Volkswagen New Beetle Turbo S |
|--------------------------|----------------------|--|

Engine

| | | | |
|-------------------|--|--|--|
| Type | turbocharged dohc 4-valve/cyl inline-4 | supercharged sohc 4-valve/cyl inline-4 | turbocharged dohc 5-valve/cyl inline-4 |
| Displacement | 2429 cc | 1598 cc | 1781 cc |
| Bore x stroke | 87.5 x 101.0 mm | 77.0 x 85.8 mm | 81.0 x 86.4 mm |
| Compression ratio | 8.1:1 | 8.3:1 | 9.5:1 |
| Horsepower (SAE) | 215 bhp @ 5000 rpm | 163 bhp @ 6000 rpm | 180 bhp @ 5500 rpm |
| Torque | 245 lb-ft @ 3600 rpm | 155 lb-ft @ 4000 rpm | 173 lb-ft @ 1950-5000 rpm |
| Redline | 6200 rpm | 6600 rpm | 6500 rpm |
| Fuel injection | elect. sequential port | elect. sequential port | elect. sequential port |
| Rec. fuel | prem. unleaded, 91 pump oct | prem. unleaded, 91 pump oct | prem. unleaded, 91 pump oct |

Acceleration

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Time to speed, sec | | | |
| 0-20 mph | 1.5 | 1.7 | 1.7 |
| 0-40 mph | 3.8 | 4.1 | 4.0 |
| 0-60 mph | 7.2 | 7.7 | 7.6 |
| 0-80 mph | 12.7 | 12.7 | 12.7 |
| 0-100 mph | 20.9 | 20.7 | 21.8 |
| Time to distance | | | |
| 0-1320 ft (¼ mile) | 15.7 @ 88.9 mph | 15.9 @ 89.3 mph | 15.8 @ 87.7 mph |

Braking

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Minimum stopping distance | | | |
| From 60 mph | 134 ft | 121 ft | 131 ft |
| From 80 mph | 241 ft | 217 ft | 237 ft |
| Control | excellent | excellent | excellent |
| Brake feel | good | very good | very good |
| Overall brake rating | good | very good | good |

Handling

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Lateral accel (200-ft skidpad) | 0.78g | 0.87g | 0.82g |
| Balance | heavy understeer | heavy understeer | heavy understeer |
| Speed thru 700-ft slalom | 61.9 mph | 69.5 mph | 64.5 mph |
| Balance | heavy understeer | moderate understeer | moderate understeer |

Drivetrain

| | | | |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Transmission | 4-speed automatic | 6-speed manual | 6-speed manual |
| Gear/Ratio/Overall/(Rpm) Mph | | | |
| 1st, :1 | 2.84/11.10/(5600) 34 | 4.17/11.43/(6600) 44 | 3.42/13.47/(6500) 37 |
| 2nd, :1 | 1.57/6.14/(6200) 68 | 2.62/7.18/(6600) 70 | 2.11/8.31/(6500) 60 |
| 3rd, :1 | 1.00/3.91/(6200) 107 | 1.33/5.39/(6600) 93 | 1.48/5.83/(6500) 86 |
| 4th, :1 | 0.69/2.70/est (5200) 130 | 1.09/4.41(6600) 114 | 1.15/4.53/(6500) 110 |
| 5th, :1 | | 1.33/3.64/est (6450) 135* | 1.17/3.62/est (6150) 130* |
| 6th, :1 | | 1.09/2.99/est (5300) 135* | 0.97/3.00/est (5075) 130* |
| Final drive ratio | 3.91:1 | 2.74:1, 4.05:1** | 3.94:1, 3.09:1*** |
| Engine rpm @ 60 mph in top gear | 2400 rpm | 2500 rpm | 2500 rpm |
| *Electronically limited. **For 4th and 5th gears. ***For 5th and 6th gears. | | | |

Fuel Economy

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|
| Our driving | 19.8 mpg | est 26.0 mpg | 23.3 mpg |
| EPA city/highway | 19/25 mpg | 25/34 mpg | 23/30 mpg |
| Cruise range | 277 miles | est 317 miles | 315 miles |
| Fuel capacity | 15.0 gal. | 13.2 gal. | 14.5 gal. |

Interior Noise

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Idle in neutral | 55 dBA | 54 dBA | 46 dBA |
| Maximum, 1st gear | 79 dBA | 77 dBA | 78 dBA |
| 70 mph | 72 dBA | 71 dBA | 73 dBA |

Subjective ratings consist of excellent, very good, good, average, poor; na means information is not available.



All have hatchback body styles, but the PT Turbo is the clear winner in terms of utility. There's acceptable room in the New Beetle's load area, once you get past its tapered opening. Access is much better with the Mini, but its short overall length dictates a choice between rear passengers or carrying a sizable object.