

Retro Remastered

Classic Muscle Car Blends Modern Tech, Old-School Thrills

By Derek Price

CARGAZING.COM

The 2024 Ford Mustang GT is a glorious anachronism, a tire-shredding, V8-powered throwback to a time when fuel economy and subtlety were afterthoughts.

But don't mistake this all-new pony car for a mere nostalgia act. With its fighter jet-inspired digital cockpit, advanced driver assists and customizable drive modes, this Mustang is equally at home in the modern era.

Slip behind the wheel and the GT's 5.0-liter Coyote V8 erupts to life with a seismic rumble that's equal parts threatening and intoxicating. It's a fitting overture for this 486-horsepower beast, which feels endlessly eager whether rocketing away from stoplights or painting black streaks exiting corners.

The six-speed manual transmission heightens the involvement, demanding a light touch to keep the rear tires planted. It's not for the faint of heart — an over-eager right foot will easily overwhelm the rear end — but skilled drivers will relish walking the line between maximum thrust and a lurid powerslide.

Yet for all its unbridled aggression, the Mustang GT proves remarkably livable day-to-day. The adaptive



Chiseled bodywork and classic design cues like tri-bar taillights reinforce the 2024 Mustang GT's heritage.

suspension yields impressive compliance over rough pavement, while the quad-tipped exhaust quiets to a distant burble at a cruise.

Inside, the leather-lined cabin cocoons occupants with unexpected refinement, though some cheaper plastics do lurk inside.

Technophiles will appreciate the Mustang's fighter jet-inspired digital cockpit, which features dual customizable displays and crisp 3D renderings of vehi-

cle data. Practically everything is adjustable through the massive touchscreen, a boon for personalizing the drive experience, but a few more hard buttons for basic functions would be welcome.

Options add up quickly on the GT, with my tester's sticker swelling past \$56,000 thanks to the Premium trim and desirable Performance Pack. That's a hefty sum for a car with obvious downsides like a cramped back

seat and limited outward visibility.

But parsing the Mustang GT through such a rational lens feels beside the point. This is a car that proudly puts raw driving thrills above all else, that unabashedly cranks up the volume in a world increasingly defined by soulless EVs and anodyne crossovers.

For Ford to not only keep the V8 Mustang alive but to comprehensively modernize it is something to be cel-

ebrated.

While competitors like the Dodge Challenger and Chevrolet Camaro have comparably retro appeal, neither offers quite the same mix of heritage, character and newly remastered tech.

In a rapidly changing world, it's possible this new-generation Mustang could be the last of the true muscle cars. If so, it's going out with a defiant and decidedly high-tech bang.

AT A GLANCE

What was tested?

2024 Ford Mustang GT Coupe Premium (\$46,980). Options: Equipment Group 401A (\$2,900), premium paint (\$495), GT performance package (\$4,995). Price as tested (including \$1,595 destination charge): \$56,965

By The Numbers

Wheelbase: 107 in.
Length: 189.4 in.
Width: 81.9 in.
Height: 55 in.
Engine: 5.0-liter V8 (486 horsepower, 418 ft. lbs. torque)
Transmission: Six-speed manual
Fuel economy: 15 city, 23 highway

RATINGS

Style: 10
Performance: 9
Price: 4
Handling: 5
Ride: 7
Comfort: 6
Quality: 7
Overall: 9

Why buy it? With its intoxicating V8, slick manual gearbox and surprisingly livable demeanor, the 2024 Ford Mustang GT offers an unabashedly old-school driving experience enriched by welcome modern tech.

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Yet for all its unbridled aggression, the Mustang GT proves remarkably livable day-to-day. The adaptive suspension yields impressive compliance over rough pavement, while the quad-



The 2024 Ford Mustang GT's fighter jet-inspired interior features large customizable displays and available full leather upholstery for a mix of modern convenience and surprising refinement.

tipper exhaust quiets to a distant burble at a cruise.

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A CLOSER LOOK



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FACTS, FIGURES AND RATINGS

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