

Subframe and Mounting Systems

Underbody misalignment can affect front and rear wheel alignment, the operation of the suspension parts and drivetrain operation. Window glass cracks, door and window opening concerns, and air or water leaks at the doors are often caused by improperly tightened bolts and body misalignment.

Every structural member and outer panel is designed to offer the maximum protection in the event of a collision.

The front subframe is bolted to the body and is used to:

- aid in structural support.
- provide mounting surfaces for the front suspension control arms.
- provide a mounting point for the engine isolators.
- provide a mounting surface for the steering gear.

The front crossmember is bolted to the body and is used to:

- aid in structural support.
- provide a mounting surface for the front stabilizer bar.
- support the radiator, cooling fan and evaporator.

The crossmember brace is bolted to the front subframe and front crossmember. It is used to aid in structural support.

The rear support braces are:

- used to aid in structural support.
- designed to aid in protection in the event of a collision.
- designed to aid stability in handling.
- equipped on convertible models only.


The transmission crossmember is bolted to the body and is used to:

- aid in structural support.
- provide a mounting surface for the transmission support insulator.
- support the transmission.

For body dimension specifications, refer to [Section 501-35](#)



Body

 **WARNING:** Collision damage repair must conform to the instructions contained in this workshop manual. Replacement components must be new, genuine Ford Motor Company parts. Recycled, salvaged, aftermarket or reconditioned parts (including body parts, wheels or safety restraint components) are not authorized by Ford.

Departure from the instructions provided in this manual, including alternate repair methods or the use of substitute components, risks compromising crash safety. Failure to follow these instructions may adversely affect structural integrity and crash safety performance, which could result in serious personal injury to vehicle occupants in a crash.

The body consists of the following:

- Unibody construction
- Two door coupe
- Two door convertible
- Lightweight steel material
- Steel radiator support assembly
- High-Strength Low Alloy (HSLA) , high-strength and mild steels
- Aluminum hood
- Bolted, removable front fenders, hinged doors and hood
- Front subframe assembly which houses steering and suspension components and provides structural support