



U.S. Department
of Transportation
National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

DOT Auto Safety Hotline
Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire
TO REPORT VEHICLE SAFETY DEFECTS
1-888-DASH-2-DOT
(1-888-327-4236)
INTERNET: www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 1375

Date Received

RECEIVED
NOV-3 2002

Od or _____
r dt _____
od rt _____
up tr _____

Reference No.

8022385

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name _____
Street No. _____ Apt. No. _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

OFFICE
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

Daytime Telephone Number _____

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle? ☒ YES ☐ NO
In the absence of an authorization, NHTSA WILL NOT provide your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.

Signature of Owner _____

Date 12/20/02

PRODUCT INFORMATION

Vehicle Identification No. (VIN) (17 Digits)		(Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side)		Make	Model	Year
3 F A L P 1 5 P S V R				Ford	Escort	1997
Purchased Date 11/96	Dealer's Name Purchased from But Wolfe Ford @ Serviced by Michael Motors			Engine Size (CID/COL)	☐ Turbo ☐ Diesel ☐ Gas ☐ Fuel Injection	
☒ New ☐ Used	Dealer's City Charleston @ Crossway			State WV	Zip Code	No. Cylinders 4
Manufacture Date (on driver's door or pillar) 8/96	Transmission Type ☒ Manual ☐ Automatic	Restraint System ☒ Driverside Air Bag ☐ Motorbell ☒ Passengerside Air Bag ☐ 2-Point Belt ☒ 3-Point Belt	Crush Control ☒ Yes ☐ No	Drivetrain ☒ Front ☐ Rear ☐ 4-Wheel	Vehicle Type ☒ Car ☐ Sport Utility ☐ Van ☐ Truck ☐ Minivan ☐ Motorcycle ☐ Other	Body Style ☐ 2-Door ☒ 4-Door ☒ Stationwagon ☐ Pick Up Truck ☐ Other

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Component 12/11/200	Part Name(s) Interior Systems: Passenger Restraints: Air Bag, Frontal, Side	Location ☒ Left ☐ Right ☒ Front ☐ Rear	Failed Part(s) ☒ Original ☐ Replacement	Handicap Adaptive Equip ☐ Yes ☒ No
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TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Brand	Tire Name	Complete Tire Size
No. of Failures	Date(s) of Failure(s)	Failed Part(s) Available?
	Mileage at Failure(s)	☐ Yes ☐ No
	Vehicle Speed at Failure(s)	NHTSA Previously Contacted?
		☐ Yes ☐ No

APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), failure(s), crash(es), and injury(ies). Attach photos if available.)

Crash ☐ Yes ☒ No	Fine ☐ Yes ☒ No	Number of Persons Injured 1	Number of Fatalities 0	Reported to Manufacturer ☒ Yes ☐ No
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Narrative Description of Incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies).

While driving on the interstate at approximately 70 MPH, the front driver's air bag deployed on its own, without any impact. I received minor injuries to my face. I was able to guide the car onto the shoulder. The dealer has completed most of the repairs based on water getting into the air bag module then shorting out the electrical system. After my verbal report to NHTSA November 7 and before my completing this written report Ford Motor Company committed to issuing a recall of this model and year call effective January 2003 and The NHTSA investigation was closed December 21, 2002. Further information is available if needed.

Continue on back

The Privacy Act of 1974 - Public Law 93-579 This information is requested pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If NHTSA proceeds with administration enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.