



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

Auto Safety Hotline

# Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire

NATIONWIDE 1-800-424-8393  
DC METRO AREA (202) 368-0123  
INTERNET: <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov>

Use a No. 2 pencil or a blue or black ink pen only.  
CORRECT MARK: ●

## FOR AGENCY USE ONLY

Date Received 07-10-02  
Reference No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Del-or \_\_\_\_\_  
n-rt \_\_\_\_\_  
cd-rt \_\_\_\_\_  
up-rt \_\_\_\_\_

## OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

## DAYTIME TELEPHONE NUMBER

STREET NO. Athol APT. NO. MA  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_  
ENTER ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP CODE + 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
AREA CODE \_\_\_\_\_

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 and address to the vehicle manufacturer.

SIGNATURE OF OWNER \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## VEHICLE INFORMATION

VEHICLE IDENT. NO. (VIN) (located at bottom of windshield on driver's side) \*5S2R2M6R270296\* VEHICLE MAKE Chrysler VEHICLE MODEL Cordoba MANUFACTURE DATE 04/19/76 MODEL YEAR 1976

VEHICLE MANUFACTURER  
☐ BMW ☐ Ford ☐ Honda ☐ Nissan ☐ Subaru ☐ Volvo ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Daimler/Chrysler ☐ General Motors ☐ Hyundai ☐ Saab ☐ Toyota ☐ VW

PURCHASE DATE 4-23-2001 ☐ New ☒ Used DEALER'S NAME NA/Private sale CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

ENGINE SIZE (CID/CC/L) 400 FUEL SYSTEM ☐ Turbo ☐ Fuel Injection FUEL TYPE ☐ Diesel ☒ Gas TRANSMISSION TYPE ☐ Manual ☒ Automatic ANTILOCK BRAKES ☐ Yes ☒ No RESTRAINT SYSTEM ☐ Driver's Side Airbag ☒ 2-Point Belt ☐ Passenger's Side Airbag ☐ Motorbelt ☐ 3-Point Belt CRUISE CONTROL ☐ Yes ☒ No

DRIVETRAIN ☐ Front ☐ 4-Wheel ☒ Rear VEHICLE TYPE ☒ Car ☐ Minivan ☐ Truck ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Van ☐ Sport Utility ☐ Motorcycle DOORS ☒ 2-Door ☐ 4-Door BODY STYLE ☐ Hatchback ☒ Sedan ☐ Pick Up Truck ☐ Stationwagon

## FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

COMPONENT  
☐ Child Seat  
☐ Electrical Lights & Alarms  
☐ Engine & Cooling System  
☐ Equipment  
☐ Fuel System, Exhaust  
☒ Heater, Defrost, Ventilation  
☐ Interior  
☐ Parking Brake  
☐ Power Train  
☐ Service Brakes  
☐ Steering  
☐ Structure  
☐ Suspension  
☐ Visual Systems  
☒ Other Wiper looks like car from the front

NO. OF FAILURES  
1

INCIDENT DATE 2-1-2002

MILEAGE AT INCIDENT About 180,000

VEHICLE SPEED AT INCIDENT hunking while parked.

FAILED PART(S)  
☒ Original  
☐ Replacement

TO report defective or failed tires provide the following: Tire Brand, Tire Name, Tire Size (include all number and letters).

TIRE NAME \_\_\_\_\_ COMPLETE TIRE SIZE \_\_\_\_\_

TIRE BRAND  
☐ BF Goodrich  
☐ Cooper  
☐ Firestone  
☐ Goodyear  
☐ Kelly Springfield  
☐ Michelin  
☐ Yokohama  
☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

HANDICAPPED ADAPTIVE ☐ Yes ☒ No

FAILED PART(S) AVAILABLE? ☐ Yes ☒ No

NHTSA PREVIOUSLY CONTACTED? ☐ Yes ☒ No

## APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION

Please describe in detail the incident(s), failure(s), crash(es), and injury(es) on the back of this form.

CRASH ☐ Yes ☒ No

FIRE ☒ Yes ☐ No

NUMBER OF PERSONS INJURED  
0

NUMBER OF FATALITIES  
0

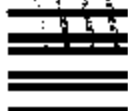
CAUSE OF INCIDENT  
☐ Wear/Corroded/Fluct  
☐ Weak/Poor Fit/Loose  
☐ Cut/Torn  
☐ Disconnect/Fell Off  
☐ Erratic/Poor Performance  
☐ Excessive Effort  
☐ Noise  
☒ Leaks  
☒ Short  
☐ Locks/Sticks/Grabs  
☐ Stability/Vibration  
☐ Broken

RESULT OF INCIDENT  
☒ Explosion/Fire  
☐ Loss of Control  
☐ Poor Visibility  
☐ Inadvertent Start  
☐ Rollover  
☐ Stalls  
☐ Sudden Acceleration

Vehicle caught fire from a short circuit in the heater motor up inside the dashboard. Electrical fire. This occurred at my residence. I started the car and sat in it while warming it up. Smoke came from the dashboard heater vents. I turned heater off. Then smoke started pouring from the dash and fire wall region. I got out of the car. Then the whole inside burst into flames. The whole car was on fire, shooting to the sky. The interior, roof and window area was destroyed. The car was a complete loss. The fire was so hot that the doors welded themselves shut as well as most metal components. I junked this car. A picture of this car fire is on the cover of the Athol Daily News. Paper's sat. 11 February 2, 2002 edition. [www.AtholDailyNews.com](http://www.AtholDailyNews.com). This car leaked water, about the dashboard from up underneath it from the fire wall, when it burned. More details on separate page.

Mark Release® by NCS EM-225329-1-954321 HFDN Printed in U.S.A.  
© Copyright 1999 by National Computer Systems, Inc. All rights reserved.  
HS Form 350 (Rev. 8/99)

[REDACTED]



## FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 79173 WASHINGTON, D.C.

U.S. Department of Transportation  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Office of Defects Investigation, NSA-10.01  
400 7th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590

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

420 Seventh St., S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530



**[www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hot](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hot)**

This poor design of the firewall region, I believe is responsible for the fire. Tears of water leaks could have damaged the wires, leading to fire. I also believe that windshield deicer could have led to the intensity of the fire. Deicer most likely leaked down into the firewall/dashboard on hot damaged wires, causing fire. I kept staying deicer on windshield before the incident because of three days of freezing rain and sleet. Windshield spray can deicer is ~~not~~ to melt ice on windows, not the whole car. So there are two safety hazards here. Windshield deicer, and Chrysler cordons are fire hazards. Since the incident, I have heard of several incidents where people have had their cars burn up. I have talked to several mechanics and others, who have had this happen to them over the years. Even though these cars are near →

extinction, it is important to bring it to your attention.

on your