



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

Auto Safety Hotline

Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire

NATIONWIDE 1-800-424-9393
DC METRO AREA (202) 366-0123
INTERNET: <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov>

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 258

Date Received

02-DEC-2001

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Reference No.

755183

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of 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) (Location at bottom of windshield and driver's side door) WVWMA63B6WE259523		Vehicle Make VOLKSWAGEN	Vehicle Model PASSAT	Vehicle Year 1998	Current Odometer Reading
Purchase Date 01-MAR-1998	Dealer's Name _____		Engine Size (CID/CC/L) 1.8L	☐ Turbo ☐ Diesel ☐ Gas ☒ Fuel Injection	
☒ New ☐ Used	City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____		No Cylinders _____		
Transmission Type ☐ Manual ☐ Automatic	Antilock Brakes ☒ Yes ☐ No	Restraint System ☒ 3-Point Belt ☐ Motorbelt ☐ Driverside Airbag ☐ 2-Point Bel ☐ Passengerside Airbag	Cruise Control ☒ Yes ☐ No	Drive Train ☒ Front ☐ Rear ☐ 4-Wheel	Vehicle Type ☐ Car ☐ Sport Util ☐ Van ☐ Truck ☐ Minivan ☐ Motorcycle ☐ Other _____ Body Style ☐ 2-Door ☒ 4-Door ☐ Stationwagon ☐ Pick Up Truck ☐ Other _____

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Component 02150000	Part Name(s) SUSPENSION:INDEPENDENT FRONT CONTROL ARM:LOWER	Location ☐ Left ☐ Right ☐ Front ☐ Rear	Failed Part(s) ☐ Original ☐ Replacement
No of Failure 2	Date(s) of Failure(s) 02-OCT-2000	Failed Part(s) ☐ Yes ☐ No	NHTSA Previously ☐ Yes ☐ No
	Mileage at Failure(s) 23315		
	Vehicle Speed at Failure(s) 0		

APPLICATION INCIDENT INFORMATION

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and injury(ies) on the back of this form)

Crash ☐ Yes ☐ No	Fire ☐ Yes ☒ No	Number of Persons Injured 0	Number of Fatalities 0	Estimated Property Damag 0	Reported to Police ☐ Yes ☒ No
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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF FAILURE(S), INCIDENT(S), INJURY(IES)

AFTER APPROXIMATELY 23,000 MILES, THE LOWER CONTROL ARMS ON MY 1998 VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT FAILED. SYMPTOMS OF THE FAILURE ARE SQUEAKING AND/OR CLUNKING NOISES FROM THE FRONT SUSPENSION. MY DEALER DETERMINED THAT THE BALL JOINTS ON BOTH FRONT PASSENGER-SIDE LOWER CONTROL ARMS HAD FAILED, REQUIRING REPLACEMENT OF BOTH CONTROL ARM ASSEMBLIES. THE COST OF REPLACEMENT IS APPROXIMATELY \$900. THE LOWER CONTROL ARMS ARE NOT NORMAL WEAR ITEMS. VOLKSWAGEN SHOULD RECALL THE AFFECTED CARS AND PAY FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE LOWER CONTROL ARMS.

CONTINUE ON REVERSE

The Privacy Act of 1974-Public Law 93-579 This information is requested pursuant to authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.