

AUTOMOTIVE

The Portland Observer

New Minivans Headline 1991 Plymouth Lineup

Plymouth's impressive selection of products for 1991 is headlined by a new Voyager and Grand Voyager minivans.

Customer suggestions and market research were used extensively to guide redesign of the minivans inside and out. The result is a product which, although already considered the "Gold Standard," should once again set new criteria for the industry. Among the many improvements on the five and seven-passenger Voyager are anti-lock brakes, all-wheel-drive, all-new interior and redesigned exterior.

Plymouth's diverse lineup also includes the sporty Laser coupe, two-door and four-door Sundance hatchbacks, practical, family-oriented Acclaim sedan, the economical fun-to-drive Colt hatchback and the versatile Colt Vista wagon.

"We want consumers to recognize Plymouth as the 'smart choice' for 1991," said James P. Holden, general manager for the Chrysler-Plymouth Division. "Our goal is to satisfy both the heart and head of our customers, to satisfy their practical needs and their desire for self expression."

"Our products are not only high in value and quality, but feature state-of-the-art technology, styling and safety features," he continued. "Consumers know they can look to Plymouth for features they can't find in competitors' products and at prices the competition can't match. That's the Plymouth advantage."

New for Plymouth is an anti-lock brake option on selected models, wider availability of automatic transmissions and new exterior design, trim, paint and appearance items. Extensive suspension refinements also have been made on most models, which improve directional stability, steering response and reduce body roll. Air bags continue as a standard feature on all U.S.-built Chrysler Motors passenger cars.

The popular Acclaim sedan has been improved for 1991 with a new suspension system and new exterior and interior colors. The mid-size five or six passenger four-door

sedan features a wide range of powertrain choices, including a 3.0-liter V-6 engine coupled with an Ultradrive 4-speed automatic transmission and a 2.5-liter 4-cylinder with a 5-speed manual transmission, fully-adaptive electronic 3-speed automatic or 4-speed automatic transmission. Also available is a new anti-lock brake option.

The award-winning Laser two door sports coupe, named one of Car and Driver Magazine's Ten Best automobiles for each of the past two years and one of Motor Trend's 10 top "Bang for the Buck" choices, has broadened its appeal in 1991 with an available four-speed automatic transmission on its top-of-the-line RS Turbo model and an optional anti-lock brakes system available on all RS models. The coupe comes with a choice of a 1.8-liter, 2.0-liter dual overhead cam, 16-valve engine or 2.0-liter DOHC 16-Valve intercooled turbo powerplant.

For entry-level buyers looking for practical value in a high quality package, Plymouth offers what is expected to be the lowest-priced 1991 car equipped with a driver's side air bag available in the U.S. market -- the Sundance America.

Sundance, also available in a more upscale model and a sporty RS package, is a two or four-door hatchback compact. The 1991 Sundance's wide choice of powertrains, including a 2.2-liter, 2.5-liter or 2.5-liter turbo 4-cylinder engines combined with new color choices, an improved rear seating package and new seat fabrics, are expected to make the Sundance even more appealing.

The economical Colt and Colt Vista wagon imports round out the Plymouth lineup. The two-door Colt hatchback subcompact features a fuel efficient 1.5-liter, multi-valve 4-cylinder engine. The Vista, a "tall" 7-passenger wagon, is powered by a 2.0-liter multi-point fuel injected 4-cylinder engine and is available with front-wheel drive or four-wheel drive.

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The subject comes to life when auto shop instructor Steve Robinson skillfully takes you and his students through 21 check points.

"Whether you're a do-it-yourselfer or have it done for you," says Council President Don Midgley, this is valuable information for every vehicle owner. We cover current models as well as the older ones which most of us drive."

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