

1965



For purposes of note that Ford

Mustangs as "64" or "64 1/2" models. These designations are the work of collectors who seek to differentiate an early '65 from a late '65. That said, Ford made midstream changes throughout the model year. The 289 cid V8 replaces the 260; the driver's seat becomes adjustable; an alternator replaces the direct-current generator; spare tire brackets are revised and more. To further Mustang's performance edge, legendary builder of the AC Cobra, Carroll Shelby, teams with Ford to create a series of high-performance Shelby race cars. Taking 289 cid V8 fastbacks off the line at Ford's San Jose assembly plant, Shelby makes the necessary modifications to vault the lively 2+2 Fastback to the rank of king of the SCCA. Rules stipulate that at least 100 street-legal versions of the Shelby are produced in order to qualify as an SCCA B-Production racer. Shelby easily meets the minimum requirement building, on average, 2,000 units per year between 1965 and 1970. Shelby American soon is occupying two hangars at Los Angeles International Airport.

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