

1 9 8 1 Chevrolet C O R V E T T E



## NORTH AMERICA'S ONLY TRUE PRODUCTION SPORTS CAR.

No other North American car looks like or stirs the spirit like Corvette.

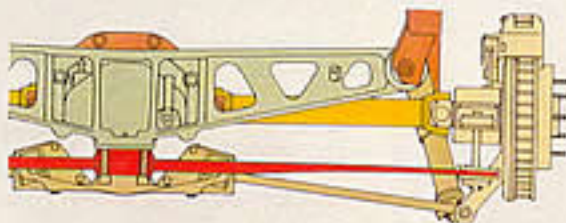
This is what a sports car was meant to be. Lean. Responsive and roadable. Distinctive. It's been that way since 1953. With aerodynamics and engineering to meet the demands of the sophisticated sports car enthusiast. With a tradition of evolutionary refinement. And with all the style that makes Corvette instantly recognizable anywhere.

For 1981, these traditions continue. Retinements include a fiberglass-reinforced Monoleaf rear spring that reduces weight and eliminates interleaf friction. (Standard with automatic transmission only.) New stainless-steel, free-flow smooth-bore exhaust manifolds. And a new auxiliary electric fan that cuts in quietly and automatically when added engine cooling is needed.

Read on. There's much more to the 1981 Corvette. If you own only one sports car in your life, this should be it.



## STANDARD EQUIPMENT NEW FOR 1981



Fiberglass-reinforced Monoleaf rear spring reduces weight and eliminates interleaf friction (automatic transmission only) • Advanced Computer Command Control emission system now standard • Improved Delco Freedom II maintenance-free battery • Lightweight magnesium valve rocker covers in black with bright ribbed surface • Chrome-plated air cleaner cover • Stainless-steel, free-flow exhaust manifolds weigh less, reduce back pressure • Auxiliary electric fan cuts in only when supplemental engine cooling is needed. This allows use of a smaller fan with fewer, lower pitched blades for reduced fan drag and quieter operation • Improved anti-theft alarm system with starter-interrupt feature to disable starting circuit if forced entry is made, even if ignition switch is bypassed. System is armed by using manual or power door lock control on driver's door while door is open; driver's door key lock disarms system (key is not required for arming) • Quartz crystal-movement clock.

## MORE STANDARD EQUIPMENT

5.7 Litre (350 Cu. in.) 4-8bl. V8 engine • Four-speed fully synchronized manual transmission or automatic transmission with converter clutch feature in both intermediate and drive ranges • Air conditioning • Power windows • Electric rear window defogger • Dual remote sport mirrors • Tilt-Telescopic steering wheel • Convenience Group with time-delay dome and courtesy lights, headlight warning buzzer, underhood light, low fuel warning light, colour-keyed floor mats, intermittent windshield wipers and right-hand visor vanity mirror • AM/FM radio with dual front speakers • Recessed styling for grille and parking light • Body-colour front bumper cover with integral air dam • Cornering lights • Functional black-accented front fender louvers • Body-colour rear bumper cover with integral spoiler • Removable roof panels • Telescoping left-hand sunshade for shielding from side glare • Large rear storage compartment • Inside hood release • High Energy Ignition system • P225/70R-15B steel-belted radial ply blackwall tires • Wide 15-by 8-inch Rally wheels • Power disc brakes at all four wheels • Limited slip rear axle • Fully independent four-wheel suspension system • Power steering • Exhaust valve rotators • DelcoTron generator with built-in solid-state regulator • Hydraulic valve lifters • Front stabilizer bar • Tinted glass in all windows • Frame structure with corrosion-resistant coating • Hide-A-Way windshield wipers with integral washers in wiper arms • Power-operated retractable headlamps with halogen hi-beam inner units • Corrosion-resistant steel-reinforced fiberglass body with partial steel underbody • Acoustical insulation package • Day/night inside rearview mirror • Special sport-styled 3-spoke steering wheel with leather rim cover.

**A Word About This Catalogue:** We have tried to make this catalogue as comprehensive and factual as possible and we hope you find it helpful. However, since the time of printing, some of the information you will find here may have been updated. Also, some of the equipment shown or described throughout this catalogue is optional at extra cost. Your dealer has details and, before ordering, you should ask him to bring you up to date.



Aircraft-style centre console • Bucket seats with folding seat backs and inertia seat back locks • Electronic tachometer (7000 rpm) • Voltmeter, oil pressure, fuel and temperature gauges • Separate trip odometer • Console-mounted parking brake control • Cut-pile carpeting • Cigarette lighter and ashtray • Colour-keyed seat and shoulder belts • Roof courtesy light with automatic door switches • Luggage compartment concealment shade.

NOTE: Speedometers in Canada have major scale in km/h, secondary in MPH and odometer in kilometres.

### "NO EXTRA CHARGE" CHOICES

Automatic transmission or four-speed manual (automatic transmission required with optional trailing package) • Cloth bucket seat interior or leather bucket seating surface.

### ANTI-THEFT FEATURES

Anti-theft ignition key reminder buzzer • Anti-theft steering column lock • Bull-in anti-theft audio alarm system with starter-interrupt feature.

### OCCUPANT PROTECTION FEATURES

Manual lap/shoulder belts for driver (with reminder light and buzzer) and front passenger • Energy-absorbing steering column • Passenger guard door locks • Safety door latches and stamped steel hinges • Folding seat back latches • Energy-absorbing padded instrument panel • Laminated windshield/tempered side and rear glass • Safety armrests • Identification symbols for controls and displays.

### ACCIDENT AVOIDANCE FEATURES

Side marker lights and reflectors • Parking lamps that illuminate with headlamps • Four-way hazard warning flasher • Backup lights • Lane change feature in direction signal control • Windshield defrosters, washer and dual speed wipers • Vinyl-edged inside mirror • Dual outside rearview mirrors • Dual master cylinder brake system with warning light • Starter safety switch.

### COLOUR AND TRIM SELECTIONS.

**Exterior colours:** White, Silver, Black, Mahogany Metallic\*, Dark Blue Metallic\*, Yellow, Beige, Red\*, Maroon Metallic\* and Charcoal Metallic\*.

\*New colour for 1981.

**Interior choices:** Cloth bucket seats\* are available in Black, Camel, Rust and Dark Blue. Leather bucket seats\*\* are available in Silver, Black, Camel, Red, Rust and Dark Blue.

\*Cloth seat cushion and seat back panels

\*\*Leather seat cushion and seat back panels

### OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT

New electric twin remote control sport mirrors • Roof panel carrier • Trailering package includes increased cooling and Gymkhana suspension (requires automatic transmission) • Power door lock system • New extended range rear speakers are now included with all optional stereo radios • Delco radios; AM/FM stereo radio; Electronically tuned stereo radio with 8-track tape player; Electronically tuned stereo radio with cassette tape player; Electronically tuned stereo radio/Citizens Band with 8-track tape player and power antenna; Electronically tuned stereo radio with Citizens Band, cassette tape player and power antenna • Power antenna (not available with AM/FM stereo/Citizens Band radio) • Removable glass roof panels • Automatic speed control with "resume speed" feature (requires automatic transmission) • Gymkhana suspension includes rear stabilizer and bushings, higher-rate springs and special shock absorbers (included with trailing equipment package) • Tires: P225/70R-15 or P225/60R-15 steel-belted radial ply white-lettered • New six-way power driver's seat • Aluminum wheels.



## THE GM CONTINUOUS PROTECTION PLAN.

Continuous  
Protection  
Plan



It offers service protection in addition to that provided by GM's

new vehicle limited warranty. Ask your dealer about this option.

## 1981 CORVETTE POWER TEAMS

### TRANSMISSION AVAILABILITY

Engine 4-Spd.

ENGINE Availability Manual Automatic

L7 Lite 4-Bbl V8 RPO L81 RPO MM4 RPO MX1  
Displacement (Standard) (Standard) (1)

(Cubic inches) 350

(I.N. Engine Code)<sup>(6)</sup>

Computer Command Control System Standard

Caution: Use of leaded fuel will cause the standard

Computer Command Control system to malfunction.

V.I.N. (Vehicle Identification Number) Engine Code is the

eight digit from the left on the vehicle serial number plate. The

vehicle serial number plate is located on the left windshield

pillar and can be viewed from the exterior of the car by looking

through the windshield.

<sup>(1)</sup> Available in place of standard four-speed manual

transmission at no extra cost.

<sup>(6)</sup> Produced by GM - Chevrolet Motor Division, U.S.A.

## ENGINE PERFORMANCE

Seven stainless steel exhaust manifolds do their part for performance by helping reduce back pressure. All this designed into a proven mall-block, large-bore 5.7 Litre V8 with short-stroke design, rugged cast-iron heads and cylinder block. A real lightweight, heavy-duty performer.

## LONG RECOMMENDED SERVICE INTERVALS\*

Engine Oil . . . 12 months or 12,000 kilometres (7,500 miles)

Oil Filter . . . 12 months or 12,000 kilometres (7,500 miles);

every 24,000 kilometres (15,000 miles) thereafter

Spark Plugs . . . 48,000 kilometres (30,000 miles)

Chassis Lubrication . . . 12 months or 12,000 kilometres

(7,500 miles)

Automatic Transmission

Fluid Change Every 160,000 kilometres (100,000 miles)

\*See Owner's Manual for conditions requiring more frequent intervals.

## DIMENSIONS:

Millimetres (Inches)

### EXTERIOR

Wheelbase . . . 2489 (98.0)

Length (overall) . . . 4707 (185.3)

Width (overall) . . . 1753 (69.0)

Height (loaded) . . . 1219 (48.0)

Tread - Front . . . 1491 (58.7)

Tread - Rear . . . 1511 (59.5)

INTERIOR

Head room - Front . . . 919 (36.2)

Leg room - Front . . . 1069 (42.1)

Hip room - Front . . . 1267 (49.9)

Shoulder room - Front . . . 1206 (47.5)

Usable Trunk Capacity: litres (cu. ft.) . . . 234 (8.4)

## A WORD ABOUT ENGINES

Corvettes are equipped with a GM built engine produced by Chevrolet Motor Division, U.S.A. Please refer to power team information on this page or see your dealer for details.

## A WORD ABOUT ASSEMBLY, COMPONENTS AND OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT IN THESE VEHICLES.

The vehicles described in this brochure are assembled at facilities of General Motors of Canada Limited or car Divisions of General Motors Corporation or at facilities of General Motors Corporation operated by the GM Assembly Division. These vehicles incorporate thousands of different components produced by General Motors of Canada Limited and related companies and by various suppliers to General Motors of Canada Limited or related companies. From time to time during the manufacturing process, it may be necessary in order to meet public demand for particular vehicles or equipment, or to meet federally mandated emission and safety requirements or fuel economy guidelines, or for other reasons, to produce vehicles with different components or differently sourced components than initially scheduled. All such components have been approved for use in our products by General Motors of Canada Limited or related companies and will provide the quality performance associated with our name.

With respect to extra cost optional equipment, make certain you specify the type of equipment you desire on your vehicle when ordering it from your dealer. Some options may be unavailable when your car is built. Your dealer receives advice regarding current availability of options. You may ask the dealer for this information. GM also requests the dealer to advise you if an option you ordered is unavailable. We suggest you verify that your car includes the optional equipment you ordered or, if there are changes, that they are acceptable to you.



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