

# THE DASHER COLLECTION

Quietly luxurious,  
remarkably reliable.



## The 1979 Dashers.

One of them is the right car  
for your way of life.

For 1979, there are three ways to enjoy the elegance and luxury of driving a Dasher:

There's a spacious station wagon that handles like no other wagon you've ever driven. An incredibly luxurious and versatile 4-door hatchback. And a sleek, more personal, 2-door hatchback. For 1979, all three of these cars are also available with the 1.5 liter Dasher Diesel engine\* with standard transmission.

While each car is uniquely designed to satisfy a different set of needs and desires, there are two ways in which they are very much alike.

First and foremost, all three are Dashers. So their level of luxury is very high. Appointments such as anatomically designed front bucket seats with fine upholstery, quartz crystal clock, and AM/FM stereo radio are standard equipment.

And second, all three are Volkswagens. So their level of advanced engineering and the quality of their fit and finish are on a par with many cars costing thousands of dollars more.

Together these three superb cars comprise the 1979 Dasher Collection. Each uncommonly elegant. Yet each unquestionably Volkswagen.

\* Will be introduced during the 1979 model year.



### The Dasher Wagon.

If Mercedes offered one,  
there would be two ways  
to have this kind of luxury.



*The luxurious interior of the Dasher Wagon.*

## Elegance and luxury in a spacious wagon.

Slip behind the wheel of a Dasher Wagon, and you're surrounded by a tastefully appointed interior that's as gracious as a fine home or office. The anatomically designed bucket seats support you firmly and are fully reclining. The upholstery is handsome crushed velour that feels as good as it looks. And there are vent windows, a remote controlled outside mirror, a precision quartz crystal clock with sweep second hand, an AM/FM stereo radio, an electric rear window defogger, and child-proof locks on the rear doors.

## It handles like no other wagon you've ever driven.

Front wheel drive, rack and pinion steering and a firm, sure, road-hugging suspension combine to give Dasher Wagon astounding precision and control on straightaways and curves, alike.

With its powerful 1.6 liter overhead cam engine, Dasher Wagon can accelerate from 0 to 50 mph in a mere 8.5 seconds. The reliable CIS fuel injection system makes for easy starting and smooth performance. As an option, Dasher Wagon is also available with the incredibly economical\*\* Dasher Diesel engine and standard 4-speed transmission. According to EPA estimates\*, Dasher Wagon with gasoline engine gets 37 mpg highway, 23 mpg city.

Either would be very respectable mileage for a tiny subcompact car. But it's unbelievably efficient for a spacious wagon with a rear opening large enough to accept large parcels up to 34" wide, by 26" high, by 54" long.

\*Based on 1978 EPA estimated mileage with manual transmission. Your actual mileage may vary, depending on where and how you drive, your car's condition and optional equipment. 1979 data not available at press time. Ask your local dealer for a free copy of the EPA/FEA Gas Mileage Guide for New Car Buyers.

\*\* 1979 data not available at press time.



*Top: Cross-country or cross-town,  
you know you've arrived when you get there in a Dasher.  
Bottom: Dasher Wagon has plenty of room for everyone's golf clubs.*



*24.7 cubic feet of carrying space with the rear seatback up.*



*The tailgate goes all the way down to floor level, so there's no lip to hinder loading.*

## The luxurious work wagon.

The Dasher Wagon is built for people who carry a lot, and insist on doing their carrying in style.

The interior is the ideal size for family hauling needs—40.0 cubic feet with the rear seatback in place, 51.6 cubic feet with it folded down. You can slide in anything from a 4-foot love seat to a few dozen supermarket bags. In either case, you'll still have plenty of space to spare.

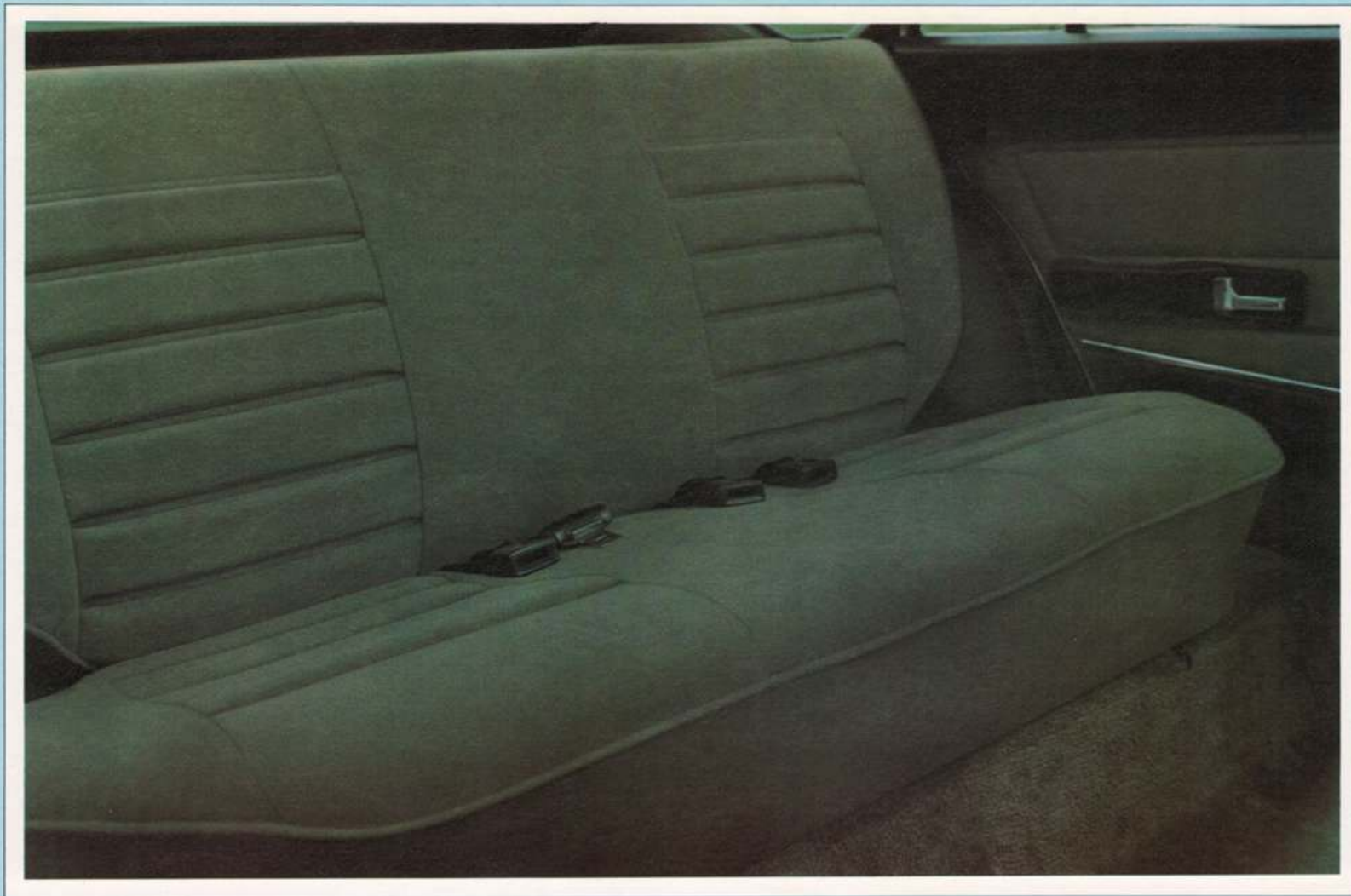
As roomy as it is on the inside, Dasher Wagon is still a very manageable 173.1" on the outside—actually two inches shorter than a Mustang II. Its turning circle, curb-to-curb, is a mere 31.2 feet. And Dasher Wagon is easily parkable in spaces most domestic wagons have to pass up.

If you do a lot of hauling, but don't want to haul around a lot of wagon, try a Dasher on for size.



**The Dasher 4-Door Hatchback.**

Family car convenience,  
sports car performance.



*Luxurious crushed velvet upholstery stays cool to the touch  
in the hottest weather.*

## Unexpected versatility in a car this luxurious.

The new 4-door Dasher Hatchback may well be the ideal configuration for a family car. It's a spacious and gracious sedan, yet it also has the power, handling and control to perform like a sports car. And with the rear seatback down, there's actually 29.3 cubic feet of cargo area on a flat trunk floor that's over 5 feet long.

## Performance that exhilarates you.

Before you even drive it, Dasher's sleek, aerodynamic lines make you suspect this is one sedan that's built to be driven. Turn the key, and the powerful 1.6 liter overhead cam engine comes alive, confirming your suspicion.

Step on the gas, and the reliable CIS fuel injection system meters a precise mixture of fuel and air to help the powerful 1.6 liter overhead cam engine give you smooth, effortless acceleration from 0 to 50 mph in just 8.1 seconds. Or, if you prefer, your Dasher can come equipped with the 1.5 liter Dasher Diesel engine with standard 4-speed transmission.

In either case, the weight of the engine is directly over the front drive wheels, giving you a firm, sure grip on the road, even when negotiating sharp curves.



*Top: Front wheel drive and rack and pinion steering team up to make your Dasher precise and highly maneuverable.*

*Bottom: The instrument cluster is positioned for easy reading.*



*18.0 cubic feet of luggage space is concealed beneath the rear parcel shelf.*



*With the rear seatback folded down, you have a clear, flat trunk area more than 5 feet deep.*

## Your lifestyle travels with you.

Luxury appointments are standard features in the spacious Dasher interior. Carpeting is thick and plush, and it graces the doors, floor and luggage compartment. For your entertainment, there is an AM/FM stereo radio. The ample seats are anatomically designed for proper support. And they adjust forward and back, and from straight up to fully reclining. You can set them for your own optimum driving comfort. There's plenty of room to stretch your legs and get comfortable.

So when you arrive in your Dasher, you're relaxed and ready for anything. From a set of tennis to a round of negotiations.

In front of you, controls are within easy reach, and instruments are clustered and positioned for an unhindered view. On the steering wheel, a pair of levers give you fingertip control of turn signals, high and low beams, passing lights and wiper/washer. The instrument cluster in the wood-grained applique dash even sports a precision quartz clock. And all instruments are covered by a single glass window, carefully angled to minimize reflections.

Dasher 4-door Hatchback. The uncommon comfort of a luxury car, with the common sense of a Volkswagen.



**The Dasher 2-Door Hatchback.**

The luxurious  
personal performance car.

Formal elegance when you mean business.  
Sprightly and sporty  
when you're out for fun.

Step back and oversee the graceful lines of this very special luxury car. It's not too large. Not too small. Styling is conservative, yet quietly dramatic.

Look inside, and you're immediately aware that elegance is more than skin deep in the Dasher.

Upholstery is rich, crushed velour or optional leatherette. Thick, plush carpeting is everywhere. On the dash, instruments are inlaid with wood grain applique. Everywhere there are luxurious extras that don't cost you extra: An AM/FM stereo radio; convenient grab handles to help you in or out; a day/night rearview mirror, and a convenient vanity mirror on the visor; an electric rear window defogger; and ashtrays in front and in back.

It handles with an agility and ease  
unexpected in a luxury car.

Any car can simply get you where you're going. Dasher literally transports you there with grace and precision.

As you pilot it into a turn, Dasher's front wheel drive pulls you through the maneuver. Drive it in a straight line, and the vehicle holds its course with reassuring ease, even in crosswinds.

Rack and pinion steering gives you a precise road feel as you pass, turn and corner. Unlike conventional steering systems, it uses no levers. So force is transmitted directly and evenly.

For smooth acceleration, Dasher has a continuous fuel injection system that accurately meters the amount of fuel required by the powerful 1.6 liter overhead cam engine. This extremely precise system helps to account for Dasher's excellent fuel economy. Or you can elect to have your Dasher 2-door Hatchback equipped with the highly efficient 1.5 liter Dasher Diesel with standard 4-speed transmission. According to EPA estimates\*, Dasher with gasoline engine gets a surprising 37 mpg highway, 23 mpg city.

\*Based on 1978 EPA estimated mileage with manual transmission. Your actual mileage may vary, depending on where and how you drive, your car's condition and optional equipment. 1979 data not available at press time. Ask your local dealer for a free copy of the EPA/FEA Gas Mileage Guide for New Car Buyers.



*Top: Rack and pinion steering helps you negotiate S curves with precision.*

*Bottom: A precise quartz crystal clock is included in the Dasher instrument cluster.*



*The richly appointed Dasher interior.*



*The fully reclining front bucket seats are shown here with optional leatherette upholstery.*



*The wide opening hatchback has no lip, so it's easy to slide in bulky objects.*

## Cross town or cross country, the Dasher accommodates you in style.

Slip into the Dasher. The first thing you notice is the way the anatomically designed seats give your muscles just the right support. The front seats move forward and back and are fully reclining to give you a wide choice of driving positions.

The next thing you notice is room and freedom of motion. Dasher has plenty of leg, hip and shoulder room for six footers in front and in back. Through efficient space engineering, Dasher provides you with the roominess of many far larger and heavier cars. Drive a Dasher and you feel fresh

air all around you from the flow-through ventilation system. At 55 mph, this highly efficient system can change the air in the passenger compartment every 30 seconds.

Beneath the Dasher hatch, you'll find space for up to four full-size suitcases concealed beneath the parcel shelf — plus additional space for small items on the shelf itself. Lower the rear seatback, and your luggage compartment grows to a massive 29.3 cubic feet. In fact, even with the seatback up, your Dasher has more cargo space than a Cadillac Seville!

You don't have to be  
an automotive engineer  
to appreciate  
the Dasher difference.

At first drive, the Dasher difference becomes apparent.

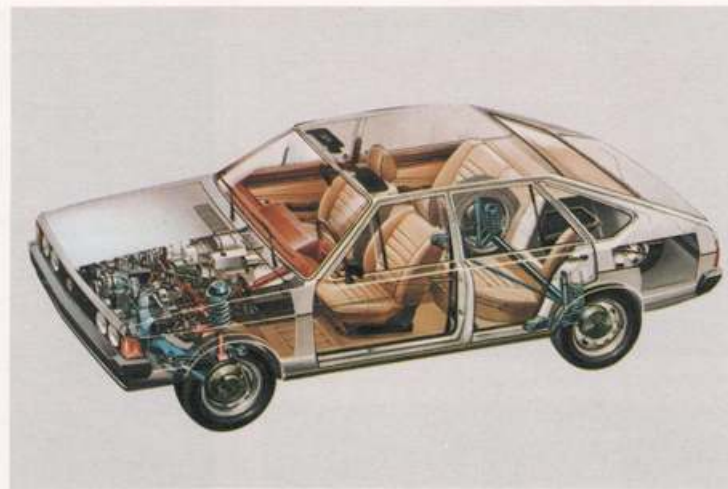
The smooth ride is derived from a combination of independent suspension with McPherson struts in front and a unique torsion crank axle in back. So if a front wheel takes a bump, it takes it once. Without jolting the others.

Rack and pinion steering in the Dasher gives you a clear, honest feel of the road without the typical "front drive feel" associated with less sophisticated designs. Whether you take your Dasher on mountainous S curves or straight as an arrow interstate highways, you can't help but notice the precise response to every movement of the steering wheel.

For quick, smooth stopping, Dasher is equipped with power-assisted disc/drum brakes, with a large brake booster to minimize the foot pressure required. For added safety, dual diagonal braking circuits are used to provide back-up in case of failure in one circuit.

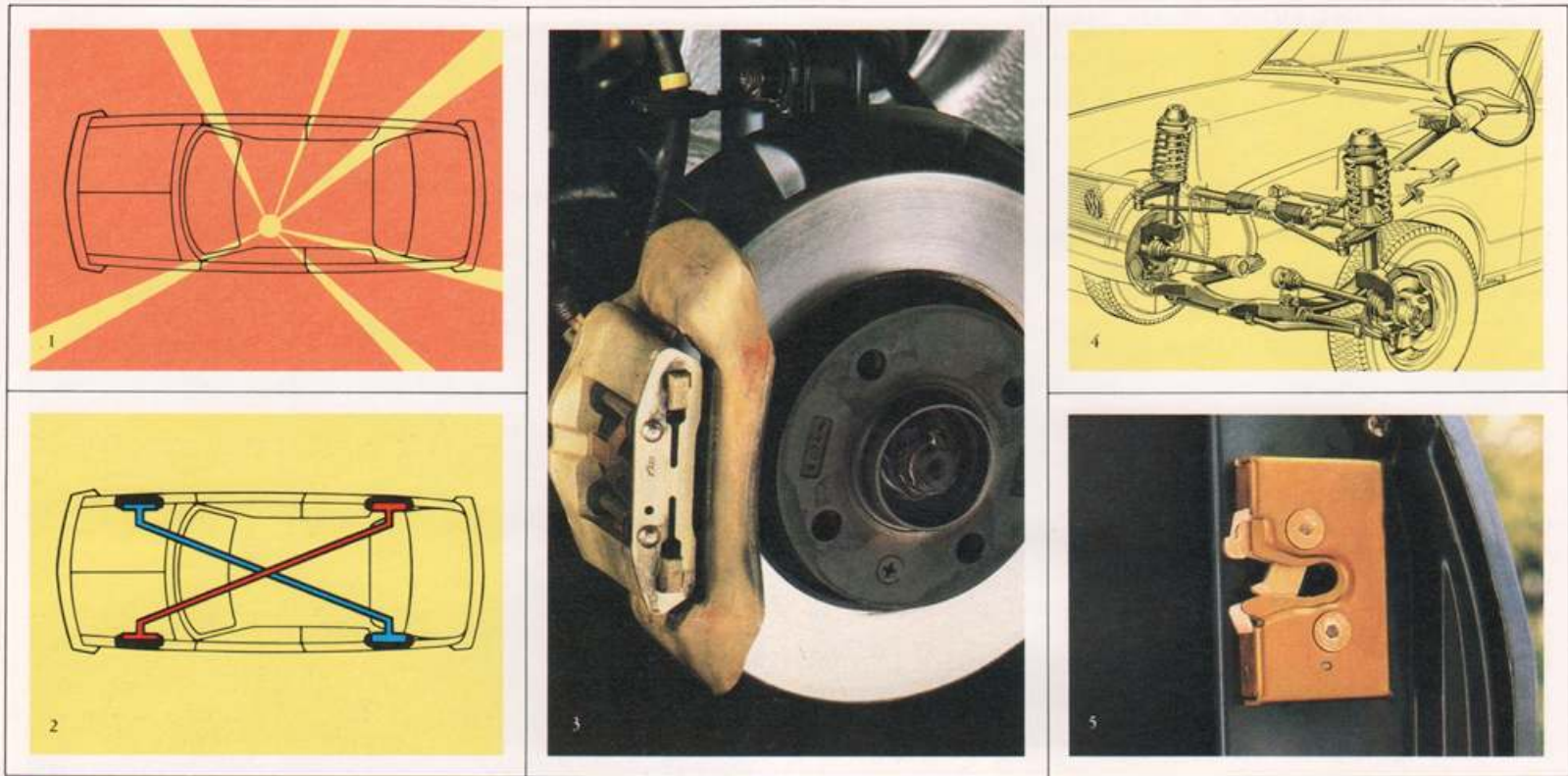
Steel-belted radial tires on the Dasher further improve the car's precise handling and quick stopping. And for smooth, even acceleration, the CIS fuel injection system meters fuel to the engine at rates controlled by such variables as temperature and engine air intake.

The optional Dasher Diesel can help you save on maintenance. There are no spark plugs, distributors, points, condensers, ignition coils or even a carburetor to adjust. So you never need a conventional tune-up. And though we can't guarantee exactly how long Diesel engines last, we can tell you that in Europe, where they've been used in passenger cars for 40 years, Diesels have a well earned reputation for longevity.



*Top: An inside look at the advanced engineering in the Dasher.*

*Bottom: The 1.6 liter Dasher engine.*



*Safety systems can be found throughout the Dasher. 1. Large glass area for maximum unobstructed view in all directions. 2. Dual diagonal braking with negative steering roll radius. 3. Large power-assisted front disc brakes with floating calipers. 4. Independent front suspension with stabilizer bar and rack and pinion steering. 5. Child-proof rear door locks.*

## Effective safety features in the Dasher.

Designers of the Dasher have provided occupants with a high degree of security — both in “active safety” (the ability to avoid an accident) and “passive safety” (the ability to minimize injuries).

Largely a measure of a car’s response, maneuverability and directional control, “active safety” is enhanced in the Dasher through the excellent tracking control inherent to its front wheel drive design. Use of a suspension geometry known as “negative steering roll radius” provides directional

control in such difficult stopping situations as braking with varying roll resistance for the front wheels or with a front tire blowout.

Dasher is also designed to maximize “passive safety” of its occupants through the use of front and rear “crumple zones” that absorb energy forces, thus helping to maintain the integrity of the passenger compartment. For further resistance to side impact, the door panels are fitted with steel reinforcing members.



## Individuality. The very essence of the Dasher lifestyle.

In outfitting the Dasher, a great many items were included as standard that would be optional or even unavailable on more conventional cars. We prefer to think of items like CIS fuel injection, fully reclining bucket seats and a quartz crystal clock as luxurious necessities.

Left to your discretion are those items that reflect your own particular life style and desires. The little extras that customize your Dasher and make it truly your own.

As an alternative to the standard 4-speed transmission, you can choose an optional 3-speed automatic. To take the footwork out of long-distance driving, there's the handy Auto-Cruise® that automatically maintains your speed while your foot is resting.

For all weather comfort, there's an efficient air conditioner, and an optional sliding and tilting sun roof for fair weather driving. A set of piercing fog lamps helps you see and be seen when the weather turns foul.

For your enjoyment, you may wish to substitute an AM/FM stereo radio with tapeplayer for the standard AM/FM stereo unit. And to make your Dasher even more versatile, there's a lockable ski carrier and a choice of permanent or removable luggage carriers.

Your VW dealer can provide you with a complete list of available accessories and options.

The 1979 Dasher Collection. Uncommonly elegant, unquestionably Volkswagen.

## The 1979 Dashers.

We built them with care  
so you can drive them care-free.

Dashers are designed for reliability.

Some of the parts that need frequent adjustment on other cars—like the carburetor and choke—have been replaced by more reliable components. In this case the CIS fuel injection system.

Instead of a radiator fan belt that can snap, you'll find a thermostatically controlled electric fan in the Dasher that runs without a belt. It doesn't run at all when it's not needed, and it can even run, if necessary, after the engine is switched off.

But even the most reliable car is really only as reliable as the people who take care of it. So, you'll be glad to know there are more than 1,000 VW dealers throughout the U.S.

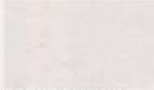
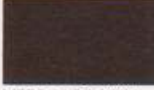
Each is staffed with specially trained VW mechanics who work with special VW tools. We keep them alert to new developments and techniques through graduate training and refresher courses at VW regional service schools and in-dealership seminars.

To back up his mechanics' efforts, your VW dealer stocks an extensive inventory of VW replacement parts. And he has instant access to a nationwide computerized parts locating system.

So no matter where your Dasher takes you, you're never very far from reliable VW care.



Luxury comes  
in many hues.

| PAINT                                                                                 | CLOTH                                                                                 | LEATHERETTE                                                                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|    |    |    |
| ALPINE WHITE                                                                          | VAN DYCK                                                                              | VAN DYCK                                                                              |
|    |    |    |
| MERIAN BROWN                                                                          | GAZELLE                                                                               | GAZELLE                                                                               |
|    |    |    |
| MEXICO BEIGE                                                                          | VAN DYCK                                                                              | VAN DYCK                                                                              |
|    |    |    |
| MALAGA RED                                                                            | GAZELLE                                                                               | GAZELLE                                                                               |
|    |    |    |
| DIAMOND SILVER MET.                                                                   | BLACK                                                                                 | BLACK                                                                                 |
|    |    |    |
| AZORE BLUE MET.                                                                       | BLACK                                                                                 | BLACK                                                                                 |
|  |  |  |
| CANYON MET.                                                                           | GAZELLE                                                                               | GAZELLE                                                                               |
|  |  |  |
| INARI SILVER MET.                                                                     | IVY GREEN                                                                             | IVY GREEN                                                                             |

## 1979 Dasher Specifications.

|                                         |                                                                                                |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>ENGINE:</b>                          |                                                                                                |
| Type                                    | Water-cooled, front mounted, overhead cam                                                      |
| Cylinders                               | 4 cylinders, in-line                                                                           |
| Displacement                            | 97.0 cubic inches (1588 cc); Diesel: 89.7 cubic inches (1471 cc)                               |
| SAE Net HP                              | 78 (76 California) @ 5500 rpm, Diesel: 48 @ 5000 rpm                                           |
| Fuel/Air Supply                         | CIS fuel injection, Diesel: Diesel injection pump                                              |
| <b>TRANSMISSION &amp; DIFFERENTIAL:</b> |                                                                                                |
| Type                                    | Fully synchronized, transaxle                                                                  |
| No. Speeds                              | 4 forward, 1 reverse                                                                           |
| Final Drive                             | Front wheel drive, double-jointed axles                                                        |
| Clutch                                  | Single disc, dry                                                                               |
| <b>CHASSIS &amp; SUSPENSION:</b>        |                                                                                                |
| Frame                                   | Unitized body/chassis, bolt-on front fenders                                                   |
| Front Suspension                        | Independent, coil/shock absorber struts, stabilizer bar, negative steering roll radius         |
| Rear Suspension                         | Torsion crank axle with coil springs, Panhard rod for lateral stability                        |
| Service Brake                           | Dual diagonal circuit, power-assisted discs/drums, load-sensing brake pressure regulator, rear |
| Parking Brake                           | Mechanical, operated on rear wheels                                                            |
| Rim Size                                | 5J x 13                                                                                        |
| Tire Size                               | Steel-belted radial ply 155 SR 13                                                              |
| Steering                                | Rack and pinion                                                                                |
| <b>ELECTRICAL SYSTEM:</b>               |                                                                                                |
| Rated Voltage                           | 12 Volt, 55 Amp alternator                                                                     |
| Battery                                 | 12 Volt, 45 Amp/hour, Diesel: 12 Volt, 63 Amp/hour                                             |
| <b>DIMENSIONS:</b>                      |                                                                                                |
| Wheelbase                               | 97.2 inches                                                                                    |
| Length                                  | 173.1 inches                                                                                   |
| Width                                   | 63.6 inches                                                                                    |
| Height (Unloaded)                       | 53.7 inches                                                                                    |
| Ground Clearance (Loaded)               | 4.2 inches (4.8 inches Wagon)                                                                  |
| Turning Circle                          | 31.2 feet (curb to curb)                                                                       |
| <b>PERFORMANCE:</b>                     |                                                                                                |
| Top Speed                               | 100 mph, Diesel: 85 mph                                                                        |
| Fuel Mileage*                           | Highway: 37 mpg, City: 23 mpg<br>Diesel**                                                      |

\*Based on 1978 EPA estimated mileage with manual transmission. Your actual mileage may vary, depending on where and how you drive, your car's condition and optional equipment. 1979 data not available at press time. Ask your local dealer for a free copy of the EPA/FEA Gas Mileage Guide for New Car Buyers.

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SPECIFICATIONS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.



AUTHORIZED  
DEALER