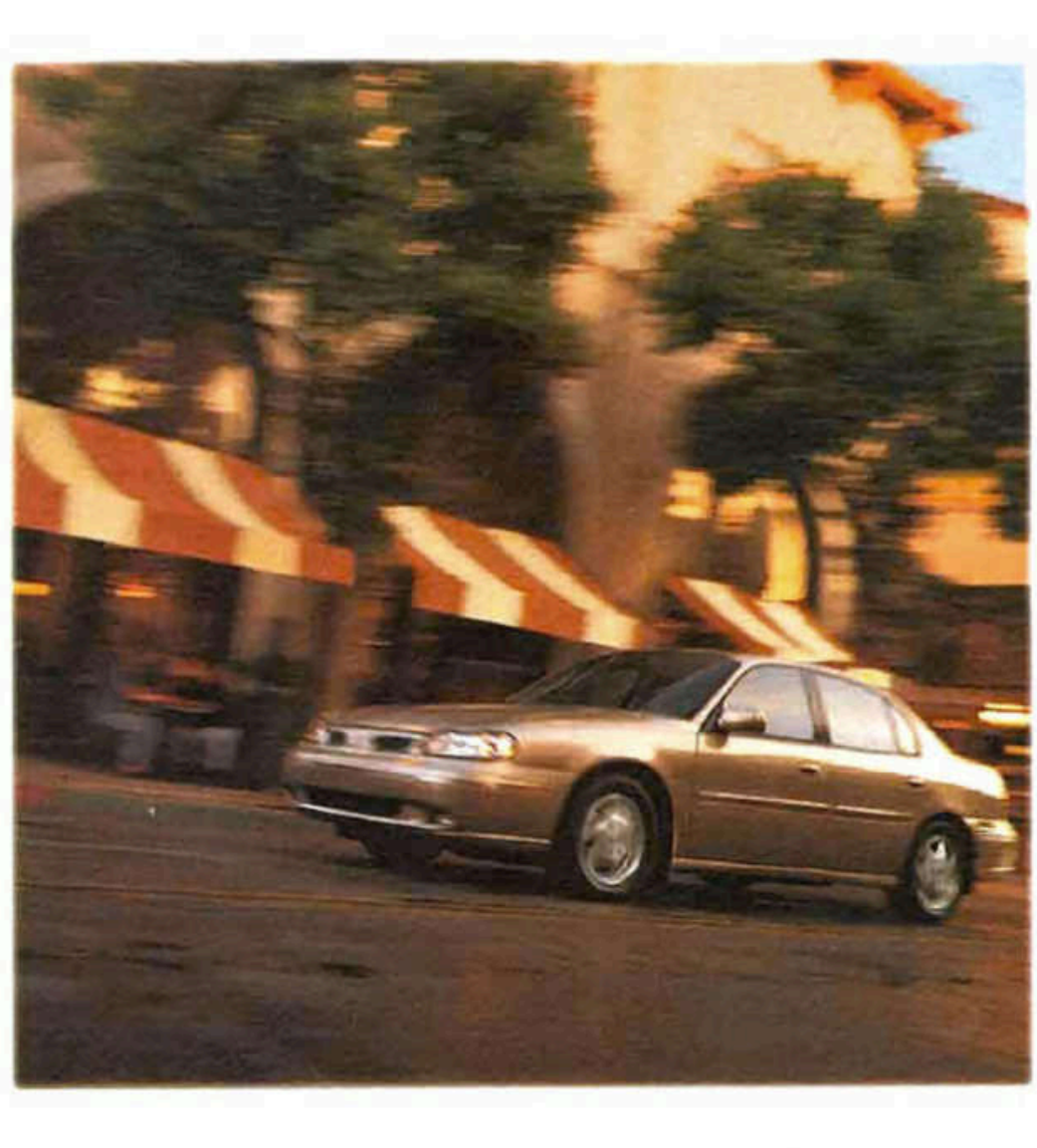
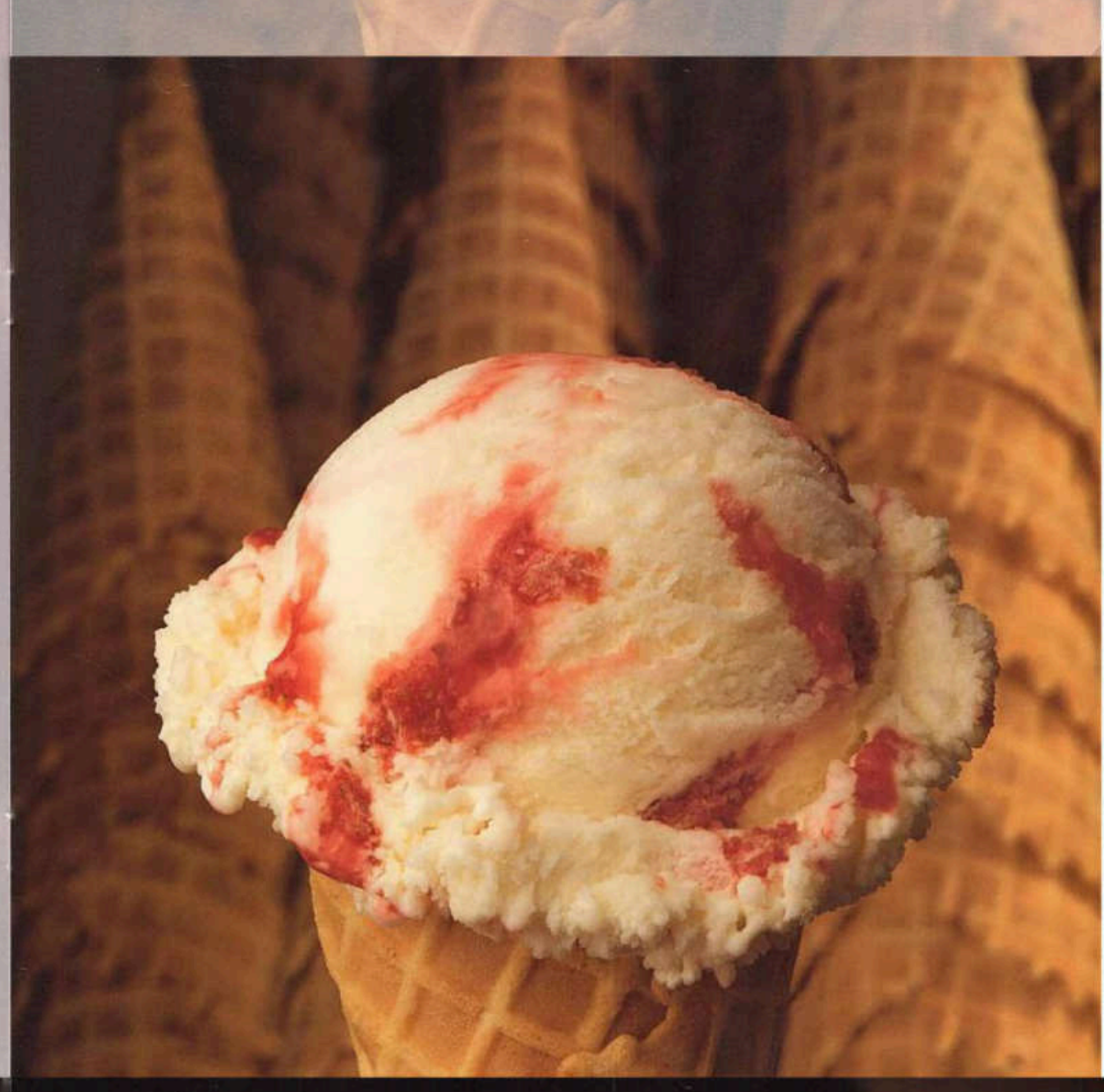
Nineteen Ninety-Seven



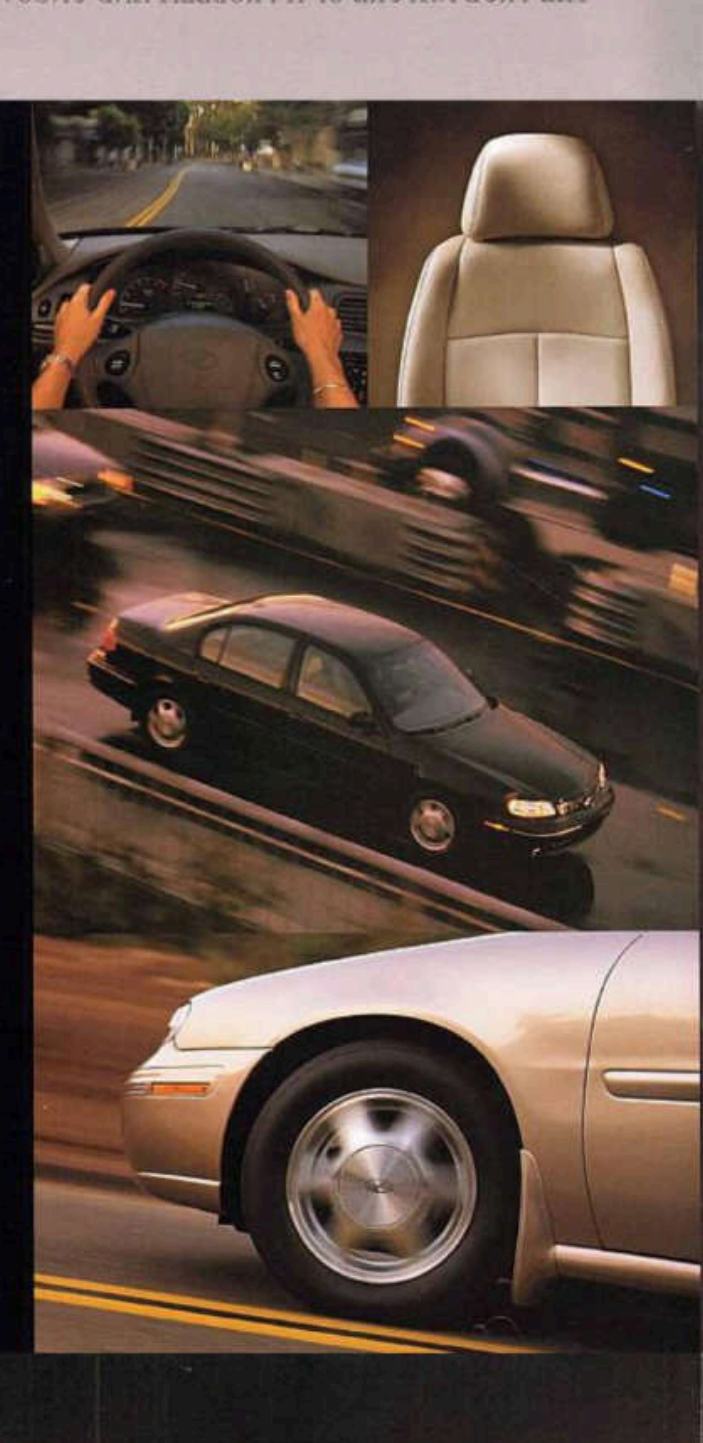
# CUTLASS

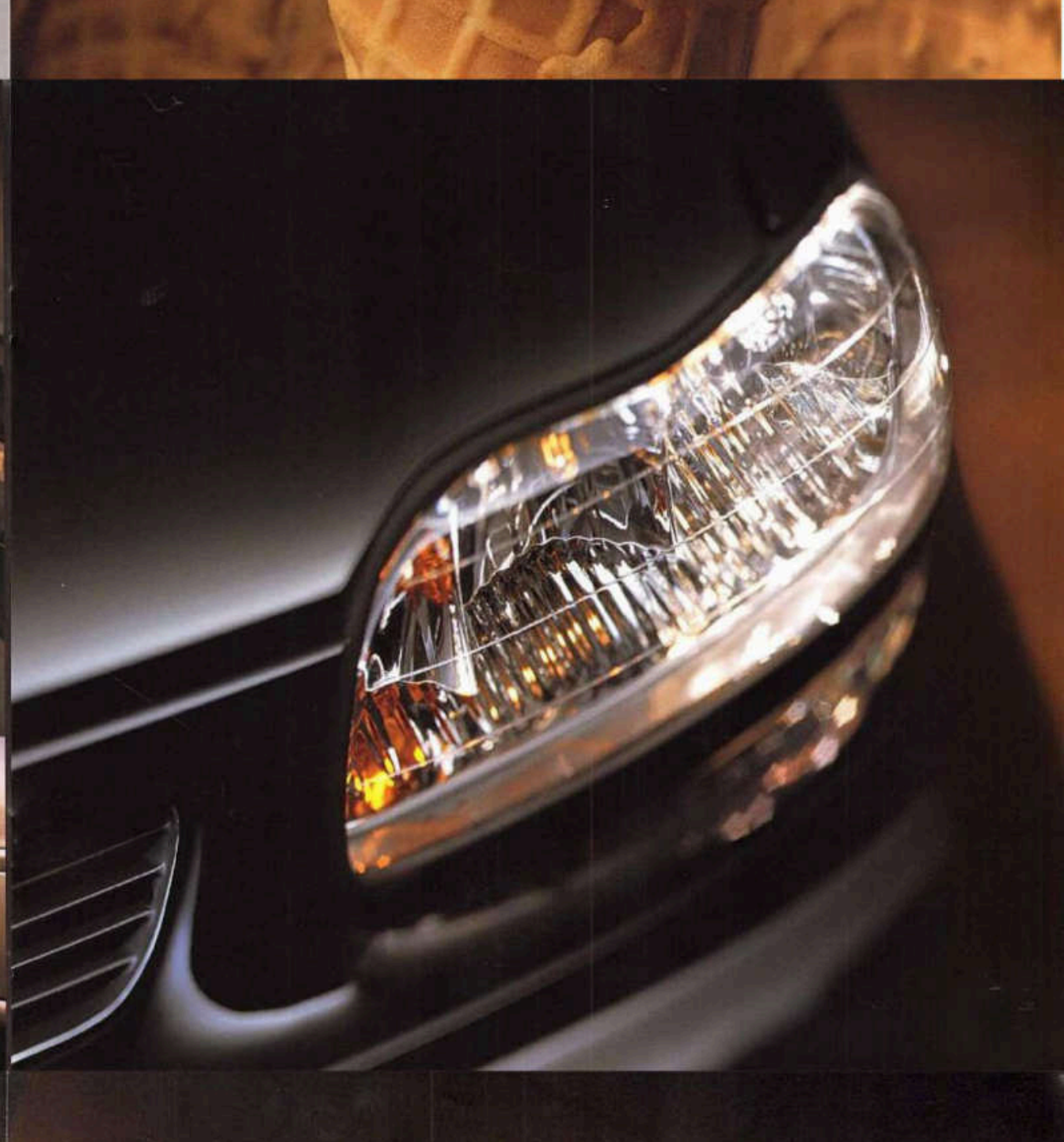
BY OLDSMOBILE

HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A DEVICE OR A SOLUTION SO INGENIOUS THAT IT MADE YOU ASK, "WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF THAT?" CONSIDER THE HUMBLE ICE CREAM CONE. AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY, THE LOCAL PARLOR WAS THE ONLY PLACE TO EAT ICE CREAM. AND IT REQUIRED SPOONS AND DISHES. BUT WHAT IF YOU WANTED TO EAT IT ON THE RUN? EASY. MAKE THE CONTAINER EDIBLE. THIS IS CLEVER THINKING. IT DEMONSTRATES THE ABILITY TO SEE DEEPLY INTO THE TRUE NATURE OF A PROBLEM AND UNCOVER A SIMPLE, YET BRILLIANT SOLUTION.



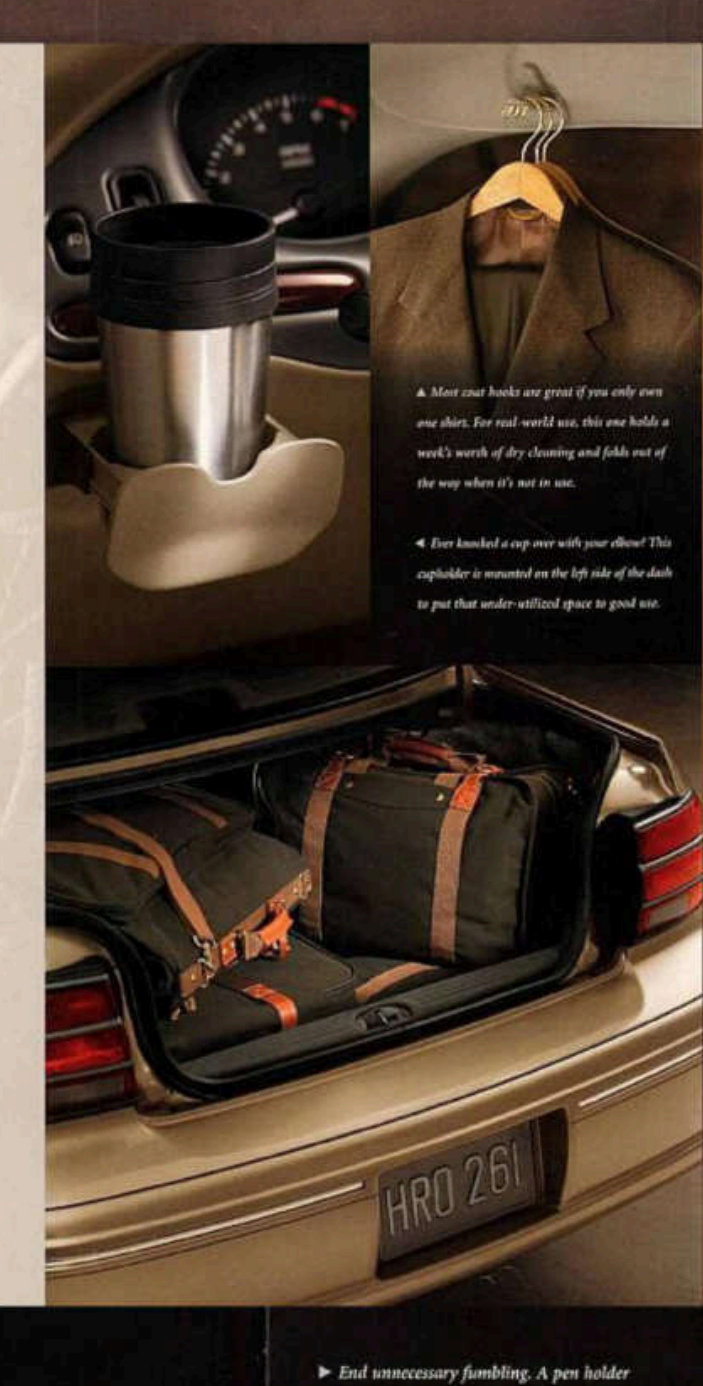
WHAT DOES THE ICE CREAM CONE HAVE TO DO WITH THE ALL-NEW CUTLASS? ONLY EVERYTHING. THE 1997 CUTLASS IS ALL ABOUT INGENIOUS THINKING. IT'S NOT THE KIND OF THINKING THAT LEADS TO QUANTUM PARTICLE PHYSICS. IT'S THE KIND OF THINKING THAT CREATES SOLUTIONS TO EVERYDAY PROBLEMS — LIKE THE LITTLE ANNOYANCES THAT SEEM TO TURN EVEN A RUN TO THE DRY CLEANER INTO AN EXERCISE IN FRUSTRATION. CUTLASS MAKES DAY-TO-DAY LIVING WITH A CAR EASIER AND FRIENDLIER.





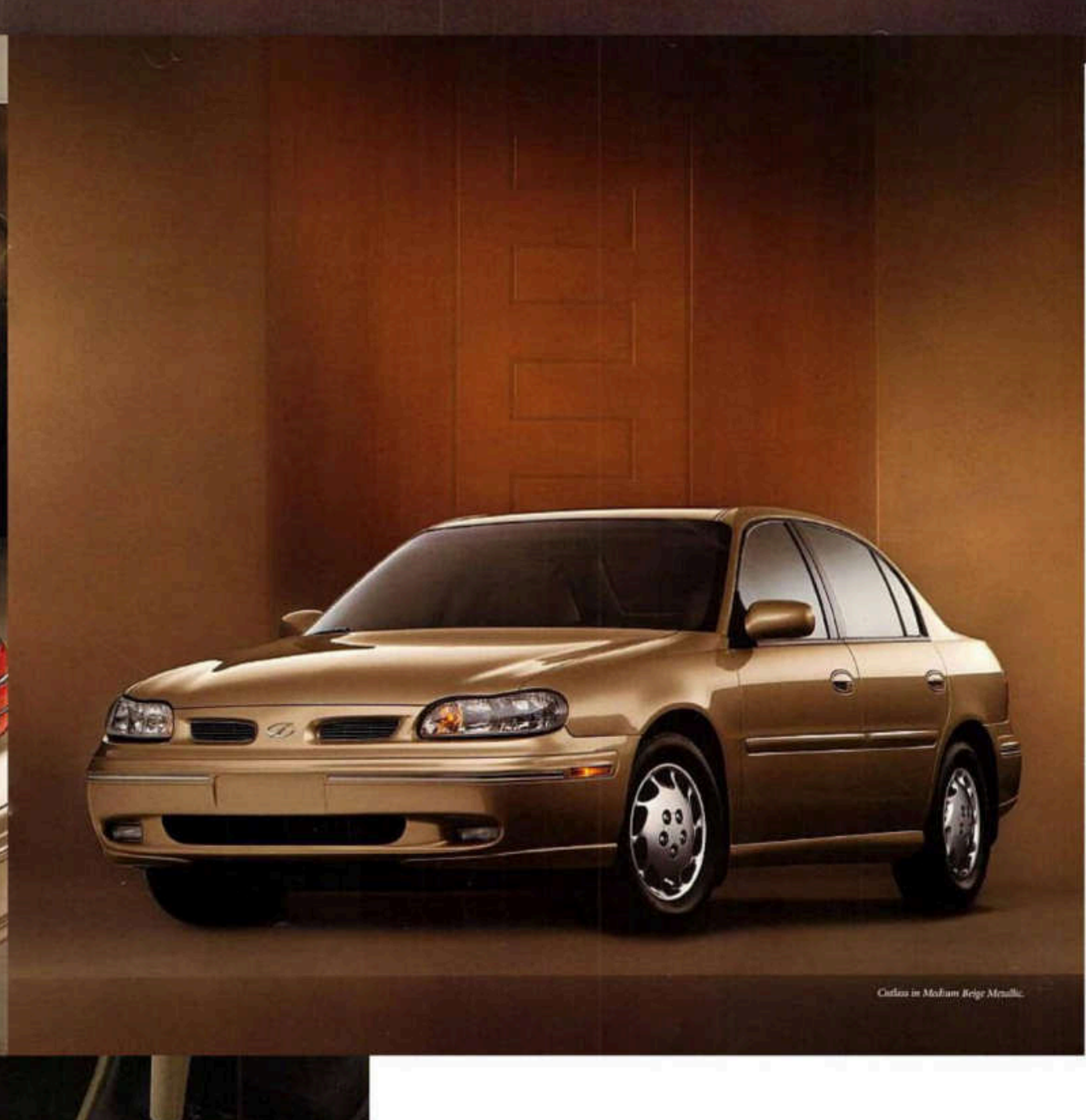
Cutlass GLS in Black.

IN THE 1800'S, BEING PROPERLY DRESSED OFTEN MEANT WASTING HALF THE MORNING FASTENING YOUR HIGH-BUTTON SHOES. BUT WHEN ELIAS HOWE INVENTED A DEVICE CALLED THE "AUTOMATIC CLOTHING CLOSURE," HE SIMPLIFIED THIS DAILY CHORE. YEARS LATER, IT WAS CALLED A "ZIPPER." IN ITS OWN WAY, THE CLASP SPARKED A QUIET REVOLUTION. IT REMOVED ONE SMALL OBSTACLE FROM GETTING OUT THE DOOR IN THE MORNING, FROM LUGGAGE TO SPACE BLANKETS. THE ZIPPER HAS SOLVED MILLIONS OF PROBLEMS.



▲ Most coat hooks are great if you only own one shirt. For real world use, this one holds a week's worth of dry cleaning and folds out of the way when it's not in use.

◀ Ever knocked a cup over with your elbow? This cupholder is mounted on the left side of the dash to put that under-utilized space to good use.



Cutlass in Medium Beige Metallic.

## Details

Our clever device is called Cutlass. Or Cutlass and Cutlass GLS to be exact. Just two well-equipped models. Both are cleanly styled, V6-powered sedans. And both are full of the clever thinking that makes your life just a little easier. For instance, the glove box door has a latch located on the left to make it easier for the driver to reach. There's a special cab pressure-relief valve that helps flow-through ventilation so you won't breathe stale air. How about drip rails designed to channel water away from the doors so you won't get wet when exiting after a rainstorm? Cutlass even features theater-dimming interior lighting. So when you close the last door, the lights don't turn off like a refrigerator light. They dim slowly. As in a theater. Who can't use a touch of grace like that?

▶ End unnecessary fumbling. A pen holder keeps a writing tool right where you need it. Not under your feet or between the seats.

▼ On cold mornings you want to get going, not just idle. The "zoned" rear window defogger quickly clears the center section first to give good visibility where you need it most, right away.

◀ The ignition on Cutlass is right on the dash where it's easy to see and easier to operate. And to start it requires a simple 90-degree turn, not a wrist-spraining twist.

▶ Have you ever lifted luggage out of a trunk and had the lock striker put a nice gash in it? Or had the bottom ripped off a grocery bag? It's okay to admit it. Everyone has had that happen. The striker in Cutlass is recessed to help prevent it from ever happening again.

◀ Arranging cargo can be a frustrating experience. Cutlass has a large trunk pass-through for your bulky cargo, and both seat backs fold down for the maximum in versatility.

## Interior

From the beginning, Cutlass was designed to make life behind the wheel a lot easier. Just sit inside and look around you. The controls are large, easy to read, and logically laid out. The radio is located above the climate controls, because extensive testing revealed that the audio controls are used far more frequently. Cruise control functions are located on the steering wheel. And the shift knob is even angled toward the driver for a more natural grip — a small but pleasant alteration that pays off every time you reach for the shifter. And finally, because cars never have enough storage, there's a covered bin in the center console, and another bin beneath that. For the convenience of the rear passengers, there are even beverage holders in the back of the center console. Clever stuff for annoyance-free driving.

▼ Pressure-mapping technology helped create extremely comfortable seats. In the base Cutlass, they're covered in durable fabric. The GLS model comes with standard leather trim. Either way, you'll find you won't have to fumble or dig for the belt buckles because they're attached to the seats and move when the seats move.

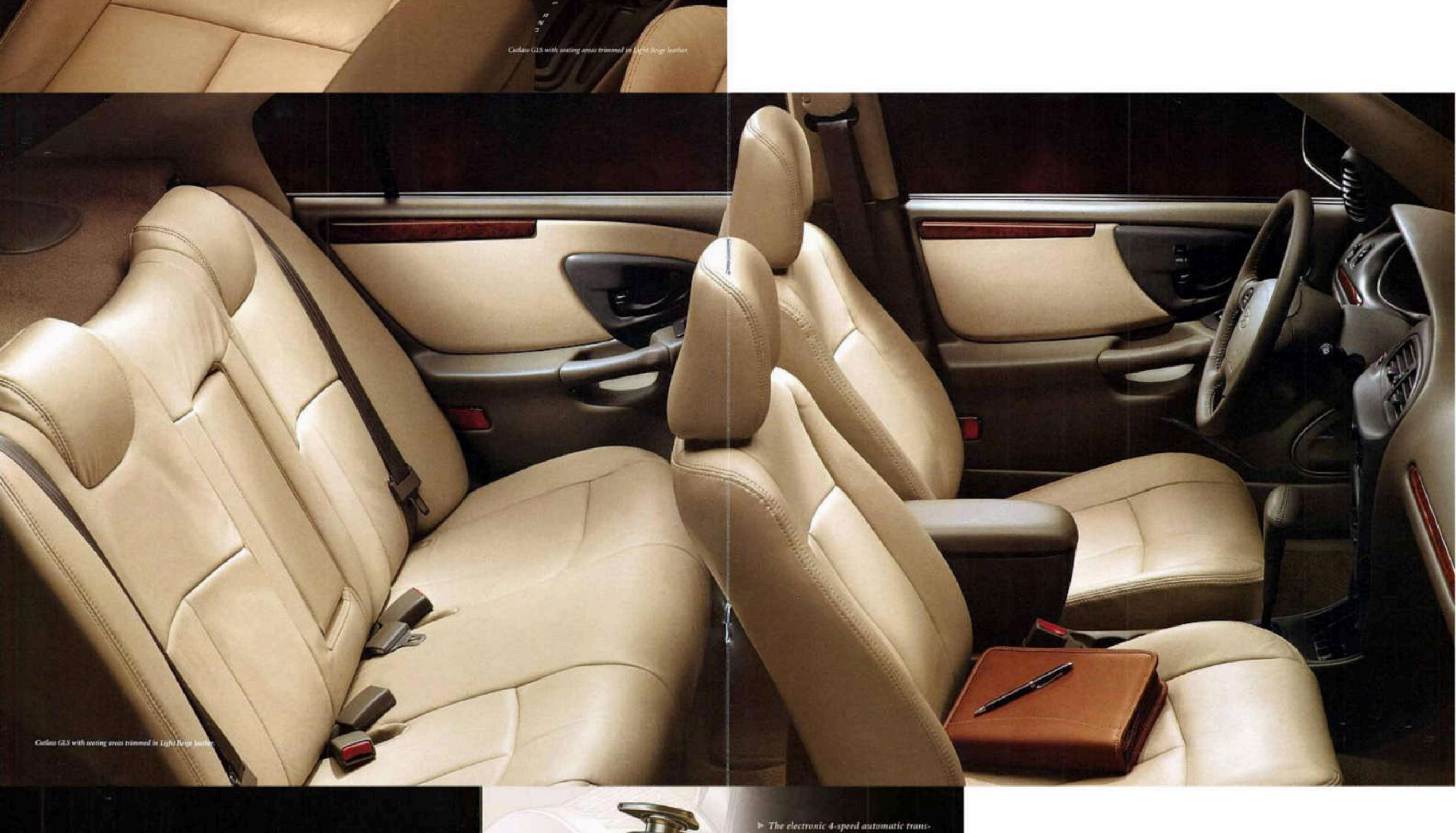
◀ Why choose between a CD or cassette player? The available dual playback stereo features a CD/cassette player combination. Now that's freedom of choice.

▼ Air conditioning vents located on the windshield pillars prevent chilled knuckles and help to better distribute air for everyone's comfort.

▲ Thieves are smart. But Cutlass is smarter. Its available remote-control keyless entry system uses rolling code technology that changes the "password" with every use so crooks can't copy your code.

▶ Front seat adjustable shoulder belt guides help keep belts from rubbing or chafing your neck.

Cutlass GLS with seating areas trimmed in Light Beige leather.



Cutlass GLS with seating areas trimmed in Light Beige leather.

## Technology & Performance

The circular saw was a big leap in technology. But Cutlass has made some leaps of its own. In fact, it's broken new engineering ground to stake a claim in territory previously occupied by more expensive imports. For instance, some competitors actually impose a hefty surcharge for a V6 engine. With Cutlass, a refined and responsive 3100 SFI V6 engine is standard. You don't pay an extra dime for it. Also standard is the wealth of engineering details: a hollow camshaft to reduce valvetrain weight for smoother high-rpm operation, and a mass airflow sensor that precisely meters air and fuel for both power and efficiency. According to *Motor Trend*, "Cutlass effectively challenges its opposition in attractiveness, spaciousness, refinement, performance and especially value. Oldsmobile has a real winner on its hands."

▶ The electronic 4-speed automatic transmission uses a random-pattern chain design to effectively cancel out whine and noise.

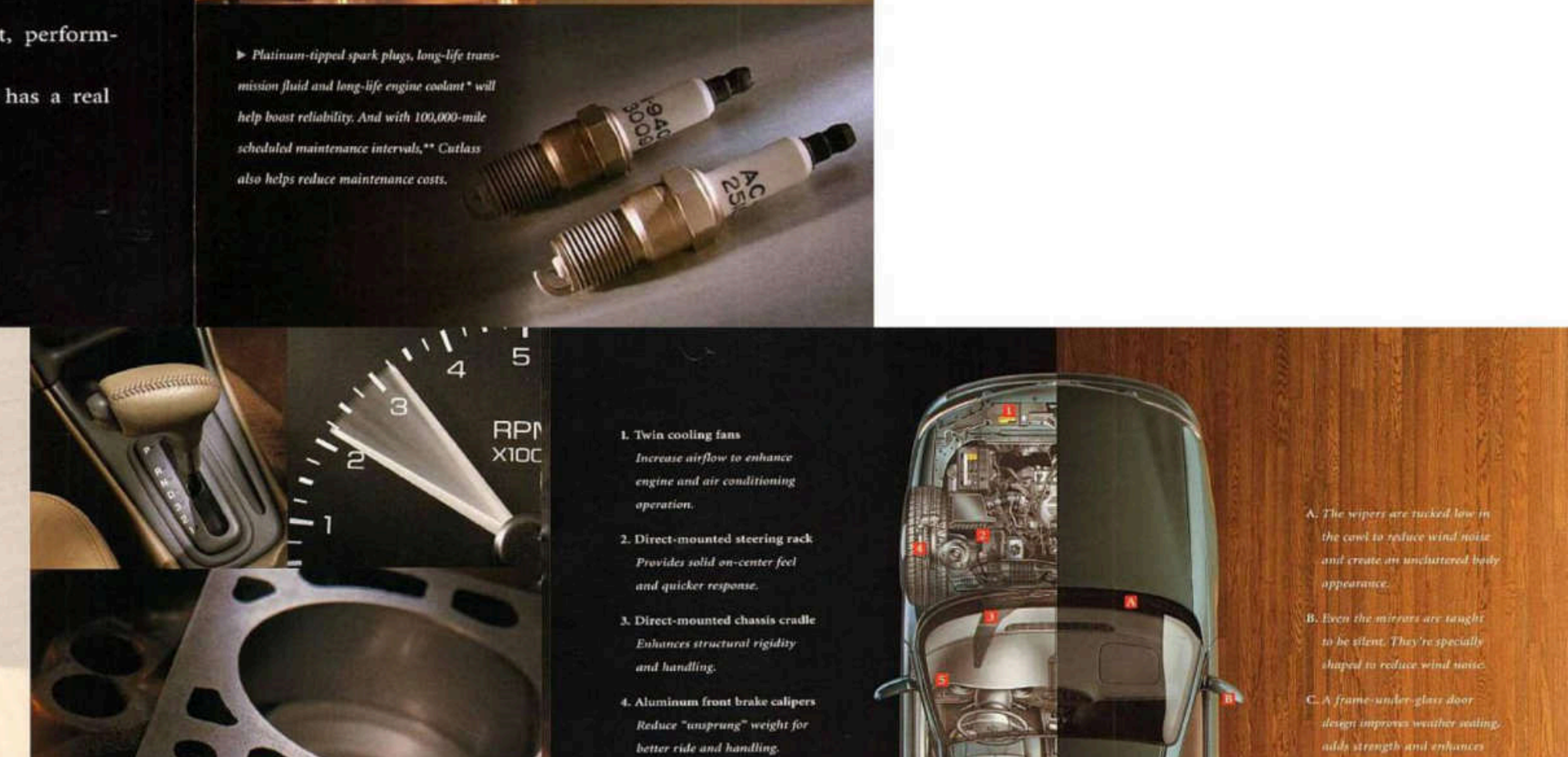
◀ How do you improve handling without sacrificing ride? We call it "tri-link," a rear suspension design that yields both a comfortable ride and precise response.

▼ To block out engine vibration, Cutlass uses specially designed hydraulic engine mounts located on the torque axis. To your engine, it's like talking into a pillow.

▶ Platinum-tipped spark plugs, long-life transmission fluid and long-life engine coolant* will help boost reliability. And with 100,000-mile scheduled maintenance intervals,** Cutlass also helps reduce maintenance costs.

* Systems originally filled with Dex-Cool must be serviced with Dex-Cool.
** Maintenance needs vary with use and driving conditions.
† EPA estimated mileage of 20 city/29 highway mpg.

FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS, PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SAWING WOOD BY PASSING A TOOTHED METAL BLADE ACROSS IT. BUT IN THE 18TH CENTURY, A WOODWORKER ARRANGED THE TEETH OF A SAW AROUND THE PERIMETER OF A METAL DISC. RECIPROCAL MOTION WAS TURNED INTO ROTARY MOTION, AND THE CIRCULAR SAW WAS BORN. THE QUESTION IS, WHY DID IT TAKE THOUSANDS OF YEARS TO CREATE THIS INGENIOUS DEVICE? WHAT DID THIS CLEVER PERSON SEE THAT COUNTLESS CARPENTERS BEFORE COMPLETELY MISSED?



▲ A stiffening skirt in the engine block acts like a straightjacket to restrain unwanted noise, vibration and harshness.

◀ Powerful and smooth, the Cutlass V6 engine is a model of responsive performance. And with sequential fuel injection and a mass airflow sensor, it's also remarkably fuel efficient.†

1. Twin cooling fans
   Increase airflow to enhance engine and air conditioning operation.
2. Direct-mounted steering rack
   Provides solid on-center feel and quicker response.
3. Direct-mounted chassis cradle
   Enhances structural rigidity and handling.
4. Aluminum front brake calipers
   Reduce "unsprung" weight for better ride and handling.
5. Dual fuse boxes with spares
   Provide easier access and maximize convenience.
6. Expandable foam in floor
   Offers better damping and noise reduction.
7. Rear-seat ventilation ducts
   Improve comfort for rear-seat passengers.
8. Heat-expanding frame seals
   Become sound "baffles" to reduce noise and vibration.
9. Reinforced safety cage
   Enhances collision protection.
10. Strengthened rear strut caps
    Minimize road impacts.

A. The wipers are tucked low in the cowl to reduce wind noise and create an uncluttered body appearance.

B. Even the mirrors are taught to be silent. They're specially shaped to reduce wind noise.

C. A frame-under-glass door design improves weather sealing, adds strength and enhances security capability.

D. "Quiet Teams" of engineers (noise exorcisers) were authorized to do anything and everything to help ensure a silent, vibration-free interior.

E. As evidence of attention to detail, Cutlass features a spiral-ground mast antenna to reduce wind noise and turbulence.

F. The cavernous trunk with a whopping 16.4 cubic feet of cargo space will carry an entire family's vacation luggage.

Cutlass GLS in Black.

Cutlass GLS in Medium Beige Metallic.

## Safety

Just like the safety pin, Cutlass' safety package is intrinsic to its design. And it's multi-layered. Beyond the safety-cage construction, front and rear crush zones, and standard dual air bags,* Cutlass has ingenious features like load-limiting retractors on the front safety belts. In a collision, they allow the belt system to "give" in a very controlled manner, to help limit forces on the occupant in order to help reduce the risk of injury. Cutlass also has rear Child Comfort Guides on outboard positions, which encourage kids to buckle up by making shoulder belts more comfortable to wear. And for security when you're away from the vehicle, Cutlass provides a standard PASSLock II vehicle security system. This clever device recognizes only the authorized ignition key and won't start the engine without it.

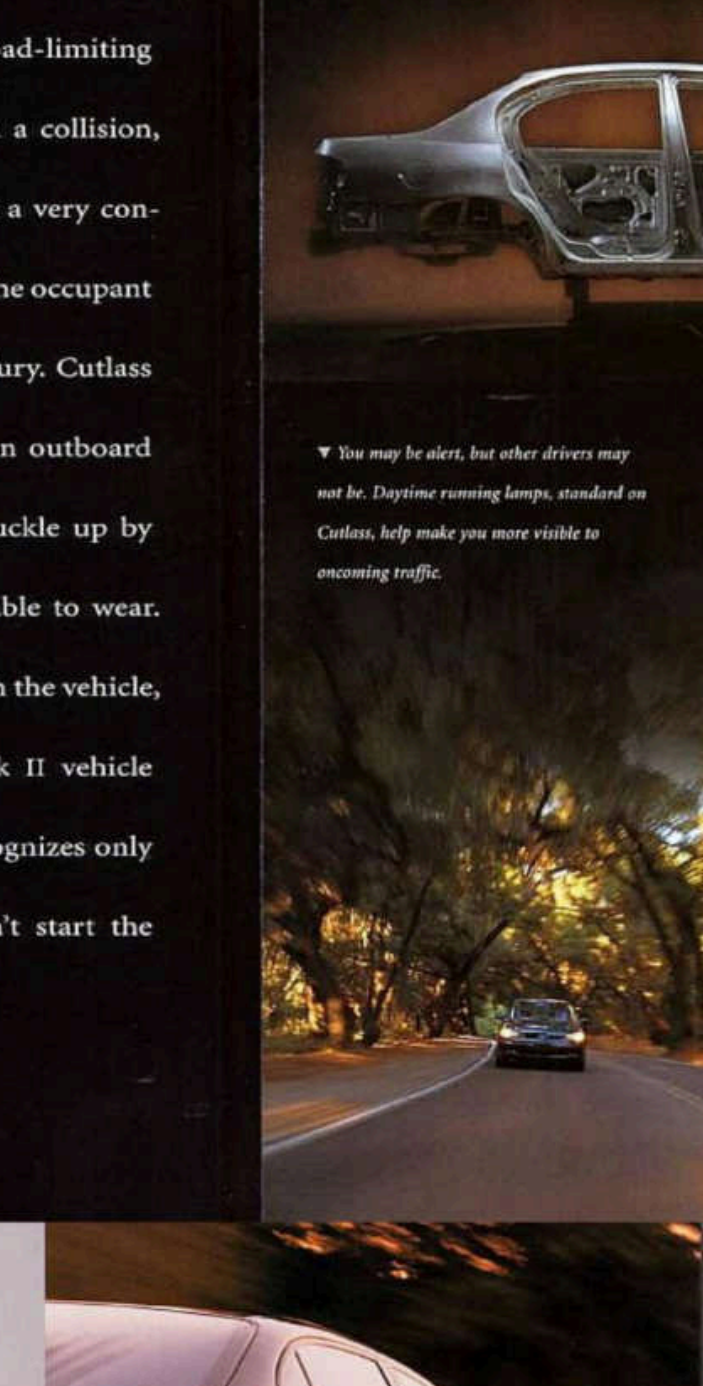
* Always wear your safety belts, even with air bags.

◀ Ever walked away and left the interior lights on? With its standard battery run-down protection, Cutlass shuts them off automatically after twenty minutes.

▼ You may be alert, but other drivers may not be. Daytime running lamps, standard on Cutlass, help make you more visible to oncoming traffic.

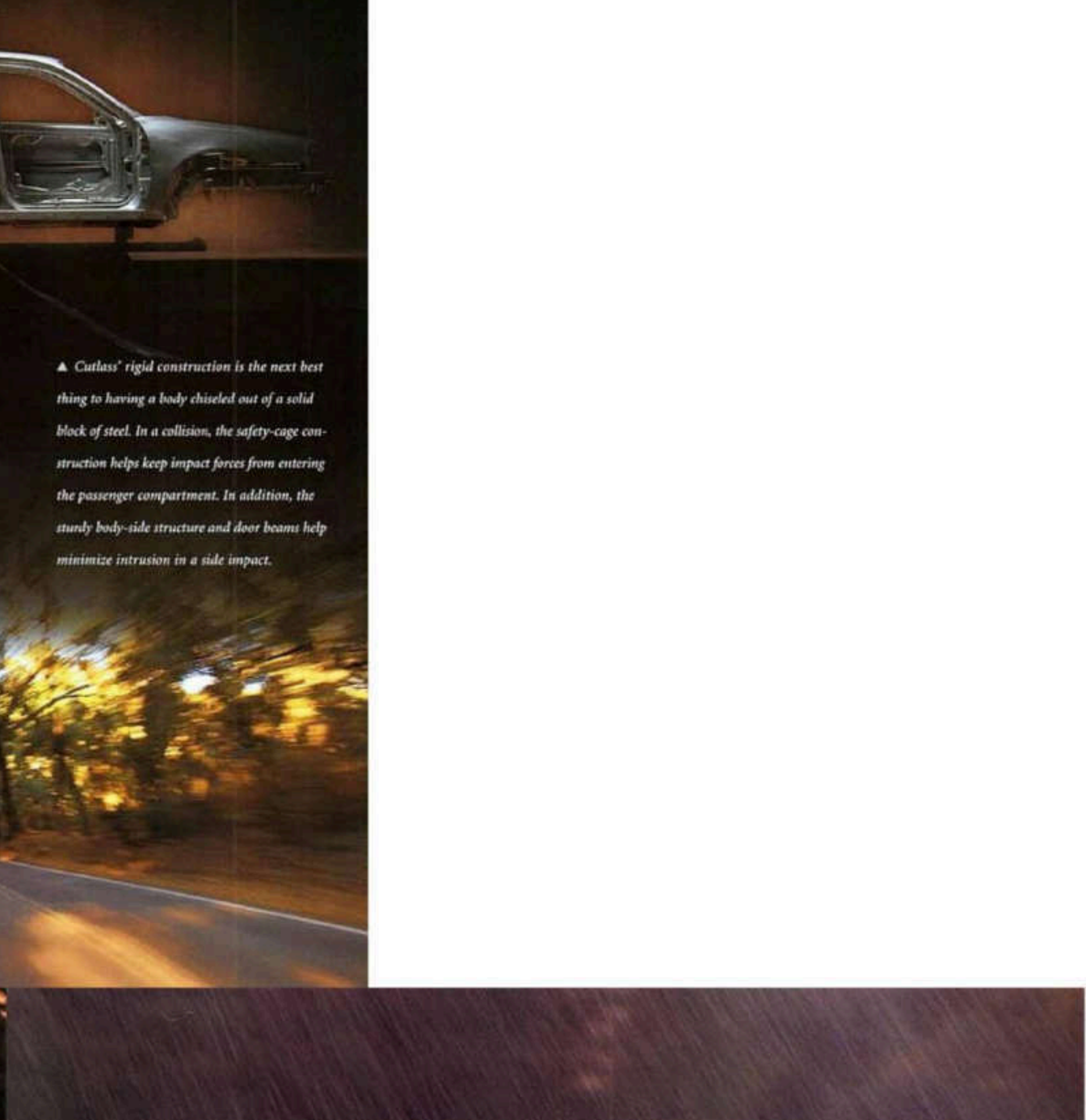
▲ Cutlass' rigid construction is the next best thing to having a body chiseled out of a solid block of steel. In a collision, the safety-cage construction helps keep impact forces from entering the passenger compartment. In addition, the sturdy body-side structure and door beams help minimize intrusion in a side impact.

IT'S THE ESSENCE OF SIMPLICITY. SO BRILLIANT IN DESIGN THAT IT SHOULD RANK RIGHT UP THERE WITH THE ROCKET AND INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE. WHAT IS IT? THE COMMON SAFETY PIN. THE EPITOME OF INGENIOUS THINKING. IT USES ITS OWN NATURAL SPRINGINESS TO KEEP IT LATCHED INTO THE RECEPTACLE. SO IT WON'T SUDDENLY SPRING OPEN AND PRICK YOU. THE MORE THE CLOTH WANTS TO PULL APART, THE MORE SECURE THE PIN BECOMES. ITS SAFETY PROPERTY IS SIMPLY INTRINSIC TO THE DESIGN.



◀ Standard anti-lock brakes help the driver maintain steering control even under maximum braking effort. And with ABS VI, there's virtually no pedal feedback — unlike some competitors.

▼ In a collision, front and rear crush zones are designed to deform in a progressive manner to absorb impact energy.



Cutlass GLS in Medium Beige Metallic.

## STANDARD FEATURES

**SAFETY AND SECURITY**

- Dual frontal air bags
- 3-point front and rear outboard safety belts with front height adjustment, outboard rear Child Comfort Guides, and rear center lap belt
- 5-mph front and rear bumpers
- Anti-lock front disc/rear drum brakes
- Brake/transmission shift interlock
- Power door locks
- Rear door child-security locks
- PASSLock II vehicle security system
- Illuminated entry/exit system
- Halogen headlamps
- Daytime running lamps with automatic headlamp control
- Foglamps
- Outside breakaway mirrors
- Side and zoned electric-rear window defoggers
- Battery run-down protection

**COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE**

- Air conditioning with CFC-free refrigerant
- Rear-seat ventilation ducts
- TILT-Wheel adjustable steering column
- Cruise control with integral steering wheel controls
- Analog instrument cluster with tachometer and gauges for coolant temperature and fuel level
- Trip odometer, indicators for cruise control and door ajar, and low-level indicators for fuel, oil, coolant and washer fluid
- Center console with storage armrest, front and dual rear cupholders, coin holder, auxiliary power outlet, ashtray, secondary storage bin and floor shifter
- AM/FM stereo with 4-speaker extended-range sound system and "quiet" spiral-ground radio antenna
- Lighting package *(includes courtesy, glove box and trunk lamps)*
- Driver's-side remote outside mirror
- Inside day/night mirror with dual map lights
- Dual covered visor vanity mirrors *(passenger-side lighted on GLS)*
- Headlamp and turn signal reminder chimes
- Power remote trunk lock release

**SEATING AND TRIM**

- Reclining contour front bucket seats
- Split-folding rear seat back with trunk pass-through
- Map pockets in front doors and front seat backs
- Front and rear carpeted floor mats

**EXTERIOR**

- P215/60R15 all-season radial tires
- Soft-Ray tinted glass
- Pulse wipers with wet-arm washers
- Body-color protective side moldings and rocker moldings with integral front and rear splash guards

**MECHANICAL**

- 3100 SFI V6 engine
- 4-speed electronic-shift automatic transmission
- Front-wheel drive
- 4-wheel independent suspension with front MacPherson struts and rear "tri-link" coil springs
- Power rack-and-pinion steering
- On-board diagnostic system (OBD II)
- Maintenance-free battery with easy-jump terminals

## MODEL-SPECIFIC AND AVAILABLE FEATURES

| | CUTLASS | CUTLASS GLS |
|---|---|---|
| **CONVENIENCE PACKAGE** | | |
| Includes power windows with driver's-side auto down, dual power outside mirrors, remote-control keyless entry system and trunk cargo net | A | S |
| **SAFETY AND SECURITY** | | |
| Remote-control keyless entry system | A | S |
| **SEATING AND TRIM** | | |
| 6-way power driver's-side seat | A[1] | S |
| Cloth-trimmed seating areas | S | A[2] |
| Leather-trimmed seating areas | – | S |
| Passenger-assist handles | – | S |
| **AUDIO SYSTEMS** | | |
| Delco ETR AM/FM stereo with automatic tone control, seek/scan and digital clock | S | – |
| Delco ETR AM/FM stereo with cassette player, automatic tone control, seek/scan and digital clock | A | S |
| Delco ETR AM/FM stereo with CD and cassette players, automatic tone control, seek/scan and digital clock | A | A |
| **EXTERIOR** | | |
| Power sunroof with sliding glass panel | – | A |
| 15-inch bolt-on wheel covers | S | – |
| 15-inch aluminum wheels | A | S |
| **MECHANICAL** | | |
| Engine block heater | A | A |

S *Standard* A *Available* – *Not available*

## SPECIFICATIONS AND DIMENSIONS

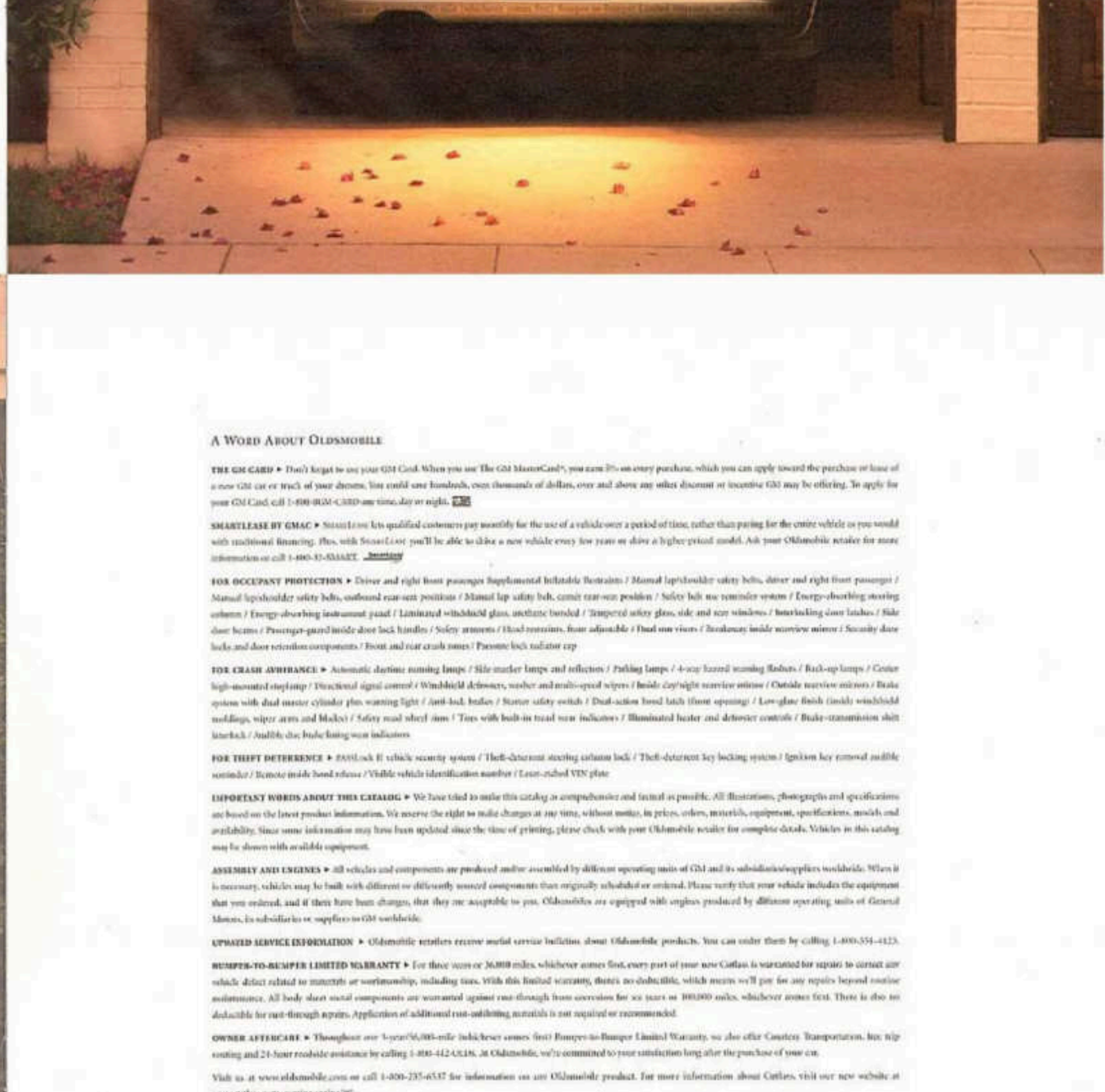
| | |
|---|---|
| **3100 SFI V6 ENGINE** | |
| Displacement | 3.1 liters (191 cu in) |
| Horsepower | 155 @ 5200 rpm |
| Torque | 185 @ 4000 rpm |
| Fuel delivery | Sequential port fuel injection |
| **EPA ESTIMATED FUEL ECONOMY** | |
| 3100 SFI V6 *(mpg, city/hwy)* | 20/29 |
| **EXTERIOR DIMENSIONS** | |
| Wheelbase *(in)* | 107.0 |
| Length *(in)* | 192.0 |
| Width *(in)* | 69.4 |
| Height *(in)* | 56.3 |
| Curb weight *(lb)* | 3102 |
| Tread width, front/rear *(in)* | 59.0/59.0 |
| Turning circle *(ft, curb-to-curb)* | 36.3 |
| **INTERIOR DIMENSIONS** | |
| Headroom, front/rear *(in)* | 39.4/37.6 |
| Legroom, front/rear *(in)* | 42.1/38.0 |
| Shoulder room, front/rear *(in)* | 55.5/55.0 |
| **CAPACITIES** | |
| Seating *(passengers)* | 5 |
| Trunk volume *(cu ft)* | 16.4 |
| Fuel *(gal)* | 15.2 |

[1] Requires available Convenience Package.
[2] No-charge option in place of standard leather trim.

INNOVATIVE THINKING. FRESH DESIGNS. SMART SOLUTIONS. CUTLASS IS THE LATEST EXAMPLE OF A GROUND-BREAKING NEW APPROACH USING THOUGHTFUL ENGINEERING. AND THE OLDSMOBILE OWNERSHIP EXPERIENCE — LIKE CUTLASS ITSELF — INCLUDES UNEXPECTED ATTENTION TO DETAIL. IT STARTS WITH A STREAMLINED BUYING PROCESS, AND EXTENDS TO COURTESY TRANSPORTATION, 24-HOUR ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE, AND MUCH MORE. SEE YOUR OLDSMOBILE RETAILER FOR COMPLETE DETAILS.

## COLOR COMBINATIONS

| INTERIOR (CLOTH OR LEATHER) | EXTERIOR | |
|---|---|---|
| Warm Gray, Light Beige | Bright White (10) | ⬜ |
| Warm Gray | Silver Metallic (17) | ▨ |
| Warm Gray, Light Beige | Blue Metallic (34) | ▨ |
| Warm Gray, Light Beige | Black (41) | ■ |
| Warm Gray, Light Beige | Medium Green Metallic (45) | ▨ |
| Warm Gray, Light Beige | Medium Beige Metallic (49) | ▨ |
| Warm Gray, Light Beige | Dark Red Metallic (53) | ▨ |
| Warm Gray, Light Beige | Green Metallic (56) | ▨ |



## A WORD ABOUT OLDSMOBILE

Oldsmobile

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