

Nutz N' Boltz News

Fordnutz Cougar club is dedicated to the preservation of all Cougars and "Orphan" Ford and Mercury Vehicles

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Fordnutz is affiliated with the
Cougar Club of America and
The Classic Cougar Network.



ERIC MELTON'S 1999 Ford Cougar

Story and photography by Eric Melton



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Please send your articles for the Nutz Letter C/O the club address.

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS: April 15th, 2002

I'm an American working in telecommunications for the US Army, living in Heidelberg, Germany. I speak German at home with my Russian fiancée, and live with a Chinese hairless dog. As you may have guessed life is a multi-cultural affair.

My car is a German spec. 1999 Ford (no Mercury over here) Cougar. Factory options include 24 valve Duratec V-6 with 170 hp (before modifications), 5-speed transmission, leather interior, 4 airbags, heated seats, thermostat controlled air conditioning, power everything - seats, door locks, mirrors, windows, etc., 4-wheel disc brakes, and an alarm system.

Modifications thus far: Lowered 40 mm, dual exhaust by Postert, custom painted hood, summer tires are 235 70R 17 rear and 215 70R 17 front on

Shaper wheels, (winters are important here also - Dunlop Winter Sport tires on the factory chrome rims), red-painted brake callipers, K&N Air filter kit.

Stereo - Pioneer head unit with graphic LED, Interior speakers are two pairs of Infinity 6 1/2" with tweeters, entire hatch area was built up with a 3" false floor to accommodate a custom install of 2 Axton amps (400w, 200w) on either side of a Jensen 12" subwoofer sunk into the (former) spare tire well.

Future plans include sport brake discs/callipers/pads, a ground effects kit, some cool louvered "Z-3" fenders I found online, headers, and I'm entertaining the thought of a Paxton supercharger someday. (would push it to 280 hp or so), but that would probably just eat tires. The car is already good for 250 kph (150 MPH) on the autobahns. But those darn Porsches still come up in the mirror quite fast now and again.

Maybe one of these days I can make it to an event, if I can ever talk myself into leaving Europe.