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Chrysler Designers Sculpt Crossfire, the Next American Dream Machine

All-New Sports Coupe Blends Pure Sculpture with Technology

January 2, 2002, Los Angeles - Chrysler Crossfire combines classic European proportions and technology with the power and personality of an American performance car.

"The expressive execution of Chrysler Crossfire is tangible proof of our capability to elevate and broaden the Chrysler brand," said Trevor Creed, Senior Vice President – Design, Chrysler Group. "From its distinct design to its potent powertrain and suspension, this modern American coupe is set to excite enthusiasts throughout the world."

Exterior: Sculptured, Romantic

With its long hood and fast back, Chrysler Crossfire's side profile is instantly recognizable. The car's broad shoulders envelop 19-inch rear wheels. Front wheels are slightly smaller, yet still measure an impressive 18 inches. With larger wheels in back, the side profile has a poised stance.

The name "Crossfire" was conceived during the development of the vehicle's distinctive character line which moves precisely and rapidly from front to rear. The character line "crosses" to a negative formation from a positive formation as it travels quickly from the front through the rear fender. Rear fenders are muscular and wide and conclude in the large, sculpted tail lamps. The side profile is complete with metallic-finished side air louvers.

"In addition to romantic shapes and sleek, athletic lines, we gave Chrysler Crossfire a unique new glass-to-body proportion," said Creed. "We made the body-sides tall while minimizing glass surfaces. We wanted to give the driver that special feeling of being inside the cockpit of something very sporty, serious and protective."

The sculptured hood prominently showcases Chrysler's new signature winged badge which spans the entire upper width of the chrome grille. Similar to Chrysler 300M, headlamps have double circular elements within and carve into the front fascia. For additional design tension, six grooves run the length of the hood and complement the front grille.

One of Chrysler Crossfire's most distinguishing features is its center spine that runs the length of the car and gives a chiseled, carved appearance. The line starts at the front grille and concludes between the dual exhaust pipes. This center spine form also appears on door handles and exterior mirrors.

Chrysler Crossfire's rear view is stunning with a tapered, "boat tail" appearance that emphasizes its large rear wheels, tires and fenders. A retractable spoiler is designed into the rear of the vehicle and activates when the car reaches the designated speed of 50 miles per hour.

Interior: Machined Precision

Chrysler Crossfire's sophisticated two-tone, twin cockpit interior complements the exterior. The distinctive exterior center spine shape also appears on the center console, shifter and instrument panel. From the driver's seat, the center spine shape appears to continue from the instrument panel through the windshield and on to the hood.

"Chrysler Crossfire's interior has a clean, precise, machined appearance," said Creed. "With a high beltline, you sit deep within the car. Once on board, there's no question you'll want to drive it."

Seats are trimmed in a two-tone leather with Chrysler's signature winged badge embossed into both head rests. The ignition switch is located on the instrument panel as opposed to the steering column.

Precise, elegant gauges are white-on-black with a metallic accent bezel and a chrome trim ring. The center console is metallic and flows from the top of the instrument panel through the center of the car to achieve a cockpit environment. Metallic accents are featured throughout the interior including on the doors, steering wheel, and instrument cluster.

"Chrysler Crossfire blends world class technology with passionate, modern American design," concluded Creed.

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