

## Mustangs Northwest Car of the Month

The car of the month for July is Rob Ogden's 2007 Mustang GT/CS. Here is Rob's story.

I bought my 2007 Mustang GT California Special from a former Mustangs Northwest club member, Randy Drake in the spring of 2014. Randy is known for taking exquisite care of his cars, so buying a car from him is a no-brainer. The truth is, I didn't even drive it before I bought it. I knew it was going to be a great car. This is my fourth Mustang, and the first one that is not a Fox Body.

2007 was the year that Ford introduced the modern GT/CS package on the new Mustangs. Randy explained that this particular Mustang was built during the first week of California Special production. The actual build date was June 15, 2006, which makes for an extremely early 2007 model. This car was purchased new at Korum Ford in Puyallup, Washington. I am the third owner, and all owner names are known, for the sake of the car's history.

There are several differences between a standard Mustang GT and a California Special. All 2007 GT/CS cars started as Mustang GT's, which means that they all have a V-8 engine. Both manual and automatic transmissions were available, and mine has an automatic, which is what I wanted for the stop-and-go traffic which is so common around here. The GT/CS cars came standard with a Shelby GT style front airdam, which is 1 1/2 inches lower than the standard GT front airdam. All GT/CS cars have the reflective side stripes with the GT/CS letter cutouts on the front fenders. On the rear quarters, there are side scoops, which are only cosmetic. In back there is a rear diffuser below the bumper in place of the normal valance found on the standard GT. Inside the car is a two-tone interior which is unique to the GT/CS. Two contrasting colors were available, Dove (Gray) and Parchment (Off-White). My car has the Dove contrasting interior. The standard wheels on all GT/CS Mustangs were the 18-inch polished aluminum 5-spoke design, which was also available as an option on the standard GT.

I use my Mustang GT/CS as a part-time daily driver, since I mostly drive my 2008 Ford Ranger FX4/Off Road during the winter months. I also want to keep the miles down, and spreading out the driving duties among multiple vehicles makes it easy to do this. According to the GT/CS website, there were 1,253 Mustang GT/CS coupes built in Redfire in 2007. In 2008, Redfire was replaced by Candy Apple Red, making the Redfire GT/CS a one-year only model in that paint color.

This Mustang GT/CS has been a great car for me. All I have to do is maintain it the same way that Randy did, and that's not easy. For those who know Randy, he maintains his cars at the highest level. When I bought the car from Randy, the license plate said "THKUJIM", a reference to his uncle Jim, which is how he acquired the car. As for myself, I would say "THKURANDY", but that won't fit on a license plate.

At any rate, Thank You, Randy.





