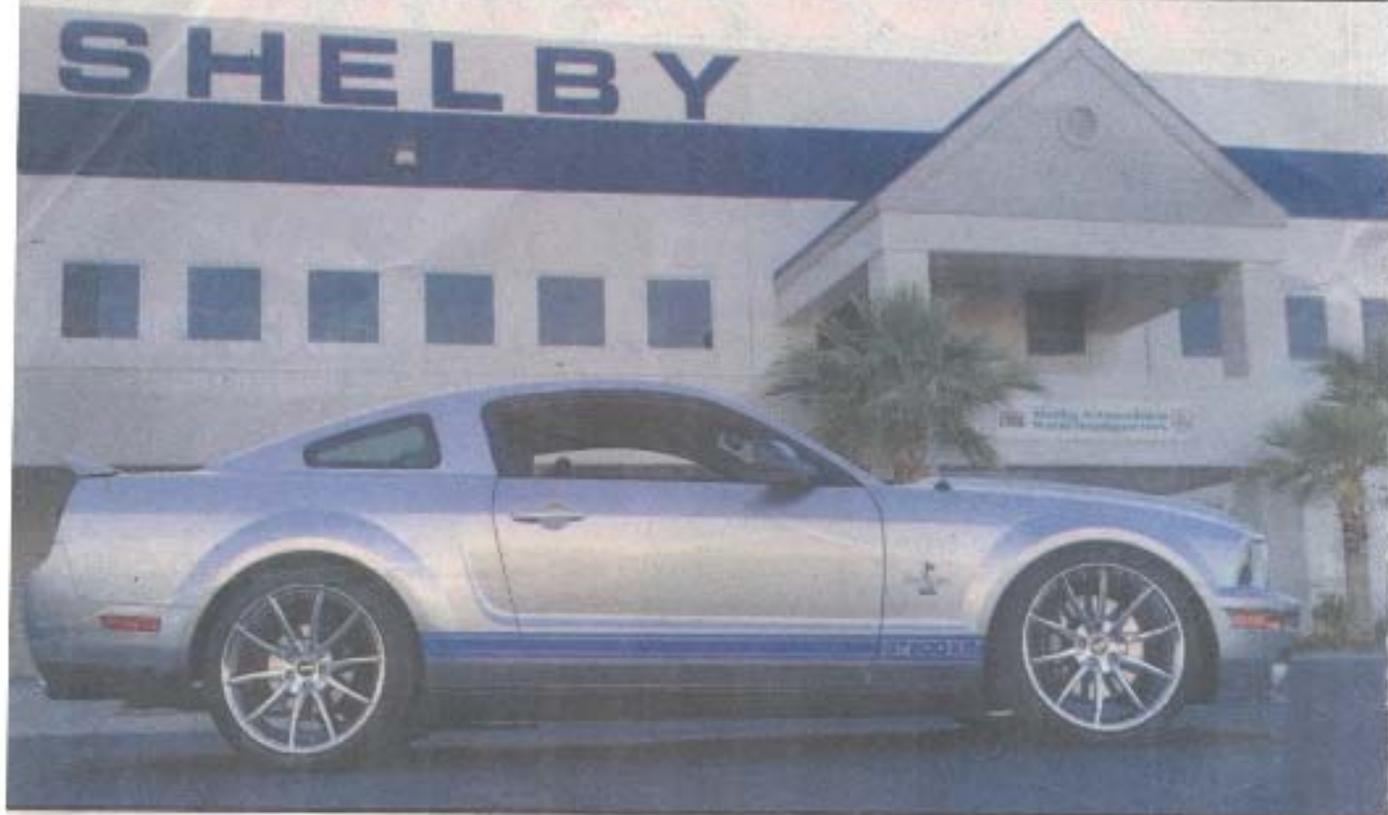


GUIDE TO THE NEW SHELBY MUSTANGS

They're Red Hot
By Jerry Heasley



The new Shelby's are starting to proliferate. Everybody knows about the 2007 GT-500, the GT-H (Hertz), and the latest "KR" series. But, how many enthusiasts know about the CS6, the CS8, the Shelby GT/SC, or even the Super Snake?

Furthermore, which ones are built in Flat Rock, which ones are sold through Ford dealers, and which ones have "post-title" work done to them and what does this mean? Some Shelby's have a CSM plate. CSM stands for Carroll Shelby Mustang, Shelby Automobiles in Las Vegas applies this tag to certain Mustang that come out of their Las Vegas factory.

Let's start at the beginning to make sense of the new millennium Shelby's that are causing a big stir in the marketplace today. This all goes back to the Shelby legacy and brand name that is so valuable today. The Shelby name has become like gold to a Ford product. Carroll is once again breeding a wild stable of Mustangs. Likewise, he has kicked back into gear his Shelby parts program.

Some enthusiasts complain they can't afford a new Shelby. Prices have topped "sticker." It's possible, as in the 1960s, to simply go buy a regular Mustang, either the GT or the 6-cylinder, and go to Shelby for the parts to build your own. For these folks, Shelby brought back his Shelby Performance Parts catalog. Enthusiasts choose from superchargers, wheels, tires, brakes, and aesthetic body kits to turn their factory 2005 and later Mustang into a Shelby performance steed.

This buyer doesn't get a CSM (Carroll Shelby Mustang) plate. But, according to his skill level, this person can have as hot a Mustang as any Shelby in the arsenal.

Next up the ladder is the Shelby GT, on sale at Ford dealers across the country. Carroll assembles the GT at his Las Vegas facility. These cars start out as Mustang GT's, and go to Las Vegas, where Shelby Automobiles turns them into Shelby GT's. Shelby Automobiles applies a CSM plate on the dash and under the hood.

Owners can ship their Shelby GT to the Shelby Auto's "Mod Shop" in Las

Vegas for even more performance. The most popular performance add-on is the supercharger. Shelby changes the lower body side tape stripe to read "GT/SC" in place of simple Shelby GT. The GT/SC becomes a package in itself. Shelby records every SC conversion in its database according to the car's VIN. Enthusiasts can up-fit their Shelby GT further with wheels, tires, brakes, hood, and so on.

As I write, Shelby Autos is setting up "Mod Shops" around the country to cater to owners who would like to modify their 2005 and later Mustangs. The owner back East, for example, won't have to ship his car across country to Las Vegas. Instead, he'll be able to have his "post-title" work done at a shop much closer to his home. Tasca Ford in Rhode Island is one of those Mod Shops.

Pre-title Shelby's, thus far, are the Shelby GT, the GT-500, and the new GT-500 KR for 2008. Shelby calls them "pre-title" because they are sold through Ford dealers. The GT-500 came out in '07. Shelby



The Shelby GT is the volume Mustang in the line-up. Still, production is small at 6,000 units for '07.



Shelby changes the lower body side stripes on the Shelby GT to the GT/SC whenever their Mod Shop installs a supercharger.



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• BLACK
• POLYURETHANE
• 18x8.5 TRAIL
• 5x5.5-16.5
• 2007



C867
• CHROME
• BLACK
• POLYURETHANE
• 17x8.5 TRAIL
• 5x5.5-16.5
• 2007

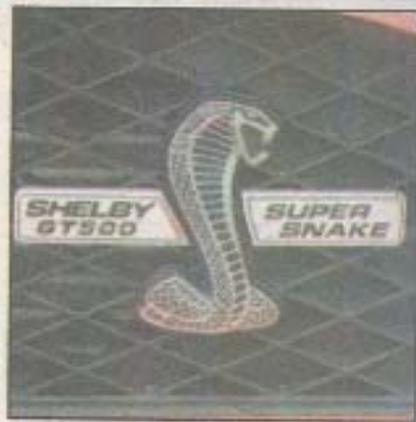


C869
• CHROME
• BLACK
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Autos does not do work to this Shelby at their facility in Las Vegas. So, they don't apply a CSM plate. However, the Ford VIN contains an "S" for Shelby, so these cars are forever documented as Shelby's.

Also, Shelby offers several different packages on the GT-500. First, there is the 40th Anniversary GT-500. For 2008, there is the GT-500 "KR," introduced 40 years to the model year from the original '68 GT-500 "KR." Another new entry is the "Super Snake." It, too, starts life as a GT-500. The customer purchases the GT-500 from their local Ford dealer, then sends the car (post-title) to one of Shelby's Mod Shops for the conversion and application of CSM plates. In addition to the dash and under-hood plates, Shelby also applies the CSM number to the doorsill plates on these very special performance Shelby Mustangs.

Meanwhile, more Shelby Mustangs are on the way. When I visited Shelby Autos in Las Vegas recently, their lot was full of more than 1,400 Mustangs (according to security) awaiting conversions. Some would be Shelby GT's, immediately sent to Ford new car dealers around the country. Others were GT-500s awaiting conversion to Super Snakes, KR's and 40th Anniversary editions.

TOP: The Shelby GT comes with CSM plates. This is the plate under the hood. There is also a CSM consecutive unit number plate on the dash.

TOP MIDDLE: The Shelby GT-R came out as a coupe in '06 and a convertible for '08. The Hertz comes with CSM plates. All cars go to Hertz. Production is very limited at about 500 units for coupe and 500 for convertible.

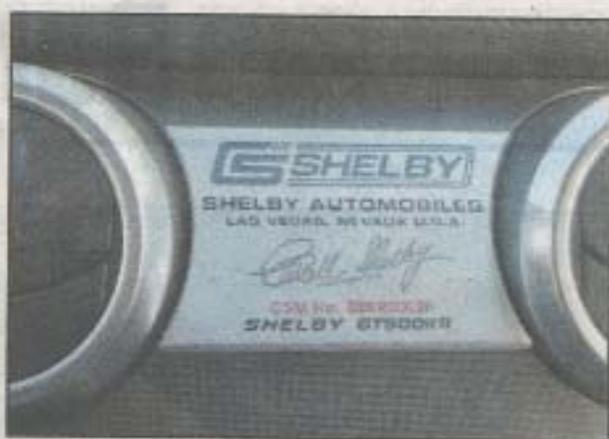
BOTTOM MIDDLE: Customers first buy a GT-500 from their Ford dealer, then send the car "post-title" to Shelby for whatever package they want, such as this 40th Anniversary, soon here in the convertible.

BOTTOM OUTSIDE: Shelby's have really trick pieces, like this grille emblem, that identify the cars.

BOTTOM INSIDE: The 2008 GT-500 KR is also a 40th Anniversary Shelby. Enthusiasts will recall the KR came out in '68, 40 model years prior to this new Shelby.



The "Super Snake" is another "post-title" package built on the GT-500. Shelby applies CSM plates to the dash, under-hood area, and the doorsill plates.



The KR comes with a CSM plate on the dash.



Mod shops build the CSM cars. Shelby is putting together a network of Mod Shops around the country.



Notice the consecutive unit number on this 40th Anniversary GT-500 doorsill plate.

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