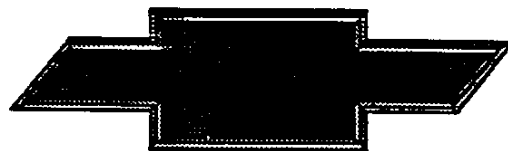
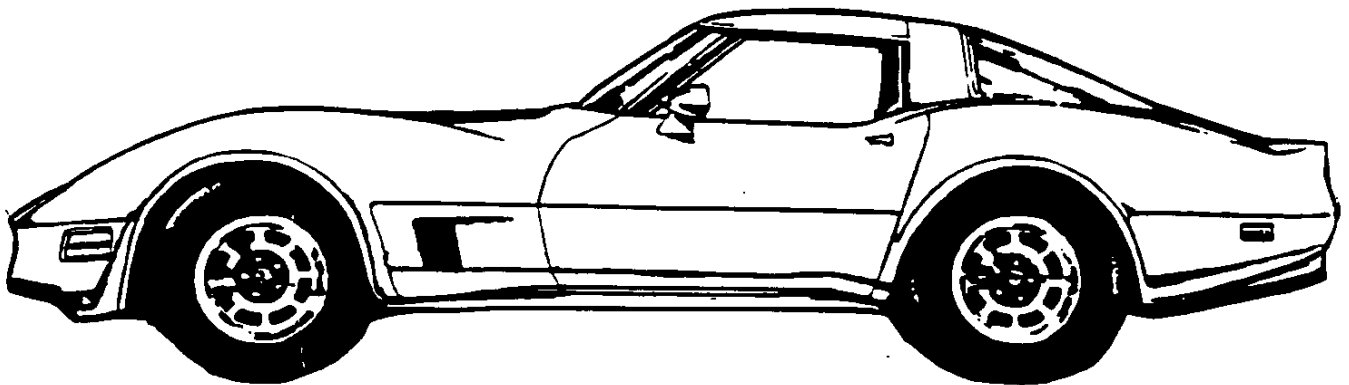




# CORVETTE

**1981  
SPECIFICATIONS**



*GENUINE CHEVROLET*

# CORVETTE

## COLOR AND TRIM SELECTION

PLEASE NOTE: The Exterior and Interior Combinations shown in the charts below and designated as recommended (R) represent the ideal combinations. Those that are shown as acceptable (A), are attractive, but less desirable than the recommended combinations

Interior Trim Color		Dk Blue	Camel	Charcoal	Dk Red	Slvr.Gray
<b>MODEL</b>		<b>SEAT TYPE</b>				
1YY87	Leather Bucket	ADD2	ACC2	AJJ2	ARR2	ALL2
	Cloth Bucket	HDD2	HCC2		HRR2	HLL2

### WITH D84 CUSTOM TWO-TONE PAINT (Accent Color Must be Specified) (D60 NON-RECOMMENDED COLOR COMBINATION NOT PERMITTED)

Exterior Paint Color	Color Code		Accent Color and Ordering Code #	Dk Blue	Camel	Charcoal	Dk Red	Slvr.Gray
	L	U						
Beige	50	50	Dk Bronze (Met) 74M		R			A
Claret (Met)	80	80	Dk Claret (Met) 98M		A		R	A
Silver (Met)	33	33	Dk Blue (Met) 38M	R				A
Silver (Met)	33	33	Charcoal (Met) 39M			R	A	R

= Must be Ordered

### WITHOUT D84 CUSTOM TWO-TONE PAINT

PLEASE NOTE: Orders for additional Interior Trim combinations may be submitted, provided the dealer orders (D60), as verification that the requested combination is definitely desired.

Beige, Corvette	50	50		R	R	R	R	
Blue, Corvette Dark (Met)	38	38		R	R			R
Bronze, Corvette Dark(Mt)	74	74			R			R
Charcoal, Corvette (Met)	39	39			R	R	R	R
Claret, Corvette (Met)	80	80			R		R	R
Claret, Corvette Dark(Mt)	98	98			R		R	R
Silver, Corvette (Met)	33	33		R		R	R	R

L = Lower U = Upper

### PIN STRIPING WITH D84 CUSTOM TWO-TONE PAINT

Exterior Paint Color	Color Code		Accent Color and Ordering Code	Stripe (Included)
	L	U		
Beige (Met)	50	50	Dk Bronze (Met) 74M	Gold
Claret (Met)	80	80	Dk Claret (Met) 98M	Red
Silver (Met)	33	33	Dk Blue (Met) 38M	Blue
Silver (Met)	33	33	Charcoal (Met) 39M	Gray

L = Lower U = Upper

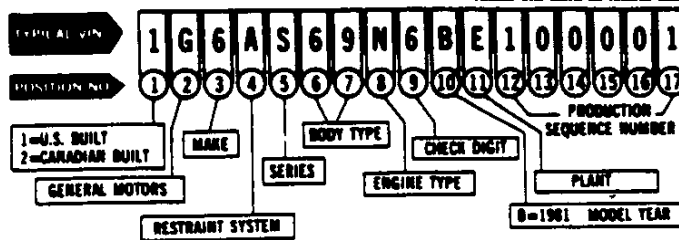
### POWER TEAMS (Refer to next page for option availability and application)

ENGINE OPTION CONDITION	AXLE RATIO	
	2.72	2.87
<b>WITH NA5 STANDARD EMISSIONS</b>		
L81 MM4	Std	—
MX1	—	Std
<b>WITH YF5 CALIFORNIA EMISSIONS</b>		
L81 MM4	Std	—
MX1	Std	G92



## 1981 PASSENGER CAR VIN SYSTEM

TRUCK VIN DATA on reverse side



### 3 MAKE

1-Chevrolet 2-Pontiac	3-Oldsmobile 4-Buick	6-Cadillac 7-GM of Canada
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### 5 CARLINE/SERIES

CHEVROLET	PONTIAC
B - Chevette	D - LeMans
J - Chevette Scooter	F - Grand LeMans
L - Impala	J - Grand Prix
N - Caprice Classic	K - Grand Prix LJ
P - Camaro	L - Catalina
S - Camaro Berlina	M - Bonneville
T - Malibu	P - Grand Prix Brougham
W - Malibu Classic	R - Bonneville Brougham
X - Citation	S - Firebird
Y - Corvette	T - Firebird Esprit
Z - Monte Carlo	V - Firebird Formula
	W - Firebird Trans Am
	Y - Phoenix
	Z - Phoenix LJ
<b>OLDSMOBILE</b>	<b>BUICK</b>
B - Omega	B - Skylark
E - Omega Brougham	C - Skylark Limited
G - Cutlass	D - Skylark Sport
H - Cutlass Brougham	E - Century Wagon
K - Cutlass Catalina	H - Century
L - Delta 88	J - Regal
M - Cutlass Supreme Brougham	K - Regal Sport
N - Delta 88 Royale	L - Century Limited
P - Custom Cruiser	M - Regal Limited
R - Cutlass Supreme	N - LeSabre
V - 98 Luxury	P - LeSabre Limited
W - 98 Regency Brougham	R - LeSabre Estate
X - 98 Regency	V - Electra Estate
Y - Delta 88 Royale Brougham	W - Electra Park Avenue
Z - Toronado Brougham	X - Electra Limited
	Y - Riviera T
	Z - Riviera
<b>GM CANADA ONLY</b>	<b>CADILLAC</b>
B - Acadian	B - Fleetwood
D - Bel Air	Brougham
F - Laurentian	D - DeVille
J - Acadian S	F - Fleetwood Limo
N - Parisienne	L - Eldorado
	S - Seville

### 4 RESTRAINT SYSTEM

- A - Passenger/manual belts
- B - Passenger/automatic belts
- C - Passenger/inflatable

### 6-7 BODY TYPE

07	Coupe 2 Door Hatchback
08	Sedan 2 Door Hatchback
23	Sedan 4 Door Aux. Seat
27	Coupe 2 Door Hatchback
33	Sedan 4 Door Aux. Seat Clr. Pt.
35	Station Wagon 4 Door
37, 67, 67	Coupe 2 Door Hatchback Special
60	Sedan 4 Door Flairback Hatchback
69	Sedan 4 Door Hatchback
87	Coupe 2 Door Flairback Special

### 8 ENGINE TYPE

CODE	DISP	HP	TYPE	VALVES	INDICATED	INDICATED	INDICATED	INDICATED
B	3.0L	700L		1 2 3 4 7			4	
B	5.7L	400L					6	
D	1.8L	DIESEL		1 7		1502U		
F	4.3L	200L					3	
H	5.0L	400L		1 2 3 4 7			1 7	
I	4.4L	200L		1 2 3 4 7			1 7	
K	3.0L	700L					1 2	
L	5.7L	400L					1	
M	5.7L	DIESEL		1 2 3 4 6 7			3	
S	4.3L	700L		2 4 7			2	
T	4.0L	400L					2	
W	4.0L	400L		2 7			2	
X	2.0L	200L		1 2 3 4			1	
Y	5.0L	400L		7 7 4			3	
Z	2.0L	200L					1	
Z	3.0L	400L					4	
A	4.1L	400L		3 4 6			4	
S	2.5L	200L		1 2 3 4			2	
G	5.7L	400L					1	
B	1.6L	200L		1 7				
B	6.0L	DFI					6	
B	6.0L	400L					6	

DFI=DIGITAL FUEL INJECTION  
T=TURBOCHARGED

### 11 PLANT

A	Lansford	CA	M	1-1	Buick	MI	B	Bringington	TX	Z	Ferguson	CA	S	London	OH	
B	Baltimore	MD	I	1	1	1	MI	S	St. Louis	MO	B	Pontiac GMC	MI	6	DuPontville City	OH
C	Southaven	CA	B	1	1	1	MO	Y	Lorain	NY	1	Dallas	OH	7	Lorain	OH
D	Dallas	GA	L	1	1	1	VA	Y	Pontiac GMC	MI	2	St. Thomas	PA	8	Schroeder	LA
E	London	MI	B	1	1	1	MI	W	Whitby	ON	3	Detroit	MI	8	Ford	MI
F	Flint (Chev)	MI	B	1	1	1	OH	Z	Lorain	NY	4	Scranton	OH	9	Detroit	MI
G	Framingham	MA	P	1	1	1	MI	Y	Whitby	ON	5	Bowling Green	OH			

The information shown is correct at time of printing, but may be changed during model year.

# 1981 CORVETTE

Production: 40,606 coupes

## 1981 NUMBERS

**Vehicle:** 1G1AY8764BS400001 thru 1G1AY8764BS431611 (St Louis)  
1G1AY8764B5100001 thru 1G1AY8764B5108995 (B-Green)  
• Ninth digit is a check code and varies.

**Suffix:** ZDA: 350ci, 190hp, mt      ZDC: 350ci, 190hp, mt, ce  
ZDB: 350ci, 190hp, at, ce      ZDD: 350ci, 190hp, at

**Block:** 14010207: All

**Head:** 462624: All

**Carburetor:** Rochester Q-jet #1701228: 350ci, 190hp, mt  
Rochester Q-jet #17081228: 350ci, 190hp, at, ce  
Rochester Q-jet #17081228: 350ci, 190hp, at

**Distributor:** 1103443: All

**Alternator:** 1101075, 1101085, 1103088, 1103091, 1103103

**Abbreviations:** at=automatic transmission, ce=california emissions,  
ci=cubic inch, hp=horsepower, mt=manual transmission.

## 1981 FACTS

- The 1981 Corvette was the first model year to be built simultaneously in two locations. The first Corvette was completed at the new Bowling Green, Kentucky, assembly line on June 1, 1981. The last Corvette to be built at St. Louis was completed on August 1, 1981.
- Although there were no engine options for 1981, the base 350ci, 190hp L81 engine was certified for sale in California, and was available in all states including California with both 4-speed manual and automatic transmissions.
- Exterior styling carried over from 1980, but emblems did change slightly.
- The tubular stainless steel exhaust manifolds, used for 1980 Corvettes sold in California with the LG4 305ci engine, were standard with the 1981 base engine.
- Chevrolet's "computer command control" used on 1980 Corvettes sold in California became standard equipment on all 1981 Corvettes. The system automatically adjusted ignition timing and air-fuel mixture.
- Chevrolet introduced a fiberglass-reinforced monoleaf rear spring for 1981 Corvettes equipped with automatic transmissions and standard suspensions. The plastic spring weighed eight pounds compared to forty-four pounds for the steel unit it replaced.
- The anti-theft alarm system was improved in 1981 by the addition of an ignition interrupt to prevent engine start.
- All 1981 valve covers were magnesium for weight reduction.
- For improved fuel economy, 1981 Corvettes with automatic transmissions had torque converter clutches for second and third gears.
- A detail change to the 1981 Corvette interior was the color-keying of the headlamp and windshield wiper switch bezels to the interior color. In 1980, they were black regardless of interior color.
- The 1981 Corvette was the last model to have a manual transmission available until well into the 1984 production year.
- The St. Louis Corvette assembly plant continued to use lacquer paints through the end of 1981 production in that facility. Meanwhile in Bowling Green, a new paint process was developed which used enamel basecoats followed by clear topcoats.
- A power driver seat became available in Corvettes for the first time in 1981 as RPO A42. It was not available for the passenger side.

## 1981 OPTIONS

RPO#	DESCRIPTION	QTY	RETAIL \$
1YY87	Base Corvette Sport Coupe .....	40,606	\$16,258.52
AIJ3	Power Door Locks .....	36,322	145.00
A42	Power Driver Seat .....	29,200	183.00
CC1	Removable Glass Roof Panels .....	29,095	414.00
C49	Rear Window Defogger .....	36,893	119.00
DG7	Electric Sport Mirrors .....	13,567	117.00
D84	Two-Tone Paint .....	5,352	399.00
FE7	Gymkhana Suspension .....	7,803	57.00
F51	Heavy Duty Shock Absorbers .....	1,128	37.00
G92	Performance Axle Ratio .....	2,400	20.00
K35	Cruise Control .....	32,522	155.00
MM4	4-Speed Manual Transmission .....	5,757	0.00
N90	Aluminum Wheels (4) .....	36,485	428.00
QGR	White Letter SBR Tires, P225/70R15 .....	21,939	72.00
QXH	White Letter SBR Tires, P255/60R15 .....	18,004	491.92
UL5	Radio Delete .....	315	-118.00
UM4	AM-FM Radio, etr stereo with 8-track .....	8,262	386.00
UM5	AM-FM Radio, etr stereo with 8-track/CB .....	792	712.00
UM6	AM-FM Radio, etr stereo with cassette .....	22,892	423.00
UN5	AM-FM Radio, etr stereo with cassette/CB .....	2,349	750.00
U58	AM-FM Radio, stereo .....	5,145	95.00
U75	Power Antenna .....	32,903	55.00
V54	Roof Panel Carrier .....	3,303	135.00
YF5	California Emission Certification .....	4,951	46.00
ZN1	Trailer Package .....	916	110.00

• A 350ci, 190hp engine, 4-speed manual transmission or automatic transmission, T-tops, and leather/vinyl or cloth/vinyl interior trim were included in the base price.

• There were no optional Corvette engines in 1981.

• All optional radios except U58 were new style Delcos with electronic tuned receivers (etr). Available with 8-track, 8-track plus citizens band, cassette, or cassette with citizens band, the radios featured digital station tuning readout and had built-in clocks. If a 1981 Corvette had one of these radios, the standard quartz instrument panel clock was replaced with an oil temperature gauge.

## 1981 COLORS

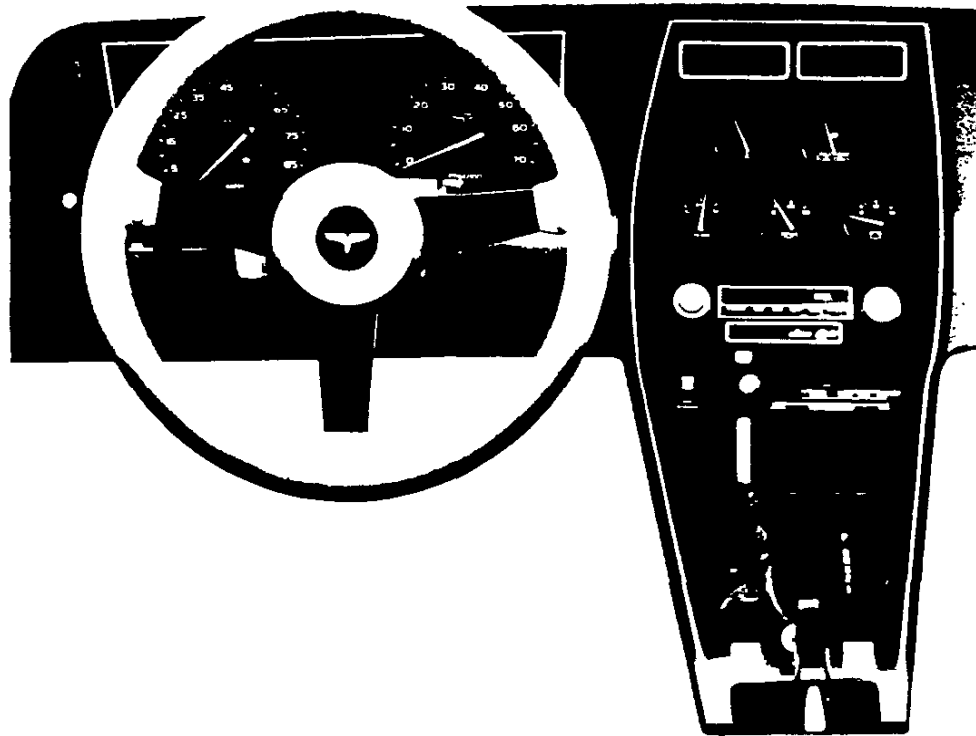
CODE	EXTERIOR	QTY	WHEELS	INTERIORS
06	Mahogany Metallic .....	1,092	Silver	Cm-Dr
10	White .....	6,387	Silver	Ch-Cm-Db-Dr-Mr-Sg
13	Silver Metallic .....	2,590	Silver	Ch-Db-Mr-Sg
19	Black .....	4,712	Silver	Ch-Cm-Dr-Mr-Sg
24	Bright Blue Metallic .....	1	Silver	Ch-Cm-Db-Sg
28	Dark Blue Metallic .....	2,522	Silver	Cm-Db-Mr-Sg
52	Yellow .....	1,031	Silver	Ch-Cm
59	Beige .....	3,842	Silver	Cm-Db-Dr-Mr
75	Red .....	4,310	Silver	Ch-Cm-Mr-Sg
79	Maroon Metallic .....	1,618	Silver	Ch-Cm-Mr-Sg
84	Charcoal Metallic .....	3,485	Silver	Ch-Cm-Mr-Sg
33/38	Silver/Dark Blue .....	—	Silver	Db-Sg
33/39	Silver/Charcoal .....	—	Silver	Ch-Sg
50/74	Beige/Dark Bronze .....	—	Silver	Cm
80/98	Autumn Red/Dark Claret .....	—	Silver	Dr-Sg

• Suggested interiors shown. Other combinations were possible.

• Color quantities shown are for St. Louis production and should not be relied upon as exact because the total is 21 less than actual production. All two-tone combinations were painted at the new Bowling Green facility and precise paint quantity records are not currently available.

• **Interior Codes:** 152=Sg/L, 19C=Ch/C, 192=Ch/L, 29C=Db/C, 292=Db/L, 64C=Cm/C, 642=Cm/L, 67C=Dr/C, 672=Dr/L, 752=Mr/L.

• **Abbreviations:** C=Cloth, Ch=Charcoal, Cm=Camel, Db=Dark Blue, Dr=Dark Red, L=Leather, Mr=Medium Red, Sg=Silver Gray.



Corvette's Unique Instrument Panel

#### INSTRUMENT PANEL FEATURES

AM-FM radio (may be deleted for credit)	S
Tilt-Telescopic steering column includes color-keyed, leather-wrapped 3-spoke steering wheel	S
Column-mounted lever for turn signal and headlight beam	S
Cigarette lighter in ashtray on console	S
Air conditioning and heater controls on console	S
Power window controls on console	S
Quartz Electric clock	S
7000 RPM electronic tachometer	S
Aircraft style voltmeter, temperature, oil pressure and fuel gauges	S
85 mph speedometer with trip odometer	S
Low fuel indicator	S
Headlight-on reminder buzzer	S
Intermittent windshield wiper control	S
Console mounted control for four-speed or automatic transmission	S
Bright accents on dash and console	S
Bright glove compartment door lock	S

S — Standard

### Corvette Color and Trim Combinations

		INTERIOR COLORS					
		SILVER	BLACK	CAMEL	RED	RUST	DK. BLUE
CORVETTE	Cloth Bucket*		X	X		X	X
	Leather Bucket**	X	X	X	X	X	X
EXTERIOR COLOR	CODE						
BEIGE	59			X	X	X	X
BLACK	19	X	X	X	X	X	
DARK BLUE (MET)	28	X		X	X		X
CHARCOAL (MET)	84	X	X	X	X		
MAROON (MET)	79	X	X	X	X		
RED	75	X	X	X	X		
SILVER	13	X	X		X		X
WHITE	10		X	X	X	X	X
YELLOW	52		X	X			

\*Cloth seat cushion and seat back panels \*\*Leather seating surfaces with vinyl side and back panels

See Dealer Order Guide for latest available information.

# BODY FEATURES

## Standard On 1981 Corvette

### Body Structure & Features

- Sturdy frame structure with corrosion-resistant coating
- Corrosion-resistant steel-reinforced fiberglass body
- Energy-absorbing honeycomb cushion front bumper system
- Energy-absorbing rear bumper system with twin hydraulic shock absorbers
- Double-panel door and hood construction
- Tinted glass
- Anti-theft audio alarm system
- Luggage area cover shade
- Single lever roof panel locks
- Concealed dual-speed electric windshield wipers
- Power retractable headlamps with halogen hi-beam inboard units
- Acrylic finish

### Chassis Features

- Power steering helps make parking and maneuvering in city traffic easy
- Power disc brakes at all four wheels
- Automatic transmission or Four-speed fully synchronized manual transmission
- Delcotron generator with built-in solid-state regulator
- High Energy Ignition system
- Coolant recovery system
- Exhaust valve rotators
- Hydraulic valve lifters

- Long recommended service intervals (as specified in Owner's Manual) for oil change, oil filter, spark plugs, chassis lubrication and automatic transmission fluid
- New, longer-life Delco Freedom II battery never needs refilling. Sealed side terminals help prevent corrosion buildup
- Front stabilizer bar
- Limited slip rear axle
- Recirculating ball steering gear with rear mounted linkage
- Fully independent front and rear suspension
- Temperature-controlled auxiliary engine radiator fan
- Early Fuel Evaporation system to hasten engine warm-up
- Tires incorporate tread wear indicator
- Direct double-acting sealed-unit hydraulic shock absorbers
- P225/70R-15 steel-belted radial ply blackwall tires and 15" x 8" wheels

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### Exterior Body Preparation and Paint Processes

1. Dry sand exterior body surfaces, then vacuum to remove dust.
2. Clean all surfaces with solvent.
3. Apply red rubbing putty to fill surfaces, then vacuum to remove excess putty.
4. Spray prime all exterior surfaces.
5. Bake 45 minutes at 275° F.
6. Glaze where necessary with gray putty.
7. Water sand exterior and interior surfaces and dry.
8. Glaze where necessary with gray putty.
9. Spray all exterior and interior surfaces with sealer and dry.
10. Spray acrylic finish over exterior surfaces and air dry for 3 minutes minimum (first finish coat).
11. Bake 30 minutes at 180° F.
12. Cool to room temperature and fill any minor imperfections with resin.
13. Wet sand and fill remaining imperfections with gray putty where necessary, then vacuum body.
14. Spray dark gray primer on any surfaces oversanded.
15. Repeat operation # 10 (for second finish coat).
16. Repeat operation # 10 (for third finish coat).
17. Bake 30 minutes at 180° F and cool to room temperature.
18. Mask off and spray specific areas with black finish.
19. Machine sand using mineral spirits liberally as lubricant.
20. Machine polish body to a high lustre.