

Factory Five FFR 65 Roadster Mark III 2005 review



The Factory Five Racing Mark 3 roadster is a very important component kit. Actually is the most well known ever built. The original FFR roadster was based on the innovation of using running gear from a single modern donor vehicle, namely the high performance Mustang. The concept is actually very simple. All you need is the kit and a 1987-2004 Mustang GT donor car and you have all the part you need to build and drive your car. Over a million Mustangs were built between 1987 and 2004 and the performance aftermarket for these parts is well established. Over the years they have modified the kit to be able to accommodate a variety of engine and suspension choices. Over half of their customers build their kit using engine parts from a donor Mustang.

The Factory Five Racing Mark 3 roadster is the most successful component kit ever built. How can we make such a statement?! The design had humble beginnings in a small shop in Massachusetts in 1995. Since then, the Factory Five roadster has literally taken over the replica industry. It has won more car show awards, battled for more racing wins, received more accolades and recognition from the press, and most importantly, garnered the most loyal customer group of any replica ever.

Engineering and design are at the heart of a quality car. There are huge differences between replicas with respect to design, engineering and the quality of the parts. The Factory Five Mark 3 (Mk3) roadster is made from proven racing materials and is the integration of advanced computer design and state-of-the-art manufacturing methods.

Regardless of how skilled you may be, starting with a kit that is well engineered is most of the battle.

Let's take the time to look at each part and assembly of the Mk3 roadster kit, talk about different running gear options and finally discuss the features and performance of the finished cars. If we tend to get a bit longwinded, it's because we want to make sure you know why we've designed and built things the way we have

The "Donor Car" Concept

Running Gear from 1987-2004 Mustangs

The original FFR Roadster was based on the innovation of using running gear from a single modern donor vehicle, namely the high performance Mustang. The concept is so simple... If you have our kit and a 1987-2004 Mustang GT donor car, you already have all the parts you need to build and drive your car!

We chose the Mustang running gear for a number of reasons, but mostly because it has established itself as the performance bargain of the last two decades. The earlier Mustang 302 V-8 is the exact same block that powered the original vintage AC Cobras and Ford GT-40's to World Championships in the 60's. Over a million Mustangs were built between 1987 and 2004 and the performance aftermarket for these parts is well established.

The "donor car" path is not the only way to build an FFR. You can also bypass donor parts and buy the remaining mechanical parts from a variety of sources both new and used. This adds some expense but is not too hard to do. Over the years we have modified the kit to be able to accommodate a variety of engine, drive-train, and suspension choices. Over half of our customers today build their kit using engine/drivetrain parts from a donor Mustang, whereas the remainder elect to buy all new parts or a combination thereof.