

Century 1994 Repair Manual

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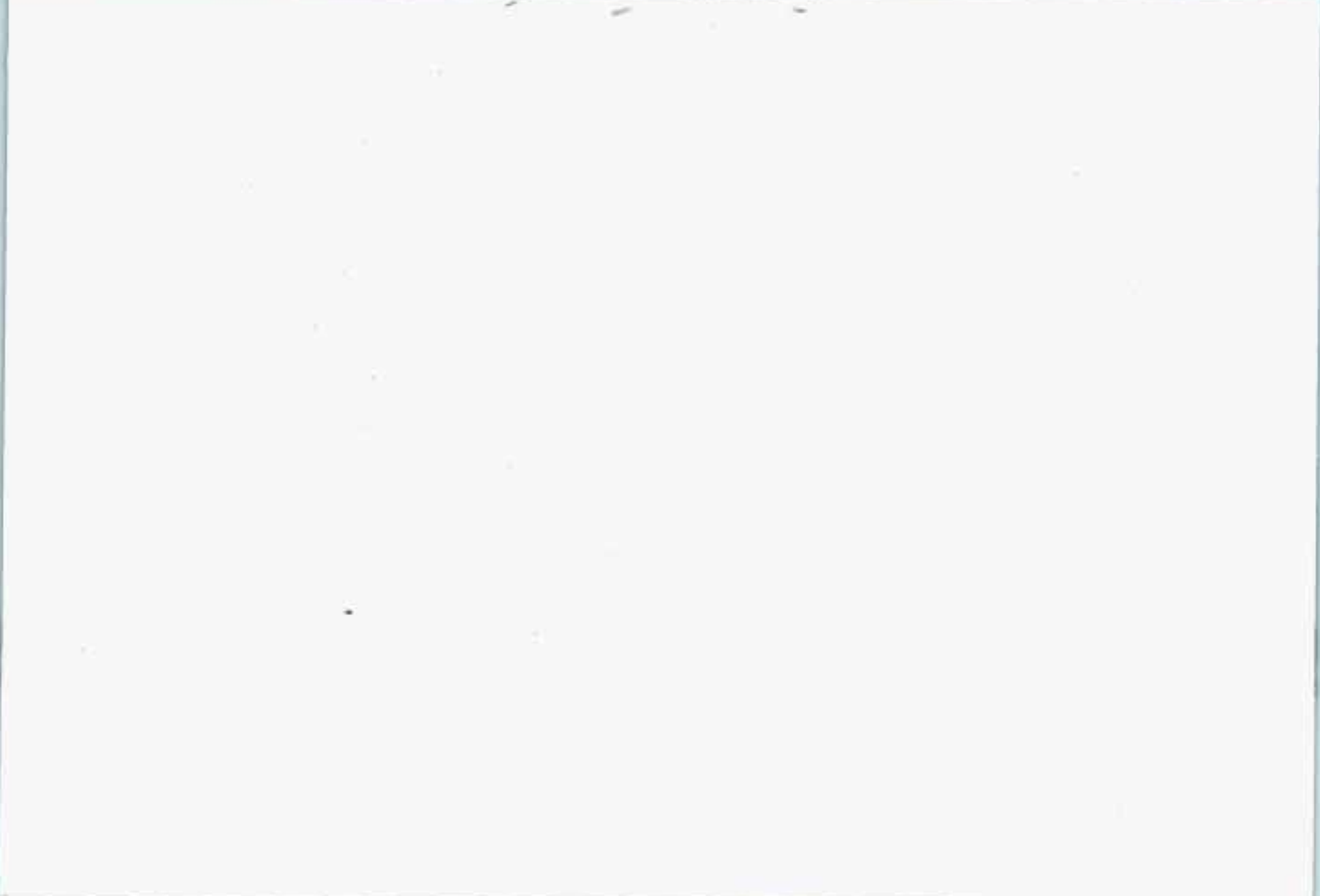


BUICK

PREMIUM AMERICAN
MOTORCARS



Century





The 1994 Buick Century Owner's Manual

Litho in USA
Part No. 25609658 B • First Edition

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This manual includes the latest information at the time it was printed. We reserve the right to make changes in the product after that time without further notice. For vehicles first sold in Canada, substitute the name "General Motors of Canada Limited" for Buick Motor Division whenever it appears in this manual.

Please keep this manual in your Buick, so it will be there if you ever need it when you're on the road. If you sell the vehicle, please leave this manual in it so the new owner can use it.



We support voluntary technician certification.

For Canadian Owners Who Prefer a French Language Manual:

Aux propriétaires canadiens: Vous pouvez vous procurer un exemplaire de ce guide en français chez votre concessionnaire ou au DGN Marketing Services Ltd., 1500 Bonhill Rd., Mississauga, Ontario L5T 1C7.



*1908 Buick
Runabout*

*Buick Motor Division
provides one of the most dramatic
and important chapters in the history
of the American automobile*

Buick



David Dunbar Buick



Walter Marr and Thomas Buick

Buick's chief engineer, Walter L. Marr (left), and Thomas D. Buick, son of founder David Dunbar Buick, drove the first Flint Buick in a successful Flint-Detroit round trip in July 1904.

David Buick was building gasoline engines by 1899, and Marr, his engineer, apparently built the first auto to be called a Buick in 1900. However, Buick traditionally dates its beginnings to 1903. That was the year the company was reorganized, refinanced and moved from Detroit to Flint. Buick has always been a product innovator. Buick engineers developed the

"valve-in-head" engine, a light, powerful and reliable engine which would eventually influence the entire automotive industry.

William C. Durant was instrumental in promoting Buicks across the country using his Durant-Dort Carriage Co. outlets and salespeople as the nucleus of a giant distribution system. He knew the Buick as a "self-seller". If automobiles could be this good, he thought, maybe it was time to switch from the horse and buggy business to automobiles.



William C. (Billy) Durant

At the 1905, New York Auto Show, Durant took orders for 1,000 Buicks before the company had built 40. On Buick's success, Durant created a holding company, September 16, 1908. He called it General Motors.

Durant also created a racing team that won 500 racing trophies in 1909 and 1910, including successes at Indianapolis two years before the Indy 500 began.

The success of Buick engines was visible not only on the race track, but in endurance tests across the country and around the world. Buick was the only car to complete a 1,000-mile Chicago-to-New York race in 1906. And a Buick was the first car to travel across South America, driven from Buenos Aires, Argentina, over the Andes to Santiago, Chile in 1914.



1911 Model 21 Touring Car on Buick's Test Hill

Buick drew plenty of attention because it could climb hills and run through mud like no other car. Buick's endurance and reliability were world famous.

During World War I, Buick built Liberty aircraft engines as well as Red Cross ambulances so successful that one Buick ambulance was awarded the Croix de Guerre by the French government.

As a builder of premier automobiles, Buick was hard hit by the Great Depression. However, new General Manager, Harlow H. Curtice created popular new models including the Special and the Roadmaster. Buick sales soon flourished.



First Buick Factory

In World War II, Buick built aircraft engines, tanks and other military hardware. This post-war period brought great styling and engineering changes which resulted in increased sales. The torque converter automatic transmission, Dynaflo, was introduced in the 1948 Roadmaster. Buick's famous "portholes" came along in 1949.



1949 Roadmaster

A high-compression V-8 engine was introduced in 1953. And Buick's famous vertical pillar "toothy" grille, (introduced in 1942), became more massive in the post-war era.



1953 Skylark

Motor Trend magazine named the 1962 Buick Special, "Car of the Year". The first production V-6 engine was used in the Special.



1962 Buick Special

Built inside the walls of the old buildings in Buick's former Flint complex, which formed the cornerstone of General Motors, Buick City, is a state-of-the-art assembly facility with more than 200 robots and other high-tech equipment. It was completed in the fall of 1985.

Buicks are, and will continue to be, premium American motorcars with smooth power, high performance, rich detail and comfortable accommodation.



Ed Mertz, General Manager, Buick Motor Division

Our mission is simple:

"Buick will provide Premium American Motorcars backed with services that exceed our customers' expectations, throughout the purchase, ownership, service and repurchase experience."

Buicks are SUBSTANTIAL.

Buicks are DISTINCTIVE.

Buicks are POWERFUL.

Buicks are MATURE.



1923 Sport Roadster



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How to Use This Manual

Many people read their owner's manual from beginning to end when they first receive their new vehicle. This will help you learn about the features and controls for your vehicle. In this manual, you'll find that pictures and words work together to explain things quickly.

Safety Warnings and Symbols

You will find a number of safety cautions in this book. We use a box with gray background and the word **CAUTION** to tell you about things that could hurt you if you were to ignore the warning.



In the gray caution area, we tell you what the hazard is. Then we tell you what to do to help avoid or reduce the hazard. Please read these cautions. If you don't, you or others could be hurt.

You will also find a circle with a slash through it in this book.



This safety symbol means "Don't," "Don't do this," or "Don't let this happen."

Vehicle Damage Warnings

Also, in this book you will find these notices:

NOTICE:

In the notice area, we tell you about something that can damage your vehicle. Many times, this damage would not be covered by your warranty, and it could be costly. But the notice will tell you what to do to help avoid the damage.

When you read other manuals, you might see **CAUTION** and **NOTICE** warnings in different colors or in different words.

You'll also see warning labels on your vehicle. They use yellow for cautions, blue for notices and the words **CAUTION** or **NOTICE**.

Vehicle Symbols

These are some of the symbols you may find on your vehicle.

For example, these symbols are used on an original battery:

CAUTION
POSSIBLE
INJURY



PROTECT
EYES BY
SHIELDING



CAUSTIC
BATTERY
ACID COULD
CAUSE
BURNS



AVOID
SPARKS OR
FLAMES



SPARK OR
FLAME
COULD
EXPLODE
BATTERY



These symbols are important for you and your passengers whenever your vehicle is driven:

DOOR LOCK
UNLOCK



FASTEN
SEAT
BELTS



POWER
WINDOW



AIR BAG

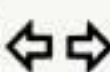


These symbols have to do with your lights:

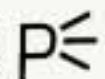
MASTER
LIGHTING
SWITCH



TURN
SIGNALS



PARKING
LIGHTS



HAZARD
WARNING
FLASHER



LIGHTS OR
HIGH BEAM



FOG LAMPS



These symbols are on some of your controls:

WINDSHIELD
WIPER



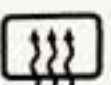
WINDSHIELD
WASHER



WINDSHIELD
DEFROSTER



REAR
WINDOW
DEFOGGER



VENTILATING
FAN



These symbols are used on warning and indicator lights:

ENGINE
COOLANT
TEMP



BATTERY
CHARGING
SYSTEM



BRAKE



RADIATOR
COOLANT



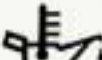
FUEL



ENGINE OIL
PRESSURE



ENGINE OIL
TEMP



ANTILOCK
BRAKE



Here are some other symbols you may see:

FUSE



RADIO
SELECTOR



RADIO
VOLUME



AIR
CONDITIONING



TRUNK
RELEASE



LIGHTER



HORN



SPEAKER





Part 1 Seats and Restraint Systems

Here you'll find information about the seats in your Buick, and how to use your safety belts properly. You can also learn about some things you should **not** do with safety belts.

Part 1 includes:

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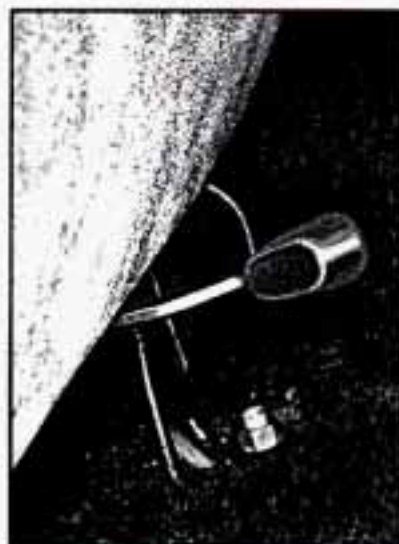
Seats and Seat Controls

This section tells you about the seats—how to adjust them, and also about folding seats, reclining front seatbacks, and head restraints.

Manual Seat

CAUTION:

You can lose control of the vehicle if you try to adjust a manual driver's seat while the vehicle is moving. The sudden movement could startle and confuse you, or make you push a pedal when you don't want to. Adjust the driver's seat only when the vehicle is not moving.



Move the lever under the front seat to the left to unlock it. Slide the seat to where you want it then release the lever to lock. Try to move the seat with your body, to make sure the seat is locked into place.

Power Seat (Option)



The power seat controls are located on the front of the seat. To adjust the power seat:

Front Control (F): Raise the front of the seat by holding the switch up. Hold the switch down to lower the front of the seat.

Center Control (C): Move the seat forward or back by holding the control to the right or left. Raise or lower the seat by holding the control up or down.

Rear Control (R): Raise the rear of the seat by holding the switch up. Hold the switch down to lower the rear of the seat.

Reclining Front Seatback



The switch is located on the front of the seat. To recline the seatback hold the switch up. Hold the switch down to raise the seatback.

But don't have a seatback reclined if your vehicle is moving.



⚠ CAUTION:

Sitting in a reclined position when your vehicle is in motion can be dangerous. Even if you buckle up, your safety belts can't do their job when you're reclined like this.

The shoulder belt can't do its job because it won't be against your body. Instead, it will be in front of you. In a crash you could go into it, receiving neck or other injuries.

The lap belt can't do its job either. In a crash the belt could go up over your abdomen. The belt forces would be there, not at your pelvic bones. This could cause serious internal injuries.

For proper protection when the vehicle is in motion, have the seatback upright. Then sit well back in the seat and wear your safety belt properly.

Head Restraints



Slide the head restraint up or down so that the top of the restraint is closest to the top of your ears.

This position reduces the chance of a neck injury in a crash.

Folding Rear Seats (Wagon)

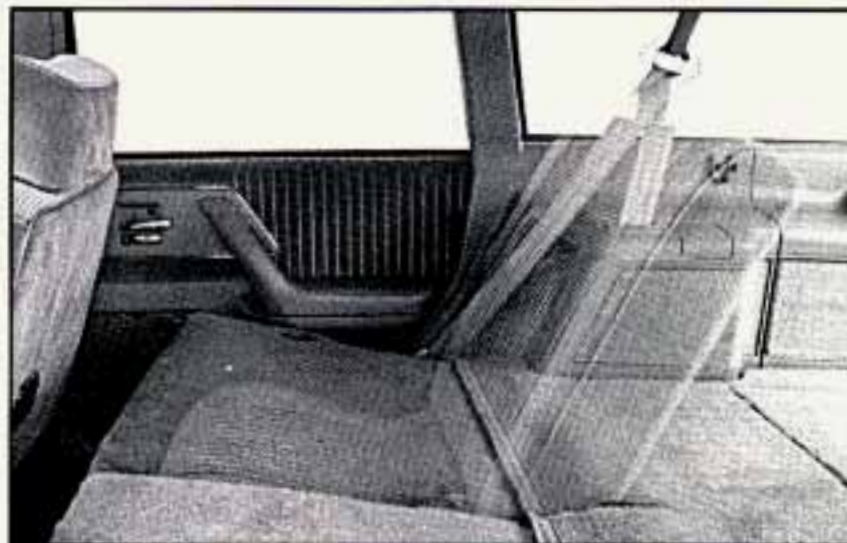
To add more cargo room, the seatbacks of your rear second and optional rear-facing third seats can be easily folded down. Be sure to check your seatback latches now and then by pushing the seatback back and forth. If they do not latch properly, have them checked by your dealer.

Remember to keep safety belts clear of seat hinges and latches so they are not damaged when you raise and lower the seatbacks.

Folding Second Seat



To Lower the Split Second Seatback: Each seat has its own release button. Press the release button and pull the seatback forward and down.



To Raise the Split Second Seatback: Lift the seatback until it locks in the upright position. Push back and forth on the seatback to be sure it is locked in place.