**LS 73-A** (1970) **MERCURY Commuter**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| © year on base: none  scale: 1:72 (not cast on base)  length: 78mm  width: 28mm  height: 23mm  MATCHBOX lettering on base: straight  additional lettering on base: SUPERFAST (straight)  company on base: LESNEY  number on base: 55 OR 73 / 59 OR 73  cast license plate: MC 704-3 (front only) | metal grille & base  tow guide  (A) behind front axle cover  plastic interior with two dogs  black plastic wheels with silver hubs  cream plastic wheel strip (40979-126) |  |

| **#** | **body** | **grille / base** | **interior** | **windows** | **wheels** | **deco** | **base numbers** | **wheel wells** | **roof ribs** | **gas tank** | **sub-var** | **note** | **cate** | **area** | **Mack #** | **Mack date** | **date** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 01 | met. lime | unpainted E | ivory | colorless | 5 slot 10x2mm | none | **55** OR 73 | narrow | no | yes | ssl, ssm, **shl**, hhh, hhl, hhm | #73 |  |  | 01 |  | 1970 |
| f01 | met. lime | unpainted E | ivory | colorless | 5 slot **11**x2mm | none | **55** OR 73 | narrow | no | yes | ssm, (**ssmoc**), ssh, hhh | #73 |  |  |  |  | 1970 |
| f02 | met. lime | unpainted E | ivory | colorless | 5 slot 10x2mm | none | 59 OR 73 | narrow | no | yes | hhm | #73 |  |  |  |  | 1971 |
| 02 | met. lime | unpainted E | ivory | colorless | 5 slot 10x2mm | none | 59 OR 73 | **wide** | no | **no** | ssl, ssm, hhh | #73 |  |  | 02 |  | 1971 |
| f11 | **dk.** met. lime | unpainted E | ivory | colorless | 5 slot 10x2mm | none | 59 OR 73 | **wide** | no | **no** | ssm | #73 |  |  |  |  | 1971 |
| f04 | met. lime | unpainted E | ivory | colorless | 5 slot 10x2mm front, 5 slot **10x4**mm rear | none | 59 OR 73 | **wide** | no | **no** |  | #73 |  |  |  |  | 1971 |
| 03 | met. lime | unpainted E | ivory | colorless | 5 slot **10x4**mm | none | 59 OR 73 | wide | no | **no** | h, l | #73 |  |  | 03 |  | 1971 |
| f06 | met. lime | unpainted E | **cream** | colorless | 5 slot **10x4**mm | none | 59 OR 73 | wide | no | **no** | h | #73 |  |  |  |  | 1971 |
| f05 | red | unpainted E | ivory | colorless | 5 slot **10x2**mm | cow head label (**square** corners) | 59 OR 73 | wide | yes | **no** |  | #73 |  |  |  |  | 1971 |
| 04a | red | unpainted E | ivory | colorless | 5 slot 10x4mm | cow head label (**square** corners) | 59 OR 73 | wide | yes | **no** | h, l, m | #73 |  |  | 04 |  | 1971 |
| 04b | red | unpainted E | ivory | colorless | 5 slot 10x4mm | cow head label (rounded corners) | 59 OR 73 | wide | yes | **no** | h, (l) | #73 |  |  |  |  | 1971 |
| 05 | red | unpainted E | ivory | colorless | 5 slot 10x4mm | cow head label (rounded corners) | 59 OR 73 | wide | yes | yes | (h), (l), m | #73 |  |  | 05 |  | 1972 |
| f07 | **dk.** red | unpainted E | ivory | colorless | 5 slot 10x4mm | cow head label (rounded corners) | 59 OR 73 | wide | yes | yes | l | #73 |  |  |  |  | 1972 |
| f12 | red | unpainted E | ivory | colorless | 5 slot 10x4mm | **none** | 59 OR 73 | wide | yes | **no** | (l) | #73 |  |  |  |  | 1971 |
| f13 | red | unpainted E | ivory | colorless | 5 square **9**x4mm | **none** | 59 OR 73 | wide | yes | **no** | m | #73 |  |  |  |  | 1971 |
| f03 | red | unpainted E | ivory | colorless | 5 slot 10x4mm | **none** | 59 OR 73 | wide | yes | yes |  | #73 |  |  |  |  | 1972 |
| f10 | red | unpainted E | ivory | colorless | 5 slot 10x4mm | **wildcat head** label (from LS 01-B) | 59 OR 73 | wide | yes | **no** |  | #73 |  |  |  |  | 1972 |
| 06 | red | unpainted E | ivory | colorless | 5 slot 10x4mm | **wildcat head** label (from LS 01-B) | 59 OR 73 | wide | yes | yes | m | #73 |  |  | 06 |  | 1972 |
| f08 | red | unpainted E | ivory | colorless | 5 slot 10x4mm | **spotted cat head** label (from LS 01-B) | 59 OR 73 | wide | yes | **no** | h | #73 |  |  |  |  | 1973 |
| f09 | red | unpainted E | ivory | colorless | 5 slot 10x4mm | **spotted cat head** label (from LS 01-B) | 59 OR 73 | wide | yes | yes |  | #73 |  |  |  |  | 1973 |
| 07 | red | **silver-gray** E | ivory | colorless | 5 slot 10x4mm | **spotted cat head** label (from LS 01-B) | 59 OR 73 | wide | yes | yes |  | #73 |  |  | 07 |  | 1973 |

**USA codes:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MB 73-A** |  |  |  |

**UK codes:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **73C** |  |  |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **ROW numbers:** | **73** (1970-1973) |
| **USA numbers:** | **73** (1970-1973) |
| **Other numbers:** | **none** |

**NOTES:**

**Same base as LS 55-A and LS 59-B.**

**The MERCURY baseplate lettering can be found in three different positions (low, medium and high) on all variations.**

**SUB-VARIATIONS:**

| **code** | **front wheels** | **rear wheels** | **MERCURY position** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ssl | solid | solid | low |
| ssm | solid | solid | medium |
| ssh | solid | solid | high |
| shl | solid | hollow | low |
| shm | solid | hollow | medium |
| shh | solid | hollow | high |
| hsl | hollow | solid | low |
| hsm | hollow | solid | medium |
| hsh | hollow | solid | high |
| hhl | hollow | hollow | low |
| hhm | hollow | hollow | medium |
| hhh | hollow | hollow | high |
| l | irrelevant (always hollow) | | low |
| m | irrelevant (always hollow) | | medium |
| h | irrelevant (always hollow) | | high |

**ODDITIES:**

| **code** | **description** |
| --- | --- |
| oa | solid wheels, **hollow** wheel front left only |
| ob | solid wheels, **hollow** wheel front right only |
| oc | solid wheels, **hollow** wheel rear left only |
| od | solid wheels, **hollow** wheel rear right only |
| oe | hollow wheels, **solid** wheel front left only |
| of | hollow wheels, **solid** wheel front right only |
| og | hollow wheels, **solid** wheel rear left only |
| oh | hollow wheels, **solid** wheel rear right only |

**Previous ref.: ⇒ ⇒ ⇒ LR 73-C 1968 MERCURY / MERCURY Commuter**

**Later ref.: ⇒ ⇒ ⇒ BR 73-A MERCURY Commuter**

**⇒ ⇒ ⇒ LS 55-B MERCURY Commuter POLICE CAR**

**BOX TYPES:**

| **#** | **type** | **description** | **note** | **area** | **date** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 01 | F | with NEW, SF model shown, black SF, LESNEY PRODUCTS & CO. LTD. ..., SF on sides, MARK 2 on end flaps |  |  | 1970 |
| 02 | G | with NEW, red TM, "MATCHBOX" IS THE..., SF parallel on sides, MARK 3 on end flaps, no SPECIFICATION... on end flaps |  |  | 1970 |
| 03 | G | with NEW, no TM, "MATCHBOX" IS THE..., SF parallel on sides, MARK 3 on end flaps, no SPECIFICATION... on end flaps |  |  | 1971 |
| 04 | G | with NEW, no TM, "MATCHBOX" IS THE..., SF parallel on sides, MARK 3 on end flaps, SPECIFICATION... on end flaps |  |  | 1972 |
| 05 | G | without NEW, no TM, "MATCHBOX" IS THE..., SF parallel on sides, MARK 3 on end flaps, SPECIFICATION... on end flaps |  |  | 1972/73 |