

# BOOK REVIEW

TAB 2125

\$6.95



## RABBIT DASHER SCIROCCO JETTA Guide to the New VW's

A total review of Volkswagen's new lineup of thrifty sporty cars . . . including details on maintenance and repair, and buying and driving tips!



**Rabbit, Dasher, Scirocco, Jetta: Guide to the New VWs**, by Paul Weissler, Tab Books, Inc., Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17214, 160 pp, 5x8 1/4 in., \$10.95 hardbound, \$6.95 soft-cover.

We may as well start this out with a few words about the publisher: Tab Books sells guides that cover just about every interest known to man; from "General Woodworking" to "Constructing Your Own Home Computer," and from "Basic Gunsmithing" to instructions on "How To Convert Your Car, Van or Pickup To Diesel." Tab prints books the way most people make popcorn, and will send you a free catalog to prove it, showing their over-750 titles currently in print. Don't miss it; the company is a fountain of varied information.

The subject of this review, "Guide to the New VWs," was written by an accomplished journalist who is also an authority in the field. Paul Weissler has turned out a long series of automotive and technical books, together with magazine articles about VWs, over the last couple of decades. He knows his trade, and it shows in the good organization of his material and in the clarity of his descriptions.

Ten chapters, followed by a specifications appendix and an index, make up the contents, and the subject matter is exactly what you would expect—and what you need—to find in a guide to VW's water-cooled variations. Weissler describes the cars' backgrounds and engineering development, then devotes 30 pages to a good rundown on their basic mechanical design. Then, after a chapter on properly driving the new models, he uses most of the remaining three-fourths of the book to discuss their mechanical repair and improvement.

The latter includes "Improving the Early Models," covering the eradication of those well-known carburetor bugs; "Service," "Tune-Up," "Brakes"; and winds up with a couple of solid informative chapters on the diesel.

This is a good, inexpensive guide to the new line of VWs and, while not as exhaustively complete as a factory manual, will go a long way toward letting you become more intimate with that occasionally mysterious water-cooled machine. —Dave Black

## IRRITATED TEXAN

I read and enjoy your magazine, but I have to wonder how you work your miracles. I had a '75 Scirocco (automatic) that I wanted to improve. After seeing your article on the Beck PIS-10 Carb I knew that was what I needed. Added a header too; only \$225 invested. It ran worse, used more gas, ran after I switched it off, and the header leaked. I don't know anyone who knows how to re-jet or any of that "bull," so I had to put my old carb back on. Guess I'll just read your stories, cause I don't have much faith in trying them.

I really would have choked you guys after that "You Build It—Street Legal Super Vee"! What a joke! Us poor slob who have to punch the clock 8 to 5 and raise kids and keep Mommie's car on the road, are going to spend \$5000 for the base frame kit? How about if we're short on time; just \$15,950 for the disassembled roller?

Come on, you guys, give us a project that uses parts from different model cars that we can find in the wrecking yard. Something to gather up and work on. I can weld, do engine work, fiberglass and paint. I have a Corvair buggy, '78 Scirocco, and '71 914-4 that I do all the work on, but some of your stories are cruel and unusual punishment. Please try again, because here is my subscription money and I'll be watching you closely for the next 12 issues.

Gary Young  
Colleyville, Texas

*You should build your own Street Super Vee, Gary. Sounds like you have the skills and if you only work 8-5 you've got plenty of free time. Meanwhile, we're glad you enjoy the magazine and we'll try and do better.*

## ONE VOTE FOR THE OLD

I am writing in response to a letter in "Bug Mail" written by Gary Kimes. In his letter he suggested a library edition of old Bug info. I, too, feel this is a great idea. I am the proud owner of a 1956 sedan and I'm always on the lookout for information on the old Bugs. There are only about 20 vintage Bugs in the Akron area, and parts and info are even rarer.

I really enjoyed the article on Terry's "Split" and shortly thereafter I joined Vintage VW Club of America.

Roy C. McCune  
Akron, Ohio

*We're getting more and more requests, and will try to honor them as soon as possible.*

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DUNE BUGGIES & HOT VWs