

## 2010 Ford Taurus SHO

Taurus is back after a 2-year holiday. Taurus is one of the most recognized car names in the industry. Ford sold a ton of Taurus's and the car became a work horse in the transportation world. Well now the Taurus is back and the car is making a loud statement, "get in, sit down and drive", not because it is a SHO (The high performance version of the Taurus). It all starts when you first look at the cutting edge styling; it looks like it is moving as you walk up to it. It looks bigger than before, but truth be told the roof line is about 3-inches lower, the driving position is lowered by about 2-inches giving the driver and occupants a stylish performance car that can haul five occupants and a lot in the trunk. It looks great from the outside, but inside is where you will find yourself right at home starting with the seating. The seats are made of memory foam which makes for a real comfortable seat. Another feature that was a little strange was the massage system in the bottom of the driver seat, once engage it started massaging one butt cheek at a time, after a while I got pretty comfortable with this feature. Now most manufacturers only treat the driver with the most adjustments and seat features well Ford gave the massage chair to the front passenger as well. You can also get heat and cool in the front seats and you can also heat the rear seats, well maybe not in San Diego, but in Detroit, yes sir! The dash is laid forward and flows from the top to the center console and night driving is reminiscent of being in a fighter jet, lots of lights and very nice looking. If you look close there are a few Mustang touches.

Under the hood is probably the best news, if you listen to my shows on KCBQ AM 1170, The You Auto Know Show you have heard me interview a few Ford folks talking about EcoBoost, twin turbo V6 engine, well this is my first time behind the wheel of an EcoBoost equipped vehicle. Being a die in the wool V8 guy I must admit, I was skeptic of the V6 EcoBoost, well today I'm not, in fact I would probably choose the EcoBoost V6 because of the sophistication of the engine package. This is a 3.5-liter 365 horsepower, 365 pound foot of torque so you don't need those other two gas guzzling cylinders; the power and acceleration are there. Now it may not feel like it has the power, but just glance down at the speedometer and you will be amazed. The 6-speed SelectShift automatic transmission with paddle shift was smooth and really worked well with the engine. Gas mileage was a bonus of 17 city and 25 highway.

Ford is really stepping out when it comes to technology, you have heard of Sync which connects you to the car with voice activation and the ability to tell you where to go, what to eat, restaurant review, what is the price range or maybe a movie. Not only will Sync find you the movie, but give you times and throw in a movie review.

Another feature that should be standard on all vehicles, accident avoidance system which I used while testing the Taurus SHO, heading out to Alpine I was on the back roads and the driver in front of me decided to test my brakes and slammed on his or her brakes and I had to engage a panic stop, before I could touch the brake pedal a bright red strip of lights appeared in the center of the driver side windshield to alert me this guy was stopping. I was amazed! There

are other safety systems on board and a Ford sales rep will be able to explain and show you just how these life saving systems work.

Ford Motor Company is really on a roll, everything they touch turns to gold lately and this Taurus SHO or no SHO is a winner.

I want to thank my buddy Paul Dyke General Manager at El Cajon Ford for the chance to take out a SHO and have it for a few days, sweet!

Oh pricing, I almost forgot only because price has become secondary, but here it is, base price on my 2010 Ford SHO tester was \$37,170 and with a few well positioned options it hit \$42,945 plus tax and license.