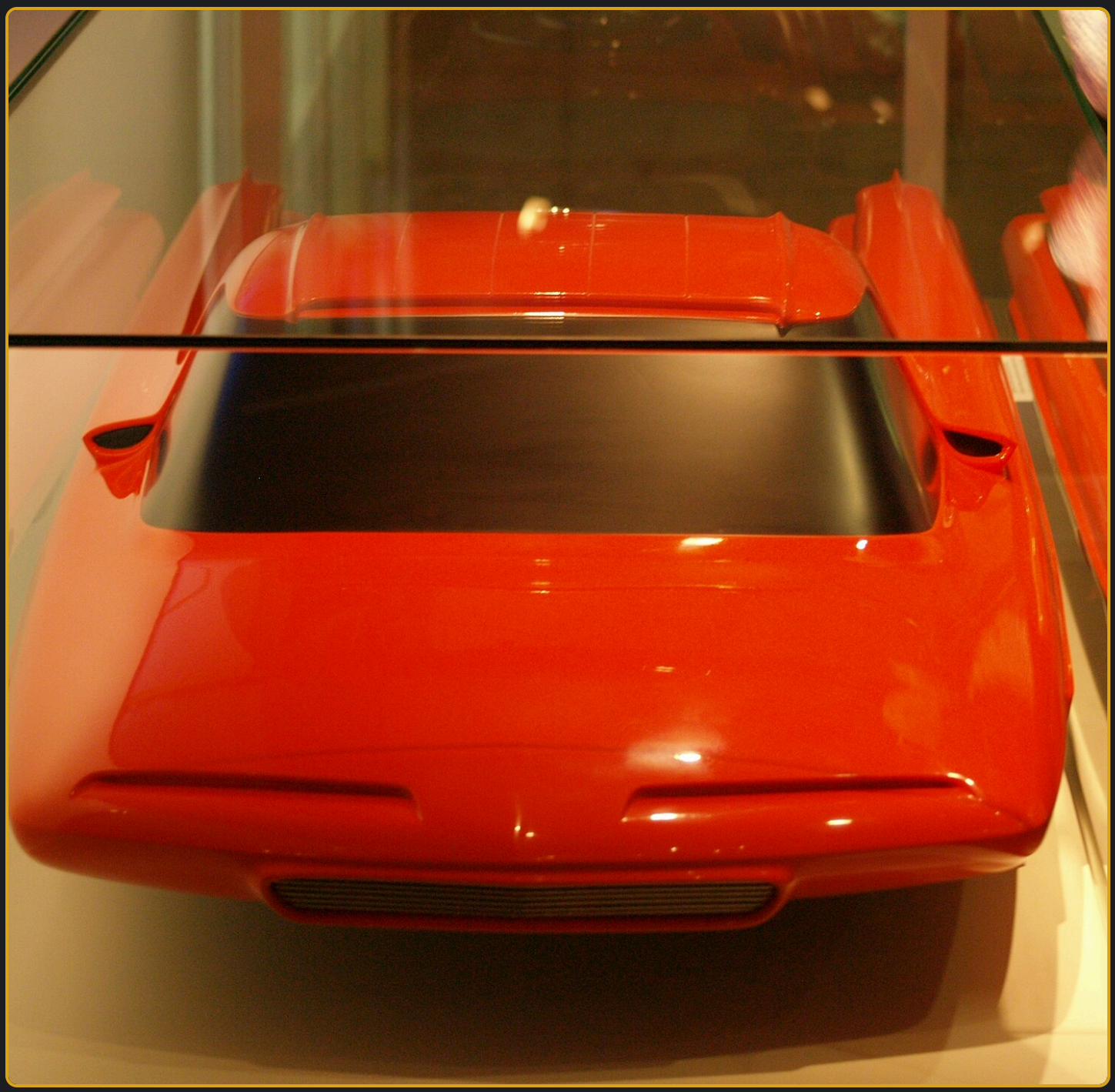
The Ford Nucleon: a free sample

A taste of the Nucleon printables: the scale check, four graded evidence cards and the sources compared.



5 PAGES FREE PERSONAL USE

SAMPLE WORKSHEET

Checking the scale

Excerpt from Nucleon by Numbers

It never went beyond a non-working 3/8-scale model. HENRY FORD BROCHURE We multiplied the museum's model figures THE HENRY FORD by 8/3 and compared them with Hemmings' full-size figures HEMMINGS 2024.

DIMENSION	MODEL (MUSEUM)	OUR MATHS	FULL SIZE (HEMMINGS)
Length	75 in	75 × 8/3 = 200.0 in	more than 200 in
Width	29 in	29 × 8/3 = 77.3 in	77.4 in
Height	15.5 in	15.5 × 8/3 = 41.3 in	41.4 in

The figures agree to within 0.1 in. OUR MATHS

A model, never a car. Ford never built a nuclear-powered car, concept or otherwise. The Nucleon only ever existed as a non-working 3/8-scale model with painted-on windows; it never reached the engineering stage. HEMMINGS 2024 HENRY FORD BROCHURE

YOUR WORKING

SAMPLE CARDS

Evidence cards

Excerpt from The Nucleon: What We Actually Know

Only ever a non-working 3/8 model

A · Museum record

It never went beyond a non-working 3/8-scale model.

HENRY FORD BROCHURE

Why this grade: Museum record; every source agrees.

A core every 5,000 miles

B · Reported

Its reactor core, which Ford called the “power capsule”, was meant to last 5,000 miles, then be swapped at the future version of a filling station. HEMMINGS 2024

Why this grade: Hemmings; the brochure text would confirm.

Shielding of up to 50 tons

C · Speculation

The radiation shielding alone would have made a car far too heavy: some estimates ran to 50 tons.

TIMES COLONIST 2020

Why this grade: “Some estimated”: an unattributed estimate.

On loan in Las Vegas

A · Museum record

When we checked on 9 November 2026, The Henry Ford listed the model as on loan to the Atomic Museum in Las Vegas. THE HENRY FORD

Why this grade: Museum record, dated 9 Nov 2026. Loans change.

SAMPLE TABLE

Where the sources disagree

Excerpt from The Ford Nucleon Reference Guide

TOPIC	ONE SOURCE SAYS	ANOTHER SAYS
Where the model is	on loan, Atomic Museum, Las Vegas (checked 9 Nov 2026) THE HENRY FORD	on display at The Henry Ford (Hemmings, updated 2024) HEMMINGS 2024
Fission or fusion?	fission TIMES COLONIST 2020	left to the scientists HEMMINGS 2018
How the wheels turn	steam turbine TIMES COLONIST 2020	electronic torque converters HEMMINGS 2018

THE FULL NUCLEON PRINTABLES

- **The Ford Nucleon Reference Guide** ($5.99): The atomic age, the designers, how it was meant to work, why it never could, and the model's travels, with sources compared.
- **Nucleon by Numbers** ($4.99): Scale maths, conversions, a model-maker table and print-to-scale 1:32 side and plan outlines.
- **Atomic-Age Concepts Compared** ($4.99): Other atomic-car ideas, three drive theories, the Nucleon vs the X-100, and dated source-vs-source charts.
- **The Nucleon: What We Actually Know** ($4.49): Eighteen graded evidence cards, a dated location file, the brochure, source profiles and open questions.
- **Ford Nucleon Display Posters** ($3.99): Eight frame-ready posters with photos, own drawings and sourced facts.
- **Nucleon Study Journal & Self-Test** ($3.99): Visit and research notes, club discussion questions, true-or-false and a 30-question self-test.
- **The Complete Ford Nucleon Printables Bundle** ($12.99): all six packs plus a bundle guide.

Find them on the shop page at nucleon.motoring.im.

Credits, licence & sources

The small print, kept short

YOUR LICENCE

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PHOTOS

FILE	AUTHOR	LICENCE	SOURCE PAGE
Deutsches Technikmuseum Berlin February 2008 0022.JPG	EmptyTerms	CC BY-SA 3.0	commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Deutsches_Technikmuseum_Berlin_February_2008_0022.JPG

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OUR DRAWINGS

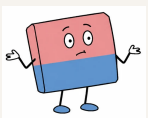
All drawings, charts, cards and layouts are REALLYBYTE's own work. Technical drawings are simplified teaching drawings, not to scale and not copied from any maker's drawing, unless a page says it is drawn to published dimensions. Calculations marked OUR MATHS are ours, worked from the sourced figures shown.

WHERE THE FACTS COME FROM (CHECKED 9 NOVEMBER 2026)

Every fact in this pack was written in our own words and checked against the source pages below on 9 November 2026; the small red labels in the text show which source each fact comes from. Where good sources disagree, we show each one rather than picking a winner. Things that can change, such as where a vehicle is displayed or museum opening details, are given with that date: check before you travel.

Henry Ford brochure · The Henry Ford: "Nucleon, a Glimpse into an Atomic-Powered Future" brochure, 1958: www.thehenryford.org/collections/explore/artifact/403679
The Henry Ford · The Henry Ford: Ford Nucleon scale model, 1958: www.thehenryford.org/collections/explore/artifact/278186
Hemmings 2024 · Hemmings: Cars of Futures Past, Ford Nucleon concept (Kurt Ernst): www.hemmings.com/stories/cars-of-futures-past-ford-nucleon-concept/
Times Colonist 2020 · Times Colonist: Bill Vance, Ford went extra mile with atomic cars (2020): www.timescolonist.com/driving/bill-vance-ford-went-extra-mile-with-atomic-cars-4680109
Hemmings 2018 · Hemmings: 1958 Ford Nucleon (Mike Bumbeck): www.hemmings.com/stories/1958-ford-nucleon/

Not affiliated with or endorsed by Ford Motor Company, The Henry Ford, the Atomic Museum, the Deutsches Technikmuseum, Hemmings, the Times Colonist or any photographer or publisher named here. Names are used only to identify the vehicles, people and organisations discussed. The Nucleon was a non-working 3/8-scale model, never a real or working car.



NEED HELP?

Useless, the network's eraser, can't help: he's busy rubbing out a guide rail. We can. Problems with your file, or spotted something we should fix? Email **info@reallybyte.com**.

Free articles, myths vs facts and every source: nucleon.motoring.im