

## **A Decade of Wide Grins and Turbo Acoustics**

*April 2026*

### *2016 Fiesta ST*

The Fiesta ST is the scrappy, but surprisingly charming German little step-brother of Ford's 2010's performance line-up; always eager to please, with sharp steering input and plucky road manners. I've owned mine for a decade now, and it never fails to put a smile on my face, in spite of life's incessant pleas to grow up and get a "real" job.

It certainly doesn't hurt that it's been upgraded with Garrett's Gen 2 GTX2860r and a suite of supporting mods to help achieve over 300whp and put that to the ground with some semblance of something vaguely similar to traction. Poly motor mounts make daily driving almost unbearable, but the transformation it made to the car dynamics, shift feel, and load change characteristics is undeniable. While it could do with some 200tw tires, once it hooks up, it screams towards a 7300 rpm fuel cut off with 27lbs of boost, and doesn't let up between shifts. The next gear always finds the powerband right where it needs to be.

Cobb's support through their popular Accessport allows for a variety of user selected changes to things like launch control, flat foot shifting, and a comprehensive slip-multiplier-style traction control system. It also allows for monitoring of virtually all of the diagnostic and performance variables that the ecu is capable of configuring and displaying in an easy to understand, fully customizable gauge layout.

To say I've been smitten with this car is to not fully appreciate its sentimental value. When life has been hard, it's been there to play harder; and that, to me, is an invaluable and immeasurable asset that I don't plan on getting rid of anytime in the near future, despite the plethora of more modern, comfortable offerings that have become available.

If you have a chance to pick one up on the used market, don't hesitate! Low mile options are already seeing value creep, which is incredible for a car that's still under 20 years old. It is undeniably a future icon and classic hot-hatch that will be lauded and laughed at for ages. What more could a boyman want, afterall?!

*-Scott Taylor*