

# Best and Worst: Satisfaction, Reliability... and More

Top performers, cheapest to own, and good buys under \$25,000

**F**ROM ON-ROAD testing to nationwide surveys, Consumer Reports covers it all. We put about 70 vehicles through their paces every year at our Connecticut test track. At the same time, each year we reach out to millions of our online and print subscribers, asking them about their experiences.

Here we give you quick, easy-to-digest highlights of our Reliability and Owner Satisfaction surveys; the most and least expensive vehicles to own over five years; performance standouts from our tests; and the best new cars you can buy for under \$25,000.

## BEST & WORST PERFORMERS

Of the 270 vehicles that we've tested in our Ratings, these are the models that stood out for good and bad.

### TOPS IN OUR TESTS

MODEL	ROAD TEST SCORE
Tesla Model S (85 kWh)	99
BMW M235i	98
Mercedes-Benz S550 (AWD)	96
Porsche 911 Carrera S	95
Mercedes-Benz E250 BlueTec (AWD)	93
Chevrolet Corvette Stingray 3LT	92
Chevrolet Impala 2LTZ (3.6)	91
Audi A8 L	91
Audi A6 3.0 Premium Plus Quattro	90
Infiniti Q70 (V6)	90
Audi A7 3.0 TDI	90

### THE LOWEST SCORERS

MODEL	ROAD TEST SCORE
Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Sahara	20
Smart ForTwo Passion	25
Mitsubishi Mirage ES	29
Mitsubishi i-MIEV SE	35
Scion iQ	36
Chevrolet Spark 1LT	42
Scion tC	44
Toyota Yaris LE	47
Toyota Tacoma (V6)	49
Fiat 500L Easy	50

## CARS THAT OWNERS LOVED—AND NOT SO MUCH

Below are the most and least satisfying models from CR's annual owner satisfaction survey, according to subscribers who said they would definitely get the same car again.

TYPE	MOST SATISFYING	LEAST SATISFYING
<b>SUBCOMPACT CAR</b>	Fiat 500	Nissan Versa Sedan
<b>COMPACT CAR</b>	Mazda3 (2.5L)*	Nissan Sentra
<b>MIDSIZED CAR</b>	Mazda6*	Volkswagen Passat (V6)
<b>LARGE CAR</b>	Dodge Charger (V8)	Buick LaCrosse (4-cyl.)
<b>LUXURY COMPACT CAR</b>	BMW 328d (diesel)*	Infiniti Q50 (V6)*
<b>LUXURY MIDSIZED/LARGE CAR</b>	Tesla Model S	Acura RLX*
<b>SPORTY CAR</b>	Chevrolet Corvette Stingray*	Hyundai Genesis Coupe
<b>WAGON</b>	Mercedes-Benz E-Class	Honda Crosstour*
<b>MINIVAN</b>	Honda Odyssey	Mazda5
<b>SMALL SUV</b>	Subaru Forester (nonturbo)*	Jeep Compass
<b>MIDSIZED SUV</b>	Toyota Highlander (V6)*	Nissan Pathfinder
<b>LARGE SUV</b>	Chevrolet Suburban*/GMC Yukon XL*	Nissan Armada
<b>LUXURY COMPACT SUV</b>	Audi Q5 (diesel)*	Land Rover Range Rover Evoque
<b>LUXURY MIDSIZED/LARGE SUV</b>	Porsche Cayenne	Infiniti QX60
<b>PICKUP TRUCK</b>	Ford F-250 & F-350 (diesel)	Nissan Titan

\*Based on one model year of data instead of the typical three newest years.

## MOST EXPENSIVE TO OWN—AND THE CHEAPEST

To determine how much it costs to own each car over five years, we factor in depreciation, fuel cost, loan interest, insurance premiums, sales tax, and maintenance and repairs. We use the national average of 12,000 miles per year to calculate cost.

TYPE	LEAST EXPENSIVE	5-YEAR COST	MOST EXPENSIVE	5-YEAR COST
<b>SUBCOMPACT CAR</b>	Toyota Prius C Two	\$24,000	Hyundai Veloster (base, man.)	\$31,750
<b>COMPACT CAR</b>	Honda Civic Hybrid	28,250	Kia Soul Plus	38,000
<b>MIDSIZED SEDAN</b>	Toyota Camry Hybrid XLE	31,250	Volkswagen Passat SEL Premium (V6)	44,750
<b>LARGE SEDAN</b>	Toyota Avalon Hybrid Limited	41,000	Chevrolet SS	58,750
<b>LUXURY SEDAN</b>	Buick Verano Leather (2.4)	36,750	Mercedes-Benz S550 (AWD)	120,500
<b>SPORTY CAR</b>	Honda Civic Si (man.)	34,000	Porsche 911 Carrera S (man.)	106,750
<b>WAGON/MINIVAN</b>	Mazda5 Grand Touring	36,500	Volvo XC70	51,500
<b>SMALL SUV</b>	Subaru XV Crosstrek Premium	33,500	Jeep Cherokee (V6) Volkswagen Tiguan SEL	47,000
<b>MIDSIZED SUV</b>	Chevrolet Equinox 1LT (4-cyl.)	37,750	Ford Explorer XLT (V6)	53,500
<b>LARGE SUV</b>	Chevrolet Traverse LT	50,000	Chevrolet Suburban LTZ	81,500
<b>LUXURY SUV</b>	Acura RDX	46,500	Land Rover Range Rover (V6)	100,215

# NEW CARS

## RELIABLE NEW CARS: MOST AND LEAST IN 15 CATEGORIES

These are the models that earned the highest and lowest predicted reliability scores in their respective categories, based on CR's 2014 Annual Auto Survey.

VEHICLE TYPE	MOST RELIABLE	LEAST RELIABLE
<b>SUBCOMPACT CAR</b>	Toyota Yaris*	Ford Fiesta
<b>COMPACT CAR</b>	Scion xB	Fiat 500L*
<b>MIDSIZE CAR</b>	Volkswagen Passat (1.8T)*	Nissan Altima (V6)*
<b>LARGE CAR</b>	Kia Cadenza*	Chevrolet Impala (4-cyl.)*
<b>LUXURY COMPACT CAR</b>	Lexus IS 350 Sedan*	Mercedes-Benz CLA250*
<b>LUXURY MIDSIZED/ LARGE CAR</b>	Lexus LS	Mercedes-Benz S-Class*
<b>SPORTY CAR</b>	Honda Civic Si	Subaru BRZ*
<b>WAGON</b>	Audi Allroad*	Honda Crosstour*
<b>MINIVAN</b>	Toyota Sienna (FWD)	Chrysler Town & Country/ Dodge Grand Caravan
<b>SMALL SUV</b>	Mitsubishi Outlander Sport*	Jeep Cherokee (4-cyl.)*
<b>MIDSIZE SUV</b>	Toyota Highlander (V6)*	Nissan Pathfinder
<b>LARGE SUV</b>	Chevrolet Traverse	Ford Flex EcoBoost*
<b>LUXURY COMPACT SUV</b>	Audi Q5 (V6)	Volvo XC60 (6-cyl.)
<b>LUXURY MIDSIZED/ LARGE SUV</b>	Lexus RX	Infiniti QX60
<b>PICKUP TRUCK</b>	Toyota Tundra (V8, 2WD)	Ram 2500 & 3500 (diesel)

\*Based on one model year of data instead of the typical three newest years.

## BEST AND WORST FOR EMERGENCY HANDLING

These are the fastest and slowest models through our avoidance maneuver, which evaluates how capable, secure, and forgiving—or how clumsy a vehicle is.

RANK	BEST	MPH	WORST	MPH
1	Porsche 911 Carrera S	59.5	Ford F-250 Lariat (diesel)	41.5
2	Subaru WRX Premium	59.0	Mercedes-Benz GL350 BlueTec	44.5
3	BMW M235i	58.5	Toyota Tundra SR5	44.5
4	Nissan 370Z Touring	58.0	Chevrolet Tahoe LT	45.0
5	Porsche Boxster (base)	58.0	Ford Expedition Limited EL	45.0
6	Cadillac ATS Luxury	57.5	Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Sahara	45.0
7	Chevrolet Corvette 3LT	57.5	Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT	45.5
8	Chevrolet Spark 1LT	57.5	Toyota Land Cruiser	46.0
9	Ford Fiesta ST	57.0	Honda Pilot EX-L	46.5
10	Scion FR-S	56.5	Nissan Titan SV	46.5



PORSCHE 911



SUBARU WRX



HONDA CIVIC



KIA OPTIMA

## BEST NEW CARS UNDER \$25,000

Sticking to a budget doesn't mean you have to get a mediocre car. These Recommended models, listed alphabetically, have done well in our tests, have average or better reliability, and performed adequately if crash tested.

MODEL	PRICE
<b>SMALL CARS</b>	
Honda Civic EX	\$21,880
Honda Civic Si (manual)	\$23,175
Hyundai Elantra SE (1.8L)	\$19,410
Kia Forte LX (1.8L)	\$19,570
Kia Rio EX	\$17,275
Kia Soul Plus	\$24,115
Mazda3 i Grand Touring (hatchback, 2.0L, manual)	\$24,040
Mazda3 i Touring (2.0L)	\$21,740
Nissan Versa Note SV	\$17,495
Scion xB	\$18,360
Subaru Impreza Premium	\$21,345
Subaru Impreza Sport Premium	\$22,345
Toyota Corolla LE Plus	\$20,652
<b>MIDSIZE SEDANS</b>	
Honda Accord LX (4-cyl.)	\$23,270
Kia Optima LX (2.4)	\$21,885
Mazda6 Sport	\$23,590
Subaru Legacy 2.5i Premium	\$24,837
Toyota Camry LE (4-cyl.)	\$24,089
<b>SMALL SUVS</b>	
Subaru Forester 2.5i	\$24,045
Subaru XV Crosstrek Premium	\$24,215

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