

# Kiplinger's **TEST-DRIVE** scorecard

PERSONAL FINANCE

To fill in section I, go to [kbb.com](http://kbb.com) and click through to the model you're test-driving. You won't find stats for headroom and rear legroom, so make a judgment for each based on your impressions. For section II, judge each car on its performance in four major areas—ride and handling, acceleration and braking, fit and finish, and comfort and convenience. Score zero for unacceptable performance; one point for poor performance; two points for fair; three for average; four for better than average; and five for exceptional. The highest score a car can achieve is 100 points.

## I. SPECS AND PRICING (See [kbb.com](http://kbb.com) for stats and prices)

Make	Model	Year
Body type	Drive <input type="checkbox"/> Front-wheel <input type="checkbox"/> Rear-wheel <input type="checkbox"/> All-wheel	Engine size/cylinders
Horsepower	Torque	Transmission
Sticker price for model tested	Invoice price	Curb weight (lbs.)
Turning circle diameter	Fuel economy (miles per gallon) City Highway	Trunk or cargo capacity (cu. ft.)
Anti-lock brakes? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Optional <input type="checkbox"/> No	Headroom, front	Warranty (basic/power train)  Crash test ratings
Side-impact airbags? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Optional <input type="checkbox"/> No	Headroom, rear	
Side-curtain airbags? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Optional <input type="checkbox"/> No	Legroom, rear	
Traction control? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Optional <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Stability control? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Optional <input type="checkbox"/> No		

## II. TEST RESULTS (Score from zero for unacceptable to five for exceptional)

<b>RIDE AND HANDLING</b>	<b>ACCELERATION AND BRAKING</b>	<b>COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE</b>
Smoothness of engine and transmission _____	Acceleration merging into freeway traffic _____	Dashboard readability and controls accessibility _____
Stability when cornering _____	Passing quickness, 40-60 mph _____	Sound system _____
Smoothness of ride or suspension harshness _____	Hill-climbing power _____	Cup holders and compartments _____
Ability to remain steady on bumpy roads _____	Braking ability _____	Road visibility _____
Steering response; look for minimum lag or delay _____	<b>Subcategory score</b> _____	Peripheral and rear visibility: check obstruction—pillars, headrests _____
Lane-change quickness _____	<b>FIT AND FINISH</b>	Ease of entry and exit _____
<b>Subcategory score</b> _____	Fit and quality of interior and exterior components _____	Seat comfort and legroom _____
	Paint surface smoothness; lower score for imperfections _____	Interior noise level _____
	<b>Subcategory score</b> _____	<b>Subcategory score</b> _____
		<b>TOTAL TEST SCORE</b> _____

## COMMENTS