

About the Used Car Safety Ratings

Your choice of car can make all the difference if you are involved in a crash. Our Used Car Safety Ratings provide you with a crash safety rating that shows how well each vehicle protects its driver from death or serious injury in a crash.

So if you are thinking of buying a car, check out its safety rating. There are lots of safe, less expensive cars to choose from. In fact, some of the most affordable used cars are among the safest.

A Safer Pick could be the difference between you being seriously injured or walking away from a crash. Your vehicle also needs to offer good protection to other road users, such as people walking and cycling, if it collides with them, and can help avoid a crash altogether.

Vehicles identified as a 'Safer Pick' provide excellent protection to their own driver, cause less serious injury to other drivers, pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists in a collision, and have a lower risk of being involved in a crash.

These ratings are based on the latest real world crash data. Many new vehicle models and vehicles with low sales are not covered in these ratings because there is not enough information to accurately rate them.

If you're thinking about buying a vehicle not listed here, search for it on the ANCAP website at ancap.com.au



How these safety ratings are calculated

Safety ratings are created by using vehicle records from over 7 million police-reported road crashes. The vehicle's size and weight, design, and safety features it has, such as airbags and types of seat belts, are all taken into account.

The Driver Protection Ratings show the risk of death or serious injury to the driver of the vehicle in the event of a crash. These ratings do not assess the risk of being involved in the crash in the first place, which can be influenced by vehicle technology, driver behaviour, vehicle condition and the road environment. Factors such as who drives these vehicles or where they are driven were taken into account when analysing the data.

The Driver Protection Ratings have been adjusted for factors such as driver gender and age, type of road user involved, speed limit, number of vehicles involved and the year and location of crash.

Additional ratings are calculated that estimate the injury risk the vehicle poses to other road users in a crash and the likelihood of being involved in a crash based on the crash avoidance features fitted. These ratings are used along with the Driver Protection Rating to designate vehicles as a 'Safer Pick'



Vehicle safety features

Newer vehicles are usually safer than older ones. They provide more protection in a crash as they use high strength materials and have features like improved impact crumple zones and collapsible steering columns. More and more vehicles are also being fitted with features that can help avoid a crash or reduce the severity if a crash does occur. These safety features include:

Autonomous Emergency Braking (AEB), including Pedestrian Detection

Anti-lock Brake System (ABS)

Blind Spot Warning

Brake Assist

Electronic Stability Control (ESC)

Front, side, curtain and knee airbags

Lane departure warning

Seatbelts with pretension devices designed to work with airbags

Traction Control

It makes sense to choose the car that has the greatest number of safety features as they can reduce your risk of death and serious injury in the event of a crash, or can even prevent a crash in the first place. ESC and AEB have been shown to be especially effective in helping to prevent crashes.



Find out more

For more information about buying a safe used vehicle, visit the website or call the phone number of the agency nearest to you:

New Zealand

New Zealand Transport Agency: rightcar.govt.nz
Phone: 0800 699 000

New Zealand Automobile Association: aa.co.nz/ucsr
Phone: 0800 500 333 (option 2)

Australia

Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development: infrastructure.gov.au
Phone: 1800 075 001

New South Wales

NRMA: mynrma.com.au/motoring-services/reviews/safety.htm
Phone: 13 11 22

NSW Centre for Road Safety: roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/stayingsafe/vehiclesafety/safety-ratings.html
Phone: (02) 8202 2200

Queensland

Department of Transport and Main Roads, Queensland: www.tmr.qld.gov.au
Phone 07 3114 5844 or 132 380.

RACQ: RACQ Motoring Advice www.racq.com.au
Phone: (07) 3666 9148

South Australia

Department of Planning, Transport & Infrastructure –
My Licence: <http://mylicence.sa.gov.au/safe-driving-tips/safer-vehicles/buying-a-safe-car>
RAA: <http://www.raa.com.au/motoring-and-road-safety/buying-a-car/used-car-safety-ratings>
Phone: (08) 8202 4689

Victoria

RACV: racv.com.au
Phone: 13 72 28

VicRoads: <https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/safety-and-road-rules/vehicle-safety/buying-a-safe-car/used-car-safety-ratings>
Ph: 13 11 71

Transport Accident Commission: howsafeisyourcar.com.au

Western Australia

RAC: rac.com.au
Phone: 13 17 03

Road Safety Commission: rsc.wa.gov.au
Phone: 1300 999 772



Government of South Australia
Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure



Australian Government
Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development



ROAD SAFETY COMMISSION



New Zealand



For the better



Queensland Government



Used Car Safety Ratings Buyer's Guide

Make the safest choice



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