

MOTORTREND

BI-MONTHLY

MAY 2017

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The GLC Coupe from Mercedes



From the editors dash



Fact Jeke

The first quarter of 2017 saw the success of two international motorshows, the Detroit and the Geneva show. So many concept vehicles have come to life over the years and this year more were showcased. In the next year or so we wait patiently as they hit the markets.

On the home front not much has happened in terms of new models. Personally I have been twiddling my fingers wondering what the next exciting four wheeler I would get to test drive and review. In the next few weeks I am set to do a long drive down south in the all new Land Rover Discovery which has evolved from the initial TD5 back in the early 2000 to date. Almost 20 years of research and development has led to what I will drive in July.

Back to this issue, we have an exciting issue with tips and advice to keep your car going and also brilliant reviews on vehicles which are already on our show-room floors. We are leading with a legendary manufacturer, the Mercedes Benz

with their new addition, the GLC coupe. Imagine a sports car and an SUV all wrapped up in one ... well I drove it and you will enjoy it.

A little over a year ago i test drove the all new Jaguar XF which in all honest is a brilliant sedan fit for the serious executive so if you are an executive shopping around for something not so German, this could be a winner.

The Nissan Patrol has had quite a journey and its presence is always assertive so if its butch and powerful then this could be your match. Emma had an opportunity to rove around in the AWESOME KIA Picanto which is on a serious budget drive. So if its a first time buyer or a nippy office run around, this could apply.

Enough said, keep reading and be safe till next issue, buckle-up!

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Strong contender: Ford Ranger Single Cab 3.2-litre Duratorq TDCi



The Ford Ranger brings a new level of comfort and refinement to its segment without compromising on the rugged capability.

WHEN it comes to having practical fleet Ford has always responded to demand from fleet and small business owners. Ford Ranger brings a new level of comfort and refinement to its segment without compromising on the rugged capability that customers demand. It represents a smarter kind of tough, and will help customers to achieve more, whether at work or with their families.

The current Ranger is one of the toughest, most capable trucks out there. It offers and delivers more than its competitors. When it comes to style and comfort it stands tops and also size does matter, giving you bigger and better performance. In this issue I sit behind the wheel of the single cab which was added to the line up almost three years ago. These two powerful Single Cab derivatives powered by Ford's 3.2-litre diesel powertrain will have your foot trembling on the accelerator. The 3.2TDCi models is available in either 4x2 or 4x4 guise with both offered in XLS specification and mated to a 6-speed manual transmission. Manual never kills the joys of driving especially in a truck with our near to no tar roads these models will add the funk and fun into your fleet.

The 3.2-litre Duratorq TDCi five-cylinder diesel engine offers a substantial 470Nm of torque and power rated at 147kW. The impressive performance does not come at the expense of frugality with both models utilising only 9.3l/100km of fuel on a combined cycle route. Emissions are measured at 245g/100km on both the 4x2 and 4x4 models. Move over Toyota Hilux, there is a new king on the reigns with more to offer.

The Ranger also offers notable towing capabilities with the 4x4 model able to tow up to 3 350kg when fitted with the range topping diesel engine. For farmers and logistic business owners, this will save you time as you can ferry spare parts and tyres without a glitch. Both derivatives can achieve a maximum of 800 millimetres wade depth level while maintaining a steady speed of not more than 7km per hour. For more information and guidelines on driving through water please refer to the Ranger Owners' Manual before attempting such driving conditions. Also your dealer will assist with driver training which will give you more insight. Don't go swimming in small rivers in your Ranger without the right information.

The high belt-line and raised rails of the load box ensure a load box volume of 1.82 cubic metres. Pockets above the wheel wells and along the side of the box allow owners to use timber inserts to carry full sheets of plasterboard or plywood.

The Ranger has been designed to cater to a wide spectrum of customers. Both fleet buyers and small business owners will now be able to take advantage of the greater selection of models on offer while enjoying the quality, fuel efficiency, safety and smart technology that have made the Ranger such a popular choice with most Zimbabweans. Additionally, Ranger 4x4 customers receive free off-road driver training which allows the owners and fleet managers to better understand the vehicle. Remember you cannot fully enjoy something when you do not have adequate knowledge or training.

The 2016 model is now available at the Croco showroom or at Dulys, featuring a new look front end, and a stylish, smart and functional new interior, the new Ranger builds upon a reputation of capability, innovation and comfort that has helped the Ranger to stand apart from traditional pickup trucks. It also boasts an array of new cutting-edge technologies that enable new and more practical solutions to everyday challenges.

To top it off the Ranger has celebrity status having won numerous awards including the International Pick up award 2013. It has taken out the Toyota Hilux and now is the best-selling bakkie currently in Zimbabwe.

If it's an addition to your fleet you are looking for, the Ranger is reputable and capable and available in many derivatives either on double cab, king cab or single cab.

For pricing, finance options and after sales service visit the Croco Motors or Dulys showroom.



The GLC Coupe from Mercedes

Fact Jeke

IN this issue we lead with a vehicle brand which has evolved over the years. It has transitioned and has certainly cemented its mark across all segments. One vehicle which drives through the pages in this issue of the Motor Trend is the new GLC Coupé.

This new kid on the block full of iconic models makes quite an impression as the sports car among the Mercedes Benz SUVs. A standard-fit sports suspension as well as more direct sports steering, dynamic select and 4MATIC permanent all-wheel drive with 9G-TRONIC nine-speed automatic transmission combine effortlessly superior ride comfort with decidedly sporty agility.

When I had a chat about the new additions with Louissa Crossley Evans I could not help it but be captivated by this young woman knowledge and love of the brand.

She took me step by step on what they at Zimoco have achieved over the years and the product offering that has seen the light and rewritten the history of the brand with the many success stories. The GLC on the other hand is set to not only turn heads but strongly compete for its rightful position as an all round contender, 100 percent SUV & 100 percent Sports car.

The GLC comes with optional two suspension variants with continuously adjustable damping: the new dynamic body control with steel springing as well as the air body control multi-chamber air suspension. The distinct sportiness and dynamism is enriched with the high safety and state-of-the-art assistance systems so characteristic of the brand.

The combination of multifunctional SUV and dynamic coupé world neatly fuses emotion with intelligence.

With an exterior length of 4,73 metres, a height of 1.60 metres and a wheelbase of 2,87 metres, the GLC Coupé is dynamic and compact in appearance. This makes the coupé almost eight centimetres longer and some four centimetres lower than the multi-talented GLC, with which it shares its basic architecture. The GLC Coupé owes its distinct character to a characteristically coupé-esque, single-louvre diamond radiator grille and a restyled, dropping roof-line. The A pillar is less steeply raked, while the continuation of the roof outline is lower, terminating in the elegantly flowing, muscular tail end characteristic of a coupé.

The striking features of the front end are its dominant, steeply raked diamond radiator grille with a single louvre and integral star, short overhang and SUV inspired chromed underguard.

The innovative headlamp concept, optionally in LED High Performance technology, sports the now characteristic Mercedes-Benz light signature. A striking injection of sports car genes is provided by the large lateral air inlets.

A clear clue to the vehicle's distinctive SUV heritage is given by the optionally available side running boards. Flush with the outer edge of the body, wide wheels up to a size of 50,8 centimetres (20 inches) together with ample ground clearance underpin the GLC Coupé's sporty, dynamic ambitions on unpaved tracks and unsurfaced roads.

The styling of the tail end gives added emphasis to the vehicle's coupé genes. With its pronounced shoulders, muscular bumper design with integral exhaust tailpipe trims and underguard in the form of a diffuser, the wide tail end of the GLC Coupé underlines the vehicle's athletic looks. This enables the coupé to hug the road.

Narrow, split tail lights, a centrally positioned brand star and a sharp spoiler lip reflect a design that made its debut with the S-Class Coupé and which all Mercedes-Benz coupé models have since followed. Relocated to the lower section of the bumper, the number plate as well as the characteristic form of the rear window with its rounded upper area, are among the further stylistic features. The rear window dispenses with a wiper, as the airflow does not break away until after the spoiler lip, which means that water is unable to strike the rear window. Like the headlamps, the night design of the LED tail lights sports the hallmark light signature of Mercedes-Benz.

However sporty and aesthetically appealing, the dynamic GLC Coupé also impresses with some practical features too. With a capacity of 491 to 1 400 litres, the load compartment leads this market segment. The availability of space in both front and rear puts the GLC Coupé on a par with the GLC in terms of comfort. Entrance height, shoulder room, elbow room and legroom are all identical.

In keeping with the Mercedes-Benz tradition, the body forms the foundation for exemplary crash safety. A high-strength safety passenger compartment forms the core of this concept. It is surrounded by specifically designed and crash-tested deformation zones, which ensure the best possible occupant safety by virtue of optimised force paths and a combination of die-cast aluminium components and ultra-high-strength materials.

In addition to three-point safety belts with pyrotechnical and reversible belt tensioning and belt-force limitation for driver, front passenger and those in the outer rear seats, numerous airbags serve to protect the vehicle's occupants in an accident. These include combined thorax/pelvis side bags for driver and front passenger and an optimised window bag extending over both seat rows, optional side bags for the outer rear seats and a driver knee bag.

So if its safety, reliability and class you are after, then this is you perfect fit. Visit ZIMOCO dealership and get to test drive and buy one.



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Awesomeness on a budget - Kia Picanto

Fact Jeke

THE year 2011 marked the debut of the second generation Kia Picanto. Six years on the same second generation has received cosmetic changes, which will have you yearning to drive this vehicle.

Completely redesigned, the new model – proudly featuring Kia’s iconic ‘tiger nose’ grille – moved the Picanto from ‘cute’ and ‘friendly’ to ‘mature’ and ‘handsome’, combining sporty styling, a high quality interior, stronger and efficient engines and exceptional levels of standard equipment to create a car that is, quite simply, awesome.

The Picanto was born from a simple idea: an affordable car should make no compromises on styling, features or technology. Currently with the tightening of events and everything in our economy one needs to have peace of mind and not add additional costs. Fuel and heavy maintenance costs are a big no and this vehicle will be the perfect run around. Sales people, junior managers and first time buyers will thoroughly enjoy it.

The all-awesome Picanto now looks even sportier and sexier, confidently showing off the design and features that has garnered it multiple awards in the past four years. And with the latest Picanto, Kia Motors has proven that ‘affordable’ can also be ‘awesome’.

In South Africa, the Picanto took top honours in the People’s Wheels Awards for three years in a row (2011, 2012 and 2013), has won numerous ‘Best Buy’ awards from multiple major publications,

and was elected a finalist in the 2012 WesBank / SAGMJ Car of the Year competition, widely considered the most prestigious competition on the South African motoring calendar. So you are buying a vehicle with a winning status.

While the two-model Picanto line-up remains unchanged, enhancements to the exterior endow it with a sportier, sexier face thanks to a revised ‘tiger nose’ grille and a restyled front bumper.

The new grille is slightly larger, and features a silver painted bezel surrounded by beveled edges for a more expressive, three-dimensional visage. The ‘tiger nose’ on the range topping EX model also features red bordering to separate the bezel from the black mesh grille, emphasizing its sporty appearance.

The new bumper incorporates a smaller kidney grille separated from the lower air intake, which is now narrower and positioned lower. The fog lamps are larger, as are the integrated fog lamp housings.

The Picanto’s strongly sculpted, dynamic side profile and uncluttered rear styling remains unchanged. The 1.0 LX ships with 14-inch steel wheels with full wheel covers, while the 1.2 EX features sporty 14-inch alloys.

Two of KIA Motor Corporation’s efficient Kappa engines do duty in the all-awesome Picanto, starting with three-cylinder, 998 cc unit producing 51 kW and 94 Nm of torque in the 1.0 LX. A four-cylinder,

1248 cc engine is utilized in the range-topping 1.2 EX, producing 65 kW and 120 Nm of torque. Both engines are mated to a five-speed manual transmission, but a four-speed automatic transmission is available as an option.

This combination of technologies has resulted in significantly reduced exhaust emissions, while allowing the Picanto range fuel excellent economy.

The Picanto’s high quality interior has reflected the range’s newfound maturity since its debut in 2011, and this remains one of the Picanto’s major selling points. Major controls are arranged in an attractive, easy to use layout, while the thick rimmed, uniquely designed, two-spoke steering wheel and the signature Kia ‘three cylinder’ instrument cluster continues to reflect the consistency with which Kia’s new design philosophy is being used throughout the brand’s product line-up.

Features available on both models include manual air-conditioning, an under-floor trunk storage box, retractable dual cup holders and sun visors with vanity mirrors, as well as AUX/iPod/USB connections for the radio CD player with MP3 compatibility (the EX also sports steering wheel mounted controls and hands-free Bluetooth. You can talk on the phone and drive without worrying about our boys in grey.

The 1.0 LX and 1.2 EX boasts driver and passenger airbags. ABS anti-lock braking is standard on the 1.2 EX, as is an ESS (Emergency Stop Signal) system. Sensors detect when the driver is braking suddenly and hard, and then flash the brake lights three times to alert motorists behind you that the car is slowing rapidly.

A best buy under US\$20 000, for availability contact KIA Zimbabwe for this awesome Kia Picanto.

*Additional Source: KIA SSA

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THE ART OF PERFORMANCE

Tips on beating your car budget blues



Keeping the car in a roadworthy condition is always a sound proactive investment

CARS always respond to a bit of care. However, having a car always ready to roll, means looking after the basics. The reward is a personal budget that automatically begins to look a bit healthier.

- Look after the basics:**
Make a walk around your car a regular event. Check tyre wear and pressures, oil and water levels, lights, indicators and even windscreen wipers for wear and tear. Wipers may look Ok, but if they scratch the windscreen severely and impact vision, this could have a negative impact on your budget.
Keeping the car in a roadworthy condition is always a sound proactive investment.
- Follow your service schedule:**
It may be tempting to think about skipping a service. Don't. Service intervals are calculated to ensure that vehicles are optimally maintained and that belts, plugs, filters and oil are replaced before they start placing strain on an engine. Leave them in for too long and your car's performance will drop off and fuel costs will increase. And, of course, there is always the danger of more expensive damage occurring.
- Don't be tempted to buy counterfeit replacement parts:**
If a spare part costs 90 percent less than the branded and boxed original manufacturer's part, there is a reason for this. Don't let a moment of joy at a parts counter translate into hours stuck on the road in the middle of nowhere.
Branded parts, as well as those carrying Standard Association of Zimbabwe's ratings, are guarantees of quality. At the very least you won't be replacing parts as often as you would be if you bought parts with a lower life expectancy.
- Remember that peace of mind comes with physical dealer presence:**
Finding yourself stuck on the side of the road with the nearest dealer 250 kilometres or more away could ruin your day and also improve the financial prospects of a tow-truck driver.



Pushing the boundaries – Nissan Patrol

Emma Borerwe

The story began in Japan in 1951 with the introduction of the butch and robust Nissan Patrol. Last year saw the unveiling and introduction of the sixth generation with more advanced technology and innovation giving its competitors stiffer competition. Present day Zimbabwe sees a few of those on our city streets at a competitive price tag of under US\$130 000 making it the cheaper than its competitor, the Toyota Land Cruiser. Admire Ndumo who is the sales and marketing manager at Nissan Clover Leaf sees the vehicle as a strong contender in the large SUV segment, giving practicality and neat pricing.

The Nissan Patrol's VK56VD 5.6 litre V8 engine, an engine that's the most powerful in its class but still boasts remarkable fuel efficiency, lets you go where others don't dare. With its 298kW of power and a beyond exceptional 560Nm of torque, even the most unwelcoming terrain can be tamed. Go forth and conquer as you drive down the toughest terrains in Zimbabwe.

A significant face-lift has been around for three years now, with revised tail lights and built-in LED headlights. New tan interior was added and new sets of wheels.

This latest evolution of a 4x4 legend has a new look outside and in. While adding new levels of style and refinement to the journey, the new Patrol maintains its authentic heritage, and is as tough and unstoppable as ever. Distinctive styling. Rugged strength. Exceptional on and off-road agility. Transcending expectations. Pushing boundaries. Shifting horizons that's the Patrol for you.

The Nissan Patrol infuses rugged heritage with distinct style perfect for the senior executive. Its intrinsic capability to conquer any surface and its smooth, extrinsic finish creates the perfect balance between its ability to be tough, as well as aesthetically impressive.

The legendary design coupled with its on and off-road capability, makes this vehicle a perfect example of superb 4x4 engineering. Not everything about the Nissan Patrol is rugged and tough. In fact, climb inside and you'll find a refreshing degree of opulence and excellent styling.

A two-tone finish complements the curvy dashboard, with a 4-dial instrument panel that is easy to read at a glance. The seats have been re-designed to provide greater comfort and support. Revel in the indulgence of leather trim, brushed aluminium dial surrounds and a classic woodgrain effect. All passenger-facing surfaces incorporate soft-feel material, which enhances the luxury of the cabin. Add electrically powered front seats, automatic front and rear climate control, 6 CD in-dash audio, cruise control and a sunroof, and you get an interior that will take you through the harshest terrain in the lap of luxury.

Space and seating were designed with comfort and adaptability firmly in mind.

With up to 2226 litres to swallow whatever equipment or luggage you may need, load space is something you'll never have to worry about again. Then there's the highly adjustable rear seat configuration - seven seats, three rows, split, reclining, folding. And armrests, cool drink holders, and deep door pockets. For your family's every need and comfort.

When the going gets tough, get going in a Nissan Patrol. Climb a 39° gradient. You can wade through 700mm of water. Taking the rough with the smooth, the Nissan Patrol's all steel body on a strong ladder frame chassis, highly articulated suspension and flexible four-wheel drive system make it relentless. The Nissan Patrol's superior handling is enhanced with all-round, multi-link suspension, which provides reassuring high-speed stability with a calm and supple ride on-road. Heavy duty coil springs smooth out the bumps and boulders for excellent durability and ride comfort. Add telescopic front and rear shock absorbers and stabiliser bars for improved cornering, and you get the confidence that comes with authentic off-road power and performance.

The Anti lock Braking System (ABS) detects what sort of surface the Nissan Patrol is on, and automatically adjusts itself to best handle the situation should you have to brake suddenly. What's more, the actual construction of the Nissan Patrol is geared towards safety and ride comfort - whatever the ride.

To make this vehicle stand out on safety, about 90 percent of driver information is visual. The Nissan Patrol's commanding road height, multi-reflector halogen headlamps and excellent instrument visibility will help you to anticipate potentially hazardous situations and make accurate decisions to avert them.

In the event of collision, the Nissan Patrol is engineered to maximise your protection and reduce or avoid injury from impact as well as secondary injury risk just after impact.

Dual front airbags inflate in milliseconds to provide an extra margin of protection for the driver and front passenger. Safety and practicality first with Nissan.

Additional source: Nissan Global & SSA



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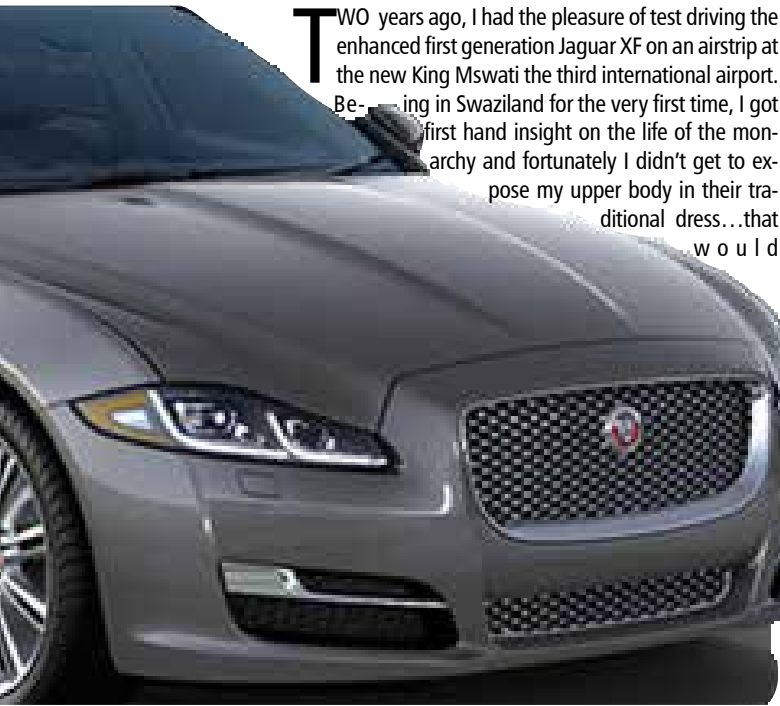
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Jaguar XF: Dynamic luxury business sedan



TWO years ago, I had the pleasure of test driving the enhanced first generation Jaguar XF on an airstrip at the new King Mswati the third international airport. Being in Swaziland for the very first time, I got first hand insight on the life of the monarchy and fortunately I didn't get to expose my upper body in their traditional dress...that would

have been serious cause for controversy since I'm usually the only female enthusiast at these events. Though the model year 14,5 of the Jaguar XF was an experience to remember, February 2016 marked the beginning of a new era for the Jaguar XF with the introduction of a fun and more competitive and improved second generation XF.

When I test drove XF – R sport down the N1 in Johannesburg South Africa, the heightened adrenalin rush made it obvious that I was not driving but was being transported through time...it felt futuristic. The new improved and revolutionised XF is one of those things, say hello to the future. With more features to enhance performance and also the navigation Jaguar is fast becoming the only option when it comes to luxury and practicality. With five derivatives to choose from and over a hundred options in specifications to choose from the all new second generation Jaguar XF redefines saloon class and sophistication in the Jaguar stable.

The XF continues to offer a compelling blend of style, performance and refinement, and the changes effected from second generation XF. For the Jaguar brand, 2015 was the best ever full year global sales and this has been the case over the last six years were sales growth are concerned. The ingenium engines also add to the exceptionalism of the brand with five billion dollars in investment. The brand is also expanding with new operations being opened in eight countries and adding another three by mid-year.

The new generation XF is a celebrity of note with twenty local and international awards including world luxury car finalist. Ooooh lala, it keeps getting better. Competitor landscape includes the 5 series from BMW, the Audi A6 and

the Mercedes E-class. Now to the vehicle specifics which will get you taking out your cheque book and booking for a test drive.

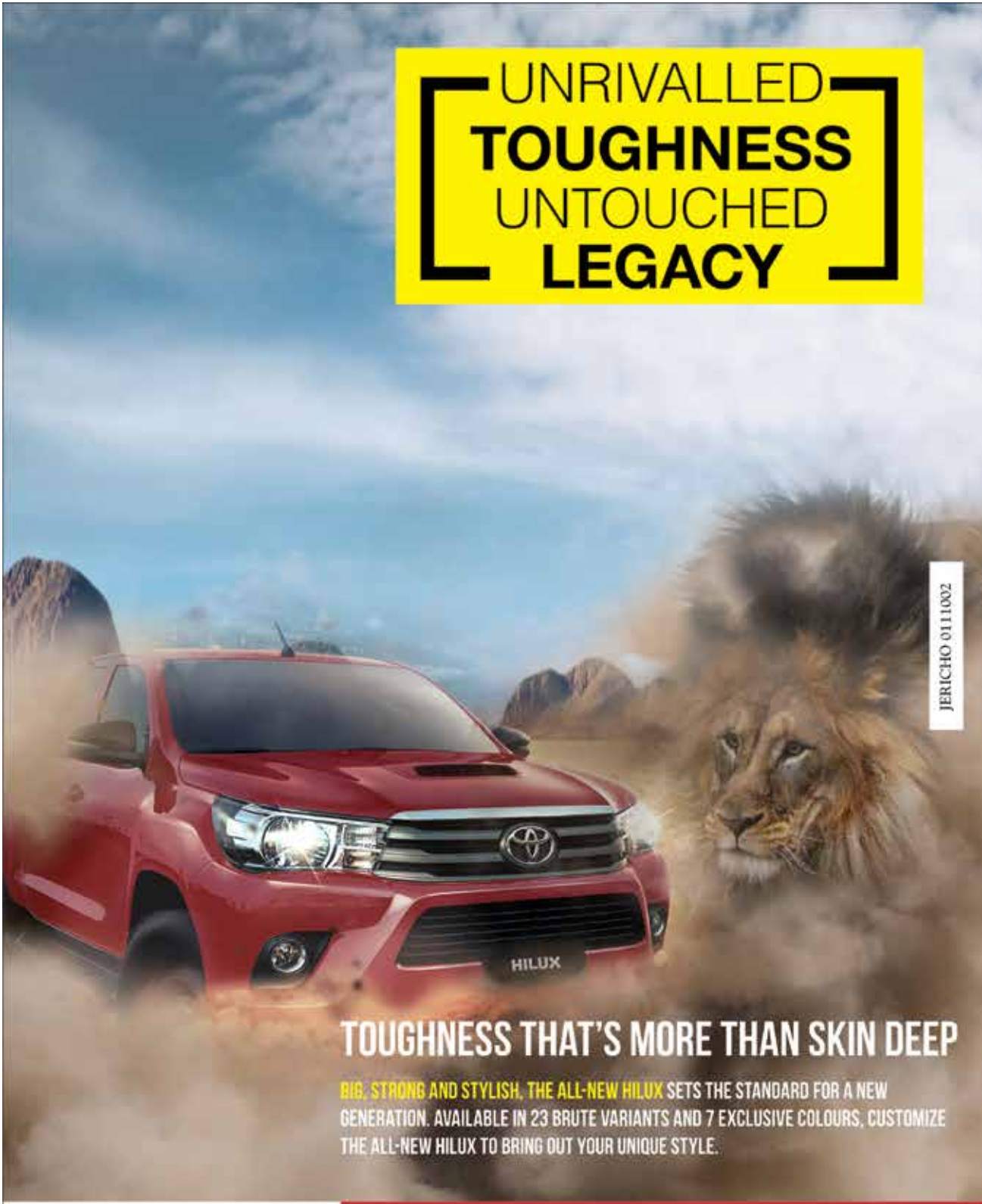
The second generation XF range consists of: XF Prestige, XF R-Sport, XF Portfolio, XF S. The powertrain range will consist of: 132kW 2.0-litre turbocharged diesel; 177kW 2.0-litre turbocharged petrol; 250kW and 280kW 3.0-litre V6 supercharged petrol. So if you are one for power, you are spoilt for choice. All models are mated to an eight-speed automatic transmission.

With fuel prices rising and dropping, efficiency is all you need and this vehicle is lighter and more efficient, with enhanced space, an all-new premium infotainment system, a greater breadth of powertrains, unrivalled dynamics and refinement and, of course, world-leading design, the all-new XF offers customers a compelling package. The boot just does it for me, with ample space for golf clubs and her gym bag that probably never get used together with the eight extra pairs of shoes that have found a permanent home. ... My point is, were boot space is concerned, you have nothing to worry about. This Jaguar XF is the most visually dynamic car in the executive segment. The new definition of Integrity and simplicity. Its perfect proportions, aerodynamic efficiency will move you to buying it. The all-new XF now takes its rightful place between the mid-size XE and the luxury XJ sedans. The Jaguar XF exceeds all expectations of how a business sedan should ride, handle and steer. Comfort and refinement have been taken to an even higher level and combined with agility and responsiveness that are unequalled in the segment. Talk about advancement in technology, is the latest Jaguar sedan to feature a laser head-up display (HUD).

For those who still struggle with parking, not that you are blind or anything, good news is it comes with Park Assist. Imagine the effort of trying to slot a large car into a small space, it is now a thing of the past. The all-new XF features semi-automated park assist functions for both bay and parallel parking. Ultrasonic sensors measure the space and, if its suitable, will enable the car to steer itself into position: all the driver has to do is operate the accelerator and the brakes. In the case of parallel parking, the system can also steer the vehicle out again. Complementing this feature is the surround camera system. Five cameras combine to give a 360° view of the area around the car, including a plan view, to make manoeuvring easier and safer.


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Five most common
errors women drivers make

Shirley Kennedy

Of course we women are better drivers than men, but we still make a few mistakes, we are human after all. Here are some of the most common driving mistakes us girls make.

1. Multitasking – apparently rumour has it that men cannot walk and breathe at the same time but we are champions, gurus, fundis at multitasking. Sadly, the men know that too. Unfortunately we practise this talent while driving too..... ladies it's not cool to drive, chat on the phone, reprimand the kids and perve at the guy in the car next to you who thinks you are yummy all at once. One thing at a time please.
2. Being distracted - We cannot ignore an aching heart sadly. So when we encounter someone wanting directions, we press down that button and voila down goes the window and our focus on the road hence our chance of survival become slimmer than. A gun might be pulled out on you and you will be robbed or the vehicle behind you might react slower and ram into the lovely behind of your four wheeled partner.
3. Lack of anticipation – apparently women do not anticipate dangers on the road very well. Be aware of your surroundings and use your mirrors for checking things other than your lipstick.... Sweep the area with your eyes like the secret service do, do not be an ooooooops driver after hitting a puppy or sitting in a pothole.
4. Inability to follow directions – men won't ask for directions and women cannot follow them either. That's a bad combination so fortunately for both a great invention will apply – the GPS - Global Positioning System (GPS). This gives a solution to both dilemmas.
5. Reverse parking – many studies that have been carried out over the years have found that about 25 percent of women have no confidence in their parallel parking abilities and 33 percent would rather change their plans than reverse into a parking bay at their destination. If you fall into these two categories, next time buy a very small car or buy one with parking sensors and cameras.



Sporty crossover with Kia Sportage

WITH the Sportage, Kia made a vehicle that combines the practicality of the sport-utility body style with the more civilized ride and handling qualities of a passenger car.

When this vehicle was first introduced to the world as anything that was not from the usual manufacturers, a few customers were sceptical. Then again there were those who wanted to try it out purely for its striking looks. For those who tried, surveys have shown that they have stuck with the brand and generations on they are purely converted.

When I had a read through some of the reviews this car has received, as embarrassing as it is, I was sold out. According to Edmunds, "Kia Sportage crossover SUV lives up to its name with its sharp steering and athletic handling that make it more engaging than most other vehicles in its class. Generally, you won't find the words sporty and crossover used in the same sentence, but the Sportage has a more responsive and fun-to-drive character than you might expect. It also gives you sleek styling, an extensive list of standard features and options and a price tag that typically undercuts the compact crossover competition."

After reading that part I was eager to test drive the all new model and believe me, the driving was just the topping on the experience.

The new Sportage is fresh and bold and could not be mistaken for anything other than a Kia. Looking at all the offerings from the Korean manufacturer, you can see the angular and well contoured features that set it apart and a signature attitude that will make you adventurous even if you were not. According to Peter Schreyer: Chief design officer, Kia Motors Corporation: "It embodies Kia's new-found visual dynamism by successfully taking the key features of an off-road vehicle - the commanding driving position and heightened sense of security - and enveloping them in a sleek and urban-friendly design with global appeal. With its athletic and muscular design the Kia Sportage fits its name perfectly."

Open the driver's door and enter a world of modern functionality, ample interior space and comfort. The first thing that catches your eye is the multifunction three-spoke steering wheel with Audio Remote Control and Cruise Control – ensuring a more convenient and pleasant journey.

The newly designed circular gauge cluster with fluorescent needles contributes to a sporty look with clear visibility. A start/stop button with smart key blends modern innovation with style and allows the driver to start the engine at the touch of a button. The multimedia capabilities of the Sportage include a high tech audio system with MP3/iPod/USB connectivity.

The built-in rear-view camera and RPAS (Rear Parking Assist System) ensure functionality in its highest form while the upgraded sound system with built-in subwoofer and external amplifier add to a fun driving experience. The Sportage is also equipped with dual climate control with a built-in air filter, reducing harmful radicals and odours, while the automatic dusk sensor and day/night rear view mirror add to a more convenient and safer trip at night. The optional full-length panoramic glass sunroof gives the interior a pleasant and open feel and adds to a sense of space.

One glance is all it takes to realise that the Sportage is distinctive from every angle. Combining bold lines with dynamic proportions, the Sportage is all about looking good. The striking radiator grille design is based on a symbolic representation of a tiger's roaring countenance, which accentuates the car's aggressive styling and exhilarating performance. Black bezel and LED daytime running lights add to its sporty image whilst the bold hood line exudes a dynamic sturdiness. The side view of the Sportage boasts a C-pillar design and a sleek roofline to complement its modern and powerful image. When it comes to convenience and practicality, the Sportage is equipped with roof rails for the adventurous and electric folding side mirrors that assist in getting into those tight parking spots.

The Sportage comes standard with either 17-inch alloy wheels on the 2WD or 18-inch alloy wheels on the AWD, both designs portraying a large appearance and sleek posture. Various sporty touches to the rear styling, like the multi-layered combination lamps and the separated indicator lights, while a wider tailgate and high mounted brake light ensure maximum visibility for both the driver and other road users.

The striking Sportage is at its most appealing when it comes to life on the road. And to make sure this is where it stays, the Sportage offers a range of state-of-the-art safety systems that deliver the highest level of all-round protection possible.

The Sportage is equipped with an automatic Electronic Stability Control (ESC) system that optimises brake-force distribution in critical situations, enhances grip in wet conditions and restores directional control during potential skidding. The Anti-lock Braking System (ABS) with EBD (Electronic Brake-force Distribution) and Brake Assist System (BAS) maximises braking power and helps apply maximum braking force in the event of an emergency. Newly added



Kia Sportage has state-of-the-art technology powering driver assistance, convenience and entertainment. The everyday drive becomes a delight.

features to ESC include Hill-start Assist Control (HAC), which prevents backward rolling during stop-start driving up inclines, and Downhill Brake Control (DBC), which maintains vehicle speed and control when driving down steep slopes. Ensuring maximum protection for all occupants, the Sportage is equipped with a 6-airbag system, consisting of dual front, side and full-

length curtain airbags, as well as child anchor points in the rear to protect the little ones in the event of a collision.

The brand new re-invented model is available on order at KIA Zimbabwe. Contact them for pricing and more information.

*Additional Source: KIA SSA.

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Fiat 500X Crossover means business



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The Fiat 500X made its debut two years ago with a new compact crossover in the 500 family that marks the evolution of the brand and technology through the development in its DNA.

For all Fiat lovers you can start making orders at Zimoco soon after reading this so that you can be the first to own this crossover.

A beauty with character, the new car explores a brand-new dimension of being 500, where a mature, elegant, all-Italian style "clothes" – like haute couture – the substance of a car that is comfortable, high-performance and always in touch with the world: that's the X side of beauty, and that's the soul of the Fiat 500X.

Heir to the Fiat 500 of 1957 – the stylistic reference of the rounded lights and the classic logo with chrome-plated bonnet trim is clear – the new Fiat crossover extends the 500 family, comprising the 500, 500C, 500L, and 500L Trekking models: cars which are very different in terms of vocation and character, but which have the same roots in common: the iconic Fiat 500.

The new Fiat 500X is available in three different versions – 500X Pop Star, 500X Cross and 500X Cross Plus – equipped with two efficient petrol engines – 1.4l MultiAir or 1.6l E-TorQ, three types of transmission – 5-speed manual, 6-speed manual or twin-clutch 6-speed automatic – and with front-wheel drive and the unique Traction Plus configurations.

It is a crossover not only in its very nature, but is also of interest to many different types of customer in terms of different sexes, ages, needs and tastes. In this sense, the "X" symbol represents a crossroads for segments that vary greatly among themselves, each inhabited by the young and the mature, lovers of beauty and connoisseurs of character. They are dynamic, with an active social life and they cultivate different passions and interests. What they have in common, however, is the desire to enjoy a satisfying driving experience and express their own personality through a distinctive style. Today they all find a clear, exhaustive answer: Fiat 500X.

Characterised by distinctive, elegant style details, the 500X is sure to win over young, dynamic and metropolitan customers. On the other hand, a decidedly more off-road look and equipment make the 500X Cross the ideal solution for lovers of leisure and outdoor activities who don't want to give up the unique style of the Fiat 500.

With a big personality and distinctively Italian design, the new car is characterised by flexibility, rationality and quality firmly embedded in its compact dimensions.

Compact outside, welcoming inside: a large, protective environment with extensive use of fine materials, high-quality finishes and practical storage compartments. A comfortable passenger compartment which is unmistakably Made-in-Italy and offered in no fewer than seven interior configurations, through matching of various types of fabric, leather and colours. This is all made even more functional through the many seat adjustment possibilities and the spacious luggage compartment (245 litres).

In terms of comfort and infotainment equipment, the Fiat 500X stands out in its category thanks to the sophisticated Uconnect™ systems with 5" or 6.5" touchscreens. Both versions come complete with Bluetooth interface, Aux-in connector, USB port and voice commands. Additionally, the Uconnect Radio Nav 5" device offers TomTom 2.5D navigation while the 6.5" Uconnect Radio Nav features satellite navigation with 3D maps, progressive route guidance and 'One Shot Voice Destination Entry' to enter addresses with voice commands.

The 500X range will initially be launched with the 1.4l Cross with the 6-speed manual transmission and limited numbers of the 1.4l Cross with the 6-speed DDCT transmission. Other versions are to follow later in the year.

For pricing and availability, the sales team at the Zimoco Borrowdale and 3rd Street Club Chambers showrooms will assist.

*Additional Source: FGASA



The next generation Nissan Almera available ex-stock at Amtec Motors



THE Nissan Almera is fast becoming the preferred ‘way to roll’ for the next generation consumer, sporting a fresh bold appearance and economic efficiency. With improved technology, high quality finishes and stylish exterior design, the Nissan Almera lustres with modern sophistication, practicality and durability.

The first thing that strikes you about the Nissan Almera is its bold design. Sleek and muscular, the Almera offers more car for your money with standard features like an audio system with 2DIN AM/FM, CD, MP3 with AUX and four speakers. In the newer model, USB connectivity and a Bluetooth audio streaming function is added with convenient steering wheel audio controls.

A handsfree phone system is a non-negotiable safety feature for 21st century customers. This addition will also make driving far more convenient for professionals who have to do business on the go.

Available on the Acenta and Tekna models, rear parking sensors makes for safe and easy parking, ensuring the average driver is far more confident. On the exterior, sporty headlamps are flanked by a more aggressive chromed grille for a more assertive attitude. At the rear, a designed colour coded bumper adds a sporty touch.

There is no compromise on interior quality that radiates a welcoming atmosphere, enhanced with chrome accents and panels furnished in black for a sophisticated yet practical look and feel. Durable black and grey fabric covers all seats with contrasting stitching. Seats at the rear, sport a centre

arm rest, adjustable head rests and a fan.

A simple but elegant designed cabin layout with attention to detail ensures that wind and road noise are dramatically reduced. The sound of the engine is almost imperceptible at idle and remains hushed around city streets, even when increasing speed on a highway.

Dashboard surfaces have an evolved texture design to reduce glare, and is fitted with illuminated easy-to-read dials. All-round visibility through wide open windows, for both driver and passengers, contributes to the feel of stretch-out spaciousness.

The Nissan Almera is duly designed with a holistic approach to safety and enhanced technologies, in cases where a collision cannot be avoided, additional Nissan technology helps reduce injuries and damage such as: Vehicle Dynamic Control (VDC); Anti-lock Braking System (ABS); Electronic Brake-force Distribution (EBD); Brake Assist (BA); seatbelts; airbags – all standard on the Nissan Almera. And to ensure those around are safe too, rear parking sensors make even the tightest parking spots a sure thing.

While the Nissan Almera feels like a big car on the inside, it still offers small sedan efficiency with smooth acceleration performance and outstanding fuel economy. It is powered by a 1,5 litre petrol engine available in manual or automatic transmission, delivering 73kW of power with 134Nm of torque.

The Nissan Almera is available ex-stock at Amtec Motors, with up to 36 months finance options available.

Cleaning your car interior



that made up the interior of my vehicle were stained and covered in dirt. Upon first glance, the idea of cleaning the upholstery within my car or any car can be overwhelming. Despite my fears and anxiety, cleaning the inside of my car with the sofaman shampoo was far easier and simpler to do. For a nice aroma, I used the Lavender though it's also available in pot pourri, summer fragrance and green rose fragrance.

With the shampoo, there was no need for hot water carpet extractors, high pressure water systems or other complicated methods. I just used a bit of luke warm water plus the shampoo and a soft brush do all interior surfaces, roof, seats and carpets with ease.

This shampoo thoroughly cleaned the carpeting, cloth and velour fabrics, my vinyl and rubber sections in the car, and all my plastic lined interiors and seats leaving them as good as new.

A common misconception when cleaning any kind of upholstery is that the more water used, the better the result. This could not be further from the truth as more water does not necessarily mean more effective stain removal. This I noticed as I used the sofaman shampoo which does not require the use on gallons or buckets of water.

Just a little water to create the right amount of form and lather to clean up surfaces. Moisture is extremely bad for the fabric, and can damage the fabric as well as leave the interior of the car with a damp or musty smell. Another point to note is to avoid getting water on any metal portion of the seat such as zippers. This can lead to rust, and more stains to deal with in the future. With these two important points in mind, you will remember the next time you buy a shampoo and embark on a DIY exercise at home.

Emma Borerwe

LIKE many areas of car care and auto detailing, how to clean car upholstery is an area filled with so many different opinions and strategies that many people like yourself feel overwhelmed at the very thought.

Over the weekend I had the opportunity to DIY my own fabric upholstered vehicle interior with a local product which I was given as a sample by sofaman.

For many of us day after day goes by and the only attention your car's upholstery ever gets in the best of circumstances is a quick vacuum job. But vacuuming your cars upholstery is only going to go so far in removing dirt that will accumulate within your car's interior. Eventually you will need to find some form of upholstery cleaner, get personal with the interior of your car and do some scrubbing to remove grime, grease and tough spots.

When I looked at the interior of my vehicle, I noticed that the various materials and surfaces



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