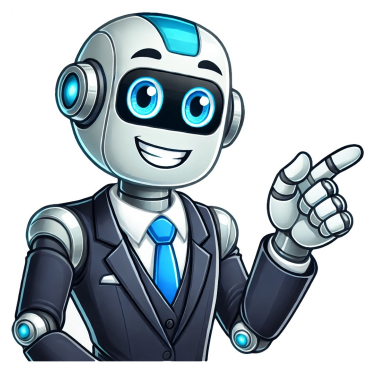


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Car buyers guide

60+ years, thousands of cars, hundreds of tests—done! Our work is done for you. From the January/February 2025 issue of Car and Driver. "What's the best car?" It's a natural question when driving and testing hundreds of cars every year. Our annual 10Best awards provide the answer. Since 1983, we've been conducting this exercise: identifying the very best available, not just our favorite new models. The price cap is \$110,000 (no Ferrari). We gather staff and contributors for intense driving and testing, then vote. The winners fulfill their mission, deliver value, and spark joy. This year's list sees eight returning models and two new honorees. They answer that question: the best cars you can buy are right here. View photos or keep reading to find out more about the 2025 10Best cars. Cadillac CT4-V Blackwing: a compact high-performance sports sedan defending its place for the fourth time since 2022. It rules in this class of turbocharged six-cylinder four-doors. Cadillac CT5-V Blackwing: a big Blackwing with V-8 power, devouring highway and back-road miles comfortably and competently. It's even better for '25. Chevrolet Corvette: we don't need to prattle on... The Corvette's storied history spans decades, marked by both highs and lows. Today, it's riding high, thanks to its recent switch to a mid-engine configuration. The decision was controversial, but it's played out in spectacular fashion for Chevrolet. Each Corvette model, from the Stingray to the E-Ray, feels uniquely Corvette, offering a perfect blend of track capability and everyday usability. The Honda Accord is another story altogether. Despite being a four-door family sedan, it's a revelation on twisty roads, with impressive handling and response that make it stand out at this price point. Even in its base form, the Accord launches to 60 mph in just 2.8 seconds, making it an ideal choice for those looking for a fun-to-drive sedan. The Honda Civic has been around since the 1970s and is now in its 11th generation. Despite some ups and downs, excellence has been a consistent theme throughout its history. The Civic's longevity and success are a testament to Honda's expertise in creating affordably priced vehicles that don't compromise on quality. Meanwhile, the Lucid Air is making waves with its impressive range, capable of going over 400 miles without needing a recharge. The Lucid Air, a luxury sedan, stands out due to its sleek and modern design, combined with smooth and quiet performance. It offers both style and substance, with well-organized displays and a comfortable interior. The Mercedes-Benz E450 provides a luxurious environment and delivers a refined ride. The Porsche Boxster/Cayman lineup is exceptional, offering no bad choices among the various trim levels and configurations. The Subaru BRZ and Toyota GR86 are attainably priced sports coupes that combine driving dynamics with practicality, making them suitable for daily use. The Toyota 86 and Subaru BRZ duo has a secret recipe for making every driving experience an absolute pleasure. With rear-wheel drive and a manual transmission, these cars glide smoothly on highways and twisty roads alike. Their comfortable ride and adaptive cruise control make long drives feel like a breeze. Meanwhile, the revamped Tesla Model 3 Long Range stole the spotlight at Car and Driver's 10Best competition with its impressive upgrades. A bigger battery pack and more powerful electric motor boost the car's range to 363 miles and shave precious seconds off acceleration times. In another segment, the editors of Car and Driver went on a mission to find the best trucks for 2025, but they almost called it "12Best" due to the abundance of outstanding family haulers. After two weeks of testing various models, they narrowed down their choices to ten exceptional vehicles that excel in both performance and practicality. Among them is the Chevrolet Trax, a budget-friendly subcompact crossover that punches above its weight with surprising style and value. Note: The given text has been rewritten using the "INCREASE BURSTINESS (IB)" method, adding more dynamic language and varying sentence structures to enhance the reading experience. The Ford Maverick is a compact pickup truck that has gained popularity due to its affordability and efficiency, making it a desirable option for consumers who want a practical vehicle with a bed. The decision to launch the Maverick was driven by a need to address a gap in the market for an affordable and efficient pickup truck. The Maverick was designed to meet this demand, offering features such as a compact size, a low starting price, and a range of advanced safety features. In comparison to other vehicles like the Toyota Corolla or Honda CR-V, the Maverick stands out due to its ability to provide a reliable and durable pickup experience. A similar success story can be seen with the Hyundai Ioniq 5, which won our EV of the Year award not once but twice. The key to the Maverick's success lies in its unique blend of features, design, and performance. 1. Hyundai updated the 2025 model of its most decorated electric SUV with several changes, including the addition of a rear wiper that improves visibility in winter. 2. The 2025 model also features improved interior controls and increased range for the longest-range version, now reaching an estimated EPA rating of 318 miles. 3. The Kia Telluride has maintained its top spot as one of the best mainstream three-row crossovers since its release in 2020, with a revamped version expected to arrive in 2026. 4. The Telluride's enduring quality and overall goodness have left competitors struggling to replicate its success. 5. The Porsche Macan has also secured a spot on the list, thanks to its exceptional steering, powertrain, design, chassis, and driving position. 6. The Ram 1500's introduction marks a significant shift in approach for the brand, with innovative technology and a luxurious interior that sets it apart from rivals. 7. Volkswagen's ID.Buzz is another notable contender, defying expectations by making a statement with its unique design and user-friendly features. The minivan's practical nature clashes with the adventurous fantasies associated with three-row SUVs, making it uncool to extol its virtues. However, the 2025 Volkswagen ID.Buzz challenges this notion. Meanwhile, the used-car market has experienced turmoil, with online retailing becoming increasingly popular. Carvana and similar companies offer no-haggle prices and home delivery, but buying a car sight unseen can be daunting. To navigate this market, consider test-drive periods, inspections by trusted mechanics, and Certified Pre-Owned models. Used-car prices have risen due to limited inventory, but some reports suggest they may be stabilizing or even falling. To protect yourself, research prices, leave room for extended warranties, and be cautious of significantly higher or lower prices on equivalent vehicles. CPO vehicles offer a balance of benefits and costs, providing buyers with peace of mind and savings compared to purchasing a brand-new vehicle. These used vehicles are certified by the manufacturer and come with a factory warranty, making them an attractive option for those seeking reliability and protection. However, it is essential to follow the manufacturer's maintenance schedule to avoid voiding the warranty. The cost difference between CPO and non-CPO models can be significant, but alternatives like inspecting used cars with independent mechanics or considering lease buyouts may be viable options for some buyers.

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