# ALFA ROMEO 156 FROM JAN 98

Owners like driving the stylish 156. However, there are lots of problems to spoil the experience, including rattles and squeaks, a lack of space inside and poor heating and ventilation.

Engines 1.6, 2.0 or 2.4 litre ptl, 1.9 or 2.4 litre dsl Prices new £15,362 (1.6 T Spark) to £21,447 (2.4 JTD estate) Dimensions 4.43m x 1.7m CO2 (g/km) 195 to 212 (ptl), 155 to 178 (dsl)

Body styles 4-dr saloon, 5-dr estate



OWNERS' VERDICTS	
Driving experience	\$
Driving position and comfort	\$
Ride quality	$\Theta$
Visibility/parking	<del></del>
Instrument layout	e
Space in front	0
Space in rear	e
Loading/storage	•
Appearance and design	*
Noise	<del></del>
Heating and ventilation	۲
RECOMMEND TO A FRIEND	43%

#### TROUBLESPOTS

RELIABILITY

Ptl/Dsl Breakdowns

Faults Niggles

2000-2002 Immobiliser, engine electrics, cam belt, some non-engine electrics, braking system

é	RUNNING COSTS	
	Overall A	lverage
	Depreciation	High
	Fuel	Low
	SECURITY	
	Theft of car	6/10
	Theft from car	4/10
	Tested	
	2.0 T Spa	ırk 4-dr
	SAFETY	
	Overall	Fair
	Crash test	n/a

EVALUATION

## AUDI A4 (USED ONLY) DEC 00 TO JAN 05

The old A4 offers a pleasant drive and good safety levels. But there are some pitfalls, such as a lack of space in the back and boot. Diesel models are more reliable than petrol ones, if noisier.

Body styles 2-dr cabriolet, 4-dr saloon, 5-dr estate Engines 1.6, 1.8, 2.0, 2.4, 3.0 or 3.2 litre petrol, 1.9, 2.5 or 3.0 litre diesel Prices used around £9,500 to £24,125 Dimensions 4.48m x 1.95m inc mirrors

03-05 00-02 97-99

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CO2 (g/km) 175 to 274 (ptl), 149 to 238 (dsl)



OWNERS' VERDICTS			
Driving experience		ゼ	Z
Driving position and comfort		C	)
Ride quality			)
Visibility/parking	saloon O	estate 🤸	5
Instrument layout			7
Space in front		ゼ	7
Space in rear			D
Loading/storage			)
Appearance and design		,	F
Noise	diesel O	petrol 🕇	ł
Heating and ventilation		C	)
<b>RECOMMEND TO A FRIEN</b>	D	76%	6

#### TROUBLESPOTS

2003-2005 None

RELIABILITY Petrol

Breakdowns

Faults

Niggles

2000-2002 Fuel system (diesel), immobiliser (petrol), ignition system (petrol), engine management system/ECU (petrol), engine electrics (petrol)

Diesel

Faults

Niggles

Breakdowns

Overall		High
Deprecia	tion	Low
Fuel		Average
SECURI	ΓY	
Theft of	саг	8/10
Theft fro	m cai	r <b>4/10</b>
Tested	2.0	) SE 4-dr
SAFETY		
Overall		Good
Crash tes	st	4/5

EVALUATION

RUNNING COSTS

### AUDI A4 (USED ONLY) MAR 95 TO JAN 01

The old A4 isn't as stylish as the newer model. It drives well, though it's a little uncomfortable behind the wheel. There's also a shortage of space for rear passengers.

OWNERS' VERDICTS		
Driving experience		☆
Driving position and comfort		$\Theta$
Ride quality	diesel ☆ petrol	0
Visibility/parking		☆
Instrument layout		0
Space in front		☆
Space in rear		۲
Loading/storage	saloon $\Theta$ estate	☆
Appearance and design		☆
Noise	diesel 🝚 petrol	☆
Heating and ventilation		0
<b>RECOMMEND TO A FRIEN</b>	D 7'	1%

Body styles 4-dr saloon, 5-dr estate Engines 1.6, 1.8, 2.4, 2.6 or 2.8 litre petrol, 1.9 or 2.5 litre diesel Prices used up to around £17,000 Dimensions 4.48m x 1.85m CO2 (g/km) 187 to 262 (ptl), 149 to 235 (dsl)

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03-05 00-02 97-99

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TROUBLESPOTS	EVALUATION
2000-2002 None	RUNNING COSTS
1997-1999 Dashboard switches, suspension, airbags, exterior trim	Overall Average
	Depreciation Average
	Fuel Average
	SECURITY
	Theft of car 6/10
	Theft from car 4/10
RELIABILITY	Tested
PtI/Dsl 03-05 00-02 97-99	2.8 V6 Quattro 4-dr
Breakdowns – O O	SAFETY
Faults – O O	Overall Fair
Niggles – O O	Crash test 2.5/5

### BMW 3 SERIES (USED ONLY) SEP 98 TO MAR 05

The recently replaced 3 series still holds its own against newer cars. It's a driver's delight that's secure and fairly safe. It's not perfect, though - owners criticise the lack of room in the back and the cost of servicing.

OWNERS' VERDICTS		
Driving experience		$\star$
Driving position and comfort		0
Ride quality	diesel 🝚 petrol	0
Visibility/parking		$\star$
Instrument layout		☆
Space in front		$\bigcirc$
Space in rear		۲
Loading/storage	saloon $ullet$ estate	$\Theta$
Appearance and design		☆
Noise	diesel ☆ petrol	$\star$
Heating and ventilation		0
<b>RECOMMEND TO A FRIEN</b>	D 7	7%

Body styles 2-dr coupé/convertible, 4-dr sal, 5-dr es
Engines 1.8, 1.9, 2.0, 2.2, 2.5, 2.8 or 3.0 litre
petrol, 2.0 or 3.0 litre diesel
Prices used up to around £30,000
Dimensions 4.48m x 1.74m
<b>CO<sub>2</sub> (g/km)</b> 170 to 244 (ptl), 151 to 211 (dsl)

03-05 00-02 97-99

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Diesel

Faults

Niggles

Breakdowns



	<b>EVALUAT</b>	ION		
	RUNNING	RUNNING COSTS		
	Overall	High		
	Depreciatio	n Average		
	Fuel	Very low		
	SECURITY			
	Theft of car	8/10		
	Theft from	car <b>8/10</b>		
	Tested 3	18iSE 4-dr		
99	SAFETY			
	Overall	Fair		
	Crash test	4/5		

**EVALUATION** 

### BMW 3 SERIES (USED ONLY) APR 91 TO MAY 00

The enjoyable drive here pointed the way of things to come in newer 3 series models. It's a shame that it's let down by a low crash-test rating, cramped space in the rear and boot and high maintenance costs.

Body styles 2-dr coupé/convertible, 4-dr saloon, 5-dr estate Engines 1.6, 1.8, 1.9, 2.0, 2.5 or 2.8 litre petrol, 1.7 or 2.5 litre diesel Prices used up to £13,000 Dimensions 4.50m x 1.71m CO2 (g/km) 182 to 270 (ptl), 173 to 239 (dsl)

OWNERS' VERDICTS	
Driving experience	*
Driving position and comfort	\$
Ride quality	0
Visibility/parking	*
Instrument layout	0
Space in front	0
Space in rear	۲
Loading/storage	۲
Appearance and design	\$
Noise	\$
Heating and ventilation	$\Theta$
RECOMMEND TO A FRIEND	61%

### TROUBLESPOTS

TROUBLESPOTS 2003-2005 Suspension 2000-2002 Electric windows

1997-1999 None

RELIABILITY

Breakdowns

Petrol

Faults

Niggles

1997-1999 None	RUNNING CUSTS
	Overall -
	Depreciation -
	Fuel -
	SECURITY
	Theft of car 7/10
	Theft from car 3/10
RELIABILITY	Tested 318i auto 4-dr
Ptl/Dsl 03-05 00-02 97-99	SAFETY
Breakdowns – – O	Overall n/a
Faults – – O	Crash test 1.5/5
Niggles – – O	

03-05 00-02 9

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### **CITROEN C5** FROM APR 01

The best thing about this car is its generous interior space. But it has too many deficiencies, including poor reliability, rattles and squeaks, heavy deprecation and an unrewarding driving experience.

<b>OWNERS' VERDICTS</b>	S	
Driving experience		$\Theta$
Driving position and com	ifort	$\Theta$
Ride quality		\$
Visibility/parking	hatchback $\Theta$	estate $\bigcirc$
Instrument layout		0
Space in front		\$
Space in rear		*
Loading/storage		*
Appearance and design		$\Theta$
Noise	diesel ○	petrol ☆
Heating and ventilation		\$
<b>RECOMMEND TO A FR</b>	IEND	42%

Body styles 5-dr estate, 5-dr hatchback Engines 1.6, 1.8, 2.0 or 3.0 L ptl, 2.0 or 2.2 L dsl Prices new £14,792 (1.8i 16v LX) to £22,492 (3.0 V6 Exclusive estate auto) Dimensions 4.62m x 1.77m CO2 (g/km) 187 to 238 (ptl), 142 to 186 (dsl)



#### TROUBLESPOTS **EVALUATION** 2003-2005 Some non-engine electrics RUNNING COSTS 2000-2002 Immobiliser, electric windows, central locking, non-engine Overall Average electrics, handles/locks, seat belts Depreciation High Fuel Low SECURITY 8/10 Theft of car 3/10 Theft from car 1.8i LX 5-dr RELIABILITY Tested Ptl/Dsl 03-05 00-02 97-99 SAFETY Breakdowns Overall Fair С C Faults Crash test 5/5 \_ Niggles \_

# CITROEN XANTIA (USED ONLY) MAY 93 TO OCT OO

The only bright spots here are the Xantia's ride comfort and its spacious interior. Dire crash-test results and a litany of poor owners' ratings make the Xantia one to avoid.

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110			012	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,

RELIABILITY

Breakdowns

Ptl/Dsl

Faults

Niggles

1.9, 2.0 or 2.1 litre diesel

Body styles 5-dr estate, 5-dr hatchback

Engines 1.6, 1.8, 2.0 or 3.0 litre petrol,

CO2 (g/km) 205 to 241 (ptl), 150 to 225 (dsl

Prices used up to around £4,700

Dimensions 4.44m x 1.76m

1997-1999 Cam belt, exhaust system, clutch, braking system, susp

		-
nsion	RUNNING CO	STS
	Overall	-
	Depreciation	-
	Fuel	-
	SECURITY	
	Theft of car	7/10
	Theft from car	3/10
	Tested 1.8i	LX 5-dr
	SAFETY	
	Overall	Fair
	Crash test	1.5/5

EVALUATIO

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OWNERS' VERDICTS	S	
Driving experience		$\Theta$
Driving position and com	Ifort	$\Theta$
Ride quality		*
Visibility/parking	hatchback ⊖ estate	0
Instrument layout		٠
Space in front		☆
Space in rear		☆
Loading/storage	hatchback $igodoldsymbol{ heta}$ estate	$\star$
Appearance and design		$\Theta$
Noise	diesel 🝚 petrol	0
Heating and ventilation		$\bigcirc$
<b>RECOMMEND TO A FR</b>	IEND 3	<b>3</b> %

# FORD MONDEO FROM OCT OO

The Mondeo offers a lot of space, especially in the estate version, but it's otherwise unremarkable. Diesels seem to be noisier and suffer from more problems than petrol versions.

OWNERS' VERDICTS	
Driving experience	0
Driving position and comfort	0
Ride quality	☆
Visibility/parking saloon $\Theta$ h'back $\Theta$ estate	0
Instrument layout	0
Space in front	☆
Space in rear	☆
Loading/storage saloon $\bigstar$ h'back $\bigstar$ estate	$\star$
Appearance and design	$\overline{\mathbf{O}}$
Noise diesel • petrol	0
Heating and ventilation	$\Theta$
RECOMMEND TO A FRIEND 63	3%

Body styles 4-dr saloon, 5-dr estate, 5-dr h'back Engines 1.8, 2.0, 2.5 or 3.0 litre ptl, 2.0 dsl Prices new £15,492 (1.8 Silver 5-dr) to £24,997 (3.0 ST220 estate) Dimensions 4.74m x 1.94m CO2 (g/km) 173 to 259 (ptl), 148 to 205 (dsl)

03-05 00-02 97-99

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#### TROUBLESPOTS

RELIABILITY

Breakdowns

Petrol

Faults

Niggles

2003-2005 Fuel system (diesel), washers/wipers, paintwork chipped/ lost shine

Diesel

Faults

Niggles

Breakdowns

2000-2002 Fuel system (diesel), air conditioning, braking system, rainwater seals

Overall	Average
Depreciation	V high
Fuel	Low
SECURITY	
Theft of car	7/10
Theft from ca	r <b>5/10</b>
Tested 1.8	3 LX 5-dr
SAFETY	
Overall	Fair
Crash test	4/5

EVALUATION

RUNNING COSTS

FORD MONDEO	(USED ONLY) FEB 93 TO OCT OO
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ice to match - mean you're probably best avoiding this old workhorse.

OWNERS' VERDICTS			
Driving experience	diesel ●	petrol	$\bigcirc$
Driving position and comfort			$\bigcirc$
Ride quality	diesel O	petrol	$\bigcirc$
Visibility/parking saloon €	h'back O	estate	☆
Instrument layout			0
Space in front			0
Space in rear			0
Loading/storage saloon O	h'back O	estate	$\star$
Appearance and design			۲
Noise	diesel ●	petrol	$\bigcirc$
Heating and ventilation			$\bigcirc$
<b>RECOMMEND TO A FRIEN</b>	D	45	5%

Body styles 4-dr saloon, 5-dr estate, 5-dr hatchback Engines 1.6, 1.8, 2.0 or 2.5 litre petrol, 1.8 litre diesel Prices used up to around £7,000 Dimensions 4.48m x 1.93m

03-05 00-02 97-99

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CO2 (g/km) 185 to 247 (ptl), 156 to 159 (dsl)



	EVALUATION	N
,	RUNNING CO	STS
	Overall	-
ioning,	Depreciation	-
elts,	Fuel	-
	SECURITY	
	Theft of car	6/10
	Theft from car	3/10
	Tested 1.8	LX 5-dr
	SAFETY	
	Overall	Fair
	Crash test	2.5/5

#### TROUBLESPOTS

2000-2002 Air conditioning, gear/clutch components, suspension, rainwater seals

1997-1999 Fuel system, central locking, washer/wipers, air conditi other heating/ventilation components, steering, suspension, seat be rainwater seals

RELIABILITY					
Ptl/Dsl	03-05	00-02	97–99		
Breakdowns	-	0	0		
Faults	-	•	٠		
Niggles		۲	0		

Visibility/parking	saloon ⊖ h'back ⊖ esta	t
Instrument layout		
Space in front		
Space in rear		
Loading/storage	saloon ☆ h'back ☆ esta	t
Appearance and d	esign	
Noise	diesel ● petr	.0
Heating and ventil	ation	
<b>RECOMMEND TO</b>	O A FRIEND	(
FORD MC	NDEO (USED O	N
Outmoded des	ign – and performar	1



03-05 00-02 97-99

## HONDA ACCORD FROM DEC 02

This car is well liked by owners and cheap to run. It's good to drive and we've seen an improvement in its reliability over the past year. However, the ride is a bit lumpy, and the saloon is let down by limited boot space.

OWNERS' VERDICTS	
Driving experience	diesel ★ petrol ☆
Driving position and comfort	☆
Ride quality	$\bigcirc$
Visibility/parking	$\widehat{}$
Instrument layout	☆
Space in front	0
Space in rear	☆
Loading/storage	saloon 👄 estate ★
Appearance and design	☆
Noise	\$
Heating and ventilation	\$
<b>RECOMMEND TO A FRIEN</b>	D 81%

Body styles 4-dr saloon, 5-dr estate Engines 2.0 or 2.4 litre petrol, 2.2 litre diesel Prices new £16,417 (2.0 i-VTEC SE) to £24,002 (2.4 Executive estate auto) Dimensions 4.67m x 1.76m CO2 (g/km) 176 to 237 (ptl), 143 to 153 (dsl)



**EVALUATION** 

5 None							RUNNING C	OSTS
							Overall	Low
							Depreciation	Average
							Fuel	High
							SECURITY	
							Theft of car	7/10
							Theft from ca	r <b>3/10</b>
ITY							Tested 2.0 i-	-VTEC SE
03-05 (	00-02	97–99	Diesel	03–05	00–02	97–99	SAFETY	
*	-	-	Breakdowns	0	-	-	Overall	Good
0	-	-	Faults	0	-	-	Crash test	4/5
0	-	-	Niggles	*	-	-		

# HONDA ACCORD (USED ONLY) JUL 98 TO MAY 03

This Best Buy used-only car continues to hold its own against the latest Accord and has an impressive reliability record. However, safety is only fair.

OWNERS' VERDICTS

Body styles 2-dr coupé, 4-dr saloon, 5-dr hatchback Engines 1.8, 2.0, 2.2, 2.3 or 3.0 litre p Prices used around £3,500 to £11,000 Dimensions 4.60m x 1.75m CO2 (g/km) 189 to 229



TROUBLESPOTS 2003-2005 Lights 2000-2002 None

RELIABILITY

Petrol Breakdowns

Faults

Niggles

TROUBLESPOTS

2003-2005 None

RELIABILITY Petrol

Breakdowns

Faults

Niggles

2000-2002 Washers/wipers, air condi 1997-1999 None

RUNNING CO	OSTS
Overall	Average
Depreciation	High
Fuel	High
SECURITY	
Theft of car	8/10
Theft from ca	, .
Tested	2.0i SE
SAFETY	
Overall	Fair
Crash test	4/5
-	

owners verdicits	
Driving experience	\$
Driving position and comfort	\$
Ride quality	0
Visibility/parking	0
Instrument layout	0
Space in front	0
Space in rear	0
Loading/storage saloon  ⊖ hatchba	ick ☆
Appearance and design	$\overline{}$
Noise	☆
Heating and ventilation	0
RECOMMEND TO A FRIEND	70%

# **JAGUAR X-TYPE** FROM FEB 01

Jaguar's answer to the BMW 3 series and Mercedes C-Class is up to scratch in terms of driving experience. That said, space is at a premium and it has a real thirst for petrol.

OWNERS' VERDICTS	
Driving experience	\$
Driving position and comfort	0
Ride quality	\$
Visibility/parking	\$
Instrument layout	\$
Space in front	$\Theta$
Space in rear	e
Loading/storage	$\Theta$
Appearance and design	*
Noise	\$
Heating and ventilation	0
RECOMMEND TO A FRIEND	71%

Body styles 4-dr saloon and 5-dr estate Engines 2.0, 2.5 or 3.0 litre petrol, 2.0 diesel Prices new £19,797 (2.0) to £32,722 (3.0 Sovereign auto) Dimensions 4.67m x 2.03m CO2 (g/km) 219 to 254 (ptl), 149 to 164 (dsl)

03-05 00-02 97-99

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<b>EVALU</b>	<b>10IT</b>	N
RUNNIN	G CO3	STS
Overall	Ve	ry high
Depreciat	ion	Low
Fuel		High
SECURIT	Y	
Theft of c	ar	8/10
Theft fror	n car	6/10
Tested	3.0	SE auto
SAFETY		
Overall		Good
Crash tes	t	4/5

ul llutellbuck	AND A CAME STOL	DUI
petrol	Care I	
0		-
- V943 ELN	*	
	EVALUATIO	DN
itioning, braking system	RUNNING C	OSTS
	Overall	Аvега
	Depreciation	Hic

				Theft of car	8/10
				Theft from car	4/10
RELIABIL	ITY			Tested	2.0i SE
Petrol	03-05	00-02	97–99	SAFETY	
Breakdowns	-	*	*	Overall	Fai
Faults	-	0	0	Crash test	4/5
Niggles	-	*	*		

# LEXUS IS200/IS300 FROM MAR 99

The Lexus is a Best Buy for an outstanding fifth year in a row. Its winning formula combines safety and reliability with an excellent drive. The main downsides are a small boot and high petrol consumption.

OWNERS' VERDICTS	
Driving experience	*
Driving position and comfort	*
Ride quality	0
Visibility/parking	\$
Instrument layout	\$
Space in front	$\Theta$
Space in rear	\$
Loading/storage	۲
Appearance and design	*
Noise	*
Heating and ventilation	\$
RECOMMEND TO A FRIEND	83%

Body styles 4-dr saloon, 5-dr estate Engines 2.0 or 3.0 litre petrol Prices new £18,709 (2.0) to £30,989 (3.0 SportCross Navigator estate) Dimensions 4.40m x 1.72m CO2 (g/km) 231 to 265



TROUBLESPOTS	EVALUA	TION
2003-2005 None	RUNNING COSTS	
2000-2002 Battery, exterior trim	Overall	Average
	Depreciatio	on Very low
	Fuel	Very high
	SECURITY	(
	Theft of ca	ir <b>8/10</b>
	Theft from	car <b>4/10</b>
RELIABILITY	Tested	IS200 4-dr
Petrol 03-05 00-02 97-99	SAFETY	
Breakdowns ★ ★ –	Overall	Good
Faults ★ O –	Crash test	n/a
Niggles ★ 🛧 –		

# MAZDA 6 FROM MAR 02

The 6 provides a good, if noisy, drive and has loads of boot space. It's cheap to run, fairly reliable and the generous leg- and shoulder room should keep rear passengers happy. It's a clear Best Buy.

#### **OWNERS' VERDICTS**

Driving experience	diesel ★ petrol	☆
Driving position and comfort		0
Ride quality		0
Visibility/parking		0
Instrument layout		☆
Space in front		0
Space in rear		*
Loading/storage		*
Appearance and design		☆
Noise		
Heating and ventilation		0
<b>RECOMMEND TO A FRIEN</b>	D 8	1%

Body styles 4-dr saloon, 5-dr estate, 5-dr hatchback Engines 1.8, 2.0 or 2.3 litre petrol, 2.0 litre diesel Prices new £13,112 (1.8 Sakata) to £20,202 (2.3 Sport saloon or 2.3 Sport4 estate auto) Dimensions 4.68m to 1.78m CO2 (g/km) 185 to 257 (ptl), 172 to 177 (dsl)



03-05 00-02 97-99

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#### TROUBLESPOTS

RELIABILITY Petrol

TROUBLESPOTS

Breakdowns

Faults

Niggles

2003-2005 Exhaust system (petrol), electric windows

EVALUATIO	JN
RUNNING C	OSTS
Overall	Very low
Depreciation	Average
Fuel	Average
SECURITY	
Theft of car	8/10
Theft from ca	r <b>6/10</b>
Tested	2.3 Sport
SAFETY	
Overall	Fair
Crash test	4/5

### MAZDA 626 (USED ONLY) JUN 97 TO JUN 02

The 626 is reliable and spacious but it falls short in other areas. For example, it's easy to break into the car, the ride quality is poor and the driving position is uncomfortable.

OWNERS' VERDICTS	
Driving experience	0
Driving position and comfort	e
Ride quality	9
Visibility/parking	9
Instrument layout	e
Space in front	\$
Space in rear	\$
Loading/storage	\$
Appearance and design	9
Noise	9
Heating and ventilation	\$
RECOMMEND TO A FRIEND	78%

Body styles 4-dr saloon, 5-dr hatchback, 5-dr estate Engines 1.8 or 2.0 litre petrol, 2.0 litre diesel Prices used around £2,000 to £5,500 Dimensions 4.70m x 1.76m CO2 (g/km) 184 to 214 (petrol), 152 to 158 (diesel)

03-05 00-02 97-99

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Diesel

Faults

Niggles

Breakdowns



**EVALUATION** 

2000-2002 Non-engine electrics		RUNNIN	RUNNING COSTS		
1997-1999	Braking	, system	1	Overall	-
				Depreciati	on –
				Fuel	-
				SECURIT	Y
				Theft of c	ar <b>7/10</b>
				Theft from	n car 1/10
RELIABILIT	γ			Tested	2.0 GSi
Petrol (	)3–05	00–02	97–99	SAFETY	
Breakdowns	-	*	*	Overall	Fair
Faults	-	0	0	Crash test	n/a
Niggles	-	0	*		

# MERCEDES-BENZ C-CLASS FROM SEP 00

The C-Class offers a decent drive, and petrol models are quiet, but there's not much space inside. Low depreciation is offset by high servicing and parts costs, and the diesel models are especially troublesome.

OWNERS' VERDICTS		
Driving experience		\$
Driving position and comfort		0
Ride quality	diesel O	petrol ☆
Visibility/parking		*
Instrument layout		0
Space in front		0
Space in rear		$\Theta$
Loading/storage	saloon ●	estate ☆
Appearance and design		\$
Noise	diesel O	petrol ★
Heating and ventilation		0
<b>RECOMMEND TO A FRIEN</b>	D	64%

Body styles 3-dr coupé, 4-dr saloon, 5-dr estate
Engines 1.8, 3.2 or 5.4 litre ptl, 2.1 or 2.7 litre dsl 🧧
Prices new £19,292 (C160 Kompressor coupé) 🛛 💄
to £49,512 (C55 AMG estate auto)
Dimensions 4.54m x 1.98m
CO2 (g/km) 183 to 293 (petrol), 167 to 214 (diesel

electrics, suspension, seats/seat adjusters

2000-2002 Some engine electrics (diesel), lights, some non-engine

Diesel

Faults

Niggles

Breakdowns

TROUBLESPOTS 2003-2005 Fuel system

RELIABILITY

TROUBLESPOTS



<b>EVALUATION</b>	١
RUNNING COS	STS
Overall	High
Depreciation V	ery low
Fuel	High
SECURITY	
Theft of car	7/10
Theft from car	5/10
Tested	
C200 Elegan	ce 4-dr
SAFFTY	

Good

5/5

Overall

Crash test

**EVALUATION** 

ance and design	×	Petrol	
	diesel 🔿 petrol ★	Breakdow	ns
and ventilation	С	Faults	
MMEND TO A FRIEN	D 64%	Niggles	

# MERCEDES-BENZ C-CLASS (USED ONLY) OCT 93 TO MAY 01

The older C-Class is a reasonable choice, though the saloon models are short on boot space, and spare parts and servicing are expensive. Crash protection isn't up to scratch compared with newer models, either.

OWNERS' VERDICTS		
Driving experience	diesel O petrol	$\bigcirc$
Driving position and comfort		0
Ride quality		☆
Visibility/parking	saloon ☆ estate	$\star$
Instrument layout		0
Space in front		0
Space in rear		0
Loading/storage	saloon $ullet$ estate	☆
Appearance and design		0
Noise	diesel O petrol	$\star$
Heating and ventilation		0
<b>RECOMMEND TO A FRIEN</b>	D 6	1%

Body styles 4-dr saloon, 5-dr estate Engines 1.8, 2.0, 2.3, 2.4, 2.6, 3.7 or 4.3 litre petrol, 2.2 or 2.5 litre diesel Prices used up to around £12,000 Dimensions 4.48m x 1.72m CO2 (q/km) 225 to 278 (petrol), 163 to 198

03-05 00-02 97-99

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997-1999 Lights, air conditioning RUNNING COSTS	
	Overall Average
	Depreciation Very low
	Fuel High
	SECURITY
	Theft of car 7/10
	Theft from car 4/10
RELIABILITY	Tested C200 Elegance
Petrol 03-05 00-02 97-99	SAFETY
Breakdowns – – O	Overall Fair
Faults – – O	Crash test 2/5
Niggles – – O	

03-05 00-02 97-99

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### NISSAN PRIMERA FROM FEB 02

The Primera scores fairly well for safety and security, and is cheap to run, but its owners complain of a disappointing feel to the ride.

OWNERS' VERDICTS			
Driving experience	diesel $\bigcirc$	petrol	$\Theta$
Driving position and comfort			0
Ride quality	diesel 🔵	petrol	$\Theta$
Visibility/parking			0
Instrument layout			☆
Space in front			0
Space in rear			*
Loading/storage			0
Appearance and design			☆
Noise	diesel O	petrol	☆
Heating and ventilation			☆
<b>RECOMMEND TO A FRIENI</b>	)	64	4%

Body styles 5-dr estate or 5-dr hatchback Engines 1.8 or 2.0 litre petrol, 2.2 litre diesel Prices new £14,662 (1.8S) to £21,297 (2.0 T-spec estate auto) Dimensions 4.57m x 1.76m CO2 (g/km) 177 to 220 (petrol), 164 (diesel)



TROUBLESPOTS	EVALUATIO	)N
2003-2005 Manual gearbox	RUNNING COSTS	
2000-2002 Interior equipment	Overall	Low
	Depreciation	High
	Fuel	Average
	SECURITY	
	Theft of car	7/10
	Theft from ca	r <b>5/10</b>
RELIABILITY	Tested 1.8	3 SE 4-dr
Petrol 03-05 00-02 97-99	SAFETY	
Breakdowns O O -	Overall	Fair
Faults O O -	Crash test	4/5
Niggles O O –		