

RENAULT MEGANE HATCH



Creativity and innovation have been constant factors throughout Renault's history.

They have driven our choices and guided our path. They have created vehicles that do more than just go. Or protect. Or respect the environment. Or win Formula 1 races. Creativity and innovation have, in fact, produced a series of momentous automotive breakthroughs.

For example, we invented the turbo charger, originated the hatchback, produced the first MPV, engineered the first seatbelts, and established the first comprehensive crash test program.

Today, no car is a more obvious example of our creativity and innovation at work than the new Renault Megane. Awarded European Car of the Year 2003, the new Megane has been described as the most original, confident, captivating and innovative car of the new millennium.

A car that other vehicles will come to be judged by.

So, after more than a century of automotive innovations that have helped to shape the modern car, the new Megane will re-shape your expectations of what a truly modern car should be.

Autocar magazine in the UK said, "Renault design reached a pinnacle with the new Megane, captivating consumers and press alike. The styling, confident and daring without being contrived or awkward, confirms that Renault, more than any other European car maker, has laid down a clear visual path for its future."

Indeed, they knew what they were talking about, for within a year of being launched the Megane became the biggest selling range in Europe.



5 door Dynamique model shown.

INTERIOR



Overseas model shown.



Overseas model shown.

Bold, daring and confident the new Megane may be - its beauty and appeal is more than skin deep.

Inside, tactile pleasure meets visual appeal. The shapes are smooth, the lines are clean, the features abundant and highly innovative. From the carefully considered ergonomics, to the aircraft throttle style handbrake, its standard cruise control, the cooled glovebox, the vast central storage area and the ingenious rear center armrest - the new Megane sets new standards in its class.

The interior of the new Megane is distinguished by the Renault 'Touch Design' concept. The aim of which is to make all the interior features pleasant to touch as well as rewarding to look at. Surfaces and controls have been designed not simply to function efficiently, but to be satisfyingly tactile as well.

Inside, the high, rounded roofline affords an amazing feeling of spaciousness and a remarkable amount of headroom (particularly for often neglected rear passengers).

Add to that the optional panoramic front and rear electric sunroof (Dynamique LX models only) and the new Megane somehow succeeds in feeling like a cross between a spacious European grand tourer and an exciting convertible.



PERFORMANCE



You don't become European Car of the Year for your dynamic and bold design alone.

Driving dynamics and performance have to be as sharp as the styling. The new Megane features the widest 'footprint' in its class, variable assistance electric power steering, confidence inspiring brakes and a driving position that places your derriere a mere 55 centimeters above the road. In short, the new Megane gives you that true seat-of-your-pants, can't-wipe-the-smile-off-your-face ride of your life.

The new Megane offers two engine choices that are as advanced as the styling is bold. What else would you expect from a car that 'raises the bar' in every way imaginable?

You can choose from a 1.6 litre engine producing 83 kilowatts of power coupled to a 5 speed manual or 4 speed automatic transmission, or there's a dynamic 2.0 litre, 98.5 kilowatt engine perfectly matched to a 6 speed manual or 4 speed sequential shift automatic transmission.

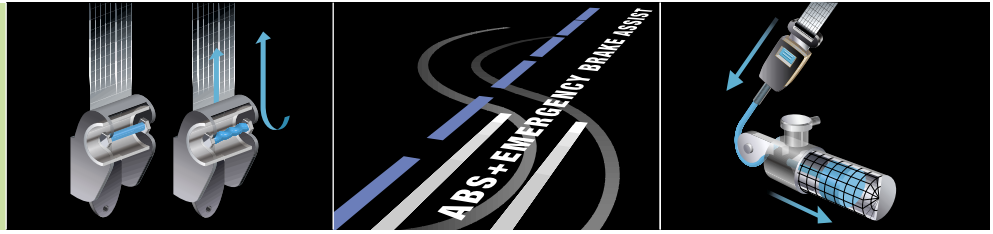
Each is equipped with an electronic throttle control and Variable Valve Timing (VVT) that deliver smooth and efficient acceleration, relaxed top-end performance and, as a result, safe overtaking, effortless cruising and all round driving pleasure. In the city, on the highway or along a twisty country road, the Megane's engine and gearbox combinations provide the perfect blend of economy and performance.

The new six speed gearbox with ratios carefully matched to the precise power characteristics of the 2.0 litre engine is designed to truly maximize its potential. It gives swift acceleration in the intermediate gears, flexibility and precision in gearchanges, lower fuel-consumption; and an unmistakable increase in driving enjoyment. The automatic transmission ensures gearchanges that are always appropriate to the road conditions and your personal driving style.

But should you wish to use the sequential shift facility - a simple movement of the lever from the Drive position puts you back in charge.



5 STAR SAFETY (ACTIVE)



Safety is at the heart of our design priorities. Indeed, the new Megane was the first car in its class to score a perfect 5 star safety rating for impact protection in the European New Car Assessment Programme (EURONCAP). In the new Megane, disc brakes all round are standard. As is ABS with EBD (Electronic Brake Distribution).

Braking effectiveness is enhanced by Emergency Brake Assist: this feature reduces braking distances by measuring the speed at which the brake pedal is applied - thus ensuring that, in emergency situations, maximum braking pressure is applied.

Automatic headlights that switch on when required, automatic windscreen wipers with rain-sensors . . . new Megane has an armoury of intelligent systems and equipment to help you travel safely.

The new Megane performs equally well in the area of passive safety. High elasticity steel, energy-absorbent front and rear crumple zones and a 'programmed deformation' body structure, all create an immensely strong survival cell for the car's occupants.

The third generation of Renault's System for Restraint and Protection (SRP) ensures the same high levels of protection for everyone on board. This exclusive package combines up to 6 airbags in the New Megane 5 door Hatch (8 in the Megane 3 door Hatch) including two-stage adaptive airbags in the front. Front side airbags and curtain airbags provide head and chest protection on each side, they combine with adaptive seatbelts fitted with double pre-tensioners (on the Megane 5 door Hatch) and load-limiters for front and outer rear seats.

The front seats of the New Megane 3 door Hatch offer unique protection against the phenomenon known as 'submarining', where the occupant slides under the seatbelt. Unique anti-submarining airbags incorporated within the two front seats prevent this phenomenon in the 3 door Hatch whilst double pretensioners perform the same role in the 5 door Hatch.

These safety systems are activated in thousandths of a second and provide levels of made-to-measure protection for the car's occupants which, quite simply, are not to be found in any other car on the market.



5 STAR SAFETY (PASSIVE)



As the active safety features on the previous page attest we believe that prevention is better than a cure. But recognizing that accidental impacts will probably never be eliminated, our designers continually seek to minimize their effects.

In the event of a crash, the vehicle structure becomes the critical element in the overall safety system. The occupants of all new Renault cars sit within a central steel safety cell. This, necessarily, is extremely rigid; but that rigidity is carefully offset by the way in which special elements deform within and around it, progressively and in a controlled way, to absorb the energy created by the impact.

Also, the protection offered by Renault Protection Systems is literally tailor-made for the vehicle's occupants. You see, the way in which the elements within the system react - inertia seat belts, load limiters, pre-tensioners, adaptive airbags and 'anti-submarining' features - is adapted to the individual physique of the wearer as well as the severity of the impact.

