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## **NEW CAR BUYING GUIDE** | MODELS TO WATCH



## Hot Redesigns

Several car makers are putting fresh faces on familiar models this year. Keep reading for the new features available on several popular models this season.

## **2023 TOYOTA COROLLA**

The Toyota Corolla, one of the world's most popular cars, rolls into the 2023 model year with a new look and several new hybrid versions.

All of the Corolla grades get a different front fascia to make them look more distinctive. Every version gets LED daytime running lights now, while the SE, XSE and XLE get redesigned LED headlights.

Four new Corolla Hybrid grades are also available for 2023, including an all-wheel-drive version. That makes the Corolla Hybrid the only AWD hybrid compact car available today, according to Toyota.

## **2023 CHEVROLET BOLT EUV**

This all-electric small crossover SUV that comes in LT, Premier and Launch Edition trim levels similar to the smaller Bolt EV. Chevy has upgraded materials inside, redesigned the dashboard and center console, installed a new infotainment system and upgraded the seats in both vehicles. The EUV is front-wheel drive only and comes with upgraded transmission controls that are better than the shifters used in previous Bolt models.

The 150-kilowatt permanent magnetic electric motor delivers 200 horsepower and 266 pound-feet of torque. You can expect to get 250 miles out of a full battery. A dual-level charging cord is standard, and Chevy pays for the installation of a Level 2 charging outlet at your home.

### **2023 NISSAN Z**

Nissan's famous sports car, the Z, gets an all-new design with a fresh,

modern look for 2023.

This year marks the start of the seventh generation for Nissan's sports car that debuted as the 240Z all the way back in 1969 under the Datsun brand.

The new Z comes with a big power upgrade compared to the outgoing model. A twin-turbocharged V6 makes 400 horsepower, which is 68 more than last year's model. That's enough to help it reach 60 mph from a standstill 15 percent faster, according to Nissan.

More importantly for purists, it's designed to deliver a quick, sharp response to driving inputs.

The new Z is available with a ninespeed automatic or a six-speed manual transmission.

## **NEW CAR BUYING GUIDE** | TRENDS

## **Electric Cars Power Ahead**

If you noticed that a lot of this year's cars were electric, you weren't alone nor were you imagining things.

Just about every carmaker debuted at least one electric model this year and some of them aren't your mom's Prius.

## 2022 FORD F-150 LIGHTNING PLATINUM

The price tag is a kilowatt away from six figures, but the Ford F-150 Lightning Platinum is an electric-powered beast. The top-of-the-line Platinum model features a larger battery with a 300-mile range and 580 horsepower and 775 poundfeet of torque. It notches 60 mph in just four seconds. Towing, as you might imagine, does a number on the range. Inside, the Lightning Platinum is luxurious, as you would expect for the price tag. It has a 15.5-inch touchscreen console and a hands-free highway driving system.

## 2022 KIA NIRO EV

Lost amid the headlines for the F-150 Lightning and new Tesla models is the Kia subcompact crossover, the Niro EV. It has an estimated range of 239 miles, more standard features than previous models — including built-in navigation — luxury features such as heated front seats. A downside is that the Niro EV is only available in certain states. The electric motor delivers 201



horsepower and hits 60 in just above 6 seconds, quicker than the Chevy Bolt EV. It also features regenerative braking, which uses the energy from your brakes to recharge the car.

## **2022 HYUNDAI IONIQ 5**

Hyundai's pledged that 30% of its global sales would be electric by 2030, centering that promise on the IONIQ platform. The IONIQ 5 gets 300 miles of estimated driving range and high-speed charging wrapped in a 1980s sci-fi design. The Hyundai electric SUV has more space than Ford's Mustang Mach-E and Volkswagen's ID.4 with a variety of trim lines that make it attractive to the first-time electric vehicle buyer. The dashboard is fully digitized with a heads-up display that can project navigation directions. The front seats have footrests so

that passengers can relax while they wait on it to charge.

## **2022 MINI SE HARDTOP**

The all-electric MINI is here and it brings revised front-end styling, new personalization options, new features but just a 110 mile range. That's shorter than the Chevy Bolt and Nissan Leaf, competitors in the tiny electric car market. However, that short range does have one major plus — Mini says it can be fastcharged to 80% in just 35 minutes. It also features regenerative braking, or charging the battery using the energy from when you brake, to maximize battery charge. It also features a unique heat pump design that uses 75% less energy than a traditional car heater. Inside, there's funky ambient lighting to go with the quirky Mini design along with an 8.8-inch touchscreen.

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## **NEW CAR BUYING GUIDE** | TRENDS

# High-Octane Pickups

The need for speed now comes with a towing capacity and payload rating. But with those mind-blowing speeds come mindblowing price tags.

## 2022 TOYOTA TUNDRA TRD PRO, FROM \$67,505

Powered by a twin-turbo V-6 and a 10-speed automatic transmission, the Tundra TRD Pro develops 437 horsepower on a hybrid powertrain. The maximum payload is 1,940 pounds in an aluminum-reinforced composite bed. It can tow 12,000 pounds and has a backup assist that learns how your trailer behaves. This year is also the first year it's been overhauled since basically its introduction more than a decade ago, and features some aggressive grill styling and optional air springs that allow the driver to lower or raise the rear end.

## 2022 FORD F-150 RAPTOR, FROM \$69,905

Ford's speedy truck is powered by a 450-horsepower twin-turbo V-6 that can come with 37-inch tires. The R-version, which has yet to debut, will feature a 700-plus horsepower V-8 that comes from the Shelby GT500. Its payload is 1,400 pounds and it can tow 8,200 pounds. The racing-inspired interior has aluminum paddle shifters for



the 10-speed transmission and optional carbon-fiber interior accents and Recaro front bucket seats.

## 2022 RAM 1500 TRX, FROM \$78,790

This is a pickup that hits 60 miles per hour in just 3.7 seconds. Wider than a regular Ram 1500, it features a supercharged Hellcat V-8 that brings 702 horsepower and a luxurious interior. The Ignition Edition is new this year to the TRX lineup; Ram only made about 875 of these for 2022 (which feels like the sum total of every pickup made this year, anyway), and they all come in a bright, eye-searing orange with black accents. If you want to shell out more than \$100,000, you

can get the Sandblast Edition, which comes with a Mojave Sand paint job and 18-inch wheels. It's payload is 1,310 pounds and it can tow 8,100 pounds.

## 2022 RIVIAN R1T LAUNCH EDITION, FROM \$74,075

This electric pickup is the fastest truck Car and Driver

has ever tested – gas or electric – hitting 60 miles per hour in just 3.3 seconds. It packs a 128.9 kilowatt lithium-ion battery and four electric motors that combine for 835 horsepower and 908 pound-feet of torque. However, the Rivian's dimensions make it more Ford Ranger-sized than F-150, so if you're looking for a big truck, look elsewhere.

© TOYOTA

## Hummers Come Purring Back

The gas-guzzling Hummer is back, but this time it's quiet as a whisper and all electric.

With distinctive Hummer styling that will have you thinking of those giant H-fronted dealerships, the Hummer EV is recognizable for what it is and innovative for what it isn't.

Let's get it out up front. It's all electric. No gas. No roaring engine. But it absolutely crushes the electric vehicle game with a mind-blowing 1,000-horsepower package that hits 60 miles per hour in just 3.3 seconds. It's wild speed in a high-tech package with an old nameplate.

Hummer EVs are all-wheeldrive and feature both front and rear motors. It also comes with a steering feature that allows it to crab sideways, which could be fun for going offroad.

The new Hummer pickup comes in three trim lines: The beast of an Edition 1, which is already sold out, even with a six-figure price tag. Next is the Hummer EV3X, which is still north of \$100,000, but comes with adjustable air suspension, hands-free driving, a television-sized infotainment display. Finally, lower trim lines will launch later this year or early 2023: The Hummer EV2X and Hummer EV2.

GMC says the Hummer EV can tow up to 7,500 pounds, which is less than the Ford F-150 Lightning. It gets an esti-



mated 329 miles out of every charge and comes with a fastcharging capability that can add 100 miles of range in just 10 minutes, GM says. It can also charge on regular public charging terminals or home outlets with an adapter, but it's slower.

Hummer EVs feature a removable roof reminiscent of the old sports car T-top and space-inspired details such as speaker grilles that show the Sea of Tranquility and moon-boot footprints on the floorboard, all nods to the electric Apollo 15 lunar rover that GM helped engineer.

Epic Games, makers of Fortnite, created the graphics for that giant infotainment interface, and connectivity options include both Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, as well as Wi-Fi and GM's OnStar system. The hands-free driving system is GM's Super Cruise, and comes standard on all Hummer EV models. It also comes with lane assist and blind-spot monitoring.

## 10 Years of the Ram 1500 Limited

This year marks one decade of the Ram 1500 Limited and, to mark the occasion, Ram is issuing 1500 Limited 10th Anniversary Edition, calling it its most luxurious truck ever.

Distinguished by an exclusive Blue Shade Pearl exterior, the four-door Ram 1500 Limited 10th Anniversary Edition will feature black argent open poor wood accents, upgraded leather, chrome accents, the Ram multifunction tailgate, a center-mounted bed step and an adjustable tie-down system. It sits atop optional 22-inch polished aluminum wheels.

A suede headliner and accents also set the 10th Anniversary Edition apart, and it will get its own indigo/sea salt gray color scheme inside, along with a special jeweled shifter cap, metal pedal kit, quilted leather center console, and other standard Limited features. The truck will also have exclusive 10th Anniversary badging inside and out, as well as custom graphics on the dashboard and infotainment systems, which includes a 900-watt, 19-speaker Harman Kardon premium audio system.

It comes with one of two powertrains, the 5.7-liter Hemi V-8 with eTorque or the 3.0-



liter EcoDiesel V6, both with an eight-speed transmission. Both engines are supported by a hybrid system, but you can opt out with the Hemi V-8. The EcoDiesel delivers 260 horsepower and 480 pound-feet of torque, while the V-8 brings 395 horses and 410 pound-feet of torque. It can tow 12,750 pounds and has a payload of 2,320 pounds.

Car and Driver calls its interior cavernous and notes that it feels more like a luxury vehicle than a pickup, and that's especially true for the upgraded Limited 10th Anniversary Edition. Available equipment includes heated and ventilated seats, a panoramic sunroof, up to a 12-inch touchscreen, a mobile hotspot and more. Those luxury touches earned the Ram 1500 the magazine's Editors' Choice award.

Driver-assistance technology includes emergency braking and lane assist, blind spot monitoring, rear cross-traffic © STELLANTIS

alert, automatic high beams and adaptive cruise control.

Other Ram special editions for 2022 include the Rebel G/T and Laramie G/T performance trucks, the outdoors-focused BackCountry, and the Hellcatpowered TRX Sandblast Edition, which also features an exclusive paint color.

## New Unibody Trucks Hit Market

Unibody trucks aren't your average pickup truck. Unibody trucks have the chassis and the body of the car together, more like cars, traditionally, than pickups.

The unibody construction helps cars to be more comfortable and smooth, while body-on-frame construction gave trucks and some SUVs the ruggedness off-roading demands.

## HYUNDAI SANTA CRUZ

You'll know this compact unibody truck when you see it. Hyundai calls it a sport adventure vehicle, and it shares a chassis and many other features with the compact Tuscon SUV. It has distinctive styling that Hyundai's known for. It comes in four trim lines: the base SE, the SEL, the SEL Premium and top-of-the-line Limited. You have two powertrain choices, a 2.5-liter four cylinder with 191 horsepower or a turbocharged 2.5-liter four cylinder with 281 horsepower. Allwheel drive is available on both. It can tow 5,000 pounds with the turbocharger and gets between 19 and 27 miles per gallon, depending on your options.

### **HONDA RIDGELINE** This is the most familiar



unibody pickup. Based on the Honda Pilot, it has a fixed allwheel-drive system and an underfloor trunk system that increases its cargo capability. It comes in four trim lines, the base Sport up to the Black Edition. The unibody construction gives it a smoother, more refined (and fuel efficient) alternative in the small pickup market. The only available powertrain is a 280-horsepower 3.5-liter V-6. It can tow 5,000 pounds and can handle a payload of 1,600 pounds, all while getting between 18 and 24 miles per gallon.

## FORD MAVERICK

The cheapest option in

Ford's pickup lineup is also the only unibody option. The Maverick starts at just over \$21,000 and comes in Ford's familiar XL, XLT and Lariat trim lines. Regardless of trim line, the Maverick sports a 191-horsepower hybrid drivetrain with a 2.5-liter gas engine and a continuously variable automatic transmission. Also available is a turbocharged 2.0-liter with an eightspeed automatic that makes 250 horsepower. Ford says the Maverick will get an EPAestimated 40 miles per gallon in the city, which is a small truck game changer. It can tow up to 4,000 pounds and take a 1,500-pound payload, depending on your options.

## **NEW CAR BUYING GUIDE** | WHAT'S AHEAD



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# Looking into the Crystal Ball

The automotive industry continues to recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and an extraordinary string of otherwise unprecedented times. Here are a few upcoming models to drool over.

## 2024 ASTON MARTIN VANQUISH

No, you don't want to know how much it costs. You will want to look at it for as long as you possibly can. Previewed by a svelte concept car at the 2019 Geneva auto show, the mid-engine supercar is destined to be the things that dreams are made of.

## **2023 CADILLAC LYRIQ**

It's the first Cadillac electric vehicle and it's a quiet, comfortable take on green luxury. It's designed to take on the Tesla Model X and the Jaguar I-Pace. The Caddy starts out at \$59,990 and has upscale features such as open pore wood on the door panels and advanced noise cancellation technology. There's also an enormous 33-inch (yes, you read that correctly) curved infotainment touchscreen that also displays the driver's gauges.

### 2023 CHEVROLET CORVETTE Z06

It's not at all electric, but it is very, very thrilling. The Z06 will feature a DOHC 32-valve, 5.5-liter V-8 with 670 horsepower that sits behind the driver. It comes with a flat-plane crankshaft and is the first of a slew of high-performance 'Vettes due out from Chevrolet.

## **2023 FORD FUSION ACTIVE**

The station wagon is back in the form of a new crossover-ish vehicle from Ford that aims to take out the supremacy of the Subaru Outback. The Fusion Active will have all-wheeldrive, a raised ride height, and there are rumors of a hybrid and plug-in hybrid powertrain.

### 2024 FORD MUSTANG

Sticking with Ford, the Mustang will celebrate its 60th anniversary with the

2024 model. There are rumors of a hybrid powertrain debuting (no, not the Mach-E) along with a fresh design. Look for a manual transmission to remain an option, as well as the four-cylinder EcoBoost and V-8 GT. Given the focus on electric vehicles, this may well be the last V-8 Mustang.

### **2024 HONDA PORLOGUE**

This electric crossover is expected in 2023 for the 2024 model year. It will use GM's Ultium battery platform and may also be offered in an Acura version with an upgraded interior and different design.