

1998 AUTO REVIEW



Mercedes ML-320



BMW 323is Convertible



Volkswagen Beetle



Volvo V70 R AWD

MERCEDES-BENZ

Mercedes is blossoming into a full-line automaker, offering an array of products appealing to different lifestyles. The most widely anticipated addition is the new M-Class all-activity vehicle, assembled in Tuscaloosa, Ala. This is Mercedes' first step into the highly competitive sport-utility market. Starting around \$35,000, the M-Class competes head-on with the Chevrolet Tahoe, Ford Explorer, and Jeep Grand Cherokee. Also new for 1998 is the CLK, powered by a new 3.2-liter, 18-valve V6 engine. The CLK coupe, moderately priced around \$40,000, is based on the C-Class. The E-Class wagon returns in 1998 with a new 3.2-liter V6. The E420 is renamed the E430, and gets a new 4.3-liter V8 engine.

BMW

Engineers at BMW are working diligently to produce a stream of new and improved models for 1998 and beyond. The Z3 M Roadster joins the line-up by next summer. The new roadster will be fitted with a 3.2-liter 240-horsepower inline-6 engine. In fact, that's the big news for the 3-series models. Replacing the 318 coupe and convertible are the more powerful 323s. BMW continues as a leader in safety with an inflatable head protection system, which will be added to the 5- and 7-series.

VOLKSWAGEN/AUDI

Volkswagen enters the near-luxury arena this fall with its new Passat, built off the Audi A4 platform. Considered a competitor to the Mercedes C-Class and BMW 3-Series in Europe, the new Passat is sturdier and bigger than the previous model. More changes are expected early next year when Passat offers a 2.8-liter, 193-horsepower V6 engine. Also next year, the long-awaited Beetle will arrive as a 1999 model. A new Golf and Jetta will arrive later in the year. Audi will offer two new models for 1998: The A4 Avant wagon, equipped with the new 5-valve V6; and the A6 Quattro mid-size sedan, powered by a 200-horsepower V6 engine.

VOLVO

Volvo, the Swedish car maker known for safety, has had a busy '98 model year. The C70 coupe, unveiled earlier this year, will be available in a convertible model, Volvo's first since 1956. The V70 wagon will come with a 190-horsepower, 2.4-liter engine compared to the V70 R with a 2.3-liter, turbo that gets 236 horses. Volvo heightens ground clearance on the V70 and adds a roof rack and other sport-utility styling to create the V70 XC AWD, its first assault on Subaru's Outback sport-utility vehicle.

It must be Magic!

"Brace-face" to "nice smile!",

C student to Head of the Class,

backpacks to briefcases,

big yellow bus to black sedan

...with tan interior, of course.

The 1998 Nissan Maxima



You've always known you could do anything you put your mind to. So how does it feel to reach the other side? Magical? That's the way it is with the newly designed 1998 Nissan Maxima*. Its luxurious interior with optional leather seating surfaces and 8-way power driver's seat provide superior comfort. And its available 200-watt Bose® CD Audio System with six speakers cradles you in Bose® sound around. And talk about magic, the Maxima's 190-horsepower V6 engine has been heralded by Automobile Magazine as one of the best V6 engines in the world.* We invite you to test drive the Maxima at your nearest Nissan Dealer. Or, if you have any questions, please give us a call at 1-800-981-8531.

Nissan Motor Corporation U.S.A.

Smart people always read the fine print. And they always wear their seatbelts.

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