

CLASSIFIEDS

Portland Observer Auto Review

News and reviews on new motor vehicles

C.N.A. needed. Contact Donna Coburn, RN, DNS at 503-288-5967. Fernhill Estates, LLC



METRO

Secretary/Receptionist, Oregon Convention Center. \$12.65 - \$16.44/hr, PT, job share. Deadline: 1/30/08.

To access the complete job announcement and required application materials, visit our website at www.metro-region.org/jobs or pick up a complete packet at Metro Human Resources, 600 NE Grand Ave., Portland. AA/EEO Employer

OUTSIDE IN

Mental Health Administrator Clinic for homeless/low-income clinic. 2 yr office admin exp. req'd. previous exp. in similar setting & bilingual Spanish pref. 40 hrs/wk.

Coordinator - Homeless Youth Program Coordinate activities for homeless youth. Qual.: MSW/MA pref., supervision, 3yrs exp. w/homeless or at-risk youth. 40 hrs/wk.

Letter & app. req'd, see: www.outsidein.org/employment.htm

LEGAL NOTICES



Need to publish a court document or notice? Need an affidavit of publication quickly and efficiently? Please fax or e-mail your notice for a free price quote!

Fax: 503-288-0015
e-mail: classifieds@portlandobserver.com
The Portland Observer

2008 Subaru Impreza 2.5i Premium Imprezza

BY KATHLEEN CARR

The 2008 Subaru Impreza has been completely redesigned. Roomier and more refined on the inside, the restyled Impreza is meant to appeal to a more mainstream audience. For the third-generation North American Impreza, Subaru corporate has a slightly different plan -- an Impreza for the masses.

At first glance, the Impreza is a pretty ordinary-looking car. In fact, it's a bit too ordinary looking -- it's nowhere near as unique and stylish as most would prefer.

No, the Subaru's real beauty is under the skin: It's the only car in its class to come standard with all-wheel-drive (AWD). Subaru's Symmetrical AWD is probably one of the most underrated safety features available. This is the foundation of every Subaru; its ideal balance helps ensure stability and poise. It is the only system that



Specifications: 2.5-Liter 224-hp @ 226 lb-ft. torque Horizontally-Opposed SOHC Engine with Symmetrical AWD; 4-Speed Automatic w/Sportshift transmission; 20-City 27-Highway MPG; \$20,303. MSRP

combines a horizontally opposed engine and a symmetrically arranged AWD system; efficiently transmitting power to ensure greater grip and quicker response.

So we've established that the new Impreza is boring to look at. And yet I'd still recommend this car -- very highly, I might add. Why? Because of the way it drives -- or more specifically, the way it drives when something goes terribly wrong right in your path.

The Impreza has a soft, comfortable, compliant ride, and yet should you find yourself with an immedi-

ate need to twist the wheel, its all-wheel-drive system hangs on to the pavement for dear life. Even when the proverbially excrement isn't about to hit fan, the Impreza is still nice to drive. Gone are the trusty old MacPherson struts up front, replaced by a more sophisticated double-wishbone suspension that does wonders to flatten out bumps and dips.

Its four-cylinder engine boasts big numbers for a compact sedan -- 2.5 liters, 170 horsepower, and 170 lb-ft of torque. Even with a 4-speed automatic -- not exactly cutting-

edge transmission technology -- my test car accelerated with authority and shrugged off the hills in and around Portland like the flatlands of Oklahoma.

The 2008 Impreza is bigger. The wheelbase has been extended almost 4 inches for both the sedan and hatchback body styles to increase rear seat legroom. There's also more interior width for passengers and, thanks to the switch to a compact double-wishbone rear suspension design, a wider cargo space.

The 2008 Subaru Impreza is available as a compact sedan or four-door hatchback. There are three main trim levels: 2.5i, Outback Sport and WRX. Base 2.5i models come with 16-inch steel wheels, air-conditioning, a CD/MP3 player, cruise control, tilt steering and full power accessories. Opting for a 2.5i model fitted with the Premium Package is a good idea. This gets you alloy wheels, an upgraded audio system with an auxiliary jack and steering-wheel-mounted controls, a leather-wrapped steering wheel and extra safety equipment. It's also the only way to get the optional satellite radio and navigation system.

All Imprezas include an impressive array of safety features. They include six airbags and four-wheel-

disc antilock brakes. Standard safety features on the Impreza include antilock brakes and side curtain airbags. Base 2.5i models have rear drum brakes. Getting a 2.5i with the Premium package is a wise idea as it adds rear disc brakes, the Brake Assist (BA) feature for the antilock brakes, stability control and a hill-holder function for manual transmission-equipped cars. These upgrades come standard on the Outback Sport and WRX. The 2.5i models also have active front head restraints to help reduce crash-induced whiplash.

In summation, this new Impreza is a much better car than the outgoing one, and I believe most new car buyers will be impressed with all that's been done. Make sure not to forget to factor in the Impreza's extremely strong resale value when tallying up your comparison notes, and how easy it is to sell when it comes time to move up to a newer model. In most respects, the 2008 Subaru Impreza is a better value than most available in this segment. It's more accessible, refined and comfortable, just like Subaru wanted. But lost in the transformation was the Impreza's spunky personality. Overall for value and safety the 2008 Impreza remains mighty impressive.



2008 Dodge Viper It's Venomous

After a one-year hiatus, the Dodge Viper returns for 2008 brandishing a more powerful V10 engine, more aggressive hood styling, available two-tone cockpit accents and new colors that include "Snakeskin Green."

The unquestioned king of speed in the under-\$100K supercar segment, the tightly

focused and admittedly primitive 2008 Dodge Viper makes no apologies for its lack of key luxury and safety features.

The 2008 Dodge Viper is one of the fastest production cars in the world. The V10's massive pistons thump around with enough energy to shake the entire car, and its exhaust pops and bangs like a rusty Tommy gun. Even without traction control, the massive rear tires make fast starts easier than you might think. First gear is good for 62 mph and so forceful and

unrelenting is the Viper's acceleration that keeping it pinned will push the coupe to 200 mph.

Under the long hood is an 8.4-liter V10 engine that puts out stupendous numbers: 600 hp and 560 pound-feet of torque. All that thrust runs to the fat rear tires through a six-speed manual gearbox (the only transmission available) and can catapult the Viper to 60 mph in just 3.7 seconds and through the quarter-mile in only 11.8 seconds. Not much on the planet can touch this Dodge.

2008 Auto Show



2008 BMW 1-Series The Young Enthusiast

The 2008 BMW 1-Series will come here as a premium-equipped six-cylinder two-door coupe and convertible.

With the shared engines, it is expected that the 1-Series will also share a pair of six-speed transmissions with the 3-Series. A manual will be standard, joined by an optional automatic. The 2008 BMW 1-Series should also include expected BMW standards like antilock brakes, traction/stability control, a full complement of airbags, and even run-flat tires to maximize cargo space

in what is bound to be a pretty tight package.

The 2-door coupe version of the BMW 1-series will go on sale in the United States in 2008 in the guise of the 128i and 135i. A foot or so shorter than the 3-series coupe, the rear-wheel-drive 1-series will share its inline six-cylinder engines with its bigger sisters, with the 128i getting a 230 horsepower version and the 135i getting the twin-turbo 300 hp powerplant.

As the least-expensive model in the lineup, the 1 Series should entice young enthusiasts into BMW showrooms where they will no doubt begin a lifelong love affair with this Bavarian automaker.

2008 MINI Cooper Clubman

The Bigger Mini

Two different versions of the Mini Cooper Clubman will be initially launched in the United States. The standard model is the Mini Clubman. It is equipped with a 1.6-liter four-cylinder developing 120 hp. The Mini Cooper Clubman S offers the highest performance from a 1.6-liter four-cylinder with a twin-scroll turbocharger, increasing rated output to 175 hp. The Mini Cooper Clubman is equipped with standard 15-inch wheels. The performance-oriented Mini Cooper Clubman S features 16-inch rims with run-flat tires. Sport packages, and a long list of options and customizations, are available on either model.

The Mini Cooper Clubman is 9.45" longer than the standard Mini Cooper, with a 3.15" stretch behind the wheels. The additional room is



split between the back seat and the cargo bay. In order to ease back-seat access, the Mini Cooper Clubman has a "suicide" rear door on the right side, similar to that found on extended-cab pickups. Out back, the regular Cooper's swing-out tailgate is replaced by twin swing-out doors, homage to the Mini Traveller and Mini Countryman, the extended-length versions of the original Mini (built 1961-1969).

2009 Subaru Forester Where Everyday Meets Adventure

Subaru will finally show the Forester some love when it introduces an all-new version of the crossover SUV in 2008 auto show. Like all current Subies, the Forester will tackle pavement and trails with all-wheel drive. Also standard are side-curtain airbags with a rollover sensor, in case the foresting gets out of hand.

Subaru didn't miss an opportunity to allow the wagon-like crossover to grow up a bit. The Forester gets a 3.6-inch increase in wheelbase, with about three inches added in overall length. The engines motivating the new Forester are flat fours, one turbo-charged and one normally aspirated. Power outputs haven't been released

but Subaru says in a press release that the 2.5-liter fours will offer better low-end and mid-range torque.

Manual and automatic transmissions will be offered; manual-equipped cars will get a hill-start helper that keeps the Forester from rolling backward when launching uphill. Safety features will include stability and traction control and curtain airbags, along with antilock braking. Satellite radio lovers can pick up XM or Sirius, and an auxiliary input will please those toting MP3 players. Satellite navigation will also be available for the first time on the 2009 Forester.



BUSINESS directory

Les Whitworth C.P.A.
5421 NE 33rd Avenue
Portland, OR 97211
Phone 503-295-1939 Cell 503-875-1630
Fax 503-295-1065
www.leswhitworthcpa.com
email: les@leswhitworthcpa.com

BARDY TROPHY COMPANY
Since 1924
2500 NE MLK Jr. Blvd
Portland, OR 97212
Plaques • Trophies • Awards
Email: sales@bardytrophy.com (503) 282-7787
www.bardytrophy.com Fax: (503) 282-3182

State Farm®
Providing Insurance and Financial Services
Home Office, Bloomington, Illinois 61710
Ernest J. Hill, Jr.
Agent
4946 N Vancouver Avenue, Portland, OR 97217
503 286 1103 Fax 503 286 1146
ernie.hill.h5mb@statefarm.com
24 Hour Good Neighbor Service®

Century 21
Hart Realty
9738 SE Washington St., Suite Q
Portland, Oregon 97216
Business (503) 252-2121
Fax (503) 252-2621 • Cell (503) 789-0861
E-Mail eddie.lincoln@century21.com
Each office is independently Owned and Operated

Finding the right loan is not hard when you have a great Lender Relationship.
We are - LOCAL!
Reduce your monthly debts starting today!
Get rid of that 1st and 2nd mortgage payment for a **One Loan Fixed Rate Mortgage.**
Call today for your - Personalized Rate Quote!
503-972-2719 office - 503-975-2769 cell
ckyles@mtglender.com
www.calvinkyles.com

Wally Tesfa
Residential and Commercial Broker
Oregon/Washington
503-267-7586 cell
503-249-1903 office
503-249-6527 fax
wtesfa1@comcast.net

U-Licious SMOKEHOUSE And grill
Specializing in Smoked & BBQ Meats & Seafood
Beef • Pork • Lamb • Poultry • Seafood
Lunch \$5.95, Dinner \$9.95 and up
Pork Rib, Brisket, Turkey, Chicken, Ox Tails & More
Beer and Wine Available
Open 11:30 AM - 9:00 PM Monday thru Saturday
Fried Shrimp Dinner
10-Large Shrimp \$10⁹⁵ with two sides
4057 N. Interstate Ave. 503-493-9414

Kens Mobile D.J. Services
Weddings
Birthday Parties
Family Reunions
Business Functions
Night Clubs
Fund Raisers
Receptions
School Functions
Kenneth Scott
DJ Service On The Move
"Tough times don't last but tough people do"