

Mazda and Mercedes-Benz top 'motoring.com.au awards' for 2015

5am, September 24, 2015; Melbourne

Mazda has beaten Mercedes-Benz to top the list as the most awarded brand in the 2015 motoring.com.au Recommends awards. The ever-popular Japanese brand beat the German luxury icon eight to seven to take out the most awards in motoring.com.au's 2015 list.

The brands with the next best performances were prestige marques BMW and Audi, which tied on six 'gongs' each. Mass-market brands Ford and Volkswagen rounded out the top five with five and four 'Recommends' awards respectively. Local manufacturer Holden failed to make the list for the first time.

The Model S, the first four-door from controversial 'disruptor' car brand Tesla, was awarded in two categories.

motoring.com.au and carsales.com Ltd Editor-in-Chief, Mike Sinclair, said "We judge new cars in the real environment – where consumers use and abuse them. Each year, the bar rises significantly as technology and quality improve making it harder for brands to make the listing".

The motoring Recommends awards not only reward excellence but also are an easily recognised tool via which new car buyers can narrow their search. "Based on our testing and using lifestyle categories, motoring.com.au 'Recommends' recognises and awards the best new cars on sale today and represent informed choices for new car shoppers," said Sinclair.

Mazda received 'Recommends' awards for its CX-3 and CX-5 crossovers and well as Mazda 2, 3, 6 and BT-50. The brand-new MX-5 roadster also received a motoring.com.au award.

"We are thrilled that Mazda has been acknowledged across 8 categories," said Martin Benders, Managing Director Mazda Australia. "This number of awards is a great acknowledgement of the balance of style, interior refinement, value and cost of ownership that you get when you buy a Mazda".

Mercedes models that were lauded include the new Mercedes-AMG GT S sportscar and Mercedes-Benz C-Class, CLS and S-Class models.

motoring.com.au's expert team considers a wide range of attributes in making choices for each of the categories: performance; refinement; handling; suitability for purpose and value for money. Resale, reliability and factors such as warranty and the availability or otherwise of benefits such as capped-price servicing are also important considerations.

As carsales.com Ltd's editorial brand, motoring.com.au 'powers' all automotive editorial content across the carsales network of websites.

"It is a great reward for Mazda to be recognised by the experienced team at motoring.com.au so comprehensively across the Mazda range," Benders added.

Ends

Media release

2015 motoring.com.au 'Recommends' winners

City Car:	BMW i3 Kia Rio Mazda CX-3 Renault Clio Volkswagen Polo
First Car:	Ford Fiesta Kia Rio Mazda 2 Skoda Fabia Volkswagen Polo
Family Car under \$30K:	Hyundai i30 Mazda3 Peugeot 308 Skoda Octavia Volkswagen Golf
Family Car over \$30K:	Citroen C4 Grand Picasso Hyundai Santa Fe Kia Sorento Mazda 6 Skoda Octavia Scout
Green:	Audi A3 e-tron Sportback BMW i3 Mercedes-Benz S 300 Hybrid Tesla Model S Toyota Camry Hybrid
Off-road:	Ford Ranger Land Rover Discovery 4 Mazda BT-50 Nissan Navara Toyota LandCruiser Prado
Performance Car under \$100K:	Audi S1 quattro BMW M235i Ford Fiesta ST Mazda MX-5 Mercedes-AMG A 45
Performance Car over \$100K:	Jaguar F-TYPE Mercedes-AMG C 63 Mercedes-AMG GT Porsche 911 Porsche Cayman
Prestige Car under \$100K:	Audi A3 Audi A6 BMW 3 Series Jaguar XE Mercedes-Benz C-Class
Prestige Car over \$100K:	Audi A7 Sportback BMW 6 Series Gran Coupe Mercedes-Benz CLS-Class Mercedes-Benz S-Class Tesla Model S
SUV under \$50K:	Honda HR-V Hyundai Sante Fe Hyundai Tucson Kia Sorento Mazda CX-5
SUV over \$50K:	Audi Q7 BMW X5 Land Rover Discovery Sport Porsche Macan Range Rover Sport
Tradie:	Ford Ranger Ford Transit Custom Mazda BT-50 Renault Trafic Volkswagen Amarok

Media release

Notes for editors:

- Full listing available at <http://www.motoring.com.au/recommendedcars>
- Only cars on sale to the general public and driven by motoring.com.au before September 1, 2015 were eligible for the awards.

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