

GK Mazda 2 Range

Mark 2 is set to impress



The Mazda2 didn't put too big a dent in the national consciousness the first time round. The second generation model looks as if it'll do a whole lot better.

Mazda sold 410,000 from 2003 to 2007 but for a company that usually takes a big slice of the small car pie, the UK didn't account for too many of those sales. The replacement model has to do a whole lot better. Thankfully, Mazda have equipped it to succeed.

Most buyers will opt for petrol power where there's a choice of 75 or 86ps 1.3-litre engines or a vaguely sporty 102ps 1.5. Dealers will also take orders for a 1.4-litre 68ps diesel. Prices start at £8,499 for the entry-level 75ps 1.3, but even at this level, you get a decent kit quotient.

The car that Mazda whipped the dust sheets off at

the Geneva Motor Show in 2007 was undoubtedly a very tidy piece of styling. With a sharply rising waistline that suggested a three-door bodyshell, it was clear that the company had managed to give the car a lithe profile while keeping the practicality of five doors. Top marks on that score, although a three-door model is due.

The interior features a number of welcome design touches. In total there's 250 litres of storage space which isn't half bad for a supermini. Silver on black detailing on the fascia gives a rather more grown up look and feel than many key rivals.

The styling is neat, the cabin well finished and the Mazda brand is now in ruder health than at any point I can remember. See your local GK Mazda showroom to fully appreciate the new Mazda2. Sherwood Oaks Business Park, Southwell Road, Mansfield. ■

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Mazda Range: Urban 18.1 (15.6) - 47.9 (5.9), Extra Urban 32.5 (8.7) - 70.6 (4.0), Combined 25.2 (11.2) - 60.1 (4.7). CO₂ emissions (g/km) 124 - 284.

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