

Goss' Garage

VEHICLE ROAD TEST AND REVIEW

My tests are very different than most as I don't care how fast a car can go around a corner, if it is two-tenths of a second faster to sixty or how well it does at the track because I don't take my cars to the track. Actually I don't consider performance at all unless it is so bad the vehicle can not be recommended. Only you can determine what meets your performance expectations. My tests deal with practical aspects of long-term vehicle ownership including the difficulty of performing basic services which are becoming very costly on some models.

Although I give some subjective ratings (5 excellent, 1 poor) it is best that you spend seat-time in the vehicle because what I like you might hate. A good way to become really acquainted with a vehicle without buying it is to rent the same car for a weekend and drive it under lots of different conditions. Never buy a car in the rain. Never buy a car without a road test and inspection of the actual car you will drive home. In other words just road testing a demonstrator is not acceptable as no two cars are exactly alike.

I also do not compare vehicles to others of a different class and I do not set a standard above what the car was designed to provide. For instance, I don't compare the ride and handling of an entry-level vehicle to an upscale prestige model. For more help in buying the right car visit our buying help section. Drive Gently --- Pat Goss.

VEHICLE STATISTICS

YEAR 2009 MAKE Jaguar MODEL XF ENGINE 4.2 Supercharged
420 Horsepower
TRANSMISSION Auto BODY STYLE 4 DR. MILES AT TEST 3,400
DRIVE WHEELS --- FRONT _____ REAR X ALL-WHEEL _____ FOUR-WHEEL _____
TEST DATE 05-09 WEATHER Rain MSRP 66,675.00
NOTES Very Peppy

OBSERVED MILES PER GALLON

HIGHWAY _____ CITY _____ COMBINED 18.2
NOTES _____

BACKUP CAMERA --- YES NO _____

BACKUP ALERT --- YES NO _____

FRONT PARK ALERT --- YES NO _____

SIGNAL MIRRORS --- YES NO _____

HOW WELL DOES IT HANDLE --- 5 4 _____ 3 _____ 2 _____ 1 _____

NOTES _____

CONVENIENCE

TRUNK ACCESS --- 5 _____ 4 _____ 3 _____ 2 _____ 1 _____

TRUNK VOLUME --- 5 _____ 4 3 _____ 2 _____ 1 _____

USABLE CUP HOLDERS --- 5 _____ 4 _____ 3 2 _____ 1 _____ NUMBER _____

STEERING WHEEL CONTROLS FOR --

-- AUDIO --- YES NO _____

-- CLIMATE CONTROL --- YES _____ NO

-- TELEPHONE --- YES NO _____

-- CRUISE CONTROL --- YES NO _____

BLUETOOTH EQUIPPED --- YES NO _____

HOME LINK --- YES NO _____

POWER DRIVER'S SEAT --- YES NO _____

POWER PASS SEAT --- YES NO _____

HEATED SEATS --- YES NO _____

COOLED SEATS --- YES NO _____

LUMBAR SUPPORT --- YES NO _____

REAR SEAT ROOM --- 5 _____ 4 _____ 3 _____ 2 1 _____

AUTO DIM REAR VIEW MIRROR INSIDE --- YES NO

AUTO DIM OUTSIDE MIRROR --- YES NO

FOLDING REAR SEATS --- YES NO

NOTES Seat Cushion moves FOR and AFT Independent of Back Rest Heated Steering Wheel

THE REALLY IMPORTANT THINGS

OIL CHANGE DIFFICULTY --- 5 4 3 2 1

OIL FILTER DIFFICULTY --- 5 4 3 2 1

SPARK PLUG DIFFICULTY --- 5 4 3 2 1

WATER PUMP DIFFICULTY --- 5 4 3 2 1

DRIVE BELT DIFFICULTY --- 5 4 3 2 1

TIRE / WHEEL DAMAGE RISK --- 5 4 3 2 1

AIR FILTER DIFFICULTY --- 5 4 3 2 1 2 Filters

BATTERY DIFFICULTY --- 5 4 3 2 1 TRUNK

THERMOSTAT DIFFICULTY --- 5 4 3 2 1

HEADLAMP REPLACEMENT DIFFICULTY --- 5 4 3 2 1

OTHER LAMPS DIFFICULTY --- 5 4 3 2 1

UNIQUE WIPER BLADES --- YES NO

TIRE ROTATION POSSIBLE --- YES NO

OVERALL REPAIR COMPLEXITY --- 5 4 3 2 1

PROPRIETARY TOOLS FOR ROUTINE SERVICES --- YES NO ???

REQUIRES UNUSUAL ENGINE OIL --- YES NO

REQUIRES SPECIAL COOLANT --- YES NO

REQUIRES SPECIAL TRANSMISSION FLUID --- YES NO

COMFORT

SEATS --- 5 ___ 4 ___ 3 2 ___ 1 ___

STEERING WHEEL --- 5 ___ 4 ___ 3 2 ___ 1 ___

LEFT ARM REST --- 5 ___ 4 ___ 3 ___ 2 1 ___

CENTER ARM REST --- 5 ___ 4 ___ 3 ___ 2 1 ___

PEDAL POSITION --- 5 ___ 4 ___ 3 2 ___ 1 ___

GAUGE VISIBILITY --- 5 ___ 4 ___ 3 ___ 2 ___ 1

COMPLEXITY OF CONTROLS --- 5 ___ 4 ___ 3 ___ 2 ___ 1

CONTROL ERGONOMICS --- 5 ___ 4 ___ 3 ___ 2 ___ 1

NOTES Lots of poorly identified controls

SAFETY

VISIBILITY FORWARD --- 5 ___ 4 3 ___ 2 ___ 1 ___

VISIBILITY REARWARD --- 5 ___ 4 ___ 3 ___ 2 1 ___

VISIBILITY LEFT --- 5 ___ 4 3 ___ 2 ___ 1 ___

VISIBILITY RIGHT --- 5 ___ 4 3 ___ 2 ___ 1 ___

MIRROR VISIBILITY INSIDE --- 5 ___ 4 ___ 3 ___ 2 1 ___

MIRROR VISIBILITY OUTSIDE RIGHT --- 5 ___ 4 ___ 3 2 ___ 1 ___

MIRROR VISIBILITY OUTSIDE LEFT --- 5 ___ 4 ___ 3 2 ___ 1 ___

ABS --- YES NO ___

TRACTION CONTROL --- YES NO ___

ANTI SLIP REGULATION --- YES NO ___

LANE AVOIDANCE --- YES NO ___

DROWSINESS MONITOR --- YES ___ NO

USES REGULAR FUEL --- YES ___ NO ___

"RECOMMENDS" PREMIUM FUEL --- YES ___ NO ___

"REQUIRES" PREMIUM FUEL --- YES NO ___

NOTES _____

OBSERVED QUALITY

INTERIOR MATERIALS -- 5 4 ___ 3 ___ 2 ___ 1 ___

EXTERIOR MATERIALS -- 5 ___ 4 ___ 3 2 ___ 1 ___

INTERIOR FIT -- 5 4 ___ 3 ___ 2 ___ 1 ___

EXTERIOR FIT -- 5 4 ___ 3 ___ 2 ___ 1 ___

STAINLESS STEEL EXHAUST --- YES NO ___

TIMING CHAIN BELT ___

TRUNK FINISH -- 5 4 ___ 3 ___ 2 ___ 1 ___

PAINT QUALITY -- 5 4 ___ 3 ___ 2 ___ 1 ___

UNPAINTED PLASTIC ON EXTERIOR --- YES ___ NO

MY GENERAL IMPRESSION OF THIS VEHICLE -- 5 ___ 4 ___ 3 ___ 2 ___ 1 ___

NOTES AND COMMENTS Extremely powerful, moderately economical (For its horsepower) Good looking car with Great Features But --- The controls !! Equal !! Check them Before you Buy