

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 Lincoln MODEL MKS ENGINE 3.7 DOHC V6

TRANSMISSION Auto 6 BODY STYLE 4 DR MILES AT TEST 8,200

DRIVE WHEELS -- FRONT REAR ALL-WHEEL FOUR-WHEEL

TEST DATE 03-09 WEATHER Clear Chilly MSRP 47,065

NOTES Big, Glamorous Luxury 4 DR Sedan

OBSERVED MILES PER GALLON

HIGHWAY CITY 14.2 COMBINED 21.7

NOTES

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 Comfortable, Supportive seats Pleasing
Interior with lots of leather
VB Performance with V6 Economy - Nice!

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

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 Big but roof "Boaty" European Feel Low Headliner
In Rear Looks Strange and Blocks view in
Rear view mirror. No auto signals. No signal
MIRRORS.

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 TRUNK Opening is Small but Trunk is Huge = Small opening makes it impossible To load Bigger Items. IF you need a usable TRUNK check closely BEFORE you Buy This car. For me it would Be a Deal Breaker

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

BATTERY DIFFICULTY --- 5 4 3 2 1

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

USES REGULAR FUEL --- YES NO

"RECOMMENDS" PREMIUM FUEL --- YES NO

"REQUIRES" PREMIUM FUEL --- YES NO

NOTES Capless Fuel Fill

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 Highly Pleasant CAR with nice
Features But check its Quirks Before signing

