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Home > Cars > Models > Toyota Prius

Cars

CR CONTENT AVAILABLE ONLY TO SUBSCRIBERS

SELECTED MODEL

- New car Used car

Toyota Prius



Base MSRP price range: \$22,000 - \$24,270

Price it Compare it

Car Type: Family sedans

CR overall score 80 OUT OF 100



Highs Fuel economy, low emissions, transmission, ride, hatchback versatility, reliability.

Lows Steering feel, multifunction display, low-beam HID headlights.

Tested versions:

Touring 4-cyl CVT (shown)

Compare all sedans by:

- Overall Ratings Dimensions Performance Predicted Reliability Owner Satisfaction

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- Overview Ratings & Specs Road Test Reliability Owner Satisfaction Prices & Costs Photos & Video

CR Model Summary

The Prius has excellent fuel economy, decent acceleration, and good interior room. It couples a 1.5-liter gasoline engine with an electric motor and automatically switches between them or runs on both as needed. The engine shuts off at idle and the car can run on electric power at low speeds. The battery is charged while coasting or braking. The base version returned 44 mpg overall in our tests. Ride and handling are sound, but the steering is vague. The Touring version has better handling and braking, but returns a slightly worse 42 mpg overall. A rear camera is available and highly recommended. Electronic stability control is just optional. A 2010 redesign is around the corner.

See full road test

General Model Specs

Table with specifications: Body styles (4-door Hatchback), Drive wheels (Front), Seating (2 front, 3 rear), Engines available (1.5-liter 4 hybrid (110 hp)), Transmissions available (CVT), Warranty (Basic: 3/36, Powertrain: 5 year/ 60,000 mile)

Ratings Report Card - Touring 4-cyl CVT

Ratings Report Card table with categories: Predicted reliability, Owner satisfaction, Predicted depreciation, Accident avoidance, Crash protect w/w/o side air bag, Fuel economy, Acceleration, Ride, Front seat comfort, Owner Costs

See how this model did in more than 50 tests

Road Test - Touring 4-cyl CVT

The high-end Touring version of the Prius has wider wheels and tires and a tighter suspension than the car's base version. Along with an option package including electronic stability control, this Touring Prius did have better handling and braking th...



Jake Fisher and Gabriel Shenhar

Read the complete road test

Reliability History - Toyota Prius

Reliability History table showing trouble spots by year from 99 to 08 for categories: Engine Major, Engine Cooling, Transmission Major, Electrical System, New Car Prediction (MUCH BETTER THAN AVERAGE)

Recommended Alternatives

May we also suggest that you research these vehicles:



Volkswagen Jetta



Honda Civic



Nissan Altima

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Trouble spots by year	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08
Transmission Minor	-	-	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Drive System	-	-	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Fuel System	-	-	○	●	○	●	●	●	●	●
Engine Minor	-	-	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Electrical System	-	-	●	●	●	○	●	●	●	●
New Car Prediction	MUCH BETTER THAN AVERAGE									

[See the complete reliability history](#)

Safety Specs

Safety belts

Pretensioners, front/rear	Yes/no
Center-rear	3-point

Air bags

Occupant sensing system	Front
Side air bags, front/rear	Standard/no
Side curtain air bags	Standard
Accident alert system	Not available

Active safety features

Antilock brakes	Standard
Traction control	Standard
Stability control	Optional
Daytime running lights	Not available
Tire pressure monitor	Available

Crash and rollover tests

Gov't front-crash test, driver	●
Gov't front-crash test, front passenger	●
Gov't side-crash test, driver	●
Gov't side-crash test, rear passenger	●
Gov't rollover test, 2WD	●
Gov't rollover test, 4WD	NA
IIHS offset crash test	Good
IIHS side crash test, with side air bags	Good
IIHS side crash test, without side air bags	NA

[See complete specifications](#)

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