

# Test Vehicle Selection

## Version I

May 2021



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## TEST VEHICLE SELECTION

The vehicles we use in our crash test programs are usually those that most closely meet the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) definitions of "typically equipped" vehicles for each class (as shown below in *Definitions of Typically Equipped Vehicles by Class*).

However for some test programs, including headlight, automatic emergency breaking, and research, we often use vehicles that have higher trim levels (that is, vehicles that are not popularly equipped).

When a given model is available in more than one body style (e.g., sedan and hatchback), we usually test the most popular body style, although this is not always the case. To determine the most popular body styles, we review counts of insurance policies from the Highway Loss Data Institute, which serve as our main source of information. The crash test rating is applied only to the tested body style, except that sedans and hatchbacks, as a general rule, share the rating.

Sedan/hatchback ratings may be assigned to station wagons of the same model (and vice versa), if the manufacturer provides engineering drawings showing that the structures and occupant restraint systems are comparable. Corporate twins of the same body style and with identical structure and restraints are assigned the same rating based on the one test.

### Definitions of Typically Equipped Vehicles by Class

#### *Microcars and minicars*

- 2-wheel drive
- Four-door

#### *Small cars*

2-wheel drive

#### *Midsize cars*

2-wheel drive

#### *Midsize luxury cars*

2-wheel drive

#### *Large cars*

2-wheel drive

#### *Large luxury cars*

2-wheel drive

#### *Small SUVs*

4-wheel drive

#### *Midsize SUVs*

4-wheel drive

#### *Midsize luxury SUVs*

4-wheel drive

#### *Large SUVs*

4-wheel drive

#### *Minivans*

2-wheel drive

#### *Small and large pickups*

- 4-wheel drive
- Crew cab
- Short bed (nominal 6 foot)