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14 Used Cars to Avoid Buying in 2023



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When shopping for a used car, it's crucial to make an informed decision to avoid potential pitfalls. To assist buyers in their quest for reliable vehicles, we have compiled a list of 14 used cars that may not meet expectations in 2023. From performance shortcomings to outdated features and lackluster reliability, these models have various drawbacks that make them less desirable choices. Read on to discover the cars you should avoid and the reasons behind their inclusion on this list.

1. 2021 Mitsubishi Outlander

Overall Score: 6.5

The 2021 Mitsubishi Outlander, a compact SUV accommodating five passengers, was solely available with a plug-in hybrid powertrain for that model year. Despite its decent cargo room, the Outlander suffers from outdated styling and a cheap overall

1

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feel. These factors contribute to its subpar performance when compared to rivals in the segment.

2. 2021 Nissan Rogue Sport

Overall Score: 6.5

The 2021 Nissan Rogue Sport is a subcompact SUV that has its merits. With ample cargo space and a range of standard driver aids, it initially appears promising. However, its weaknesses prevent it from being a top choice within its competitive class. The underpowered 141-horsepower engine struggles during highway passing and merging maneuvers, dampening the overall driving experience.

3. 2020 Dodge Journey

Overall Score: 6.4

The 2020 Dodge Journey, a midsize SUV with three rows of seating, provides a smooth ride but falls short in other aspects. Its underpowered four-cylinder engine struggles to deliver adequate acceleration, and the cabin disappoints with its abundance of cheap plastics, failing to meet the standards set by its class competitors.

4. 2021 Toyota Sequoia

Overall Score: 6.4

The 2021 Toyota Sequoia, though equipped with a potent 381-horsepower engine and a spacious cabin, feels outdated due to its platform dating back to 2008. While it offers ample room for passengers and cargo, the Sequoia's handling is sloppy, the ride occasionally harsh, the infotainment system outdated, and its gas mileage disappointing.

5. 2020 Fiat 500L

Overall Score: 6.4

The 2020 Fiat 500L, a compact wagon, excels in providing ample cargo space. However, its disappointing fuel economy, underwhelming engine performance, and shaky ride quality on uneven road surfaces detract from its appeal. These drawbacks hinder the 500L from standing out in its class.

6. 2021 Fiat 500X

Overall Score: 6.4

The 2021 Fiat 500X has a stylish cabin with chic retro aesthetics and an easy-to-use infotainment system. However, its significant flaws make it a less desirable option. The 500X offers a brittle ride on rough roads and loses steam on the highway, compromising its overall performance.

7. 2020 Dodge Grand Caravan

Overall Score: 6.3

While minivans are renowned for family transportation, the 2020 Dodge Grand Caravan falls short compared to its competitors in the class. Although it offers a flexible cabin, its firmer ride and lackluster interior quality fail to meet the expectations of buyers seeking a comfortable and upscale minivan experience.

8. 2015 Nissan Titan

Overall Score: 6.2

The 2015 Nissan Titan, despite its imposing appearance and powerful V8 engine, lags behind other full-size pickup trucks in several areas. Its outdated interior, limited tech and safety features, and less comfortable ride quality make it a less desirable option. Additionally, below-average fuel economy and reported issues with powertrain and electronic stability control further contribute to its inclusion on this list.

9. 2019 Buick Cascada

Overall Score: 6.2

The Buick Cascada, a small four-seat convertible, bid farewell after the 2019 model year. While it offers the expected cushioned ride associated with Buick vehicles and boasts a generous array of standard features, it falls short in certain areas. Its lackluster performance and poor fuel economy put it behind more capable rivals.

10. 2020 Nissan 370Z

Overall Score: 6.2

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The 2020 Nissan 370Z, a budget-friendly sports car, impresses with its handling and composed turns. However, its stiff ride, outdated interior styling, and excessive road noise detract from the overall driving experience, making it less appealing when compared to other options in its category.

11. 2019 Mitsubishi Eclipse Cross

Overall Score: 6.1

The 2019 Mitsubishi Eclipse Cross boasts solid gas mileage but struggles in other crucial areas. Its weak acceleration and noisy engine, combined with a CVT transmission, hinder the driving experience and may not meet the expectations of buyers seeking a more refined compact SUV.

12. 2015 Mitsubishi Lancer

Overall Score: 6.0

The 2015 Mitsubishi Lancer may boast sporty vibes, agile handling, and responsive steering, but it falls short compared to its competitors in the small car segment. With a stiff and uncomfortable ride, outdated interior styling, and below-average crash-test ratings, it struggles to inspire confidence among buyers.

13. 2021 Ford EcoSport

Overall Score: 5.6

The 2021 Ford EcoSport, a subcompact SUV, offers maneuverability and solid cargo capacity. However, it falls behind its segment counterparts in various aspects. The firm suspension compromises ride quality, and the base engine lacks adequate acceleration, making it less appealing compared to other options available.

14. 2021 Mitsubishi Mirage

Overall Score: 5.4

While the 2021 Mitsubishi Mirage offers strong gas mileage and affordability, it falls short in other critical areas. Its underpowered engine and sluggish acceleration make it feel inadequate on the road, while the interior lacks refinement. Buyers seeking a

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more powerful and refined driving experience may want to explore other options in the market.

Making Informed Choices for a Reliable Used Car

When considering a used car purchase, it's essential to be aware of the potential drawbacks certain models may possess. The 14 cars mentioned above have various shortcomings, ranging from performance issues and outdated features to lackluster reliability and underwhelming driving experiences. By avoiding these models and conducting thorough research, buyers can make more informed decisions and find a used car that better aligns with their needs and expectations.

Updated List of the 14 Used Cars to Avoid Buying In 2023

Rank	Year	Make	Model	Overall Score
1	2021	Mitsubishi	Outlander	6.5
2	2021	Nissan	Rogue Sport	6.5
3	2020	Dodge	Journey	6.4
4	2021	Toyota	Sequoia	6.4
5	2020	Fiat	500L	6.4
6	2021	Fiat	500X	6.4
7	2020	Dodge	Grand Caravan	6.3
8	2015	Nissan	Titan	6.2
9	2019	Buick	Cascada	6.2
10	2020	Nissan	370Z	6.2
11	2019	Mitsubishi	Eclipse Cross	6.1

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12	2015	Mitsubishi	Lancer	6.0
13	2021	Ford	EcoSport	5.6
14	2021	Mitsubishi	Mirage	5.4