

# Purchase safer vehicles



When choosing your next car put safety high on your priority list - opt for one with a high safety rating to help keep you, your passengers and other road users safe.



## The facts

- A driver is twice as likely to be killed or seriously injured in a 3 star Australasian New Car Assessment Program (ANCAP) rated vehicle compared to a 5 star ANCAP rated vehicle.
- The average risk of death or serious injury to the driver involved in a crash is halved between a car built in 2006 and one built in 2015.
- You don't need to spend \$40,000+ to get a car with a high safety rating - many affordable new and used cars have a 5 star safety rating. Some of the most affordable used cars are among the safest - many can be purchased under \$10,000.
- Buying a car with a high safety rating lowers your chance of being killed, suffering a serious injury or injuring someone else in the event of a crash and can sometimes reduce your car insurance premiums.

Higher standards of vehicle safety are vital to make driving safer for all road users and to achieve our goal of zero deaths and serious injuries on NSW roads. ANCAP ([ancap.com.au](http://ancap.com.au)) ratings for new cars and Used Car Safety Ratings (UCSR)

([howsafeisyourcar.com.au](http://howsafeisyourcar.com.au)) for used cars help buyers make informed decisions on choosing the safest vehicles. The ratings, between one and five stars, are based on their ability to avoid a crash, and the levels of protection they provide their occupants and other road users in the event of a crash.

## How to choose the safest new or used car

- The ANCAP website identifies the safest cars to assist you to make safer vehicle purchases and are based on a series of internationally recognised independent crash tests and safety assessments.
- The UCSR Buyer's Guide identifies the safest used cars based off crash data from real world usage.
- The UCSR rates a cars' driver protection from 'poor' to 'excellent' and is updated annually. Always ensure you're referring to the most recent rating guide.
- Choose a vehicle with the highest star rating you can afford. Most new vehicles across all price ranges have a 5 star ANCAP rating. When purchasing a used car, choose a vehicle with the highest star rating and labelled as a 'Safer Pick'.
- Newer vehicles are generally a safer choice; safety standards are continually improving so good rule of thumb is to purchase the newest car with the most safety technology you can afford.
- Used car 'Safer Pick' vehicles provide excellent protection for the driver, cause less serious injury to other road users in a collision, and have a lower risk of being involved in a crash.

## Safety features to look for

When buying a new or used vehicle, choose one with as many of these safety features as possible:

- Adaptive cruise control
- Anti-lock Brake System (ABS)
- Autonomous Emergency Braking (AEB), including pedestrian, cyclist and animal detection
- Automatic headlights (including daytime running lights) and automatic windscreen wipers
- Blind spot monitoring
- Brake assist
- Electronic Stability Control (ESC)
- Fatigue monitoring systems
- Front, side, curtain and knee airbags
- Head-up display
- Intelligent Speed Assist (ISA)
- Lane Departure Warning (LDW)
- Lane Keep Assist (LKA)
- Rear Cross Traffic Alert (RCTA)
- Reversing camera and parking sensors
- Road sign recognition
- Seatbelts with pretension devices designed to work with airbags
- Traction control system

## Experience road safety in the palm of your hand

1

Open your phone's camera and scan the QR code to the right or visit [safetyscanner.com.au](https://safetyscanner.com.au)



2

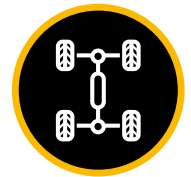
Scan the icons below to experience some of the latest vehicle safety features available in cars today.



Airbags



Autonomous  
Emergency  
Braking (AEB)



Electronic  
Stability Control  
(ESC)



Lane Departure  
Warning (LDW)



Blind spot  
monitor



Head-up display  
(HUD)



Road sign  
recognition



Headlights



Adaptive cruise  
control

## More information

Visit the Towards Zero website ([towardszero.nsw.gov.au/safesystem/safe-vehicles](https://towardszero.nsw.gov.au/safesystem/safe-vehicles)) for more information on purchasing safer vehicles, safety assist technologies, and to learn about other important road safety topics.

If you're driving for work, visit the Towards Zero website ([towardszero.nsw.gov.au/workplace](https://towardszero.nsw.gov.au/workplace)) to complete the Road safety: Everybody's business online learning course to learn about road safety risk and how you can stay safe on NSW roads.

