



Everything on
WHEELS

CARS - TRUCKS - RVs - ATVs - MOTORCYCLES - BIKES

Cars

Style, affordability and reliability are some of the main reasons that car buying in America is thriving.

From the time the Benz Patent Motor Car hit the ground in the late 1880s, the evolution of the car has been a rapid flash of technological advancements that have kept carmakers battling for consumer attention.

THEY'RE RELIABLE

Reliability means feeling confident that every time you turn the key, your car's engine will start. It also means avoiding the repair shop, especially for a brand new car.

The team at Consumer Reports' rates reliability among cars every year and in 2014 found that Toyota's luxury brand Lexus proves to be the most reliable car overall.

Here's how the other 10 spots filled out:

- Lexus
- Toyota
- Mazda
- Honda
- Audi
- Buick
- Subaru
- Scion
- Porsche
- Kia

MORE GADGETS

While cars are lasting longer, they are also improving their electronic systems. Recent advancements include info-



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tainment units, audio, navigation and in-car communications systems that span touchscreen and voice-command functionalities that make driving a dream. These systems give new meaning to the term

“driver-friendly” and once experienced, can be tough to go without.

THEY'RE EFFICIENT

Especially today's models,

cars are becoming more and more friendly to the environment. In fact, the average new vehicle fuel economy hit a record high in miles per gallon in 2014.

The Environmental

Protection Agency reported that overall fuel economy is on the rise because automakers have improved their gas engines and transmissions, as well as added turbochargers to give small motors more power.

Trucks

From loading to towing and everything in between, you just can't beat a truck.

Pickup trucks in particular are the perfect option for someone in need of some heavy hauling. These vehicles are built for helping you finish your projects on the construction site or in the backyard for many years to come.

Rugged and large or sleek and small, pickups come in shapes, sizes and styles to meet your needs.

And with recent improvements in gas mileage capabilities, trucks have become a popular choice even for Americans with longer commutes to their jobs.

COMPACT PICKUP TRUCKS

A survey by U.S. News & World Report found that the top 2015 compact truck models are the GMC Canyon, Chevrolet Colorado and Toyota Tacoma.

Perennial favorites, these trucks are consistent in their year-to-year makes, a strategy that manufacturers follow once they know they've hit a home run with consumers. They are versatile enough for a long road trip and strong enough to hook up a trailer or fishing boat, giving you the flexibility to accomplish your daily objectives.



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FULL-SIZE TRUCKS

The Ford F-150 reigns supreme yet again in 2015, as the most popular full-size truck on the market, according to U.S. News & World Report.

The Dodge Ram 1500 and GMC Sierra 1500 follow the

F-150.

Heavy haulers are ideal for the worksite and have been instrumental in the completion of construction projects for decades.

Images of a heavy-duty truck, like the lunch pail, goes hand-in-hand with hard work.

ACCESSORIZE

One of the perks of truck ownership is the availability of accessories that can turn any standard model into an absolute treasure on wheels.

From tailgate protectors and spray-on bed-liners to fog lamps and running boards,

your truck can be decked out with options that make it safer and more visually appealing.

Of course, there are the fender flares, ground effects and chrome touches that really make your ride stand out from the crowd. Sit down with your dealer or custom auto detailer to find what could work.

RVs

Do your vacations seem to be lasting longer and longer because of your love for exploring new things? Then it may be time for an RV.

A recreational vehicle is the perfect choice for travelers looking for convenience and reliability. No more finding an expensive hotel on your road trip. No more sleeping in an airport waiting for your flight to return to its regular schedule.

Also, consider the cost of cooking your own meal compared to eating at a restaurant three times a day. Add in conveniences of having your own on-board bathroom and sleeping space, and you can understand why RVs have become a staple of the American road trip for many families.

When you're ready to leave the place you're in, just pack up the RV and hit the road. It doesn't get much more convenient than that.

VARIETIES OF RVs

There are many different kinds of RVs, so finding one that fits your needs should be a painless experience.

Motorhomes come in Class A, B or C and offer the most space, but other options include travel trailers, fifth-wheel trailers and pop-up trailers.

Each one comes with its own advantages, with size and cost being the main differentiators. Maintenance should also be in considering if you're



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looking to buy your first RV or thinking about upgrading.

The bigger the RV, the more issues you incur with working parts. Maintenance can become costly over time so make sure you know the basics of your RV and are able to perform the routine adjust-

ments that are only natural, given the amount of mileage you expect out of your RV.

ADVENTURE

One of the best aspects of a long RV road trip is the freedom you will feel to do what

you please. Many “full-timers” spend months on the road, cruising from adventure to adventure with plenty of elbow room.

But you don't have to take 3,000-mile trips just to get good use out of your RV. One can come in handy for week-

end fishing trips or week-long camping excursions.

Most new models are now fitted with mobile Internet, wi-fi boosters, navigation systems and even satellite television, giving the RV a true “at-home” experience to its driver and passengers.

Motorcycles

When's the last time you rode? Ask any motorcyclist this question and you can bet on a detailed account of when, where and why the ride took place.

This is due to the special nature of riding a motorcycle that connects driver and machine like no other experience on the road.

THE THRILL OF THE RIDE

Motorcycles offer an intimate experience with nature, wind and whoever you're riding along with. The breeze in your face and you feet only a few inches from the ground: You won't find a better way to celebrate the open road.

It is a literal connection with the environment because of the lack of doors, floors and roofs to enclose you. And if it weren't for cold or inclement weather, most motorcyclists would never have it any other way.

SPEED AND POWER

Motorcycles offer drivers the speed and power that they can't find anywhere else. Sports bikes with large engine capacities are perfect for the adrenaline junkie, but maybe not the safest option if you're just starting out. Consult a dealer to find out what level of bike you're ready for.

Motorcycles come in so many different designs and styles that you may not be able to settle for just one. Conduct a little online or in-store research to find out your options for power, speed, drive and transmission specifications.

ROAD TRIP

And you can mix up the thrill even more by traveling on your motorcycle. Looking for a new way to see the country? Traveling on a touring bike or cruiser is an experience that will provide memories that last a lifetime.

And if you haven't hit the road for a charitable event like a poker run yet, what are you waiting for? You will not find a stronger bond between riders than one that is forged on a jaunt across the region for a good cause.



ATVs

Riding an all terrain vehicle is an exciting, liberating experience that can be enjoyed by the entire family.

Not only a fun experience, it can also teach respect for the environment and other drivers.

Likewise, in children old enough to ride an ATV, the experience can actually be a great forum for teaching them about the safety required to operate a machine. These types of lessons can be carried on throughout childhood to the time it's their turn to take the car out for a spin.

GEAR

And while we're on the topic of safety, any avid ATV rider understands the importance of solid protective gear during a ride.

Regardless of what type of ATV you buy or where you plan to ride, you need to be protected by at least a helmet. Defending your head is crucial in ATV riding because of the nature of potential rolls or crashes.

Other standard safety gear includes boots that protect your ankle, heavy-duty gloves, a long-sleeve shirt and goggles. Be sure to load up on safety equipment to make sure you can ride your ATV for many years.

RESPECTING LAWS

Respect for the environ-



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ment is a critical characteristic of any ATV driver. Many states require registration or licensing of your ATV, so check in before hopping on your ride next time.

Other states may only require a land-use permit or another type of land pass. These laws are in effect to protect the environment. And considering the fact that law

enforcement will likely not give you a second chance if found committing an infraction, it's up to you to know your local rules and regulations.

If you are unsure of the requirements regarding a certain area, reach out to the Bureau of Land Management or local environmental agency to find out.

RACING

What's more exciting than taking your ATV out for a spin around your pasture or local trail? Racing your ATV, of course.

The sport of ATV racing has caught fire over the years, producing a loyal following of fans craving an exciting brand of competition and fast-paced

action.

If you're considering joining the competitive arena, consider the expense and risk to your safety. Be sure to learn everything there is to know about racing your ATV before entering your next local race. It's important to know all factors, like changes you will have to make to your ATV to make it race-compliant or safe.

Tractors and Lawn Equipment

Sitting atop a tractor or lawn mower provides a feeling of real achievement. As you roll along you know you are performing a task that is critical to your yard or land.

The key component of a tractor or lawn mower is quality. These machines require regular maintenance unless you want them to be a giant lawn ornament.

This means taking responsibility to service them on time and watching out for any issues with the engines, tires or computer systems that could lead to bigger problems. Obviously a new off-the-lot tractor will offer more dependability and quality, but a used one can offer plenty of great years of service, depending on its usage history.

TRACTORS

Even if you're not a farmer, a tractor can get the job done for you. Sure, you may not have 400 acres of corn to till, but do you have a large plot of land that requires mowing, hauling or flattening?

If you answered yes, then a tractor may be a smart investment. But a tractor is just that – an investment. Tractors are costly initial purchases but will pay likely pay for themselves by the time you add up all the physical labor and professional contractor rates you will save yourself over the years.

John Deere Green or Massey Ferguson Red – which



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color do you feel defines you? Ask a tractor owner and they will likely profess a strong allegiance to one particular color or brand. And since most tractor brands produce machines in different sizes, colors and capabilities, it's no wonder why you're likely to get a wide array of answers to the aforementioned question.

The key to finding out your

ideal tractor is by driving a few around to get a feel for them. Before you know it, you'll be a brand-loyal tractor enthusiast.

LAWN EQUIPMENT

Lawn equipment is a broad term because of how many different machines exist for completing the multiple tasks

required to make a lawn look great.

From mowers to tillers and everything else in between, lawn equipment can make your life easy when it comes to performing manual labor.

Regardless of what type of equipment you are buying, it is important to check out the machine before writing out the check. Look for properly work-

ing gears and leaks around the oil reservoir. Check for internal engine problems when you start up the machine. Does it sound OK? Are you confident it will fulfill your needs?

Once you answer these questions, you'll be on your way to joining the legion of tractor and lawn equipment fanatics riding around their property this weekend.

Bicycles

Unlike most of our favorite things on wheels, bicycles can be driven and enjoyed by all ages.

We connect a lifetime of memories to bicycles because they are oftentimes the first “vehicle” we get to control ourselves. And for people who don’t carry on their love of bikes into their adulthoods, you’re missing out.

Bicycling offers a fun way to stay in shape while taking in some breath-taking scenery at the same time. And research has shown that people who do the majority of their exercise on their bike are actually saving their joints from wear and tear that can occur from other forms of physical activity, like running and jogging.

HEALTHY & STYLISH

Regular cycling can also help protect you from serious diseases like obesity, cancer, heart disease, diabetes and arthritis.

Yes, bikes are great for your health and they offer a great option for looking good while doing so. Models like the classic beach cruiser or the accessorized mountain bike can convey a look of laid back style or hardcore ruggedness, respectively.

And if you feel confident while you’re exercising, you will connect a positive experience with the action and come back for more.



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MAKE IT FUN

One of the best ways to enjoy cycling is to make it a leisurely activity. Be on the lookout for safe hilly areas or designated recreational spots in your area. These spots can serve as the perfect locations for an after-

noon spent pedaling away.

Depending on your level of cycling expertise, you could also join a competitive biking association or one-time race. Many times, these groups or competitions will donate portions of your membership dues to charity.

Great exercise and helping your community is a win-win.

TIPS & SAFETY

To make sure you arrive to your destination safely on your bike, follow these tips from the League of American Bicyclists:

- Always wear a helmet to protect your head in the event of a crash;
- Obey all top signs, traffic lights and lane markings;
- Look before you change lanes or signal a turn;
- Wear bright clothing; and
- Check the weather forecast.