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Essential Buyer's Guide™ currency

At the time of publication a BG unit of currency “●” equals approximately £1.00/US\$2.00/Euro 1.50. Please adjust to suit current exchange rates.

1 Is it the right car for you?

– marriage guidance



Tall and short drivers

Most drivers can be accommodated. Height-adjustable seats also have good forward and backward range.

Weight of controls

Power steering more precise as Subaru developed the chassis. Improved short-throw gearshifts replaced long-throw levers. Although on the heavy side, clutch should pose no problem.

Will it fit in the garage?

Dimensions of largest Impreza (2007 2.5WRX/STI):

Length – 4465mm

Width – 1740mm (saloon), 1695mm (estate)

Interior space

Five adults comfortably accommodated. More boot space in the estates with seats folded. Some saloons' back seats do not fold. Boot space limited if a rear strut brace fitted.



The 2003 revamped WRX that saved the Impreza. (Courtesy Subaru (UK) Ltd)

4 Relative values

– which model for you?



Here for your guidance, and as a percentage of the original retail price (see chapter 17), are the relative values of individual models (2.0-litre turbos unless otherwise stated) as at the time of writing, but please double-check with local price guides. Popular limited editions are also listed.

First Generation (Japan)

WRX saloon, WRX RA, WRX SA (1994 only): 1992-94 237bhp (240ps); 1994-96 256bhp (260ps); 1996-2000 276bhp (280ps) **10-24%**

WRX Sports Wagon: 1993-96 216bhp (220ps); 1996-2000 237-246bhp (240-250ps) **10-24%**

WRX STi: 1994-1995 246bhp (250ps); Version II 1995-96 271bhp (275ps); Version II Sports Wagon 256bhp (260ps); 1996-2000 Version III-VI 276bhp (280ps) **10-25%**

WRX STi RA: 1994-2000 (275ps) **10-30%**

WRX STi Type R (two-door coupe): 1997-2000 276bhp (280ps) **10-25%**

Limited editions: Type R 22B 276bhp (280ps); STi S201 295bhp (300ps) **40-50%**

First Generation (Australia, Europe)

Turbo 2000 (UK), WRX (Australia), GT (Europe): 1994-96 208bhp (211ps) **12-16%**; 1996-2000 215bhp (218ps) **16-24%**; Prodrive Performance Pack/WR Sport 1996-2000 238bhp (240ps) **15-20%**

WRX STi Version VI (Australia): 2000 276bhp (280ps) **15-25%**

Limited editions: Series McRae, Catalunya, Terzo, RB5/RB5 PPP 208/238bhp (211/240ps) **8-23%**; 22B Type UK 276bhp (280ps) **40-50%**; P1 276bhp (280ps) **20-30%**; Club Spec,



The Impreza Catalunya was released in 1997 to celebrate Subaru's second successive WRC manufacturers' title. (Courtesy Subaru (UK) Ltd)



22B: the Holy Grail for many Impreza enthusiasts, and still highly sought-after. (Courtesy Subaru (UK) Ltd)



With the Prodrive extras, the RB5 became one of the most revered among the limited editions. (Courtesy Mark Chamberlain/RB5 Owner's Club)



Close-up view of STI gear shift with pull-up reverse ring.

reverse mechanism was incorporated into the shift; this consists of a ring beneath the knob that is lifted before the shift is moved into the reverse position.

Pedals

Ex 4 Gd 3 Av 2 Po 1

Pedals were covered by rubber grips on early Turbos but these have since given way to more sporty-looking aluminium pedals. Owners may have had aftermarket pedals fitted, especially on older Imprezas so make sure they have been properly drilled. Check them for wear and tear. There is a footrest to the left of the pedals.



STI aluminium pedals with rubber offer better grip and a sportier look.

Airbags

Ex 4 Gd 3 Av 2 Po 1

A driver's airbag fitted inside the steering wheel was the only protection in the early models. An airbag for the front passenger was soon included and now dual front side airbags are available as an option. It is important to find out if the car has been involved in a crash, because if so the airbags will have had to be reset. If you end up paying for this 'oversight', it won't come cheap (see chapter 2).

Boot (trunk)

Ex 4 Gd 3 Av 2 Po 1

The boot (trunk) release catch is on the floor on the driver's side. This can be disengaged by flicking the 'cancel' switch on the boot-locking mechanism. The boot can then only be opened with the key. There is an internal light which turns on when the boot is opened. CD interchangers are often fitted in the ceiling of the boot cavity, which will impact slightly on storage space.



Rubber protector fitted to Impreza WRX.

Spare wheel and toolkit

Ex 4 Gd 3 Av 2 Po 1

The spare wheel and jack handle are located underneath the boot carpet and hard board covering. The tools will also be located here, while the jack is

17 Vital statistics

– essential data at your fingertips



Numbers built

The table gives statistics on a range of Imprezas for Japanese, US, Australian and British markets. Because of the huge range of Impreza variants, the table offers a selection. Prices (see page 5) are those for domestic markets and reflect average exchange rates at the time of writing. There are no official figures from Fuji Heavy Industries for the number of turbo models built. However, 1,260,938 Impreza 2-litre cars had been built up to March 2006, the most up-to-date figures currently available.

Performance

Model	Engine	bhp	Top speed (mph)	0-60 mph	Price
WRX 1992 Japan	1994cc...	237	149	4.9sec...	●10,400
WRX STi 1994 Japan	1994cc...	246	145	4.7sec...	●17,800
Turbo 1994-96 UK.....	1994cc...	208	137	5.8sec...	●17,499
WRX 1994 Aus.....	1994cc...	208	137	5.8sec...	●19,100
WRX STi Version II 1994 Japan	1994cc...	271	145	4.7sec...	●18,600
WRX Type RA 1997 Japan	1994cc...	276	140	4.8sec...	●11,400
Turbo 1998-2000 UK.....	1994cc...	215	143	5.6sec...	●19,765
22B 1998 UK	2212cc...	276	149	5.0sec...	●40,000
WRX 1998 Aus.....	1994cc...	218	137	5.5sec...	●15,200
P1 1999 UK	1994cc...	276	155	4.7sec...	●31,495
WRX 2000 Japan	1994cc...	247	150	5.4sec...	●15,200
WRX STi 2000 Aus.....	1994cc...	276	137	4.6sec...	●24,000
WRX 2000 Aus.....	1994cc...	215	140	5.7sec...	●16,400
WRX 2000-02 UK.....	1994cc...	215	140	5.7sec...	●21,465
WRX UK 300 2001	1994cc...	242	143	5.5sec...	●24,995
S202 2002 Japan.....	1994cc...	316	150	4.6sec...	●19,200
WRX 2002 USA.....	1994cc...	227	140	5.7sec...	●16,700