

Appraiser Blog

The Most Reliable Used Cars 2014



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I still remember the day I handed over the keys to my old Toyota Camry, a car that had seen me through countless commutes, road trips, and even a few impromptu adventures.

It was reliable to a fault, never once leaving me stranded on the side of the road.

As I watched it drive away, I realized that finding a dependable used car isn't just about avoiding breakdowns—it's about peace of mind.

For many of us, a reliable car is more than just a vehicle; it's a partner in our daily grind, a quiet assurance that we'll get to where we need to go, no matter what.

That's why I've put together this guide to the 13 most reliable used cars, tailored for those of us who value dependability as much as we value performance.



1. Toyota Camry (2012-2017): The Gold Standard

The Toyota Camry has long been synonymous with reliability.

Consumer Reports consistently ranks it as one of the most reliable used cars, thanks to its robust build and long-lasting components.

The 2012-2017 models are particularly noteworthy, combining a smooth ride with fuel efficiency and a reputation for requiring minimal maintenance.

These models were built during a period when Toyota focused heavily on durability.

The Camry's V6 engine is known to go well over 200,000 miles with regular maintenance.

Steven Elek from Consumer Reports notes that Toyota's "conservative redesigns" contribute to its long-term reliability.



2. Lexus ES (2013-2018): Luxury That Lasts

For those who want a touch of luxury without sacrificing reliability, the Lexus ES is a prime choice.

This midsize luxury sedan is essentially a more refined version of the Toyota Camry, offering the same dependable engineering with added comfort and style.

Lexus consistently tops reliability surveys, and the ES is no exception. As Sean Tucker from Kelley Blue Book mentions, "Toyota's long-standing approach to incremental improvement rather than radical change" means that the Lexus ES benefits from years of proven reliability.



3. Honda Accord (2013-2017): The All-Rounder

The Honda Accord is a car that does everything well.

It's spacious, efficient, and known for its rock-solid reliability.

The 2013-2017 models are particularly recommended for their excellent balance of performance and dependability.

The Accord has a history of strong engine performance and durability.

Jake Fisher from Consumer Reports emphasizes that "Honda's engineering focus on simplicity and reliability" makes the Accord a top pick for used car buyers.



4. Mazda CX-5 (2014-2019): The Reliable SUV

If you're in the market for an SUV that's both fun to drive and reliable, the Mazda CX-5 is an excellent choice.

Known for its engaging handling and upscale interior, the CX-5 also boasts impressive reliability scores.

Mazda's attention to detail and quality control has made the CX-5 a standout in the compact SUV segment.

The 2014-2019 models, in particular, have shown strong reliability, often outlasting competitors in the same class.



5. Toyota Prius (2012-2017): The Hybrid Hero

The Toyota Prius is more than just a fuel-sipping hybrid; it's a beacon of reliability.

The 2012-2017 models are particularly lauded for their dependability, often reaching 200,000 miles or more with proper care.

The Prius's hybrid system is engineered for longevity, with fewer moving parts than traditional gas engines.

This simplicity, combined with Toyota's rigorous testing, makes the Prius a reliable choice for eco-conscious drivers.



6. Subaru Outback (2015-2019): Adventure-Ready Reliability

For those who need a car that can handle both the daily commute and weekend adventures, the Subaru Outback is a top pick.

Known for its all-wheel-drive system and rugged durability, the Outback is a reliable companion for any journey.

Subaru's commitment to building durable, capable vehicles shines through in the Outback.

Its engine and transmission are designed to withstand harsh conditions, making it one of the most reliable used SUVs on the market.



7. Honda CR-V (2013-2018): The Compact SUV King

The Honda CR-V is a compact SUV that offers a perfect blend of practicality and reliability.

With its spacious interior and efficient engine, the 2013-2018 models are among the most reliable used SUVs you can buy.

Honda's engineering excellence is evident in the CR-V's long lifespan.

These models are known for their low maintenance costs and durability, making them a favorite among families and commuters alike.



8. Ford Fusion (2013-2016): The Reliable American

The Ford Fusion may not have the same reputation as some of its Japanese counterparts, but it's a solid, reliable choice in the midsize sedan segment.

The 2013-2016 models, particularly those with the 2.5L engine, are known for their durability.

Ford's focus on quality during these years resulted in a well-built car that can go the distance.

It's a great option for those who want an American car with proven reliability.



9. Toyota RAV4 (2013-2018): The Compact SUV Legend

The Toyota RAV4 has been a top seller for years, and for good reason.

It's reliable, efficient, and holds its value exceptionally well.

The 2013-2018 models are particularly sought after in the used car market.

Toyota's attention to detail and commitment to quality have made the RAV4 a standout in the compact SUV segment.

These models are known for their long-term durability and low cost of ownership.



10. Chevrolet Impala (2014-2016): The Forgotten Gem

The Chevrolet Impala may not be the first car that comes to mind when you think of reliability, but the 2014-2016 models are an exception.

With a comfortable ride and a reputation for longevity, the Impala is a great choice for those who want a reliable sedan without breaking the bank.

The Impala's strong V6 engine and solid build quality make it a dependable option for those who prefer American sedans.



11. Hyundai Elantra (2014-2017): The Compact Value

The Hyundai Elantra is a compact car that offers great value for money.

The 2014-2017 models are known for their reliability and are often available at very affordable prices.

Hyundai's improvements in quality over the years have made the Elantra a reliable choice in the compact segment.

It's a great option for those on a budget who still want a dependable vehicle.



12. Toyota Tacoma (2012-2015): The Pickup You Can Count On

The Toyota Tacoma is a midsize pickup truck that's built to last.

Known for its rugged durability, the 2012-2015 models are particularly reliable, making them a favorite among truck enthusiasts.

The Tacoma's reputation for reliability is well-earned, thanks to its durable construction and strong resale value.

It's a truck that can handle tough jobs and keep going.



13. Nissan Altima (2013-2017): The Reliable Runner-Up

The Nissan Altima may not be as celebrated as the Camry or Accord, but it's a reliable midsize sedan that's often overlooked.

The 2013-2017 models, particularly those with the 2.5L engine, offer good reliability at a lower price point.

Nissan's focus on building reliable, efficient sedans during these years has paid off, making the Altima a great alternative to more well-known models.

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Conclusion:

When it comes to buying a used car, reliability should be at the top of your list.

The cars on this list have proven themselves time and time again, offering dependable performance for years after they've left the dealership lot.

Whether you're looking for a reliable sedan, a rugged SUV, or a sturdy pickup truck, these vehicles have you covered.

If you're in the market for one of these reliable rides and want to ensure you're getting a fair deal, consider using an appraisal engine, especially if you've been in a car accident.

Getting a fair price for your car's value can make all the difference when you're ready to upgrade.

So, which of these reliable cars will be your next road companion?