



DON'T BE AN EGG.

CHECK SAFETY FIRST.

Some things to know before you buy

1 It's not a trade-off

It used to be that big cars were safer while small cars were more economical. That's no longer the case – crash ratings for both new and used cars show that many small cars out-perform bigger cars on safety and are more fuel efficient as well.

2 Safety features

Vehicles come with an array of safety features. Some of these are mandatory and you won't get a Warrant of Fitness without them. Others are more sophisticated extras that you can choose when you buy a car. You can reduce your chances of being in a crash, and improve your chances of surviving one, by choosing a car with better safety features.

3 Vehicle Safety ratings are based on:

- Risk to the driver – whether or not the driver was injured in the crash and, if injury resulted, the severity of those injuries.
- Harm to other road users – what happened to pedestrians, cyclists, motorcyclists and the driver of the other car in a collision.

4 ANCAP Safety ratings

New car safety ratings, such as ANCAP, are determined by crash testing vehicles in a controlled laboratory setting using crash-test dummies. ANCAP tests judge the protection provided to front-seat occupants wearing safety belts in serious head-on and side-impact crashes.

5 When buying a vehicle, you should consider the following points:

- Are the vehicle's safety and design features likely to protect you in a crash?
- Does the vehicle have features that help you to avoid a crash?
- Is your vehicle likely to seriously harm other road users in a crash?