

Clubman - A Premium Compact That Is Fun To Drive



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really satisfying performer in the real world.

It handles well too, thanks to standard all-wheel drive (ALL4), a well sorted chassis, and a communicative steering, this is a great car for those twisty back roads. Like I said before, I did a lot of travel in this Clubman, and much of it was on the back roads, and never once did it disappoint.

So, if you value driving pleasure, even the base engine Clubman should be placed towards the very top of your shopping list.

Fuel Economy: Even despite all the fun I had with it, it still averaged a very respectable 8.2 L/100 KM in my test cycle. I compared notes with the Clubman I tested a few years ago, and had averaged 8.3 L/100 KM back then, so a very consistent

result. On the down side, MINI recommends you use premium fuel, with the lowest fuel rating allowed being 89 octane. Given how much extra mid-grade and premium fuel is over regular, that does make driving any MINI a bit more expensive than it should be. However, that is an expense I'm willing to make, because the driving experience more than makes up for the cost penalty.

Pricing: The base 2019 Clubman is yours from \$28,690. My extremely well equipped tester was listed at \$41,430. That is a lot of money for a vehicle of this category, and power output. But, if you don't tick all the option boxes, you can come away with a nicely equipped Clubman in the mid-\$30K range.

Verdict: Here's the thing, the modern MINI is not what most

people would categorize under "Value For Money" but their appeal is found a bit deeper under the skin.

Spend some time with one, and you'll realize that they are a true, premium compact vehicle - a BMW in cutesy clothes- and then they begin to make sense. This is one of the few cars that I think have enhanced its appeal for me, over time!

Boost Resale Value Of Your Car With These Strategies

Vehicles begin depreciating in value the minute you drive them off the dealer's lot. To get top dollar when you do sell or trade in your vehicle, be sure that you follow these strategies. Follow the recommended maintenance schedule. Your car's manufacturer provides a maintenance schedule that is designed to keep your vehicle running at peak efficiency. It might seem expensive and you may be tempted to skip some appointments, but if you are diligent with maintenance, the cost will repay itself when you have a finely tuned automobile to sell.

2. Rustproofing. Many car deficiencies need a mechanic to spot them, but everyone sees rust, which is why it's one of the most negative factors when selling a car. Regular rustproofing will keep corrosion away and pay

off when you are negotiating a sale price for your used vehicle. A University of Windsor study found that untreated vehicles had 6.8 times more visible corrosion on body panels than cars that benefited from Krown Rust Control treatment, while underbody parts had 3.6 times more corrosion.

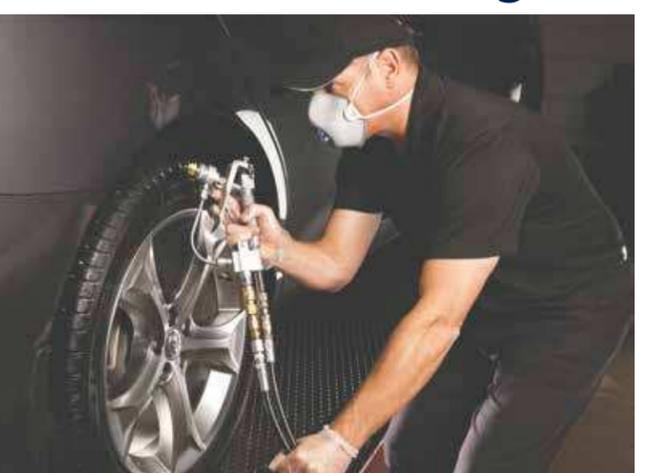
3. Keep the mileage down. The more mileage you put on your vehicle, the lower its resale value will be.

It's not easy to minimize the use of your car, but some trips are avoidable so if you don't need to use your car, don't. Walk, bike or take a bus when you can. It's good for your health, your wallet and lets you keep your car longer.

4. Keep on top of minor repairs. Tiny dents and scratches have a way of getting bigger and uglier over time, so be sure to

deal with them as soon as they appear. Keeping the surface in top shape preserves its aesthetic appeal for longer.

5. Park defensively. Collisions can happen anywhere, but park-



ing lots can be an especially dangerous place for your car. If you can, park in a way that minimizes the odds of someone bumping in to it or banging it with their door. It's nice to be close to the store

entrance, but if you can park away from the crowd or in a way that give yourself lots of space from other vehicles, it might save you a trip to the body shop. www.newscanada.com



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