

WHATCAR?

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'Updates make a big impact.' What's new?

News



Toyota updates Etios saloon and Liva hatch

Updates inside and out go a long way in making the two cars feel more upmarket



New seats are quite comfortable.



New silver-finish gearknob.

V-spec Liva gets 15-inch alloys.



Lighter colours lend a more upmarket feel; plastic quality unchanged.

Toyota has given the Etios saloon and Liva hatchback a facelift. On the outside, the grille, lamps and rear-view mirrors get subtle alterations on both cars. However, on the inside, there are substantial differences. There's a new two-tone dash that replaces the dull grey one of the earlier car. And while the plastics are the same as before, the colour scheme has been changed. The red gear knob has also been replaced with a silver-finished one. The central instrument cluster now comes with a new icy blue backlighting and there's an all-new 2-DIN audio system with USB and aux-in connectivity.

The air-con controls on the previous car have been replaced by new knobs with the feel of high quality. There is still no climate control though.

Another area where Toyota has made revisions is the cars' seats. The flat and thin seats with fixed headrests of the previous cars have been replaced with more comfortable ones with adjustable headrests. Also, the seats have now been laminated, which should help them retain their shape for longer. Toyota has also added faux wood trim on the armrests.

The carmaker has worked on the noise, vibration and harshness (NVH) package of the

cars, which results in a quieter cabin, especially in the diesel versions. The Liva now also gets the Etios' 1.5-litre petrol engine as an option on the TRD Sportivo variant.

The Liva and the Etios come in five trim levels. The base Etios J/JD variant comes with body coloured bumpers, air-con, power steering with tilt function, and an immobilizer at Rs 5.45/6.70 lakh. Add full wheel caps, power windows, remote locking, height-adjustable driving seat, two-DIN MP3 play with USB on the G/GD (Rs 5.99/7.07 lakh). The V/VD (Rs 6.69/7.76 lakh) trim adds alloys, front fog lamps,

defogger, tachometer, aux-in and Bluetooth. Then there's the SP (Safety Pack) option. The G SP/GD SP (Rs 6.47/7.55 lakh) gets ABS, two airbags, two-tone interiors and fabric door inserts. The V SP/VD SP (Rs 7.08/8.15 lakh) get audio controls on the steering, along with two airbags and ABS.

The Toyota Liva J/JD cost Rs 4.46/5.72 lakh. The G/GD come for Rs 4.89/5.99 lakh and the V for Rs 5.60 lakh. The G SP/GD are yours for Rs 5.38/6.38 lakh while the V SP costs Rs 5.99 lakh. We recommend the G SP trim in petrol or diesel guise is worth buying, as it gives you kit like two airbags and ABS.