

# Welcome to the Honda WR-V, a brand new compact SUV

 By [Naresh Maharaj](#)

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It might be a compact SUV, but it is by no means small. It could easily pass as a car or SUV in the medium-size category. Honda has a highly regarded pedigree in the SUV market and the introduction of the all-new WR-V adds to that. Remember the Jazz and the BR-V? The WR-V projects a smart, trendy and exciting persona that is certain to be well received by Honda aficionados.



Image credit: Naresh Maharaj

From the bold exterior design to the spacious and practical interior, the WR-V is an entry-level SUV offering for consumers seeking a seamless combination of style, practicality and versatility.

The tech-savvy WR-V also boasts an abundance of safety, convenience, and connectivity features across the two-model range, making for an exceptionally comfortable and enjoyable driving experience. And perhaps most importantly, the price is competitive.

## Comfortable interior

Once you are in the driver's seat, it's hard to think that you are in a compact vehicle. The seats are finished in high-quality black fabric providing the perfect balance of comfort, support and durability. The commute is made enjoyable with a host of convenient features one has come to expect from Honda.

The dash is hard plastic and this is understandable when you try to keep the costs down, but soft-touch charcoal finishes emphasise the feel of the cabin, while the silver accents add to the simplicity of the interior.



Image credit: Naresh Maharaj

The Elegance derivative I tested featured a three-spoke multifunction steering wheel with audio controls on the left and speedo-cruise button on the right. Other small nuances included leather finishes for the gearshift knob and steering wheel.

The instrument panel of this new entrant is refined and features a trio of clear, circular dials with blue backlighting. Automatic air-conditioning is welcome as well as the intuitive touch-panel controls and front and rear electric windows.

### **Infotainment: at your fingertips**

Whilst the Comfort model is equipped with a user-friendly five-inch LCD audio system featuring Bluetooth connectivity for hands-free telephony and audio streaming, USB connectivity and four loudspeakers, the Elegance model has a neatly incorporated seven-inch touchscreen display audio system featuring Apple CarPlay and Android Auto functionality.

If you enjoy your music, the Elegance has an upgraded six-speaker system for you to pump up the volume.

### **Stylish exterior**

The exterior design of the all-new WR-V makes it hard not to notice. The SUV exhibits a compact yet confident look and sets it apart from its competitors.

It's true to say that the WR-V is immediately recognisable as a member of the Honda family. The design is bold, distinctive yet sporty and agile, especially with its raised SUV stance.

### **Plenty of boot space**

Despite its compact footprint, the WR-V looks and feels spacious inside. It's a comfortable five-seater.

The WRV does not compromise on luggage capacity either, offering a generous 363l with the rear seats up, and an impressive 881l with the rear seats folded flat. The WR-V also incorporates Honda's ingenious 'Magic Seat' system borrowed from the popular Honda Jazz.

## Four-cylinder petrol engine

The Honda WR-V range comprises two models, the Comfort and Elegance, both employing the same 1.2l powertrain and five-speed manual transmission. Fuel economy has become an increasingly important consideration for many consumers who are in the market for an entry-level vehicle. Maximum power output is rated at 66kW, reached at 6000rpm. Fuel consumption in both local and long runs averaged around 6.4l/100km.

## Pricing

- WR-V 1.2 Comfort MT - R289,900
- WR-V 1.2 Elegance MT - R319,900

## Warranty and service plan

The new Honda WR-V comes standard with Honda's five-year/200,000km warranty, backed by a four-year/60,000km service plan as standard with service intervals every 15,000km. Three-year AA Roadside Assistance service is also included in the purchase price.

## ABOUT NARESH MAHARAJ

Naresh Maharaj is a petrol head who loves cars and writing about them. He is also a Member of the SA Guild of Motoring Journalists. Naresh is also an international sports correspondent and an acclaimed corporate MC and voice-over artist. Naresh is a sports/news producer for community radio stations and also an award-winning sports journalist. Contact Naresh on [nmaharaj321@gmail.com](mailto:nmaharaj321@gmail.com)

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