



10 Best Winner



Honda **Fit**



HONDA FIT

ENTERTAININGLY SMALL.

» The Fit belongs to a class—basic transportation—that we once acknowledged with a patronizing pat on the head but now take more seriously. There are two reasons for this. The first is obvious: Soaring fuel costs and environmental concerns are making small cars increasingly popular. The second is not so obvious: Basic transportation no longer means deprivation. Not only does the Fit deliver what you'd expect—high mpg numbers

and low ownership costs—but it also delivers something you might not: high-quality interior appointments, a high level of usefulness, and a high fun-to-drive index.

The Fit scores well in those areas of unexpectedness. There seems to be more room inside this car than the tidy exterior could possibly contain, the seats flop and fold to yield great cargo versatility, and the interior appointments would do justice to an Accord.

But it's the Fit's agility and terrier spirit that win our hearts. With 109 horsepower, blazing acceleration isn't part of the deal, but it's worth noting that the Fit posted an astonishing speed in our lane-change test

(71.4 mph), outthrusting pedigreed athletes such as a Ferrari F430 Spider F1, and topped a seven-car comparison [“\$15,000 Cheap Skates,” May 2006].

VEHICLE TYPE: front-engine, front-wheel-drive, 5-passenger, 5-door wagon

BASE PRICE¹: \$14,585 (including destination and handling)

ENGINE TYPE: SOHC 16-valve 1.5-liter inline-4
Power (SAE net) 109 bhp @ 5800 rpm
Torque (SAE net) 105 lb-ft @ 4800 rpm

TRANSMISSIONS: 5-speed auto, 5-speed auto with manumatic shifting, 5-speed manual

DIMENSIONS:
Wheelbase: 96.5 in **Length:** 157.4 in
Width: 66.2 in **Height:** 60.0 in
Curb weight: 2432–2551 lb

FUEL ECONOMY:
EPA city driving* 27–28 mpg



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