

The Mercedes-Benz C220 CDI BlueEFFICIENCY AMG Sport Plus

by Ian Lynas

I was united with a Mercedes-Benz C-Class Saloon recently and in particular the C220 CDI BlueEFFICIENCY AMG Sport Plus version which was finished in Fire Opal with black artificial leather interior. With this very attractive saloon comes, safety, comfort and agility. This car really does have a lot of on road presence.



Mercedes offers Sport, Elegance and SE lines, all of which share the latest, state-of-the-art technology which includes the newly developed AGILITY CONTROL package with situation-responsive shock absorber control, the Intelligent Light System with five different lighting functions and the PRE-SAFE preventive occupant protection system.

Power choice of four and six-cylinder engines with up to 13 percent more

output than the previous model, accompanied by up to 11 percent better fuel consumption.

The brand new C 180 Kompressor BlueEFFICIENCY delivers exceptionally economical motoring without any performance penalty thanks to a series of weight saving and energy management measures plus enhanced aerodynamics.

The latest generation C-Class is longer than its predecessor and the body width has increased as is the wheelbase. These dimensions create the conditions for a generously sized interior, and therefore more comfort. The front shoulder room has increased by 40 millimetres.

My test example developed a peak output of 170bhp, up 20bhp from the earlier model and in the case of this particular car fuel economy has been improved by up to 3.8 mpg. On the combined fuel cycle official figures state 58.9mpg.

Looking at performance, rest to 62mph in 8.1 seconds and on to a top speed of 143mph and the CO2 rating is 136g/km.



Equipment levels surprisingly high, but of course as with other models from Mercedes a large range of options awaits your choice.

The on the road price of the version tested, £32,925, but a number of options had been selected bringing the final total to £42,855.

Of course many will be perfectly happy with the standard specification and a few of the highlights, Bi-Xenon headlights, Parktronic with Advanced Parking Guidance, Adaptive Braking System, a high quality communications and in car entertainment system and to add the finishing touch 18 inch AMG bi-colour alloy wheels.

On the road I thoroughly enjoyed my spell with this C-Class, the combination of the

efficient diesel engine and the 7G-Tronic Plus seven speed automatic transmission provided effortless driving pleasure and the ECO start/stop facility played its part in delivering wallet pleasing economy figures.

Roadholding and handling impressive thanks to the Agility Control sports suspension and one of the options fitted was the Dynamic Handling Package, well worth the extra £500.

This consists of a Sport button on the centre console for sport driving mode, sharper accelerator response, continuously variable damping for better ride and faster

gear changes via steering wheel gear paddles.

Certainly over rough roads I could detect I was in control of a Sport version, but on better road surfaces the ride was most acceptable.

A quality saloon from Mercedes-Benz, well engineered and one which delivers satisfying performance and a good feel factor.

