

The New Peugeot 308 Active on Test

A New era for Peugeot with the arrival of the new 308 with even greater focus on design-led desirable cars, outstanding environmental performance and best-in-class driving dynamics.

The new 308 is a Peugeot like no other and at its heart is the innovative Efficient Modular Platform 2 (EMP2) and it is the first new model from the French carmaker to

benefit from this advanced architecture, which has incorporated 116 patented technologies.

The newcomer is lighter, up to 140kg compared to the previous model and coupled with eight advanced engines; the result is segment-leading environmental performance. Depending on the model you choose to purchase, fuel economy can be as high as 91.1mpg with CO₂ emissions as low as 82g/km.

I had the Active version on test and I found it to be an exceptional car to drive due to its advanced steering and damping technology.

One of the outstanding features which

makes this new Peugeot so desirable is its premium i-Cockpit interior. Driver-focused and with a notably uncluttered dashboard, it offers one of the most technically advanced touch-screen infotainment systems on any new car.

I really appreciated the large 9.7 inch screen size; this intuitive interface allows the user to control everything from the climate control to the audio system. I found the

touch screen so easy for all the functions and what really pleased was the fact that the Active has such features as Bluetooth and a very user friendly sat nav.

Other items standard with this model, dual zone air con, rear parking sensors, leather steering wheel and gearstick and auto headlamps with follow me home function.

I must add that the steering wheel is smaller than you will find on most cars and it feels as if you are in control of a competition vehicle. The 420-litre boot space with the rear seats upright is the largest in the

segment, and supplemented by generous-sized cup holders and storage spaces located around the cabin makes this Peugeot a very practical car.

Running costs, particularly for corporate customers, are a key consideration when



choosing a car and the good news is that the new 308 scores just as highly there as it does everywhere else.

The fuel-efficient range of engines means less time spent filling up on forecourts, while the CO₂ classifications means low VED road tax bandings.

The model tested had a 1.6 litre HDi diesel engine with a mere 92bhp yet it was not lacking in performance and a low CO₂ figure of just 95g/km.

Top speed is 113mph with rest to 62mph in 11.3 seconds and on the combined fuel cycle 78.5mpg.

A good all rounder with very good build quality and one which delivers an enjoyable drive experience. Price of the Active model as tested: £17,895.

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