



# MG GIVES OUR DRIVERS A TESTING AFTERNOON

VANESSA GALORE, Sales Director

"My job is extremely competitive and demanding and recreational driving is one of my few ways of unwinding. I'm more of a control freak than a speed freak, and driving these cars round the track was a real revelation. The combination of power and balance was really awesome, and I also felt completely comfortable and safe. My favourite of the two was the ZR, really sporty and stylish and I'd be lying if I denied that the girlie in me wasn't also impressed by the really funky interior finishing and nice range of colours.

ADAM MCINTYRE, Engineer

"These days, I look for more than just functionality in a car - I want a car that I can really enjoy driving. The ZR and ZS are great, you can just tell that they've been designed and constructed by people with a real passion for racing. I couldn't believe how well they both took the corners! I know driving round a track isn't the same as driving to work every morning, but you still want to know you've got that power there when you need it. I think I'd definitely consider a ZS now."

JASON BROWN, Warehouse Manager

"Wow, I love the look and feel of these cars! I've actually always had a passion for cars and driving since I took up go-karting as a kid. And for me it's not just about speed, anybody can accelerate up to 120 mph on an open track. What gives me a real kick is how well a car handles and when I drove the ZS the amount of control and confidence I felt all the way round the track was amazing. The interiors are really cool too, sporty without being too flash. Having one of these probably wouldn't do my love life any damage either!"

Our amateur test drivers are all smiles after a great afternoon checking out the new MG models on the Oulton Park test track – and after witnessing first-hand breathtaking driving performances from MG's finest instructors. They also look happy because they know they are better drivers for the experience.

**D**riving a performance sports saloon round an empty race track may sound easy, but it can be quite an experience – ask any one of the five Mirror readers who spent an afternoon burning round Oulton Park in the latest ZS and ZR models. Based on the same platform that MG uses for professional motor racing, these cars are set up for an involving and thrilling ride – the harder they are driven, the more rewarding the drive.

The afternoon began with a hugely impressive display of driving from MG's team of instructors, who took each of our lucky few around the track displaying a thrilling combination of power and control as they cornered at high speed and effortlessly kept the cars on course.

Then it was the readers' turn and it is a tribute to the skill of the instructors that not one of the five looked remotely nervous as they climbed into the driving seat. Even more impressive was their obvious satisfaction when they came back into the pit lane and one after another excitedly explained that the instructors had showed them how good the handling in both the MG ZR and ZS is and how it could



help the responsible driver accelerate out of trouble, combat over steering and compensate for the odd misjudgement.

Given the power and acceleration of the new models' engine there was bound to be the odd tricky moment when the test drivers' enthusiasm got the better of them. Warren and his team were too polite to name names, but Vanessa let the cat out of the bag when she admitted that she was

the one who had approached one of the corners too fast; thanks to the day's tuition and the MG's great handling, she was soon back in control. "I feel so much more confident as a driver after today" she beamed.

Surprisingly it wasn't the boy racer Jason who everybody heard skid on the first corner of the final lap – it was the more experienced Adam, and the tips he'd picked up about recovering from such a sticky situation helped him hold the line. "I wouldn't have been able to do that this morning," he admitted, "and that's not just because I wasn't driving a performance car!"

And Warren's verdict on our readers' skills? He was as diplomatic as ever "They all improved noticeably over the day, and that wasn't just down to us – the cars really had a lot to do with it."

## Vital statistics

Given their classy looks and high technical specifications, you might think that the ZR and ZS models might be a bit out of your price range – but you'd probably be wrong, as The ZR range starts from £9,995 and the ZS from £10,995. These very reasonable prices, along with the wide choice of specification and engine variants means that there is something to suit everyone.

### SAFETY AND COMFORT

All models come with adjustable steering columns, split folding rear seats, sports suspension and shaped seats. The ZR has power assisted steering while the ZS features electronic brakeforce distribution.



### INDIVIDUAL

It isn't just the MG badge that will tell your jealous friends that your driving a sports car. The optional aerodynamic rear spoiler, the bright mesh grille and the impactful MG styling will turn a few heads too.



### EXTERIORS

Both models come in a choice of 10 standard colours including the classic British Racing Green. You can also specify bespoke options if you want to personalise your car.



### PERFORMANCE

All petrol models feature the K series engine, renowned for its mid-range acceleration. The standard ZS 120 can go from 0-60 in 9.0 seconds and the standard ZR in 10.0 seconds. Impressive diesel engines are also available.



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