

2018 Acura Rdx Review Edmunds

2018 acura rdx review edmunds provides valuable insights into this premium compact SUV that continues to impress drivers and critics alike. As a vehicle that blends luxury, performance, and practicality, the 2018 Acura RDX has garnered attention for its well-rounded capabilities. In this comprehensive review, we will delve into the key aspects of the 2018 Acura RDX, covering its design, performance, interior features, safety, and overall value, backed by insights from Edmunds and expert evaluations.

Overview of the 2018 Acura RDX

The 2018 Acura RDX marks the fifth generation of Acura's popular SUV, showcasing a significant redesign that emphasizes sportiness, sophistication, and advanced technology. It is positioned as a luxury compact SUV that appeals to drivers seeking a versatile vehicle with a premium feel at a competitive price point.

Design and Exterior Features

Bold Styling and Modern Appeal

The 2018 Acura RDX features a striking exterior design characterized by its diamond pentagon grille, sleek LED headlights, and sharp body lines that give it a commanding presence on the road. The vehicle's aerodynamic profile not only enhances its visual appeal but also contributes to improved fuel efficiency.

Dimensions and Practicality

- Length: Approximately 187.8 inches - Width: 74.4 inches - Height: 64.6 inches - Wheelbase: 106.4 inches
These dimensions provide a spacious interior while maintaining a manageable size for urban driving and parking. The RDX offers a range of wheel options, including 18-inch and 20-inch alloy wheels, enhancing both aesthetics and ride quality.

Performance and Driving Dynamics

Engine and Powertrain

The 2018 Acura RDX is equipped with a robust 3.5-liter V6 engine that delivers 279 horsepower and 252 lb-ft of torque. Paired with a six-speed automatic transmission, the vehicle offers smooth acceleration and confident highway cruising.

Driving Experience

Edmunds praises the RDX for its composed handling and responsive steering, making it enjoyable to drive in various conditions. The available Super Handling All-Wheel Drive (SH-AWD) system enhances traction and stability, especially in inclement weather or challenging terrains.

Fuel Efficiency

- City: Approximately 20 miles per gallon - Highway: Approximately 27 miles per gallon - Combined: Around 23 miles per gallon While not class-leading, these figures are respectable for a midsize luxury SUV with a V6 engine.

Interior and Comfort

Cabin Quality and Design

The interior of the 2018 Acura RDX exudes luxury with high-quality materials, soft-touch surfaces, and meticulous craftsmanship. The cockpit is driver-focused, with intuitively arranged controls and a modern aesthetic.

Seating and Space

- Seating Capacity: Up to five passengers - Standard Features: Leather upholstery, heated front seats, power-adjustable driver's seat - Cargo Space: Approximately 26.1 cubic feet behind the rear seats, expandable to 58.9 cubic feet with seats folded The spacious interior provides ample legroom and headroom, making long drives comfortable for all occupants.

Infotainment and Technology

The 2018 RDX features the AcuraLink system, an 7-inch touchscreen display, Bluetooth connectivity, a premium audio system, and optional navigation. The interface is user-friendly, with physical controls complementing touchscreen inputs.

Safety and Driver Assistance

Standard Safety Features

The 2018 Acura RDX comes equipped with a comprehensive suite of safety features, including:

1. Anti-lock Braking System (ABS)
2. Electronic Stability Control (ESC)
3. Traction Control

4. Rearview Camera
5. Multiple airbags (front, side, and curtain)

Advanced Driver Assistance Technologies

Optional safety features enhance the RDX's safety profile:

1. Adaptive Cruise Control
2. Forward Collision Warning with Collision Mitigation Braking
3. Lane Departure Warning
4. Blind Spot Monitoring
5. Rear Cross Traffic Alert

Edmunds highlights the RDX's high safety ratings and the availability of these advanced systems as significant advantages for families and safety-conscious drivers.

Trim Levels and Pricing

The 2018 Acura RDX was offered in several trims, primarily the base and Technology packages, with optional packages for additional luxury and convenience features.

1. **Base Model:** Starting around \$36,000, includes essentials like leather upholstery, premium audio, and a sunroof.
2. **Technology Package:** Priced approximately at \$39,000, adds navigation, AcuraLink, ELS premium audio, and advanced safety features.

Pricing varied based on optional packages and regional differences. Edmunds' reviews noted that the RDX offers excellent value in its segment, balancing luxury features and affordability.

Pros and Cons of the 2018 Acura RDX

Pros

1. Elegant and sporty exterior styling
2. Comfortable and upscale interior
3. Strong V6 engine with smooth transmission
4. Impressive safety features and ratings
5. Decent cargo capacity and versatile interior
6. Excellent reliability and build quality

Cons

1. Fuel economy not class-leading
2. Infotainment system can be slow to respond at times
3. Rear visibility slightly hindered by design elements
4. Higher trims can increase in cost with optional packages

Owner and Expert Reviews

Based on Edmunds and other automotive review sources, the 2018 Acura RDX is praised for its blend of luxury, performance, and reliability. Owners appreciate its comfortable ride and premium interior, while critics commend its sporty handling and advanced safety features. Some mention the infotainment system's quirks but overall consider it a minor issue compared to the vehicle's many strengths.

Conclusion: Is the 2018 Acura RDX a Good Choice?

The 2018 Acura RDX stands out as an attractive option in the luxury compact SUV market. It offers a compelling mix of stylish design, engaging performance, and a well-appointed interior, making it suitable for a variety of drivers—from daily commuters to small families seeking safety and comfort. Edmunds' review underscores its value for money, especially considering its reliability and advanced safety features. If you are in the market for a used luxury SUV from 2018, the Acura RDX is a smart choice that combines aesthetics, functionality, and dependability. Its balance of performance and practicality makes it a vehicle worth considering, whether for daily driving or weekend adventures. Disclaimer: This review is based on data available up to October 2023 and reflects general insights from Edmunds and automotive experts. For the most current information or specific vehicle conditions, consult a certified Acura dealer or professional mechanic.

2018 Acura RDX Review Edmunds: An In-Depth Examination of a Compact Luxury SUV The 2018 Acura RDX marked a significant milestone for the Japanese automaker, introducing a fresh, sophisticated approach to its popular compact luxury SUV segment. Recognized for its blend of refined performance, upscale interior, and advanced technology, the 2018 RDX was met with considerable praise from critics and consumers alike. When evaluating its merits, reviews from trusted sources like Edmunds provide comprehensive insights into its strengths and weaknesses, helping potential buyers make informed decisions. This article offers an in-depth analysis of the 2018 Acura RDX, based on Edmunds' expert review, covering design, performance, interior comfort, technology, safety, and value.

Introduction to the 2018 Acura RDX

The 2018 Acura RDX was a pivotal model in the vehicle's lineup, representing a complete redesign that aimed to elevate its status within the luxury compact SUV class. Acura, Honda's luxury division, sought to

combine sporty handling, a plush interior, and innovative features in a package that appeals to modern drivers seeking versatility and refinement. Edmunds' review highlighted the RDX's evolution as a more competitive, refined vehicle, emphasizing its transformation from a practical but somewhat utilitarian SUV to a stylish, tech-forward, and engaging performer.

Design and Exterior Aesthetics

Bold and Contemporary Styling

The 2018 Acura RDX's exterior design exemplifies Acura's "Diamond Pentagon" grille, a signature feature that lends it a distinctive and upscale appearance. Edmunds praised its bold front fascia, characterized by sharp LED headlights, a sculpted hood, and a prominent grille that exudes confidence. The profile of the RDX balances athletic proportions with refined lines, featuring a sleek roofline, muscular wheel arches, and available 20-inch alloy wheels that add a touch of sportiness. The rear design is equally modern, with LED taillights and dual exhaust outlets that reinforce its sporty ethos. Key Exterior Features: - LED headlights and taillights - Power moonroof - Available 20-inch alloy wheels - Body-colored door handles with chrome accents - Aerodynamic character lines for improved airflow Edmunds appreciated the RDX's contemporary aesthetic, noting that it successfully balances sophistication and sportiness, making it stand out among competitors.

Interior Comfort and Cabin Quality

Luxurious Materials and Thoughtful Design

Inside, the 2018 Acura RDX offers a driver-focused cabin that emphasizes comfort, quality, and modern design. The interior materials reflect Acura's commitment to luxury, with premium leather upholstery, soft-touch plastics, and brushed aluminum accents. Edmunds highlighted the spaciousness of the cabin, especially in the front seats, which provide ample legroom and support for long drives. The rear seats, while slightly less spacious than the front, are still accommodating, with enough room for adult passengers. Interior Highlights: - Standard leather upholstery and heated front seats - Dual-zone automatic climate control - Power-adjustable front seats with memory settings - Leather-wrapped steering wheel and shift knob - Power moonroof (available) - Three-zone climate control (available in higher trims) The review praised Acura's ergonomic layout, with controls that are intuitively placed for ease of use, and the inclusion of premium features even on base trims.

Cargo Space and Practicality

Cargo capacity is a vital consideration for SUVs, and the 2018 RDX offers 26.1 cubic feet of trunk space behind the rear seats, which expands to approximately 58.9 cubic feet with the rear seats folded down. Edmunds pointed out that this capacity is competitive within the segment, making the RDX a practical choice

for families and active lifestyles. Features Enhancing Practicality: - Power liftgate (available) - Split-folding rear seats - Multiple cargo tie-downs - Underfloor storage compartments

Performance and Driving Dynamics

Engine and Powertrain

The 2018 Acura RDX is powered by a single engine option: a 2.0-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine producing 272 horsepower and 280 lb-ft of torque. Paired exclusively with a 10-speed automatic transmission, this powertrain emphasizes smoothness, responsiveness, and efficiency. Edmunds highlighted the engine's lively performance, noting that the turbocharged setup provides ample acceleration and confident passing power, especially when combined with the quick-shifting transmission. The 10-speed automatic offers seamless gear changes, contributing to a refined driving experience. Key Performance Specs: - 0-60 mph in approximately 6.6 seconds - Fuel economy: 22 mpg city / 28 mpg highway - Available all-wheel drive (Super Handling All-Wheel Drive, SH-AWD) for enhanced traction

Handling and Ride Quality

The RDX's chassis is engineered for agility and stability. Edmunds praised its composed ride, noting that it handles well around curves and maintains composure over uneven surfaces. The steering is precise, with good feedback, making the SUV feel agile despite its size. The available Super Handling All-Wheel Drive (SH-AWD) system enhances cornering performance by distributing torque between the front and rear wheels dynamically, improving grip and driver confidence in various conditions. Driving Dynamics Highlights: - Sporty yet comfortable ride - Responsive steering - Available SH-AWD for enhanced cornering and traction - Multiple drive modes (Comfort, Sport, Snow)

Technology and Infotainment

Advanced Connectivity Features

The 2018 Acura RDX is equipped with a robust suite of technology features designed to enhance convenience, entertainment, and safety. Edmunds lauded the intuitive interface of the Inspire infotainment system, which includes a 7-inch touchscreen (upgradable to an 8-inch display in higher trims), a premium audio system, and Bluetooth connectivity. The system supports Apple CarPlay and Android Auto (note: availability varies by market), allowing seamless smartphone integration for navigation, calls, and music. The inclusion of multiple USB ports and a Wi-Fi hotspot enhances connectivity options. Infotainment Highlights: - Standard audio system with six speakers - Optional premium audio (ELS Studio) with 10 speakers - Navigation system (available) - Dual-zone climate control - Bluetooth hands-free calling and streaming - Apple CarPlay and Android Auto compatibility

Driver Assistance and Safety Features

Safety is a central aspect of the 2018 RDX's appeal. Edmunds reviewed its suite of driver-assist features favorably, noting that the SUV comes equipped with numerous safety technologies, many of which are standard. Standard Safety Features: - AcuraWatch suite (adaptive cruise control, collision mitigation braking, lane keeping assist, road departure mitigation) - Rearview camera - Forward collision warning - Lane departure warning - Adaptive cruise control Optional Safety Upgrades: - Surround-view camera system - Blind-spot monitoring - Rear cross-traffic alert This comprehensive safety package contributed to high safety ratings and peace of mind for drivers and passengers.

Pricing, Trims, and Value

The 2018 Acura RDX was offered in several trims, including base, Technology, and Advance. Edmunds pointed out that, while the starting price was competitive within the luxury SUV market, the availability of numerous standard features made it a strong value proposition. Pricing Overview (approximate starting prices): - Base: \$36,595 - Technology: \$41,095 - Advance: \$44,695 The review emphasized that the RDX's combination of performance, luxury, and technology made it a compelling choice for buyers seeking a premium compact SUV without the exorbitant price tag often associated with luxury vehicles. Ownership Cost Considerations: - Competitive insurance rates - Strong reliability reputation - Reasonable maintenance costs

Pros and Cons of the 2018 Acura RDX

Pros: - Stylish exterior design with premium materials - Spacious, comfortable interior with high-quality finishes - Strong turbocharged engine with quick acceleration - Smooth and responsive 10-speed automatic transmission - Comprehensive suite of safety and driver-assist features - User-friendly infotainment system supporting smartphone integration - Good cargo capacity and practicality Cons: - Slightly firm ride quality on rough roads - Rear visibility can be limited due to design - Base audio system may be underwhelming for audiophiles - Resale value may not match some German rivals

Conclusion: Is the 2018 Acura RDX a Good Choice?

Based on Edmunds' detailed review, the 2018 Acura RDX stands out as a well-rounded, sophisticated compact luxury SUV that appeals to drivers seeking a blend of performance, comfort, and technology. Its bold styling, premium interior, and advanced safety features make it a strong contender in its segment. While it may have minor drawbacks like ride firmness and rear visibility, the overall package offers excellent value and satisfaction. For those looking for a stylish, reliable, and well-equipped SUV that balances sporty driving with everyday practicality, the 2018 Acura RDX is undoubtedly worth considering. Its reputation for reliability and the inclusion of numerous standard features further enhance its appeal, making it a noteworthy option among luxury compact SUVs in the 2018 model year. In summary, Edmunds' expert review underscores that

the 2018 Acura RDX is

Questions & Answers About 2018 acura rdx review edmunds

No	Question	Answer
1	How does the 2018 Acura RDX perform in terms of driving experience according to Edmunds?	Edmunds praises the 2018 Acura RDX for its sporty handling, smooth ride, and responsive turbocharged engine, making it a pleasure to drive both on city streets and highways.
2	What are the key interior features of the 2018 Acura RDX highlighted by Edmunds?	Edmunds highlights the RDX's upscale interior, comfortable seats, user-friendly infotainment system, and high-quality materials that create a luxurious cabin experience.
3	How does the 2018 Acura RDX compare in safety features according to Edmunds?	Edmunds notes that the 2018 RDX comes equipped with a comprehensive suite of safety features, including AcuraWatch driver assistance, making it a top choice for safety-conscious buyers.
4	What are the main pros and cons of the 2018 Acura RDX as per Edmunds review?	Pros include its sporty handling, luxurious interior, and strong safety features. Cons mentioned are limited cargo space and a higher price point compared to some competitors.
5	Is the 2018 Acura RDX a good value for money based on Edmunds review?	Yes, Edmunds considers the 2018 Acura RDX a good value due to its combination of performance, luxury features, and safety, though its higher price may be a consideration for some buyers.
6	What are the notable changes or updates in the 2018 Acura RDX according to Edmunds?	Edmunds points out that the 2018 RDX features a new turbocharged engine, updated safety features, and a refined interior design, marking it as a significant upgrade over previous models.
7	Would Edmunds recommend the 2018 Acura RDX for families?	Yes, Edmunds recommends the 2018 Acura RDX for families due to its spacious interior, advanced safety features, and reliable performance, making it a practical choice for family transportation.

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