

NEW 4X4S

Spec revisions revealed as D-Max AT35 moves upmarket



Isuzu's D-Max AT35, the big-tyred off-roader converted pre-registration by Arctic Trucks and sold as a full showroom vehicle, has gained a series of revisions. These include a variety of interior enhancements – as well as a new suspension system which Isuzu says 'ensures the D-Max Arctic Trucks can tackle even tougher terrains.'

The suspension, whose extra height compared to standard is among the modifications which

allow the D-Max to run 35" Nokian Rotiiva tyres, now uses Bilstein hardware as a substitute for the Fox Performance springs and shocks found on previous models. As before, this is augmented by a modest body lift, as well as trimming of the standard bodywork – which gains pronounced wheelarch extensions to cover the width of the big rubber.

In between is a new design of side step with a high-grip tread. This features Arctic Trucks' new

logo, which also appears in liberal doses elsewhere on the vehicle.

Inside, the new-look vehicle gains redesigned seat trim with quilted leather moving it further upmarket. And there's also a new 9" touchscreen media system with sat-nav, Bluetooth, DAB and phone mirroring as well as nine-speaker audio. You now get front and rear USB plugs, too, as well as a wireless charging plate in the glovebox, and when you're manoeuvring at low speeds the screen doubles up

as both a reversing camera and front blind-spot display. Handy in such a big, high vehicle.

Also handy is the fact that, being converted pre-registration and sold as a standard Isuzu model, the AT35 doesn't need to be insured as a modified vehicle. Unless you modify it, obviously. Better yet, it retains the same 5-year, 125,000-mile warranty as the rest of the D-Max range.

You can get the AT35 in white, silver metallic and black, grey, red or blue micatallc. No prizes for guessing which one will do the best job of hiding the scratches. OTR prices are £39,995 and £40,995 plus VAT for manual and auto models respectively, and the revised vehicle is on sale now.



THE MITSUBISHI L200 used to lord it over the rest of the pick-up market in the UK. That changed many years ago – but could it be changing back? Perhaps – because the L200 has just recorded its strongest sales in a calendar year since 2007.

Back then, the Series 4 version of the L200 was in its first full year on sale. This was the first model to bring full-time four-wheel drive to the market, and with looks inspired by Mitsubishi's all-conquering Dakar racers of the time it was a monster hit.

Does this point to 2020 being an even bigger success for the new Series 6 model? Well, this will be ITS first full year on sale – and like the old Series 4, bold styling is very much at the forefront of what it's about.

And the arrival of the new-look model was very much at the heart of the L200's success last year. It totalled some 10,125 units in the UK during the course of 2019 – which is a 9.5% increase over 2018. But consider the figures for the month of December alone, when supply of the new model was

fully up and running: the 580 units it shifted during this period constitutes a massive 55% improvement over the previous year.

Customers have really responded to the new L200's striking looks, improved driving experience and even lower running costs,' said Mitsubishi UK's sales boss Toby Marshall. 'We are delighted the new L200 has got off to such a flying start and we are working hard to build on that success into 2020 and beyond.'