

Rugged splendour got a whole new brand ambassador. With its 'I don't give a damn' look and 'get in my way if you dare' moves, Mitsubishi's Outlander is on a storm whipping mode

This one sure looks like a pretty boy, but under that suave and sophisticated look rests a daredevil of a machine that snarls at the world go! With the Outlander now available, Honda's CRV can now look forward to a worthy opponent to compete and kick dirt with. So let's find out how it feels to saddle in and let the machine unleash its might.

THROTTLE AWAY

The good thing about the Outlander is that it has this super quiet engine that even when revved to its maximum potential doesn't howl with pain. And of course, having a petrol engine helps!

On the flipside, people who are used to growlers that huff and puff might be a tad disappointed by the same. Otherwise the 2.4 litre engine does a good job on city roads and its automatic gears make driving during rush hours quite bearable. Just in case you feel like rushing things up a bit, use its huge pedal shift gears placed below the steering wheel. They are not just responsive but also very comfortable to use.

HELLRAISER!

HOT review MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER



POWER UP

Though for most of the time I was in the two wheel drive mode. But as soon as my search for a slushy terrain ended, I turned the knob into the four wheel mode. Know what's cruising? That's what this one does. Cruise and sail over rocks, ridges and more. As long as you choose the right track, it'll make sure you clear it easily.

EXTRA BITS

I was quite surprised to find the keyless entry/exit and ignition the Outlander offers. Now in how many cars worth 20 odd lakhs would you find this novel feature? None that I can recall.

FINAL DIG

So is it a guzzler or a nibbler? Consider this: It gives 8.5 kpl in city driving conditions, which according to its segment is damn decent. But where it thumps over the rest is looks. Its not just decent or good, but a freakinominally amazing machine to drive around and be driven in. Get set to rustle some dust!

— HARI GOVIND NAIR

FEATURES

- 650 watt Rockford Fosgate sound system. It has a 6-slot MP3 compatible CD changer. With 9 speakers and sound-blocking and vibration absorbing devices, the interior is an audiophile's heaven on road.



- Steering-wheel mounted audio and mode controllers.
- The Smart Key feature enables locking and unlocking of the doors and tailgate without taking out the keys from your pocket.
- The lower half of the tailgate can be tumbled down and bears weight up to 200 kg.
- Headlamp washers to clear off the muck after that splash in the muddy river.
- LED tail light

WAR OF THE SPEKERS	MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER	HONDA CRV 2.4 AT
Power (bhp)	168	161
0-100 km (seconds)	11.50	10.50
Top speed (kph)	180	178
Kerb weight (kg)	1615	1565
Torque (nm @ rpm)	226 @ 4100	218 @ 4200
Price (lakhs)*	20.35	19.90

Verdict

This one's loaded to the brim with top-of-the-line features. It's an SUV that's here to stay and bring in nightmares to its competition.

SPEC RATINGS, ON A SCALE OF 1-10



*As shown in Delhi Approx