

This press pack accompanied the UK launch of the revised third generation Hiace (then known as Hi-Ace) in 1986. The model underwent some changes during its time on sale and these can be tracked using the Timeline feature on the third generation Hiace archive web page. Additional assets and information relating to the Hiace range can be obtained from the Toyota press office.

1986

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TOYOTA

press information.....

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TRUMP CARDS GALORE FOR NEW HI-ACE

Toyota's perennial workhorse, the hardy Hi-Ace, appears in its 1986 guise today. First launched in the UK in the early 1970's, rebodied in 1978 and again in 1983, the Hi-Ace is one of the world's all-time best-selling light commercials with sales throughout the world surpassing the 1.65 million mark, a commercial output total surpassed at Toyota only by the Hi-Lux.

The 1986 Hi-Ace will come to the UK in three versions only - petrol panel van, diesel panel van and petrol window van, which will be available for conversion to personnel carriers and crewbuses by recognised UK converters. However, Hi-Ace dropside pickups and chassis-cab units are being discontinued.

Although undergoing what is essentially a facelift, with all major components and body panels staying the same, the 1986 Hi-Ace has nonetheless undergone several significant changes which should meet with widespread approval.

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Visually distinguishable by its new front grille, square headlamps and new colours (including metallics for the first time), the 1986 Hi-Ace has:-

- * New front chassis y-frames for increased safety margin in frontal collisions.

- * New revised gear ratios on all models, the better to match engine torque with road speed conditions and vehicle load.

- * New improved brake system with more effective 7½ inch vacuum servo, ventilated front discs and more sensitive load sensing and proportioning valve to reduce lock-up possibility under light-load and wet conditions.

- * New ball joints and steering geometry to improve handling, steering and straightline stability, as well as improving front tyre life expectation.

- * Improved rustproofing thanks to extensive use of Toyota's exclusive galvanealed steel.

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Other improvements include:-

- * New, more stylish, sculpted steel wheels.
- * Push-button coolant and oil level check system with dash read-out - thus eliminating the tiresome need to lift the engine cover for each inspection.
- * New, 4-jet windscreen washer nozzles.
- * Improved-fit vinyl front floor mat.
- * New load floor vinyl mat.
- * New sliding passenger seat
- * New soft-feel steering wheel.
- * Improved seats with revised interior trim colour - and retaining the third seat with safety belt as standard.
- * The petrol window van, available for crewbus conversion, has five additional features, including:-
 - * Five-speed gearbox
 - * Cloth seats
 - * Digital facia clock
 - * Heated rear window
 - * Rear wash-wipe

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All the Hi-Ace's other popular features - radio, sliding side door, column gearshift, safety handbrake release, big door mirrors and the torquey 2-litre petrol and 2.4-litre diesel power units - are retained or discreetly improved.

Prices range from £5,891 plus VAT for the petrol panel van to £6,631 plus VAT for the diesel - representing price increases of 3.5 and 3.9 per cent respectively over their predecessors. Window van prices vary according to the conversion undertaken.

"We are very pleased with the new Hi-Ace," says Mr Alan Marsh, Toyota GB's Assistant Managing Director. "In Britain's highly competitive light commercial market the Hi-Ace is facing a strong challenge from several quarters. However we are convinced that the 1986 version, with all its improvements but still very keenly priced, will prove itself to the owner-operator as still the best workhorse on the UK market."

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Specification - Toyota Hi-Ace

Engine: (Petrol) Four-cylinder ohv, 1998 cc, 87 bhp DIN at 4600 rpm; (diesel) four-cylinder sohc, 2446 cc, 73.7 bhp DIN at 4000 rpm; fuel tank 12.8 gal.

Transmission: (Petrol panel van) four-speed synchromesh, column shift; (diesel panel van and petrol window van) five-speed synchromesh, column shift.

Suspension: Front, wishbones and torsion bars, anti-roll bar; rear, live axle, semi-elliptic leaf springs.

Tyres: 185R14C.

Brakes: Front ventilated disc, rear drum, servo assisted.

Steering: Recirculating ball, variable ratio.

Dimensions: (Panel van) length 186.0 in; width 67.7 in; height 75.6 in; wheelbase 98.2 in; track, front 56.6 in; rear 55.8 in; kerb weight (petrol) 3097 lb, (diesel) 3307 lb; GVW (petrol) 5842 lb, (diesel) 5842 lb.

<u>PRICES</u>	<u>Basic</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
	£	£	£
Hi-Ace			
Panel van, petrol			
diesel			
Window van	Price according to conversion		

ends...

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