

This press pack accompanied the UK launch of the sixth generation Hilux in 1997. Changes to the vehicle during its time on sale can be tracked using the Timeline feature on the Hilux archive web page. More information about the Hilux range can be obtained from the press office.

October 97

New Hilux Highlights

The new Toyota Hilux available in the UK from November 1997 features:

- 2.4 Turbo Diesel engine for 4x4 (Single and Double Cab)
- Limited slip differential on 4x4 (Single and Double Cab)
- Improved steering stability
- Improved safety
- Increased cabin space
- Revised exterior design
- New exterior colours

The new Hilux is dramatic and sporty in its design and will satisfy both the established market for reliable, working pick-up trucks and the newer, growing market where customers drive the vehicle in their leisure time. It is available in both two-wheel drive and four-wheel drive . The 4x2 has now received a more powerful design, and an enlarged body. Overall height of the 4x2 is increased by 45mm, overall width by 40mm and track is 40mm larger. The 4x4 (single and Double Cab) has an increased exterior height of 15mm to accomodate increased cabin height.

The new Toyota Hilux is designed to keep Toyota ahead of its competitors in this rapidly changing market. This hardworking model is now offered with a 2.4 litre turbo diesel engine in the 4x4 and Double Cab which develops 90bhp at 3500rpm with maximum torque of 167lb ft at 2200rpm. Latest developments include further improvements in reducing noise and vibration and lower exhaust emissions. Reliability and economy are the two fundamentals of the diesel design, with a water cooled turbocharger for dependable performance under heavy load conditions.

Noise and vibration in the engine has been reduced by using a balanced crankshaft and the crankpin diameter has been increased for greater strength. A lower back pressure exhaust is fitted to increase high engine speed performance while low engine speed torque is boosted by careful shaping of the cam lobes.

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All versions of the new Hilux are fitted with a five-speed manual gearbox with ratios to match the engine characteristics.

Springs have been refined to improve ride. Noise levels are greatly reduced by careful use of soundproofing and new design features. Front track has been increased by 40mm on two wheel drive vehicles and the suspension stroke has been increased by 15mm. Four wheel drive versions also get the increased track and now have independent front suspension, with 15mm longer rebound.

At the rear, track has also been increased on the 4x2 and the effect of the leaf springing decreased to give improved ride comfort. On the four wheel drive model, spring characteristic has changed to improve ride comfort. Suspension stroke has also been enlarged. All suspension bushes, geometry angles and shock absorber settings have been tuned to provide an excellent combination of ride, comfort and handling.

The new Hilux is designed around a stiffer, stronger cabin with side impact beams in all doors. Driver and passenger airbags are fitted as standard on the 4x4 Single and Double Cab. An 'intelligent' front seat belt system which employs both pre-tensioners and force limiters is also fitted. The pre-tensioners and force limiters act in harmony to cut stresses on the upper body during an accident and further reduce the chances of injury to chest and ribs.

Cab space has been increased, with more height on all models and more length in the Double Cab version. Getting in and out of the vehicle is easier and the seating position is more natural, having been raised by 30mm. The rear seating position is more spacious too.

The cabin heater system is practical and effective. Cool air delivery has been improved by increasing air flow during maximum delivery and warm air delivery has been improved by increasing the vent size. A rear heater duct fitted to the Double Cab delivers heated air to the feet of rear passengers, improving their comfort. Numerous stowage areas are available throughout the cab, including a large rear console box.

Both 4x2 and 4x4 Single Cab vehicles will be fitted with a TF2001 radio cassette whilst the Double Cab will feature the TM4000 EDS radio cassette.

New radiator grille and fresh, clean look to the integrated headlamp and indicators create a striking frontal view. Smart new wheels complete the sporty exterior look which is rounded off by the integrated corner extensions with a sophisticated new rear light combination. High tensile steel sheet is used for many outer body panels to provide a balance between weight reduction and dent resistance.

The new Hilux has also been able to take advantage of the many advances made in environmental protection since the launch of the previous model.

Extensive use has been made of Toyota's super-olefin polymer (TSOP) material in both interior and exterior components. These specially developed plastics are extremely easy to recycle and can be used many times over in cars and commercial vehicles across the whole Toyota range.

The introduction of three new colours; Polar White, Adriatic Green (4x4 and double Cab only) and Tundra Grey enhance the Hilux colour range. The Hilux is also available in Magna Red and Blue Royale (4x4 and Double Cab only).

The Toyota Hilux has established a strong market position in one of the most competitive vehicle sectors and remains one of the best selling pick-up trucks across the world .

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION		Hilux 2WD	Hilux 4WD/Double Cab
Engine	Type	4 cylinder, OHC Diesel	4 cylinder, OHC Diesel Turbocharged
	Capacity	2446cc	2446cc
	Bore & Stroke	92 x 92 mm	92 x 92mm
	Compression Ratio	22.3	20.0
	Maximum horsepower	78 bhp @ 4000rpm	90 bhp @ 3500rpm
	Maximum torque	120lb ft @ 2200rpm	167lb ft @ 2200rpm
	Battery	2x12 volt 65Amp/hour	
	Alternator	55 Amp	
	Starter motor	2.7 kw reduction. Fuel heater	
	Fuel type	Diesel	Diesel
Gearbox		Manual 5-speed all synchromesh	Manual 5-speed all synchromesh + high low ratio
Transmission Ratios	1st	3.928	3.954
	2nd	2.142	2.141
	3rd	1.397	1.384
	4th	1.000	1.000
	5th	0.851	0.850
Tank Capacity		69 litres (15.2 gallons)	77/66 litres (17.0/14.4 gallon)
Wheels & tyres			
Brakes	Front	Ventilated Disc (257x25)	Ventilated Disc (289x20)
	Rear	Drum (270)	Drum (295)
Suspension	Front	Independent double wishbone, torsion bar	Independent double wishbone, torsion bar
	Rear	Leaf spring type rigid axle	Leaf spring type rigid axle

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DIMENSIONS & WEIGHTS	Hilux 2WD	Hilux 4WD	Hilux 4WD Double Cab
Wheelbase	2850mm	2860mm	2860mm
Overall Length	4725mm	4725mm	4725mm
Overall Height	1605mm	1760mm	1800mm
Overall Width	1690mm	1690mm	1690mm
Front Track	1395mm	1430mm	1430mm
Rear Track	1410mm	1425mm	1425mm
Deck Length	2160mm	2160mm	1355mm
Deck Width	1465mm	1465mm	1465mm
Deck Height	405mm	405mm	405mm
Ground Clearance	190mm	225mm	225mm
Unladen Weight	1325kgs	1560kgs	1635kgs
Gross Weight	2415kgs	2515kgs	2515kgs
Payload	1090kgs	955kgs	880kgs
Max Front Axle	925kgs	1110kgs	1080kgs
Max Rear Axle	1460kgs	1405kgs	1535kgs
Towing Capacity with brake	1800kgs	2250kgs	2250kgs
Towing Capacity without brake	750kgs	750kgs	750kgs

EQUIPMENT	Hilux 2WD	Hilux 4WD	Hilux 4WD Double Cab
Mechanical free wheel hubs	x	▣	▣
Limited Slip Differential	x	▣	▣
Power Assisted Steering	▣	▣	▣
Engine Immobiliser	O	O	▣
Central Locking	x	x	▣
Brake System Warning	▣	▣	▣
Locking Fuel Filler	▣	▣	▣
Lights on Warning Buzzer	▣	▣	▣
Driver's Door Pocket	▣	▣	▣
Number of Seats	2	2	5
Seat Belt Pre-tensioners & Force limiter	▣	▣	▣
Adjustable Height Seat Belts	x	x	x
Airbag	O	Driver/Pass	Driver/Pass
Side Impact Beams	▣	▣	▣
Mud guard front & rear	Rear	▣	▣
Rear Window Guard	▣	▣	▣
Intermittent Wipers	▣	▣	▣
Tinted Glass	▣	▣	▣
Heated Rear Window	x	x	▣
Manual Sunroof	x	x	x
Towbars and Electrics	O	O	O
Front Fog Lamps	O	O	O
Wheelcaps	x	x	x
Rear Tailgate Inside Handle	x	x	x
Electric Front Windows	x	x	x
Front Seat Trim	cloth	cloth	cloth
Audio	TF2001 Radio Cassette	TF2001 Radio Cassette	TM4000 RDS CD Compatible

x = Not available

O = Optional

▣ = Standard

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