

Mazda Introduces New MX-5 At Geneva Show

Jin. Ba. I. Tai. Roughly translated from Japanese, it means "Horse and Rider As One". Mazda's sixteen year old slogan, introduced with the Miata in 1989, has been revived to remind people of the experience of driving a Miata.

Mazda unveiled the new MX-5 to the world at the Geneva autoshow in March. The new car (model designation NC) has been redesigned completely including the powertrain, suspension, body, and engine. The new MX-5 Miata takes advantage of new technology and lighter-weight materials to provide improvements in power, handling, control and safety, yet weighs within 23 pounds of the current model and is almost 400 pounds lighter than its nearest competitor! Despite styling changes, this car is unmistakably a Miata.

Under the hood is a 2.0 liter, DOHC in-line 4 equipped with variable valve timing, variably induction, and a high compression ration. The 2006 with a six speed manual or a sport sport automatic transmission.

Final judgement? The general consensus of opinion is that everyone wants to see this car and take it for a spin before any proclimations are issued. We are excited and can't wait to see it in person!

And the rumor that Mazda is no longer call it a Miata? Well, it will have the MX-5 badge, but Mazda has confirmed it will still be called a Miata in Morth America.



Photo courtesy of Mazda

Mazda's Hot Streak Tour

On April 4, Mazda will load up the 2006 MX-5 Miata and leave the New York Autoshow on the back of a fire truck for a cross country drive that will arrive in Las Vegas on April 24th, 2005 . The back of the truck will be cut out and surrounded by see-thru glass so that the Miata is being displayed at all times during the journey. Mazda will be making several stops along the way to drop off donations at local Fire stations, to benefit the Local Fire Education Fund. The closest location to Indianapolis is Chicago on May 8-9.

This is a great opportunity to see and sit in the new MX-5 Miata and help a worthy cause. There will be local media at each location to capture the potential Miata Enthusiasts as they caravan along this truck carrying the Next Generation Miata.

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It's Braking Information

upgrades with pads and fluid, and for performance driving that may be all that you should consider. Making major changes with exotic rotors doesn't pay any performance dividends and big-brake upgrades aren't needed unless you have made a large power upgrade to your car. The stock brake system has proven more than adequate for the Spec Miata race series, even the older 1.6 cars with the small brake rotors. We have driven successfully in two hour endurance races using stock brakes with just a pad and fluid upgrade.

This article just touches the high points of brake systems and the parts that are available. I encourage you to contact me or anyone at AIM to talk about specifics if you have any questions. Oh, and one last thought: some guys I know don't use the brakes at all... 'cause they just slow you down!

Indy SCCA Test And Tune

Hey Autocrossers! It's time to renew your driving skills. On Saturday, April 3, the Indy SCCA will hold their annual Test and Tune event at the 16th Street Speedway.

Tech and registration starts at 8:00AM with the driver's meeting at 10:15. Event start time is 10:30.

Del-Val Pocono Driving School

The Del-Val Miata Club is inviting you to join them as they hold their annual Driving School at Pocono International Raceway on Monday and Tuesday, August 1st and 2nd. They will be running the North Course of the track and offer classroom and in-car instruction on Monday. The Tuesday session is reserved for open seat time, but if you let them know ahead of time, they may be able to provide some in-car instruction on Tuesday on a first-come, first-served basis.

They limit the number of participants on both dates to provide plenty of open track space and a safe environment. There is *no roll bar requirement* at this event. This is a good opportunity for those who do not wish to invest in a rollbar to participate in a track event. They run this school with safety as their primary concern and this year will mark the ninth running of the event.

The cost of this event is \$200 per day per driver. Again, they prefer those with little or no track experience to participate on Monday, but they will try and accommodate those who can only attend Tuesday.

For more information on this event, you may contact Jeff Jury at racemiata@yahoo.com.