

The Spark is the newest sub-compact car from Chevrolet that will debut at the upcoming Los Angeles Auto Show. In Canada and the United States, the Spark will be powered by a 1.2-litre four-cylinder engine that delivers 83 horsepower (61 kW).



Chevrolet Spark to join small car lineup in 2012

Chevrolet hopes to excite first-time buyers and city residents when the Spark mini car joins the brand's small car family next year in Canada and the United States.

The Spark is a sporty five-door, four-passenger hatch that is on sale in Chevrolet markets around the world.

More details about the Spark, the smallest Chevrolet in the Canadian and U.S. lineups, will be unveiled next month at the Los Angeles International Auto Show.

The Chevrolet Spark is 14 inches (355 mm) shorter than the recently launched Chevrolet Sonic.

It is three feet longer (0.91 meter) than the smart fortwo and four inches (101 mm) longer than the Fiat 500.

In Canada and the United States, the Spark will be powered by a 1.2-litre four-cylinder engine that delivers 83 horsepower (61 kW).

The standard transmission will be a five-speed manual. An automatic transmission will be available.

The Spark will offer more interior room than other mini cars, and it will be the only car in the segment to provide standard benefits such as a five-year, 160,000 km powertrain warranty and the safety and security of OnStar.

Available packages include uplevel features such as color touch screen radio; Chevrolet MyLink infotainment connectivity with Stitcher internet radio; Bluetooth; exterior enhancements such as chrome accents; heated leatherette seats and alloy wheels.

—Metroland Media Carguide Magazine

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Toyota is still tops in Interbrand's eyes

Did you know that Toyota has retained its position as the Number One Automotive Brand in Interbrand's 2011 ranking of the Best Global Brands?

Ranked 11th overall, Toyota outscored all other automakers in the report.

Interbrand said: "Even though Toyota faced an internal crisis (lack of quality control in 2010) and an external crisis (Japan's earthquake in early 2011), the company forged ahead by focusing on safety and quality, modifying its leadership structure and capitalizing on its world-renown green efforts".

This is the third brand honour Toyota has earned this year: in July Interbrand ranked Toyota Number One overall in its 2011 Best Global Green Brands, based on consumer and expert evaluations.

In May, Toyota ranked as the world's most valuable auto brand in the 2011 Brand Z top 100 list, up 11 per cent to \$24.4 billion.

The 2012 Toyota Camry, Prius v and Scion iQ are all on the shortlist for North American Car and Truck of the Year Awards.

Winners will be announced at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit in January.

The shortlist includes 17 cars and seven light trucks.

—Metroland Media Carguide Magazine