& ABS now standard on all models

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ABS is now standard on all models. Step Tup to the GS and GT and traction control and dynamic stability control are standard. E Go with the manual transmission on the **Z** GS and GT and that adds a limited slip differential and the sports suspension that includes Bilstein shocks.

Tested here is the GT (no options) in a marvelous mustard yellow color and with the slick six-speed and sports suspension. The throws on the manual are very short, almost like a joystick.

premium Bose sound system is acoustically mapped to the interior whether the top is up or down. Bluetooth connectivity is also standard on the GT.

Besides being a blast to drive, the MX-5 Miata has always been quite civilized right from the start.

Anytime is a great to time to drive one, but I like to wait until past midnight in the summer. With the top down, the heater set low and some R&B on the box, you can head out into the night along roads that are mostly deserted. Passing along through The GT seats are heated leather and a wisps of ground fog is almost magical.

The retractable roof draws a bigger crowd than Pamela Anderson at a bikini contest. Pull into a parking lot and raise the top and people actually stop in their tracks.

The other thing that the MX-5 supplies is reliability. Most people today don't remember what it was like to struggle with a flimsy canvas top that had to be stretched over rickety frames and leaked like a sieve along with sliding plastic windows (windups not being normally available) that usually became opaque within a year. Don't let them tell about the glories of owning a mid-20th century British sports car.

With the MX-5, you just turn the key and motor off. Besides keeping to the regular maintenance schedule, that's about it.

The GT is so well equipped that it is very close to being a luxury car in everything but price.

Regardless of which MX-5 you chose, it's a rewarding car you can fling around and enjoy because it's got just enough power to have fun, but not enough to get you into trouble.

And with that retractable hardtop, it now offers the kind of fun you can have in any season.





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