# Back to the future with the 2011 Dodge Challenger SRT8

by Jim Robinson METROLAND MEDIA CARGUIDE MAGAZINE

Turn the key and there is a slight E hesitation as a big piston slides up into **z** position.

Next, the engine, all 6.4-litres of it, literally bursts into life then settles J down to a lumpy idle with just a hint of a rumble deep down. .

For those who remember the ≥ sound of a big-bore V8, the "392" in the 2011 Dodge Challenger SRT8 brings memories flooding back to the days when Mustangs, Cudas, Camaros, 442s and, yes, Challengers ruled the roads in North America.

but with modern ride and handling

that makes if possible for

anyone to drive it.

The 2011 Dodge Challenger SRT8 comes with

a 6.4-litre V8 with 470 hp and 470 lb/ft of torque

of gasoline, not the prices of today.

And back then, cars were known "392" for its 6.4-litre V8 that pumps Boston Acoustic sound system. by their displacement numbers in cu- out 470 hp and 470 lb/ft of torque. bic inches not just brand names. For Just to recap Dodge Challenger for. equipped with the ubiquitous 5.7-litre ed to work the clutch pedal doesn't reinstance the 7.0-litre V8 was called a 2011, there are three basic models dif- Hemi V8 now producing 379 hp and quire legs of steel to make it work.

with modifications.

Currently, Chrysler is roll-

ing out a number of SRT ver-

For several years, Chrysler has had front-engine, rear-drive. an in-house performance team called The Challenger SXT (\$26,995) optional six-Speed Tremec TR-6060 same time, but Chrysler's Fuel Saver

lenger came out I can remember pay- and Chrysler 300 SRT8 but the fore- and adds a number of trim pieces such sion. The Tremec was first offered on ing 51 cents a gallon (yes, per gallon) most is the car tested here, the Dodge as leather-trimmed seats, Uconnect the 2008 Dodge Viper SRT10. Challenger SRT8 also known as the with Voice Command and a 265-watt

ferentiated primarily by engine. All are 410 lb/ft of torque through a standard Now it may sound odd to talk five-speed Auto Stick automatic or an about "green" and a 6.4-litre V8 at the Street and Race Technology or SRT. comes with a 3.6-litre V6 engine pro- manual transmission. The Challenger technology is included in automatic When a Chrysler or Dodge has SRT ducing 305 hp and 268 lb/ft of torque R/T Classic (\$38,390) adds standard transmission equipped V8 models. It in its name, you know it is brimming with a five-speed automatic transmis- features like HID headlights and 20- allows the engine to operate economiinch wheels.

Like the R/T 2011, Dodge Chal-cylinders when needed.

Tremec

About the time that the first Chal-sions of its lineup like the Jeep SRT8 sion. The SXT Plus starts at \$28,995 TR-6060 six-speed manual transmis-

The 392 comes with an improved heavy-duty clutch that provides easier The Challenger R/T (\$36,395) is shift engagement. Also, the force need-

cally on four cylinders or use all eight

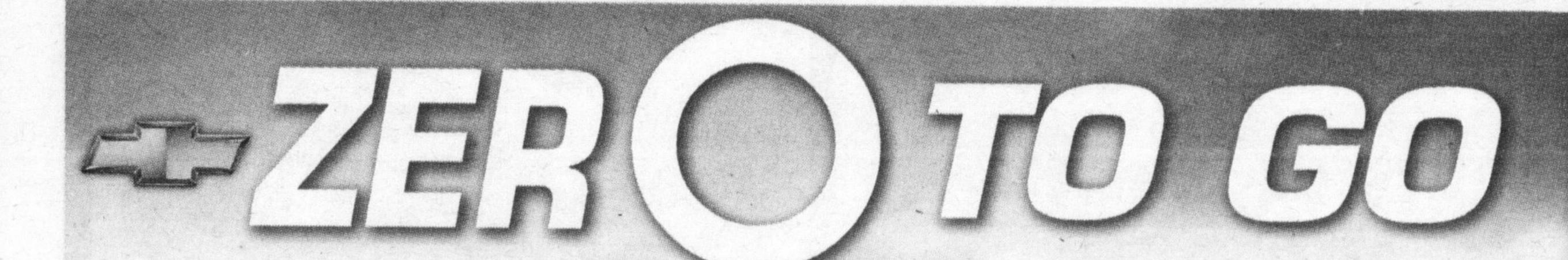
lenger SRT8 392 is available Fuel consumption is listed at with either the standard 15.1/8.8L/100 km (19/42 mpg) for five-speedautomat- the manual and 15.6/8.8L/100 km ic transmission (18/31 mpg) city/highway with the with Auto Stick automatic. These fuel numbers repor an avail- resent a four-mpg highway improve-

see BEST on page A51



**BODY STYLE:** High performance coupe DRIVE METHOD: front-engine, rear-wheel-drive ENGINE: 6.4-litre, OHV V8 (470 hp, 470 lb/ft)

**FUEL ECONOMY:** Manual, 15.1/8.8L/100 km (19/42 PRICE: 392 Inaugural Edition, \$49,990.





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SRT8 392, \$47,995; WEBSITE: www.dodge.ca

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Mallace.





