

# Dodge Avenger Great value for the money

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es taller and that means a noticeably larger interior. The driver, for instance, sits 2.5 inches higher than in the last Sebring. There's also 2.5 inches more headroom and 1.2 inches more shoulder room. With the fold-forward front passenger seat, the driver can create a very useable worktable. If your laptop is Bluetooth enabled as well as your phone, it means you may never have to go to the office again.

The Avenger is one of the very few cars my super-sized son finds comfortable in terms of legroom and back support. In fact, of all the cars I've brought home over the years, the Avenger is his hands-down favourite.

Driving one of his lanky friends home from school, the friend remarked that the back seat has lots of room even with my son sitting with the front passenger seat all the way back.

But to give a better idea of how big it is on the inside, with the front passenger seat folded flat and the rear seat folded, an eight-foot ladder stows with ease.

The 3.5-litre V6 is a punchy unit that makes the most of the six-speed transmission to the point shifts are imperceptible. Of course that changes when you drop down to the manual mode where you can hold the car in any gear longer for more rapid acceleration. And in winter,



being able to start off and hold in second or third is a blessing on a snowy day.

The MacPherson front and multi-link rear suspensions are sport tuned on the R/T meaning stiffer springs and modified shock rebound rates. Also fitted on the R/T are 18-inch alloy wheels with performance tires.

I don't drive hard so I can't comment on the prowess of the sport suspension over the standard, but it sure soaked up the bumps of passing over a set of triple train tracks.

Summing up, the 2010 Avenger in the form of the SE and SXT offer almost full-size car interior passenger volume at a compact car price. The R/T with the extra power of the V6 makes for a great long-distance or long-commute vehicle.

Either way, this car does not deserve to be overlooked by the value conscious, family sedan buyer.

(DODGE AVENGER R/T 2010 AT A GLANCE)

BODY STYLE: Mid-size sedan.  
DRIVE METHOD: front-engine, front-wheel-drive.

ENGINE: 3.5-litre, V6 (235 hp, 232 lb/ft),  
FUEL ECONOMY: 12.9L/100 km (22 mpg) city, 7.4L/100 km (38 mpg) highway.

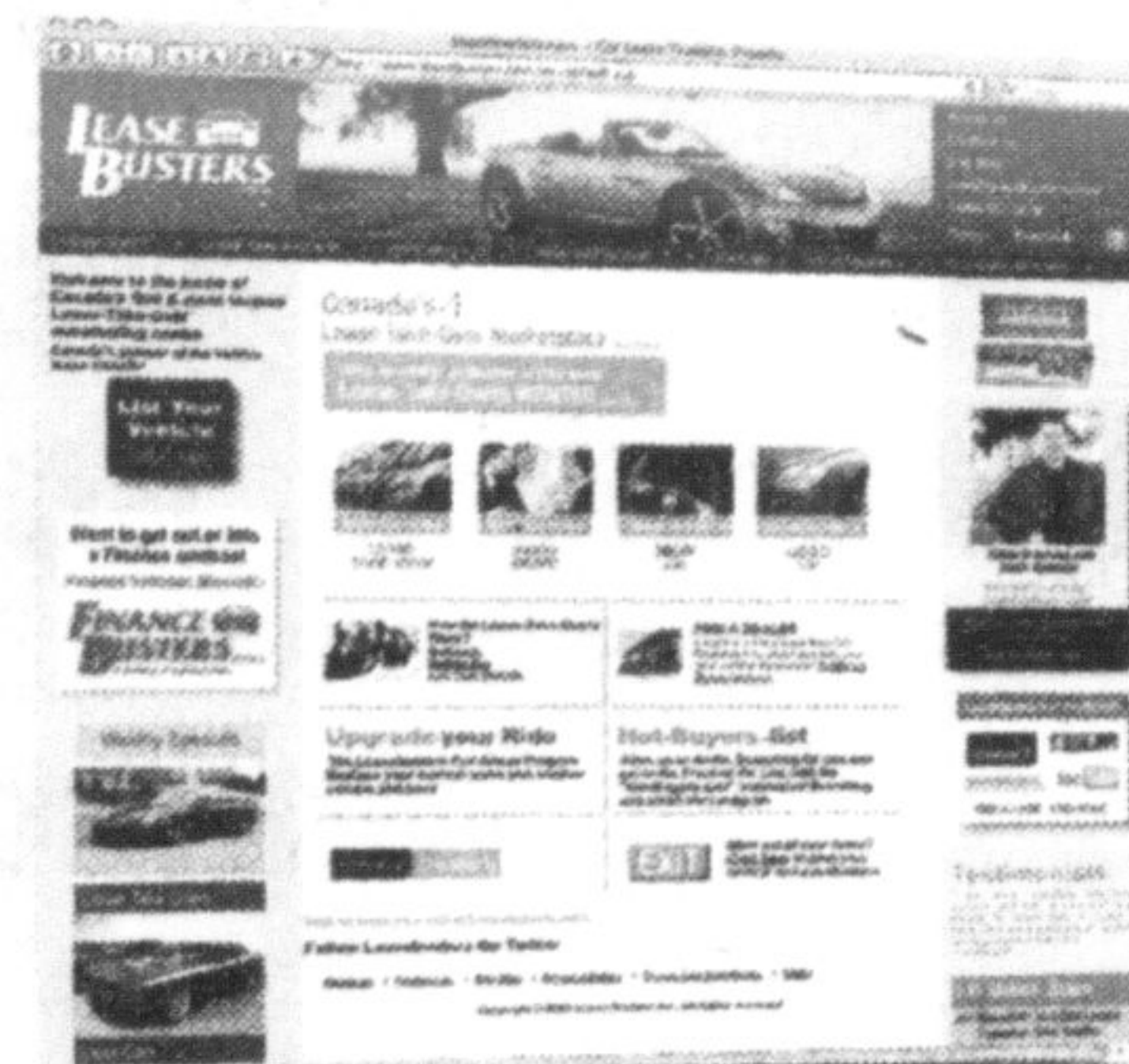
PRICE: \$31,435 as tested including \$1,400 shipping fee.

WEBSITE: [www.dodge.ca](http://www.dodge.ca)

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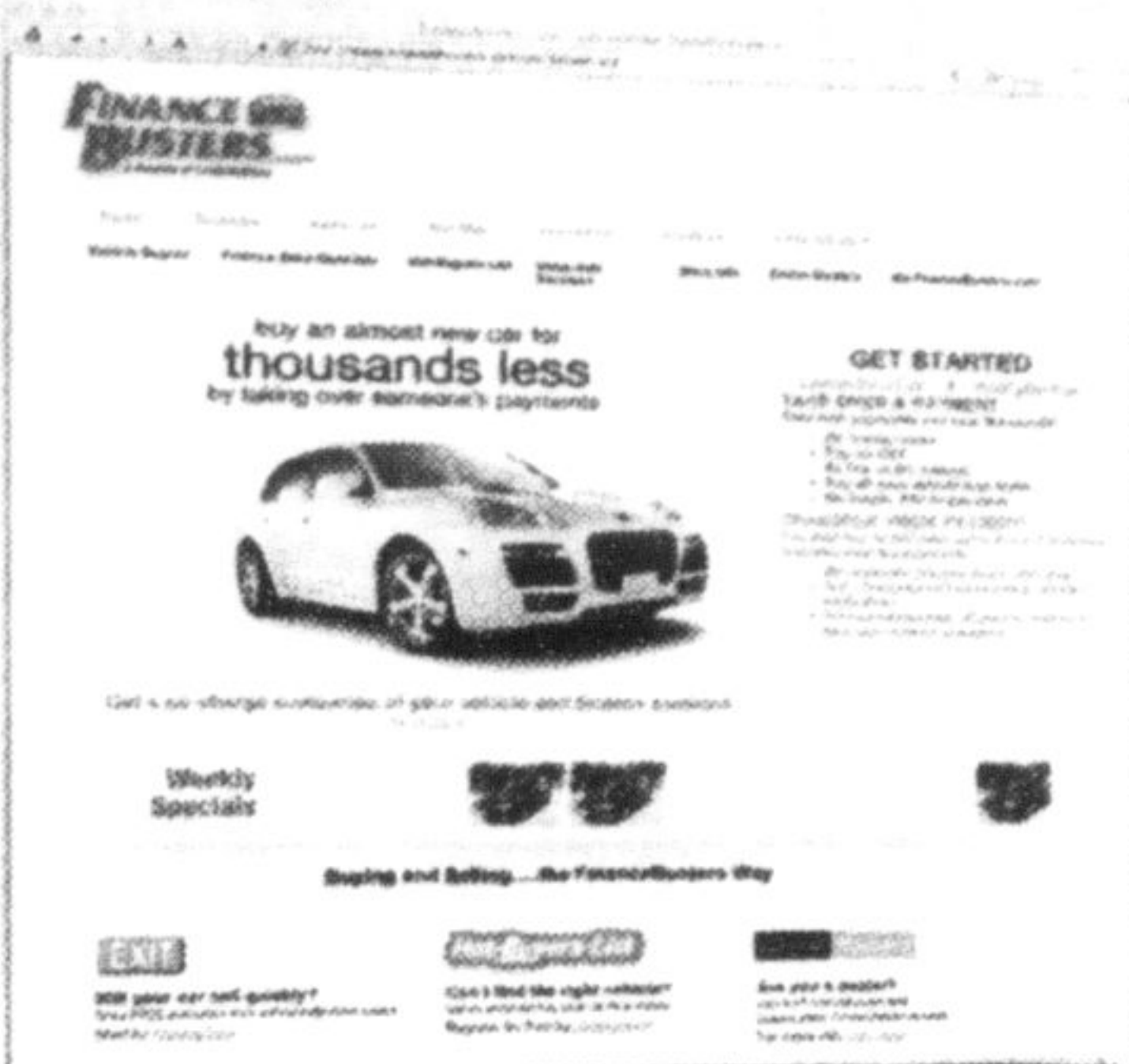
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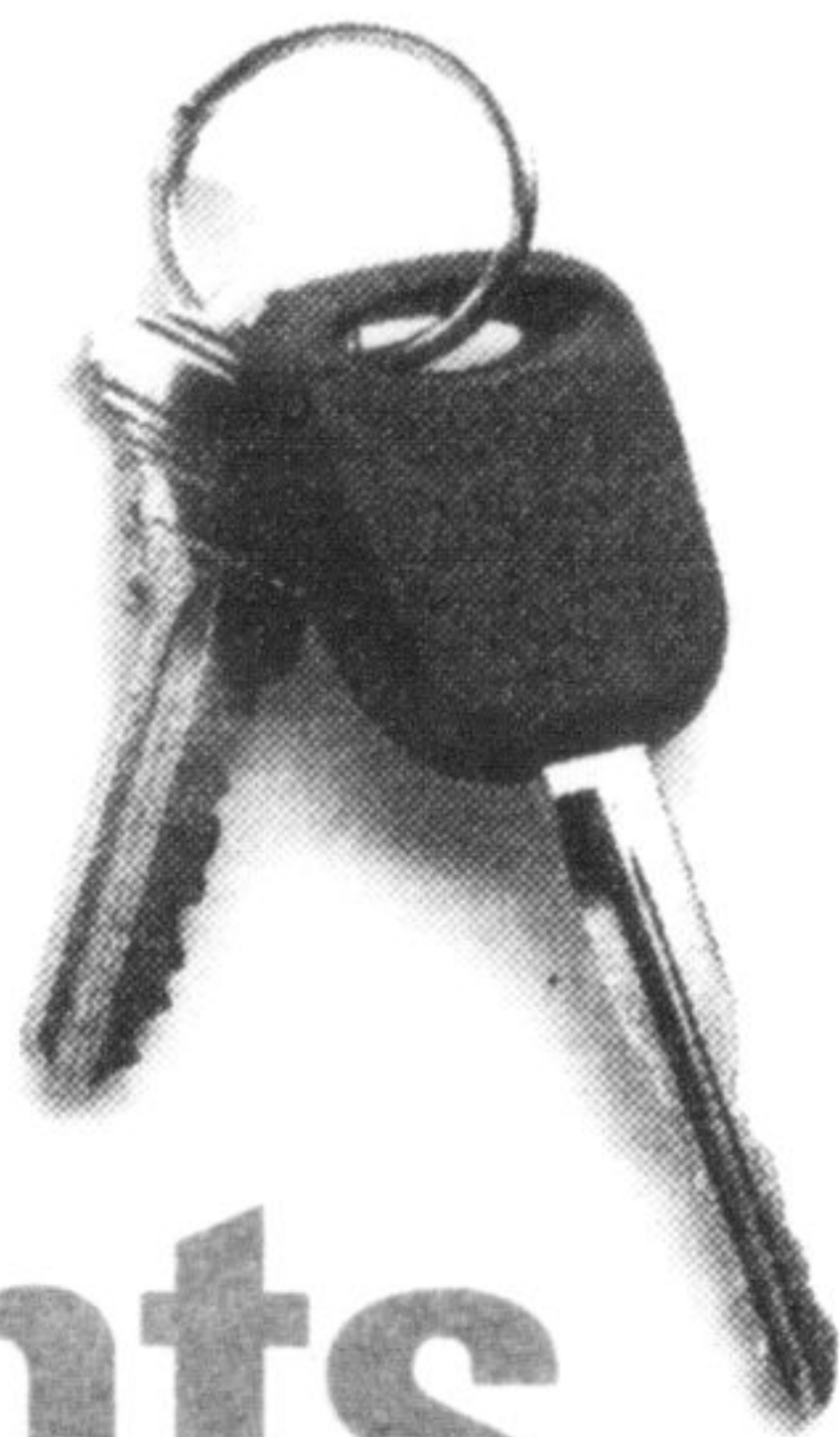
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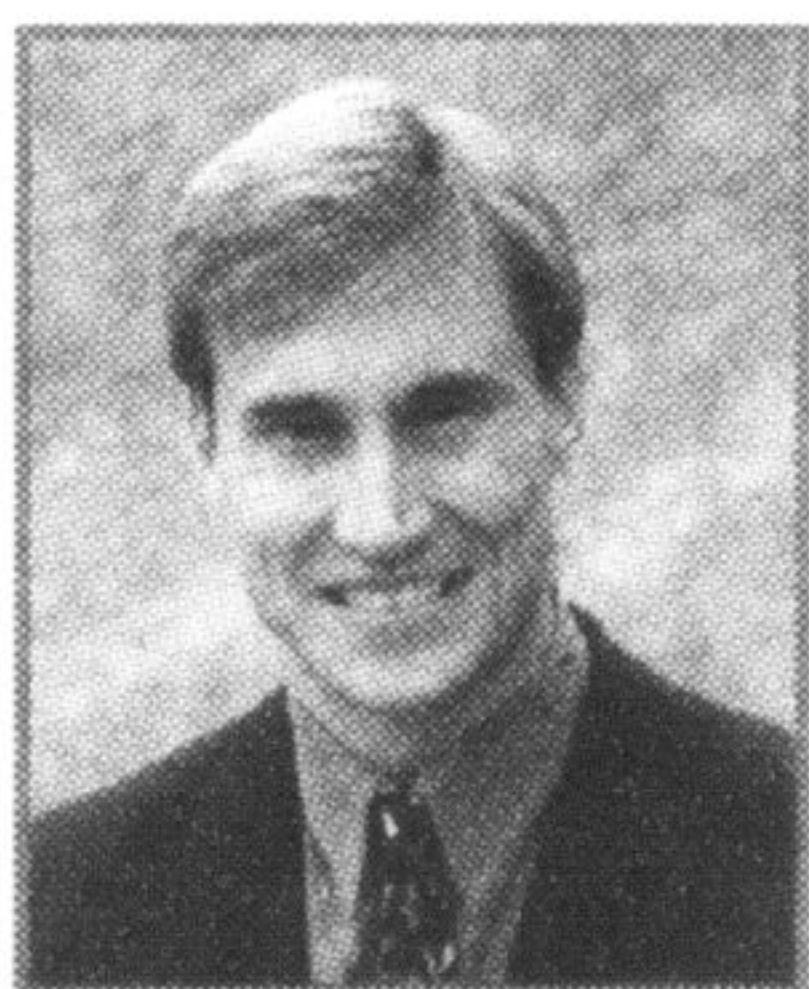
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