

Limited time bi-weekly lease offers available through Honda Financial Services Inc. (HFS), to qualified retail customers on approved credit. Bi-weekly payments include freight and PDI (ranges from \$1,495 to \$1695 depending on 2014 model), EHF tires (\$29), EHF filters (\$1), A/C levy (\$100 except Civic DX models), and OMVIC fee (\$5). Taxes, license, insurance and registration are extra. ΩRepresentative bi-weekly lease example: 2014 Civic DX Sedan // 2014 CR-V LX 2WD // 2014 Accord LX Sedan 6MT on a 60 month term with 130 bi-weekly payments at 1.99% lease APR. Bi-weekly payment is \$84.92 // \$134.92 // \$124.65 with \$0 down or equivalent trade-in, and \$600 // \$1,000 // \$1,050 total lease incentive included. Down payments, \$0 security deposit and first bi-weekly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is \$11,039.26 // \$17,540.05 // \$16,204.86. 120,000 kilometre allowance; charge of \$0.12/km for excess kilometres. PPSA lien registration fee of \$45.93 and lien registering agent's fee of \$5.65, due at time of delivery are not included. For all offers: license, insurance, other taxes (including HST) and excess wear and tear are extra. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price. Offers only valid for Ontario residents at Ontario Honda Dealers. Dealer may lease for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Vehicles and accessories are for illustration purposes only. Offers, prices and features subject to change without notice. See your Ontario Honda Dealer or visit HondaOntario.com for full details. **Based on Association of International Automobile Manufacturers of Canada (AIAMC) data reflecting sales between 1997 and December 2013. **Based on Fuel Consumption Guide ratings from Natural Resources Canada. Transport Canada approved test methods used. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors - use for comparison only.

Skyactiv viable alternative to hybrids and electrics

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the right and not prodding the pedal, saving a little gas here and there, but it all adds up.

Coming back, the increments ticked off slower and slower but, by the time I got home, it read 9.9L/100 km after covering a total of 621.1 km.

Now that's nowhere near the 6.6L/100 km Mazda states for the AWD, but this is the real world and I'm sure I could have achieved rates into the low 8s or high 7s had I driven to Windsor and back.

And if it had been FWD and with regular tires, not snows, and if the average mileage wasn't already so high when I picked the CX-5 up, it would have been better still but I'm not complaining.

The CX-5 seems much bigger than the Mazda6 platform it is based on, but that could be because of the height. My wife, who drives a Mazda3, found it be a little larger than she was used to - more so than the Mazda5 she used to drive.

The back seat was noticeably greater than the Mazda3 especially when it comes to knee room.

As the topline CX=5, with its leather seats and nine-speaker Bose sound system puts the GT on the edge of entry-level luxury.

For instance, the \$1,795 GT Technology Package brings with it Bi-Xenon adaptive headlights with auto levelling, satellite radio and a TomTom-based navigation system and Smart City Brake Support (SCBS) that uses a laser to spot a vehicle and help anticipate a collision. At speeds of 4 to 30 km/h, it moves the pads closer to the rotors for swifter braking response.

Pricing on the GT AWD as tested was

\$41,889 (starting price \$33,250) and that includes a \$1,895 shipping fee.

But regardless of model, the CX-5 with Skyactiv is a very viable alternative to hybrids and electrics and it can only get better as Mazda adds new technology such as its i-Eloop capacitor that stores and reuses otherwise wasted electric energy.

And best if all, it's a Mazda and that means it's still fun to drive, as the slogan says, "with the "soul of a sportscar."



The back seat of the Mazda CX-5 can easily accommodate three adults.

• Tune-Ups

• Tires



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