Enhanced Koup really does have the power to surprise

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automatic even with sequential shifting and/or double E clutches.

Seating in the Koup is snug thanks to the seat side bolstering, but it starts to feel good when you adjust seating position to eye level ahead and to the side in through the outside mirrors.

The turbo SX manual tested here is the most sporting and, for those who like to drive, is the most attractively priced at \$23,695.

First-third gears on the Koup are more performance oriented than those in the Forte5 Hatchback. Launch is huge fun with the torque all there from the moment the clutch bites, even with standard low rolling resistance tires.

With the electric power steering comes FlexSteer that weights the feel of the steering input in three modes -Normal, Comfort and Sport. Normal is what you would expect while Comfort is for long-distance highway cruising and Sport makes the steering tauter for those who drive briskly.

The turbo gathers speed very quickly with not a lot of engine noise and no boost lag I could sense. My co-driver didn't believe it was a turbo because of the lag-free engine response until he opened the hood and checked for himself.

One thing that was bothersome was changing into first gear at a stop. More than once, the shifter slotted into third which caused me to bog down once. From then on I had to make a conscious decision to move the lever as far over to the left as possible.

With just 1,450 km on the odometer, the trouble was the transmission's newness. The springs that help move the shifter to the right slot were probably still stiff, something which would improve over time. This was the case with some Mazda MX-5 Miatas I've driven over the years.

The UVO infotainment system made in conjunction with Microsoft is probably the way to go. You'll have to pay \$28,295 for the SX Lux which brings the eight-inch

navigation/infotainment system. By the same token the Lux also includes sunroof, leather trim and a heated/ cooled driver seat.

And for those who want an automatic, autoboxes across the Forte5/Koup board come with an Eco mode that does help stretch the mileage, as I found out previously on the Kia Optima sedan.

Until now, affordable hot compact coupes like the Civic Si and Scion tC have had this niche pretty well to themselves.

But now there is the 2014 much-enhanced Koup that really does have the Power to Surprise.

Be on guard for identity theft and fraud

On average, 420 vehicles are stolen every day in Canada. Up to one-third of these involve identity theft. To

prevent this from happening to you, take a look at some valuable tips from Globalid, an identity restoration service available through Canadian car dealers:

In and outside your vehicle

- Be very careful about what you leave in your vehicle. Never leave passports, driver licences, social insurance cards, health cards, personalized mail/bills, debit and credit cards, or personalized cheques.
- · Secure vehicle ownership and insurance paperwork in a glove box or other locked compartments.
- Unattended vehicles should always be locked. Close all windows and turn on alarm/security systems. Never leave unattended vehicles idling.
- · If possible hide the VIN of the vehicle, located on the driver's side bottom of the windshield, by covering it with paper or cardboard.
- Make your licence plate harder to steal by using a cover which requires a special tool to remove it without damaging it.
- · Leaving your smartphone, tablet, laptop or flash drives in a visible location in an unattended vehicle is a magnet for thieves.
- Avoid using drive-through banking or other ATM banking during off-hours and in isolated locations.

General Tips

- Protect your passwords. Never share them and make sure you cover up when using an ATM or debit terminal. Use strong passwords that are unlikely to be hacked or guessed.
- Shred documentation with personal information before disposal or recycling.
- · Do not leave data on old computer equipment, such as hard drives or storage devices.
- Know the status of all your financial accounts and keep up-to-date so you can report discrepancies immediately.
- Protect your computer from viruses, phishing scams and hackers with up-to-date firewalls and software.
- Never provide personal information over the internet or by phone or mail, unless you initiate it and it is a reputable source. (NC)
- Never provide credit card information in email.(NC)



Tiguan 4Motion. *\$1000 Cash Incentive available on the 2014 Jetta Gas (hybrid), 2014 Jetta GLI and the 2014 Passat Gas 3.6L. Customer must take delivery of vehicle before April 30th 2014. Price adjustments applied before taxes. No vehicle trade-in required. Offers available for a

ubject to change or cancellation without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may be required. Customer must take delivery of vehicle by April 30th 2014 to apply.