

Crash Tests

New Car Safety

VW PASSAT (LHD)

2001 on Front+side airbags

Overall Evaluation



Overall score 27.87 out of 34

Variant: SEDAN Eng: 4 Cyl 1.9 litre.
 Kerb weight: 1530 kg Category: LARGE/MEDIUM CAR
 Vehicles built: 2001 Tested by EuroNCAP

Important note: The left-hand-drive European model was tested by EuroNCAP. Australasian specifications may vary and therefore models sold in Australasia might provide different levels of protection to those described on this page.

Model History and Safety features

The VW PASSAT was introduced in Europe and Australia in 2001.

Dual front and side airbags are standard equipment. A curtain airbag, which provides extra head protection in a side impact, is available as an option in Europe but not in Australia at this stage.

The front seat belt buckles are mounted on the seats and the upper anchorages are adjustable. These features improve the fit of the seat belt. Pretensioners are fitted to front seat belts to reduce slack in the event of a severe crash. The centre rear seat has a three point seat belt (standard in Australia, optional in Europe).

OVERALL EVALUATION : 4 Stars

The VW PASSAT performed reasonably well in the offset crash test (score 11.874 out of 16). The strong passenger compartment provides a safe survival space. Protection from serious chest injury was marginal for the driver.

The vehicle earned a full 16 points in the side impact crash test. The European model with a curtain airbag earned an extra two points in the optional pole test.

FRONTAL OFFSET CRASH TEST

The passenger compartment held its shape very well in the offset crash test. The brake pedal moved rearwards by 74mm. The steering wheel hub moved rearwards 34mm, upwards 19mm and sideways 34mm. The front ("A") pillar moved 24mm rearwards. The width of the driver's doorway shortened by 24mm. All doors remained closed during the crash. After the crash high manual force was required to open the driver's door.

The airbag cushioned the head of the driver. The driver's head started to roll off the side of the airbag and hit the door waist rail during rebound. Contact was almost unstable. The driver's chest contacted the steering wheel and chest protection was marginal. Chest protection was adequate for the passenger. The driver's knees were not adequately protected from hazardous components behind the dash. Lower leg protection was adequate for driver and passenger.

SIDE IMPACT CRASH TEST

Side impact performance was impressive, with full points scored for each body region.



Offset crash test at 64km/h

The vehicle tested by EuroNCAP was not eligible for a Pole Impact Test since it did not have head-protecting side airbags. This test can earn eligible vehicles an extra two points, giving a maximum possible overall score of 34 points. EuroNCAP also tested a Passat with optional head-protecting side airbags and it earned two points but this option is not currently available in Australia.

INJURY MEASUREMENTS

Refer to the information sheet "How the test are done"	Offset Crash Test at 64km/h		Side Impact Crash Test at 50km/h
	Driver	Passn	Driver
Head HIC	336	228	46.16
Acceleration (g for 3ms)	43.55	35.12	35.99
Neck - Shear (kN)	0.33	0.44	-
Tension (kN)	1.14	1.08	-
Extension (Nm)	8.65	15.35	-
Chest Accln (g for 3ms)			-
Compression (mm)	25.53	27.38	17.03
Viscous criterion (m/s)	0.11	0.22	0.12
Abdomen - Force (kN)	-	-	0.85
Pelvis - Force (kN)	-	-	1.44
Upper legs Force			
Left (kN)	1.37	0.84	
Right (kN)	0.61	0.13	
Knee displ (mm)			
Left	1.8	2.83	
Right	1.16	0	
Lower legs Force			
Left (kN)	1.13	2.18	
Right (kN)	2.61	2.25	
Index (Upper/Low)			
Left	0.22/0.29	0.46/0.51	
Right	0.47/0.54	0.54/0.44	

Modifiers for offset test scores

Head		No penalty
Chest	Contact with steering wheel	1 pt penalty
Upper leg	Variable & conc. loading	2 pt penalty L & R
Lower leg		No penalty
Foot score	Brake pedal rearward	Score 4 pts

Pedestrian rating



12.52 points out of 36 (34.8%)

Child head impacts 4.78 pts; adult head impacts 6 pts; Upper leg 1.74 pts and lower leg impacts zero pts.



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