CLASSIC DRIVER

New Audi A6: Light, Rigid, Safe



The new Audi A6 Saloon has all the high-end luxury you'd expect but, designed from the ground up using the latest lightweight construction techniques, it also delivers top-class fuel economy and CO2 outputs as low as 129g/km.

Much of the reworked body on the new A6 is made up of aluminium and high-tech steels – in fact, aluminium accounts for some 20 per cent of the surface area, leading to a car that is light, rigid and safe. By combining these materials, the weight of the bodyshell has been brought down by around 15 per cent, hence the **A6 2.0 TDI** tips the scales at a relatively modest 1575kg. Allied to six-speed manual transmission, the **2.0 TDI** claims an impressive 57.7mpg combined – helped by stop-start and energy recovery systems.





These technologies are not restricted to the most fuel-efficient model in the range, however, and the **3.0litre TDI 204PS**, **3.0-litre TDI 245PS** and **3.0-litre TFSI 300PS** all make fuel efficiency and emissions a priority. Planned for the not-too-distant future is a **A6 hybrid**, promising a **2.0-litre TFSI** petrol engine with an electric motor, capable of zero-emission urban driving, yet with 245PS on tap for B-road fun.



As with the previous **A6**, there is a wide range of drivetrains, from manual six-speed, through **CVT**, to the stunning seven-speed S tronic twin-clutch for quattro models. For top-of-the-line engines, the **quattro** sport differential that has appeared in the **S4** will also be offered as an option. Other options include comfort seats with heating, cooling and massaging functions, acoustic glazing, supple leather trimming for the centre

console, a 15-speaker **Bang & Olufsen** audio system and TV reception.

The new Audi A6 is open for UK order from January, with OTR prices starting at £30,145.

Text: Charis Whitcombe Photos: Audi

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