CLASSIC DRIVER

Fifth generation M5: BMW releases full details



The new, F10-model BMW M5 saloon's twin-turbo 4.4-litre V8 produces 552bhp and 502lb ft of torque. That's enough, with the 'M Driver's Package', to give the discreet supersaloon a top speed of 190mph.

Acceleration is similarly ferocious; 62mph will come up in just 4.4 seconds from rest, and 124mph in 13.0 seconds. It's terrifically fast, as you'd expect, but it's also more efficient than before with remarkably low CO2 emissions of just 232g/km and an average fuel consumption of 28.5mpg (9.9 litres/100km).

As standard, the new M5 comes with a seven-speed, twin-clutch transmission, M Servotronic steering, Dynamic Damper Control, a DSC stability control system and an Active M Differential (an electronically controlled multi-plate LSD).

The driver will have plenty of controls to play with via two new M Drive buttons on the steering wheel. In fact, the technical overload on this car is likely to boggle a new owner as much as the mindbending performance.



I am sure that just getting in it, clicking the 'Start' button, pressing the accelerator and holding on for grim death will be more than enough for most.

Visually, the Bavarian company has done its usual tasteful job on the spoilers and air intakes. The view most drivers will get of it will be from the rear; the four tailpipes, small bootlid spoiler and wide rubber a giveaway.



And the 'M' badge of course, and the air vortices pulling leaves, small animals and unwary children in its wake.

No prices have yet been confirmed, but you can expect to pay in the region of £75,000 in the UK.

Text: Steve Wakefield

Photos: BMW

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