

OVERALL SCORE

(as of December 2024)

80

CR RECOMMENDED

2025 Subaru Ascent

CR MPG 22 mpg
#3 of 19 Midsize SUVs 3-row

- ✓ **HIGHS**
- Ride
 - Quietness
 - Interior room
 - Visibility
 - Braking
 - Controls

- ✗ **LOWS**
- Agility

ROAD TEST

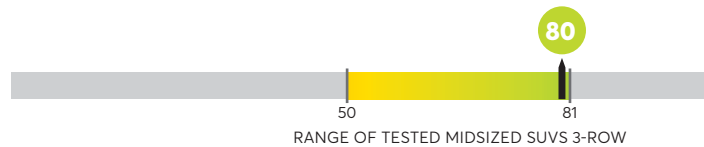
90/100

PREDICTED RELIABILITY

50/100

PREDICTED OWNER SATISFACTION

3/5



Road Test Results

Performance

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|-----|
| Acceleration 0 to 60 mph | 8.0 sec | 4/5 |
| Transmission | | 5/5 |
| Routine Handling | | 3/5 |
| Emergency Handling | | 3/5 |
| Braking | | 5/5 |
| Headlights | | 3/5 |

Comfort & Convenience

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|-----|
| Ride | | 5/5 |
| Noise | | 4/5 |
| Driving Position | | 4/5 |
| Front Seat Comfort | | 4/5 |
| Rear Seat Comfort | | 5/5 |
| Third Seat Comfort | | 1/5 |
| Front Access | | 5/5 |
| Rear Access | | 5/5 |
| Third Access | | 1/5 |
| Usability | | 5/5 |
| Interior Fit & Finish | | 4/5 |
| Trunk/Cargo Area | | 3/5 |
| Climate System | | 5/5 |

Fuel Economy & Range

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| Fuel Economy | 3/5 |
| CR's Overall Mileage | 22 mpg |
| CR's City Mileage | 14 mpg |
| CR's Highway Mileage | 32 mpg |
| Green Choice | No |
| Greenhouse Gas | 4/10 |
| Smog Rating | 5/10 |

Survey Results

WORSE ← → BETTER

Overall Reliability History

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019* | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|------|------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|
| X | X | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↑ |

* Redesign year

Owner Satisfaction

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| X | X | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↑ |

| | |
|--------------------|--------|
| Driving Experience | 80/100 |
| Comfort | 81/100 |
| Value | 51/100 |
| Styling | 80/100 |

CR Road Test Results

Subaru's three-row SUV has impressive all-around performance. The Ascent's smooth ride, functional interior, and slick power delivery helped lift it to success.

The Ascent has a 2.4-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine in a segment where V6s dominate, which might seem to be a disadvantage on paper. But in real-world driving, the SUV feels zippier and more satisfying than its numbers suggest it should be. Plus, its 22 mpg overall is comparable to its rivals.

The plush ride is impressive, even bettering some luxury cars. However, we noticed significant body lean through turns, but the SUV feels safe and remains under control even under duress.

Getting into the Ascent's cabin is easy, thanks to its large doors and low step-in height. Seat comfort is good as long as one opts for one of the three top trims (Limited, Touring, or Onyx Edition Touring), which have leather and a four-way lumbar adjustment.

The controls are simple to use and the infotainment touch screen responds quickly to commands. All trim levels come with wireless

Android Auto and Apple CarPlay compatibility. A WiFi hotspot can support up to eight devices to entertain connected families.

The Ascent's soft surfaces and contrasting interior accents add an upscale flair, befitting its price. Most Ascents come with second-row captain's chairs, which provide plenty of leg-room and can be slid fore-aft. Our Limited model came with USB ports and a 120-volt outlet for rear passengers.

The foldaway third-row space is relatively livable. Passengers will find that the grab handles mounted on top of the second-row captain's chairs make getting out of the third row easier.

Standard equipment includes Subaru's EyeSight Driver Assist Technology, a suite that includes forward collision warning, automatic emergency braking, lane keeping assistant, and adaptive cruise control with a lane centering feature. For 2025, blind spot warning, blind spot assistance, rear cross traffic warning and reverse automatic emergency braking are standard.

The Ascent is an extremely functional and comfortable vehicle that will appeal to many suburban families.

Summary

Best Version to Get

Now the entry-level trim for 2025, the Premium trim would be the right place to start since it brings standard niceties like a power driver's seat, heated front seats, power rear gate, push-button start, and an auto-dimming rearview mirror. Those looking for leather seats, 4-way power lumbar adjustment, and a panoramic roof will need to step up to the Limited, Touring, or Onyx Edition trims.

Notable changes:

For 2025, the Base trim was dropped, making Premium the entry-level trim. A new Bronze Edition trim was added, featuring 20-inch bronze-colored wheels and exclusive interior and

exterior accents. A top Onyx Edition Touring trim was also added. Blind spot warning, blind spot assistance, rear cross traffic warning and reverse automatic emergency braking became standard.

The 2024 model remained mostly unchanged.

Changes for 2023 included mild interior and exterior styling updates. On the safety front, 2023 models offered Automatic Emergency Steering, which scans for potential collisions with a vehicle, pedestrian or cyclist ahead and automatically steers to avoid or lessen the severity of impact.

To read the full road test go to <https://www.consumerreports.org/cars/subaru/ascent/2025/road-test-report/?pagestop>