

COMMERCIAL 4x4 OF THE YEAR



INTRODUCTION



PHOTOGRAPHY BY:
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Commercial vehicles have always played a leading role in the nation's daily life, with 4x4s proving invaluable in keeping agriculture and construction industries alive and well. Now there's an even greater demand for commercials, with many more users appreciating the cost savings involved in escaping VAT and in a lower annual tax liability. Double cab pick-ups have been a prime mover in this area, while at the same time proving attractive propositions for non-commercial users as recreational off-road vehicles. They provide an excellent blend of family accommodation with an external load bay to keep wet or muddy camping, hiking, fishing gear or mountain bikes away from the delicate upholstery of a smart, car-like cabin.

With four-wheel-drive commercials becoming ever more popular we've decided to separate this burgeoning sector from our annual pick of the best off-roaders and present them in their own Commercial 4x4 Of The Year review. We've driven key examples from all the main manufacturers involved in this market and rated them according to comfort, refinement and practicality, naturally also taking their off-road abilities into account. We've assessed performance, ride comfort, roadholding and, of course, measured up their cargo capacities to bring you our verdicts on the nation's top working 4x4s.

Ford Transits rule on the nation's highways, but if there's ever a need to stray off the tarmac straight and narrow there's nothing to beat four-wheel drive. Popular road-going commercials are rarely available in four-wheel drive form – not in the UK, anyway – so traditionally the role of off-road workhorse has fallen to Land Rover. The demand for more civilised forms of working transport has kick-started other manufacturers into providing commercials, and though these are almost always compromised by being derived from passenger cars, with the result for instance that the load bay is simply not purpose-built for the job, they do offer appeal to users where reasonable comfort takes precedence over sheer practicality. Here we compare the landmark Land Rover brand against its key competitors – vehicles all very different in nature but each ideal for commercial users.

of the trade.



Shogun Sport Commercial from £16,495 + VAT

2.5 TD | 4 x 4
Central Locking | Immobiliser
Radio / Cassette | Sunroof
Twin Airbags

Shogun Commercial SWB from £17,995 + VAT

3.2 TD DI-D | 4 x 4
Central Locking | Immobiliser
Radio / Cassette

L200 Single Cab from £10,295 + VAT

2.5 TD | 2 x 4 or 4 x 4 | Immobiliser
PAS | Radio / Cassette | Twin Airbags

4WORK

Hewn out of the heritage of the legendary Shogun 4x4, the Mitsubishi **4WORK** commercial vehicle range is designed and engineered to take you to the toughest working environments on earth. Choose from the widest range of 4x4 commercials from any manufacturer in Britain, if you can't find the vehicle for your type of business here, you can't find it anywhere. **4WORK**, reliable, capable and well equipped, it owns the territory.

For further details and your nearest Mitsubishi dealer call 0845 330 2002 or visit us at www.mitsubishi-cars.co.uk.

Take a **different road**



The Commercial Vehicle of the Year (COTY) award for commercial vehicles excludes VAT, but includes the cost of delivery to the dealer's premises, number plates, Government road fund licence for 12 months and UKA vehicle first registration fee of £25.