

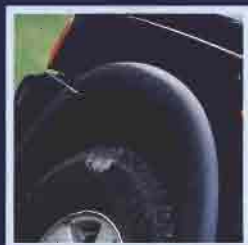
COMMERCIAL  
4x4  
OF THE YEAR



## FORD RANGER - DOUBLE CAB (PRE-DEC 2002)



**A** quiet, refined and workmanlike vehicle, the Ford has always impressed as a no-frills but no-nonsense performer with a comfortable cabin and sensible equipment for the money – the range-topping XLT version includes a CD player and air conditioning. The Ford puts a little more emphasis on load-bay length than occupant comfort, so although the Double Cab doesn't allow quite as much legroom front and rear than its higher-profile rivals it still offers adequate accommodation for five with a load bay up to 10 inches longer than some other double cab competitors. The upholstery has a slightly cheap 'n' cheerful look about it – the chrome-trimmed gear lever in particular seemed out of place – but the dash has a modern car-like appearance, the seats are supportive and the rear bench is comfortably padded. With its quiet, free-revving turbodiesel delivering easy performance the Ford is a pleasing car to drive. It's not excitingly quick, but it has impressive roadholding, a slick gearshift and progressive brakes. The longer load bay results in an unimpressive departure angle, which combines with average ground clearance and disappointing axle articulation to hinder the Ford when conditions get tortuous, but the engine works well in more general off-roading, strong torque building quickly from low revs, making it easy to trickle through soft and slippery going. Four-wheel drive is a straightforward selectable system, with manual freewheeling hubs and a limited slip rear differential.



### DOUBLE CAB

Price ex-VAT:	£15,982/
Inc VAT & o-t-r:	£18,779
Engine cc/bhp:	2499/109
Transmission:	Five-speed manual, selectable 4WD
Payload:	1010kg
Towing weight:	2200kg
GVW:	2825kg

### RATINGS (0-10)

Comfort:	6
Refinement:	7
Off-road:	5
On-road:	5
Value:	6
Style:	5
TOTAL:	34

**WE LIKED:** Refined engine, value pricing  
**WE DISLIKED:** Dull styling, cheap trim