

MEDIA INFORMATION

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The UK's £3.9 billion annual repair bill for used cars

Britain's motorists spend almost £4 billion a year* repairing cars aged four to eight-years old that break down after their manufacturer warranties expire, according to research from Warranty Direct.

In its newly-published Top 100 list of the nation's most reliable cars, Warranty Direct revealed that the worst to run cost almost five times more than the most dependable to keep on the road.

The now replaced Jaguar S Type and Audi's original TT top a league table of the costliest cars, along with similarly sporty, executive models from MG – the MG TF and the ZT and the Lexus IS200 to complete the most expensive five. At an average of £423 for each visit, the Jaguar S Type can cost more than four times the cheapest model, the Toyota Yaris, to repair.

Top 5 most expensive cars to repair

Car model	Average repair cost
Jaguar S-Type	£422.84
Audi TT	£402.51
MG TF	£399.35
MG ZT	£396.03
Lexus IS200	£394.79

Across 10 of the biggest-selling used cars of 2007, Vauxhall's Vectra is the costliest to run, with an average bill of £315.28. Thankfully, it is not as likely to break down as often as the hatchbacks from Peugeot and Renault – where a third of the latter's Megane small family models record a failure and a £246 repair bill every year.

Average repair cost of most popular used car buys in 2007*

Car model	Average repair cost	Rate of failure
Ford Focus	£199.38	17.86%
Vauxhall Corsa Mk1	£158.72	17.09%
Peugeot 206	£205.35	26.52%
Renault Clio	£211.31	23.77%
Ford Fiesta	£182.52	22.92%
Ford Mondeo	£210.76	8.11%
Vauxhall Vectra	£315.28	22.77%
Vauxhall Astra	£225.70	20.78%
Renault Megane	£246.03	33.18%
Ford Ka	£143.50	16.72%

*source of Top 10 used car sales SMMT

Unsurprisingly given their reputation to date, the cheapest vehicles to run according to Warranty Direct's Top 100 list are small Japanese cars. Toyota's Yaris and the

Honda Jazz attract average yearly remedial bills of just £89 and £106 respectively, and are joined in the best 10 by the Nissan Micra, Ford Ka and Vauxhall Corsa.

Overall, Renault's Espace is the least reliable car in the Top 100, which can be viewed at www.reliabilityindex.co.uk, with an astonishing 71% breaking down in years four or five.

"The cost of parts and labour on some models is shocking, and really comes into play once a car leaves the protection of its manufacturer warranty," said Warranty Direct's Duncan McClure Fisher. "A lack of reliability and repeated visits to the workshop mean the only real winner here is the garage."

ENDS

* Average repair bill across whole of Warranty Direct Top 100 is £273.50. One in three cars aged between four and nine years old break down on average during any given 12-month period, a total of 14.5 million cars. £273.5 x 14.5m = £3,973,955,000

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Editors Notes:

Launched in 1997, Warranty Direct was the first direct personal Warranty Company to operate in the UK. It is owned by Cardiff Pinnacle, a trading style of Pinnacle Insurance plc and subsidiary of global banking house, BNP Paribas.

Table showing full Warranty Direct Top 100 by repair cost

Make	Car Model	Average repair bill	Rate of failure
Toyota	Yaris (99-03)	£89.68	9.09
Honda	Jazz (01-)	£106.11	6.49
Nissan	Micra (93-03)	£132.24	9.01
Toyota	Corolla (97-04)	£134.93	2.38
Ford	Ka (96-)	£143.50	16.72
Volvo	S40 (96-04)	£143.80	14.51
Fiat	Marea & Weekend (97-03)	£150.92	25.00
Vauxhall	Corsa (00-06)	£158.72	17.09
Fiat	Seicento (98-04)	£168.38	43.86
Seat	Toledo (99-05)	£168.96	37.14
Skoda	Octavia (98-04)	£175.47	16.95
Citroen	Xsara (97-04)	£176.27	16.16
Daewoo	Matiz (98-03)	£177.49	21.98
Ford	Fiesta (95-02)	£182.52	22.92
Volkswagen	Golf (97-05)	£190.34	23.40
Skoda	Fabia (00-07)	£192.55	33.51
Ford	Focus (98-04)	£199.38	17.86
Volkswagen	Polo (94-02)	£203.28	24.48
Peugeot	206 (98-07)	£205.35	26.52
Ford	Mondeo (93-00)	£210.76	8.11

Renault	Clio (98-05)	£211.31	23.77
Fiat	Multipla (99-04)	£212.69	40.63
Rover	City Rover (03-05)	£213.85	27.78
Honda	Civic (00-06)	£214.23	6.78
Mazda	MX-5 (98-05)	£217.86	5.66
Nissan	Almera Tino (00-05)	£223.37	13.27
Seat	Leon (00-05)	£224.24	34.05
Citroen	Saxo (96-04)	£224.66	21.66
Ford	Puma (97-02)	£224.94	23.26
Peugeot	206 CC (00-07)	£225.34	17.90
Vauxhall	Astra (98-06)	£225.70	20.78
Rover	45 (99-05)	£233.12	17.75
Volvo	V40 (96-04)	£235.44	17.00
Volkswagen	Beetle (99-)	£239.38	22.37
Peugeot	106 (96-04)	£240.73	21.13
Volkswagen	Lupo (99-05)	£242.35	13.73
Renault	Megane (99-03)	£246.03	33.18
Seat	Ibiza (02-06)	£247.48	30.67
Ford	Mondeo (00-07)	£253.11	17.71
Honda	CR-V (97-02)	£254.58	6.11
MG	ZR (01-05)	£255.00	28.85
Volkswagen	Bora (99-05)	£255.04	28.49
Daewoo	Nubira (97-03)	£258.84	30.65
Peugeot	307 (01-08)	£259.75	21.16
Fiat	Bravo (95-02)	£260.00	26.12
Fiat	Brava (95-02)	£260.06	21.15
Volkswagen	Passat (99-05)	£262.17	29.05
Citroen	C5 (01-08)	£262.46	26.94
Vauxhall	Omega (94-03)	£263.90	24.38
Peugeot	406 (96-04)	£270.25	23.28
Audi	A2 (00-05)	£270.65	24.39
Citroen	Berlingo Multispace (99-02)	£270.77	16.67
MG	ZS (01-05)	£278.62	28.09
Fiat	Stilo (01-07)	£282.10	11.69
Volvo	C70 (97-06)	£282.38	39.36
BMW	3-Series (98-07)	£284.48	22.88
Volkswagen	Golf (97-05)	£286.34	28.85
Vauxhall	Zafira (99-05)	£286.65	23.28
Toyota	Celica (99-06)	£295.28	4.44
Daewoo	Lanos (97-02)	£298.48	15.09
Rover	25 (99-05)	£301.36	19.45
Audi	A3 (97-03)	£303.91	31.82
Fiat	Punto (99-03)	£304.05	19.36
Renault	Laguna (00-07)	£305.76	39.38
Honda	Accord (98-03)	£306.51	8.06
BMW	5-series (96-04)	£308.80	28.23
Seat	Alhambra (96-)	£314.31	46.43
BMW	7-series (95-02)	£315.24	29.46
Vauxhall	Vectra (95-02)	£315.28	22.77
Nissan	Terrano II (93-07)	£318.41	26.98
Saab	9-5 (97-05)	£320.15	23.73

Saab	9-3 (98-02)	£329.93	29.98
Lexus	GS300 (97-05)	£330.72	26.03
MINI	MINI (01-07)	£332.61	17.91
Nissan	Primera (96-02)	£333.79	26.04
Toyota	Avensis (97-04)	£334.40	17.87
Mercedes	E-Class (99-03)	£335.17	27.52
LandRover	Discovery (98-04)	£337.01	39.87
Toyota	RAV4 (00-05)	£337.31	10.34
Ford	Galaxy (95-06)	£341.12	37.91
Honda	S2000 (99-)	£343.12	6.45
Jaguar	XJ8 (97-03)	£349.22	43.38
Mitsubishi	Carisma (95-05)	£352.01	16.47
Alfa Romeo	GTV (96-05)	£359.37	68.93
Mercedes	C-class (00-07)	£365.85	25.82
Rover	75 (99-05)	£369.68	25.42
Renault	Espace (93-02)	£371.02	71.93
Isuzu	Trooper (98-04)	£374.85	30.77
Audi	A4 (00-05)	£378.88	14.57
Audi	A6 (97-04)	£384.13	36.74
Mercedes	M-Class (98-06)	£386.45	25.97
Volvo	V70 (00-07)	£386.58	34.62
Mercedes	CLK (97-03)	£388.87	22.22
MG	MGF (95-02)	£389.69	33.91
Chrysler	PT Cruiser (00-)	£390.20	21.54
Lexus	IS 200 (99-05)	£394.79	9.63
MG	ZT (01-05)	£396.03	34.76
MG	MG TF (02-05)	£399.35	20.90
Audi	TT (99-06)	£402.51	42.95
Jaguar	S-Type (98-08)	£422.84	27.18