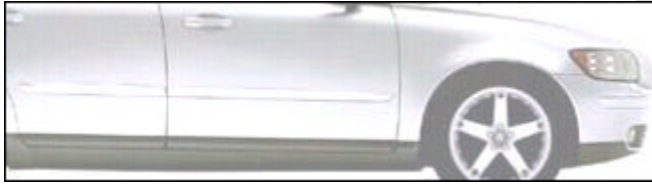


ADVERTISEMENT

**CAR AND DRIVER**.com®

OCTOBER 01, 2005

SEARCH GO

NEW-CAR SMELL MAY BE TOXIC

The Daily Auto Insider
Tuesday, September 27, 2005
September 2005

That distinctive new-car smell may be a vile cocktail of harmful chemicals, the Associated Press reported, citing recent research that's spurring efforts by Japanese automakers to tone down the fumes.

The new-car smell comes largely from chemicals known as volatile organic compounds, or VOCs, that emanate from glues, paints, vinyls and plastics in the passenger compartment, the story said. The fumes can trigger headaches, sore throats, nausea and drowsiness.

Japanese manufacturers, including Toyota, have set an industrywide goal of reducing cabin fumes concentrations to within government guidelines. Earlier this year, they agreed to cut cabin levels of 13 of the compounds, including possible cancer-causing agents styrene and formaldehyde, by 2007 to match Japanese Health Ministry guidelines for air quality in homes.

[More news](#)

Shopping for a new car? Don't get taken for a ride. Our [interactive guide](#) makes it easy to find the ride that fits your budget and your lifestyle.

Copyright© 2005 Hachette Filipacchi Media, U.S., Inc.
[Home](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Your Privacy Rights – Revised Privacy Policy, April 27, 2005](#)
[Vehicle Index](#) | [Terms & Conditions](#) | [How to Advertise](#) | [Subscribe and Subscription Services](#)



ADVERTISEMENT

