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IN COMMAND

Land Rover LR4 continues to rule

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If you love the style of a traditional Land Rover, the LR4 should be a great fit, especially if you want to look cool while driving on rugged terrain.

The test vehicle was coated in Indus Silver paint and luxed out with a decadent \$10,000 upgrade package that included Almond-colored premium leather seating, Meridian Surround Sound with 17 speakers, Unique 19-inch wheels and even a cooler box. A rear-seat entertainment system with dual 8-inch video display screens also came equipped in the tester, but is a \$2,500 upgrade.

The LR4 retains its boxy and upright shape, but still manages to look modern. New headlights, a two-bar grille and LED running lights are the biggest changes outside.

For the price, the LR4 is still holding its own against an increasing number of similarly priced competitors. Available as a five- or seven-seater, the asymmetric rear window continues to set this model apart from the pack.

The previous 375-horsepower 5.0-liter V8 and sixspeed automatic transmission has been replaced with a more efficient 340-horsepower supercharged 3.0-liter V6 and eight-speed automatic transmission. The new combination is shared with other Land Rovers.

The sumptuous cabin provides a commanding view. Several features are designed to bring out the LR4's luxurious side, including a standard rear-view camera and a surround-camera system that allows drivers to see every angle of their ride.

The Terrain Response system, which optimizes the traction and stability-control programs plus the anti-lock brakes according to road conditions, is still the best in the business. A console-mounted control knob can be set for general driving, grass/gravel/snow, mud and ruts or rock crawling. A new single-speed transfer case is standard, but those wanting serious off-road ability can order a twospeed case in a Heavy Duty package, which also includes a locking rear differential and a full-size spare tire.

The test vehicle was more about command seating. leather and technology. Most buyers (who tend to be affluent) won't be too concerned about fuel economy -14/19 in city/highway driving - or the cost of \$64,045.



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