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# 626

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The Inside Story:  
**626 Interior Style**

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**A Reassuring  
Emphasis**



AROUND  
TOWN  
in the **Mazda** 626



**Cover Story**

Mazda 626 takes on the Big Apple. With sporty performance and classy style, it's right at home.



**The Inside Story**

An impressive combination of luxury and practicality makes the cabin relaxing and comfortable. Even in traffic.



**Safety**


A reassuring emphasis on safety helps provide a confidence-inspiring driving experience.



**Model Lineup**

More luxury, more power, or both: The 626 starts fully equipped and goes up from there. Go here for colors and specifications too.

**More 626 on the Web**

When you see this symbol  on the Features & Options page, it's telling you that additional, in-depth information is available for the indicated 626 features. Just head for our Web site at [MazdaUSA.com](http://MazdaUSA.com) and look for the same symbol there.



AROUND  
TOWN in the  
**Mazda 626.**

# THE MAZDA 626 Takes on the big apple.

**W**inding roads and test tracks are great places to test a car. Except that most of you will spend too little time on one and none on the other. So we decided to test a midsize sports sedan on a real-world trip. Very real. Like New York City. A stirring and stimulating trip, you bet. And challenging. Would the Mazda 626 ES-V6 measure up? Summarizing our drive up front—yes.

For the trip, we drove the sportiest and most luxurious 626, the ES-V6. This isn't one of those generic sedans you see in every other driveway. Subtle styling cues lend it a sense of class that often seems missing in other cars. What really impressed us, though, was how the 626 came alive on the road. Pennsylvania Turnpike through the Appalachians, picturesque Lancaster farmland, or midtown Manhattan, we enjoyed the 626's smooth power and

agile handling (and the great brakes too). And even as we were always inspired by the performance, we observed that Mazda did a terrific job with the purely practical aspects too, making the 626 everything a 4-door sedan ought to be, with a very welcome sporty bias.

And while we focus on a car's performance in our tests, we couldn't help but note that the 626 ES-V6 is a great value, a lot of car for the money. It consistently reminded us of the solid, well-put-together feeling we associate with much more expensive sedans, and it left us with a strong and lasting impression of luxury. It also had an extensive list of standard, well-thought-out convenience features, including a spectacular Bose® audio system that did wonderful things for our CDs—and our spirits—throughout the trip.

On to our real-world tour of New York City.

“We find a sporty sedan that outwits cabbies, eases crosstown traffic, and takes us on a cultural tour.”



# EVEN NEGOTIATING CROSSTOWN TRAFFIC KEPT US INSPIRED.

**A**s part of the real-world test, we toured some of New York's famous museums. Yet stimulating as that was, we were always glad to get back into the car. Even (or maybe especially) after taking in some of the most memorable modern art, we appreciated the care that Mazda had taken in the layout of the passenger cabin. The dash seamlessly integrated the instrument panel, climate and audio controls. The wood-tone trim was elegant and tasteful, and the whole ambiance was one of subtlety and class. Then we looked out and saw the traffic...

But in the sporty 626, we could deal with that. In fact, the performance of the 626 in traffic was one of the highlights of the trip. Take the matter of acceleration. Now, on an

open highway, it's a great feeling to put your foot down and get an instant and powerful response. Here, competing with swarming cabs, delivery vans and even bicycles, such instant power is an absolute necessity. Our 626, with an athletic 165-hp V6, can really play in this league. The available 4-speed automatic transmission, microprocessor-controlled, always gave us quick downshifts that we found to be valuable and confidence-building in traffic.

We'll talk a little about technology here. In addition to giving you quick response, the V6 delivers its power very smoothly (not that you're thinking about smoothness when you're hitting that hole in traffic). Mazda's engineers give much of the credit for that to the 2-piece design of the engine block.



Mazda created the 2-piece block for strength and rigidity, to provide optimal support for the fully counterweighted crankshaft. Technical details aside, we found overall operation of this V6 to be smooth and quiet. A sophisticated electronic engine management system also does its bit for the car's excellent drivability.

The 626's precise yet refined handling also separated it from many sedans we've driven. There's a fine line between feeling the road and feeling every single bump and ripple, and the 626 never crossed to the wrong side. The combination of rack-and-pinion steering and advanced MacPherson strut front suspension delivered a crisp and positive steering feel.

Cornering and—yes!—lane-changing response in traffic also felt as if they might have been inspired by the Miata. Mazda cites its patented Twin Trapezoidal Link rear suspension for much of that sure-footed performance. The geometry works by subtly "steering" the rear wheels to help ensure they maintain maximum road contact.

# Intelligent interior design delivers functional luxury.

**F**ace it, no matter where you're driving, no matter how easy or how difficult the trip, the cabin environment often makes the difference between just getting somewhere and arriving invigorated, refreshed...and in style.

When we first picked up the 626 ES-V6 for evaluation, we naturally gave the car a thorough once-over before turning the key. And everywhere we looked, we found standard convenience features that are often options. If they're available at all, like the ingenious center louvers that oscillate back and forth to evenly distribute air inside the cabin. This proved its worth many times over on the drive.

As our trip proceeded, we took note of the full range of creature comforts, and it's quite an impressive list. Power windows and door locks, of course—with the personal security feature

of selective door unlocking, which means the driver can choose whether to unlock just the driver's door, or all doors—either with key or with the standard remote. Together with the 6-way adjustments on the ES-V6's power driver's seat, the tilt steering column ensures that just about anybody will find a comfortable (and ergonomically correct) driving position. In keeping with the sporty theme of the car, the control layout helps keep inside distractions to a minimum, so we could concentrate on driving.

On our various trips exploring Manhattan, we made some other discoveries inside the car as well. For one, we were surprised to find the large cup holders accommodate not only regular-size cups but our oversize coffee mugs as well! And although we didn't need them on this trip, there are twin cup holders in the rear armrest.

**Left: The rear has a fold-down center armrest complete with covered storage and dual cup holders.**

**Right: We found the 626's control layout to be convenient and intuitive in use.**

**Far right, above: Overhead storage especially for sunglasses is another example of thoughtful design.**

**Far right, below: A 12-volt outlet in the center console came in handy for charging our electronic gadgets.**

We also noted the dual-tray console storage. And the extra 12-volt power point in the center console box—great because more and more electronic gadgets and accessories vie for that cigarette-lighter socket. Another feature came in handy when we found a replica of Aladdin's Magic Carpet (of all things) at a museum shop. Too long for the trunk, spacious as it is, the carpet fit nicely when we folded down one side



of the 60/40 split rear seatback. And there was still plenty of room for a passenger. Too bad we ultimately weren't as successful when we tried to fit that carpet on our expense account.

All-in-all, the 626 ES-V6 interior had a special kind of balance—we always felt well taken care of, yet at the same time, just sitting in it got our adrenaline flowing in anticipation of the drive. That's what we'd call an intelligent design.



“The 626 always got our adrenaline flowing in anticipation of the drive.”

“The roomy 626 makes it easy to settle in, get comfortable and play some great music.”

**E**ven while emphasizing the performance aspects, Mazda has not overlooked other factors that make the 626 driving experience special. Like overall comfort. We're often surprised that many cars, although designed to fit everybody, really don't seem to quite fit us. But the 626 fits. Does Mazda have some secret formula? Or do they simply engineer the interior as carefully as engine and chassis? Given the company's sporty heritage, we suspect the latter. We appreciated the supple elegance of the leather-appointed\* interior, the individual map lights, and the



Bose® audio system with AM/FM/cassette/CD stereo. Our ES-V6 had the optional in-dash 6-disc CD changer, which makes it easy to program an entire trip's

worth of music, without a clumsy magazine. If you're a fan of great sound, you'll be very happy with this audio system.

And to protect it all, a built-in antitheft alarm is standard ES-V6 equipment. It includes an "immobilizer" feature: a microchip, embedded in the ignition key, is specially coded for each 626, so that no key but yours will start the car.

\*Seating surfaces upholstered in leather except for leather-look vinyl on seat side panels, rear sides of seatbacks and other minor areas.

626 engineering focuses on helping you avoid road hazards—moving and otherwise—and survive close encounters.



# A reassuring **emphasis on** **SAFETY.**



ou say your daily drive doesn't include mixing it up with taxis and trucks for every inch of road? Well, you never know what's around the next 18-wheeler. Be assured, however, that the engineers behind the Mazda 626 have put lots of thought into that subject. And worked hard to design a car you'll have total confidence in.

Approaching safety from an active standpoint, they made the 626 sporty and driver-friendly. Good visibility all the way 'round. Quick throttle response. Linear braking feel with short and sure stops. Agile handling. Anti-lock brakes are available on every 626, and on the V6 models, they come with electronic traction control to help when you accelerate on slippery surfaces.

And Mazda engineers also designed the 626 to take care of you if something should happen. "Crumple zones," front and rear, are intended to



absorb impact forces and help direct them away from the passenger cabin. Side-impact door beams are another structural safety measure. Child-safety rear door locks can be set so the doors can't be opened from the inside, adding to your peace of mind. OK, none of this makes city traffic any more fun. Just a lot less stressful.



**Top left: Computer-aided engineering helped Mazda give the 626 an especially strong and rigid body for a solid road feel.**

**Top right: International-standard child safety-seat tether anchors are built into the rear shelf.**

**Above: Dual 2nd-generation air bags are standard; side-impact air bags are an option on every 626.\***

\*Always wear your safety belt and secure children in the rear seat.

# Four 626 models.

More luxury, more power. Or both. 626 starts well equipped and goes up from there. And enthusiasts take note: Unlike most cars in this class, the 626 offers a 5-speed manual transmission as standard equipment with its V6 engines.



626 LX



626 ES-V6

Mazda offers their 626 in LX and ES trim levels, both with a 4-cylinder engine; and in LX-V6 and ES-V6 models, both with the smooth V6 and 4-wheel disc brakes. All 626 models are fully equipped—standard features include such amenities as power windows and door locks, AM/FM/CD stereo, remote keyless illuminated

entry system, lighted visor vanity mirrors, power mirrors, and cruise control. The ES and ES-V6 models add leather-trimmed upholstery,\* wood-tone trim and carpeted floor mats. The ES-V6 also includes a Bose® AM/FM/cassette/CD stereo system as standard equipment (it's an option on the LX-V6),

a power sliding-glass moonroof with a sunshade (an option on the other models) and 16-inch alloy wheels. The ES-V6 also offers an optional 6-disc in-dash CD changer. Options for all models include a rear spoiler, ABS and side-impact air bags. On the V6 models, ABS is paired with an electronic traction-control system.

\*Seating surfaces upholstered in leather except for leather-look vinyl on seat side panels, rear sides of seatbacks and other minor areas.

A V6 THAT STICKS IT  
ZOOM  
TO THE COMPETITION.



## A sedan geared toward enthusiasts.

Call it "generic sedan syndrome": V6 power often means an automatic transmission. Period. What's a self-respecting stick-shift enthusiast to do? Easy. Forget generic. Get a Mazda 626 and match a responsive V6 with a slick-shifting 5-speed, even in the top trim level. Why be stuck with the automatic "choice"?



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Get in. Be moved.





# Distinctive Add-Ons



## Let owners customize their individual 626s.

**P**art of the fun of owning a new car is finding ways to personalize it. So, Mazda has designed a long list of Genuine Mazda Accessories just for the 626. Each one is engineered to complement the form and function of this classy sedan. Some of the accessories are shown above, and others available include:

- Ashtray
- Wood-tone dash kit
- Cargo net
- Cassette player
- Moonroof wind deflector
- Gold emblem kit
- Floor mats
- Engine block heater
- Touch-up paint
- Lighter
- Mud guards, front and rear
- Wheel locks
- Car cover
- Car-cover cable lock

Mazda notes that all Genuine Mazda Accessories, if installed by the Mazda Dealer prior to or at initial vehicle retail delivery, carry the same new-vehicle warranty as the 626.

**Photos left to right: Fog lights help visibility in bad weather; rear spoiler adds an extra sporty touch; front mask protects the finish from bugs and road debris.**

### COLOR COMBINATIONS

EXTERIOR COLOR	INTERIOR COLOR
Driftwood Mica	Beige
Freeport Green Metallic	Beige
Mojave Beige Mica	Beige
Chestnut Mica	Beige
Black Onyx	Beige/Gray
Glacier White	Beige/Gray
Galaxy Blue Metallic	Gray
Silver Frost Metallic	Gray
Moonlight Gray Mica	Gray

### Mazda Limited Warranty

Mazda warrants that the Mazda vehicle will be free of defects with normal use and prescribed maintenance for 36 months or 50,000 miles, whichever comes first, or Mazda will repair any problem without charge. Ordinary maintenance items or adjustments, parts subject to normal wear and replacement and certain other items are excluded. This transferable "limited warranty" is included on all new 2001 Mazda vehicles sold and serviced in the United States.

Complement the limited warranty on your new vehicle with the Mazda Extended Protection Plan, the only service agreement backed by Mazda. See your Mazda Dealer for complete details.

### Emergency Roadside Assistance and Loaner Car Programs

As part of our commitment to your total satisfaction, 626 owners are automatically enrolled in our Emergency Roadside Assistance Service Program for the duration of the 36-month/50,000-mile limited warranty. Dead battery? Locked out? When the unexpected happens, this 24-hour service will provide just about any assistance necessary to get your car back on the road and minimize any inconvenience.

In many cases, owners of 2001 Mazda vehicles being repaired under warranty will be eligible for the free Mazda Loaner Car Program. For complete details, see your Mazda Dealer.

### Product Changes and Options Availability:

Following publication of this brochure, certain changes in standard equipment, options, prices and the like, or product delays may have occurred which would not be included in these pages. Your Mazda Dealer is your best source for up-to-date information. Mazda reserves the right to change product specifications at any time without incurring obligations. Options shown or described in this brochure are available at extra cost and may be offered only in combination with other options or subject to additional ordering requirements or limitations.



### FEATURES & OPTIONS

Mechanical Features	LX	ES	LX-V6	ES-V6
2.0L DOHC 16-valve 4-cylinder engine	S	S	—	—
2.5L DOHC 24-valve V6 engine	—	—	S	S
5-speed manual transmission	S	—	S	S
4-speed automatic transmission	O	S	O	O
Power-assisted rack-and-pinion steering with engine-speed-sensing variable assist	S	S	S	S
Power-assisted brakes (front disc/rear drum on LX, ES; 4-wheel disc on LX-V6, ES-V6)	S	S	S	S
Strut-type front suspension; Twin Trapezoidal Link (TTL) rear suspension; front and rear stabilizer bars	S	S	S	S
<b>Exterior Features</b>				
15-inch steel wheels with full wheel covers and 205/60R15 all-season radial tires	S	—	S	—
15-inch alloy wheels with wheel locks and 205/60R15 all-season radial tires	O/P	S	—	—
16-inch alloy wheels with wheel locks and 205/55R16 all-season radial tires	—	—	O/P	S
Dual body-color power remote mirrors (heated on ES-V6); 2-speed variable-intermittent wipers	S	S	S	S
EZ-Cool glass on side and rear windows	S	S	S	S
Clear-lens halogen headlights with automatic shutoff feature	S	S	S	S
<b>Interior Features</b>				
Dual 2nd-generation front air bags; 3-point safety belts for all seating positions	S	S	S	S
Child safety-seat anchors for rear seat; height-adjustable front shoulder-belt anchors	S	S	S	S
Reclining front bucket seats with driver's seat height adjustment	S	S	S	S
6-way power driver's seat	P	P	P	S
60/40 split fold-down rear seat with integral head restraints	S	S	S	S
Fold-down rear armrest with storage compartment and dual cup holders	S	S	S	S
Cloth upholstery	S	—	S	—
Leather-trimmed upholstery;* leather-wrapped manual shift knob and steering-wheel rim	—	S	—	S
Dual-compartment center console storage with coin holder, 12V power outlet and padded armrest lid	S	S	S	S
Overhead console with map lights and storage for eyeglasses	S	S	S	S
Dual front cup holders with covers	S	S	S	S
Power windows with 1-touch-down driver's window; lighted driver's window switch	S	S	S	S
Power door locks with 2-stage unlocking (driver's door only/all doors); child-safety rear door locks	S	S	S	S
Remote keyless entry system with illuminated entry; remote trunk-lid and fuel-door releases	S	S	S	S
Antitheft alarm system with immobilizer	P	P	P	S
Lighted visor vanity mirrors; lighted glove compartment and ignition keyhole; front door-mounted courtesy lights	S	S	S	S
Tachometer; resettable trip odometer; low-fuel warning light	S	S	S	S
Tilt steering wheel; cruise control with steering-wheel-mounted controls	S	S	S	S
Heater/defroster with 4-speed blower and rear-seat heater ducts; rear window defogger	S	S	S	S
CFC-free air conditioning; oscillating center vent louvers	S	S	S	S
AM/FM/CD stereo with four speakers and digital clock	S	S	S	—
Bose® AM/FM/cassette/CD stereo with four speakers and digital clock	—	—	P	S
Power sliding-glass moonroof with retractable sunshade	P	P	P	S
Wood-tone trim	—	S	—	S

Options and Option Packages	LX	ES	LX-V6	ES-V6
4-speed automatic transmission	O	S	O	O
Anti-lock Brake System (ABS); front seat-mounted side-impact air bags	O	O	—	—
Anti-lock Brake System (ABS); Traction Control System (TCS); front seat-mounted side-impact air bags	—	—	O <sup>†</sup>	O <sup>†</sup>
Rear spoiler with integral center high-mount brake light	O	O	O	O
Front fog lights	O	O	O	O
Carpeted floor mats	O/P	S	O/P	S
Auto-reverse cassette player	O	O	O/P	S
Bose® AM/FM/cassette stereo with in-dash 6-CD changer, four speakers and digital clock	—	—	—	O
<b>Audio Package:</b> Bose® AM/FM/cassette/CD stereo with four speakers and digital clock (requires Premium Pkg.)	—	—	O	S
<b>Luxury Package:</b> 15-inch alloy wheels with wheel locks (LX; standard on ES); heated mirrors; 6-way power driver's seat; carpeted floor mats (LX; standard on ES); antitheft alarm with immobilizer; power sliding-glass moonroof with retractable sunshade	O	O	—	—
<b>Premium Package:</b> Luxury Package items, but with 16-inch alloy wheels with wheel locks; 205/55R16 all-season radial tires	—	—	O	—

S: Standard P: Package Option —: Not Available O: Optional  
 \*Seating surfaces upholstered in leather except for leather-look vinyl on seat side panels, rear sides of seatbacks and other minor areas.  
 †Side-impact air bags and ABS/TCS are available as separate, stand-alone options on V6 vehicles equipped with automatic transmission.

### SPECIFICATIONS

	LX, ES	LX-V6, ES-V6
Engine size and type	2.0L DOHC 16-valve 4-cylinder	2.5L DOHC 24-valve V6
Horsepower, SAE Net	125 @ 5,500 rpm	165 @ 6,000 rpm
Torque, SAE Net lb-ft	127 @ 3,000 rpm	161 @ 5,000 rpm
EPA estimated fuel economy, mpg	26 city; 32 highway (manual)	21 city; 27 highway (manual)
Recommended fuel	Regular unleaded gasoline	Premium unleaded gasoline
Fuel capacity	16.9 gallons	16.9 gallons
Curb weight, lb	2864 (manual); 2961 (automatic)	3023 (manual); 3106 (automatic)
Turning circle	36.1 feet, curb-to-curb	36.1 feet, curb-to-curb
Brakes	10.2-inch ventilated front discs 9.0-inch rear drums	10.8-inch ventilated front discs 11.0-inch solid rear discs

### Exterior Dimensions (inches)

Wheelbase	105.1
Overall length	187.4
Overall width/height	69.3/55.1
Track, front/rear	59.1/58.7

### Interior Dimensions (inches)

Headroom, f/r	39.2/37.0
with moonroof	38.4/37.0
Legroom, f/r	43.6/34.6
Shoulder room, f/r	56.3/55.9

### Interior Volume (cubic feet)

Passenger/cargo	97.1/14.2
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