

World's cheapest car hits the road

The cheapest new car in the world, set to sell for under \$2,000, is to be launched in Mumbai. Designed and manufactured by Tata Motors of India, the "Nano" is aimed at the country's 65 million scooter riders currently unable to afford a car

Rear-mounted engine:

Two-cylinder petrol, 625cc, 33bhp, built by Bosch

Fuel efficiency:

50mpg

Top speed:

75mph

Instruments:

Limited to analogue speedometer, odometer, fuel gauge

Front luggage compartment:

Holds battery, windscreen washer bottle. Room for single suitcase

Single windscreen wiper

Weight saving: Extensive use of plastic

Rear wheel drive:

Uses continuous variable transmission, lighter alternative to manual or automatic

Cost saving:

Radio, air conditioning are optional extras. No power steering, emissions control, antilock brakes, air bags, safety beams

Wheel bearings:

Strong enough to drive car at 45mph, but will quickly wear out at higher speeds