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**Mazda adds some autumn colour with new special edition models**

* 2018 Mazda2 Black+ Edition and 2018 Mazda CX-3 Sport Black+ models join the range.
* Both limited to 500 cars they feature unique styling additions and extra equipment.
* 2018 Mazda CX-3 features an upgraded cabin, revised suspension and improved refinement.

Delivering unique looks and excellent value, Mazda’s latest Mazda2 and CX-3 special edition models arrive in dealerships this autumn. In dealerships now, the 2018 Mazda2 Black+ Edition costs £15,795 and is limited to just 500 units. Based on the 9Ops SE-L Nav+, the new special model is distinguished by 16-inch black alloy wheels, rear privacy glass, a roof mounted shark fin antenna and a Brilliant Black roof spoiler. The value proposition is further enhanced by a choice of free-of-charge Machine Grey Metallic, Dynamic Blue Mica or Deep Crimson Mica paint.

Arriving later in the autumn, the 2018 Mazda CX-3 Sport Black+ is based on the popular 121ps 2WD SE-L Nav+ model, and comes with a choice of manual or automatic gearbox. As with the Black+ Mazda2, just 500 cars will be offered to ensure exclusivity and there’s a choice of three free-of-charge paints: in this case Soul Red Crystal Metallic, Eternal Blue Mica or Machine Grey Metallic.

The sporty looks of the standard CX-3 are further enhanced by a black rear spoiler and mirror caps, while inside black leather seats are standard. Priced at £22,195 for manual and £23,195 for the automatic: over and above SE-L Nav+, the Sport Black+ gets 18-inch silver alloy wheels, chrome garnish side and front bumper trim, front parking sensors, reversing camera, a heated steering wheel and a colour head up display.

Commenting on the latest special edition models, Mazda UK Sales Director, Peter Allibon said, “Both the Mazda2 and Mazda CX-3 have been updated this year and with the introduction of a pair of standout special edition models, which bring the generous equipment, distinctive looks and the enhanced value discerning small car buyers are looking for, I think our 2018 Mazda2 and 2018 Mazda CX-3 ranges are more attractive than ever.”

Across the entire 2018 Mazda2 and 2018 Mazda CX-3 range all models are homologated under Worldwide Harmonised Light Vehicle Testing Procedure (WLTP) regulations and meet Euro 6d-TEMP emissions standards.

Like the rest of the 2018 Mazda CX-3 range, the Sport Black+ has benefited from a host of updates, with the revised cabin now even more comfortable, ergonomic and upmarket. Redesigned around the adoption of an electric parking brake, the centre console now flows more elegantly into the dashboard, while the Mazda Multimedia Commander has moved forward for improved usability. Comfort and functionality has also been improved with a padded armrest with console storage box underneath.

The front seats benefit from use of high-damping urethane foam cushions that improve comfort and support, while the rear seats now feature a central armrest with built in cup holders. Cabin refinement has been improved with upgraded door sill trims, thicker sound isolation in the doors and enhanced rear glazing. In addition, an increase in the cabin headliner thickness absorbs more sound to deliver a hushed cabin.

With the focus on the driver engagement you’d expect from Mazda, the 2018 CX-3’s development also targeted enhanced handling and improved ride comfort. New coil springs and dampers have been fitted, while the front anti-roll bar has also been changed. Combined with a recalibration of the electric power steering, the end result is more consistent weight transfer and improved shock absorption.

Commenting on the 2018 Mazda CX-3 Sport Black+, Mazda Motors UK Managing Director, Jeremy Thomson, said “ever since its launch in 2015, the CX-3 has hit the right spot with our customers and the 2018 model builds on this success with its well-considered updates. And as with all our special edition models, the Sport Black+ adds a standout distinctive model to the line-up”

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