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All-new 2009 Dodge Journey Earns Top Safety Ratings in U.S. Government's Crash Tests

- Five-star Front- and Side-Impact Ratings Accentuate Chrysler LLC's Commitment to Safety and Security
- Dodge Journey Offers More Than 35 Safety and Security Features

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The all-new 2009 Dodge Journey earned 5-star ratings for driver- and front-passenger protection in a frontal crash along with 5-star driver and rear passenger ratings for side impact protection, the highest ratings in the U.S. government's safety crash test program. The all-new 2009 Dodge Journey is now available at local Dodge dealers.

"The all-new 2009 Dodge Journey features the latest in safety and security features providing our customers the peace of mind they want and expect", said Larry Lyons, Vice President – Car and Minivan Product Team. "Safety is a top priority and the Dodge Journey delivers with advance multi-stage front driver and passenger air bags, front-seat-mounted thorax air bags, all-row supplemental side-curtain air bags and a mid-size crossover first integrated child booster seat."

When it comes to safety and security, Dodge Journey employs a two-fold approach: conventional features including pretensioning and load-limiting seat belt retractors and supplemental air bags are combined with accident-avoidance features including an Electronic Stability Program (ESP), Electronic Roll Mitigation (ERM) and Brake Assist.

More than 35 Safety and Security Features
The all-new 2009 Dodge Journey offers more than 35 safety and security features including:

Advanced multi-stage air bags: Uses a Low-risk Deployment Air Bag for the front passenger.

All-speed Traction Control: Senses drive-wheel slip and applies individual brakes to a slipping wheel(s), and can reduce excess engine power until traction is regained.

Anti-lock Brake System (ABS): Senses and prevents wheel lockup, offering improved steering control under extreme braking and/or slippery conditions.

Anti-lock Brake System with rough road detection: Anti-lock brake system capable of detecting if the vehicle is driving on a rough road by the oscillations in the wheel speed signals. Rough road is detected on off-road surfaces or trails, and ABS enters a different pressure control where it will hold the brake pressure for longer pulses.

Auto-reverse sun roof: Advanced sensing system that automatically engages and reverses the sun roof (to the open position).

Auto-reverse windows: Automatically engages and reverses the window (to the down position).

BeltAlert: Periodically activates a chime and illuminates an icon in the instrument cluster to remind the driver and front passenger to buckle up if a vehicle is driven without the driver being properly belted.

Brake Assist: In a panic brake condition, the system applies maximum braking power, providing the shortest possible stopping distance.

Brake/Park interlock: Prevents an automatic transmission or transaxle from being shifted out of Park unless the

brake pedal is applied.

Brake Traction Control System (BTCS): Helps to keep driving wheels from spinning during acceleration from a stop or during slow speeds by applying individual brakes to the slipping wheel(s).

Child seat anchor system: LATCH (Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children) is designed to ease installation of compatible aftermarket child seats.

Child-protection rear door locks: Disables the rear doors' inside-release handle via a small lever on the door-shut face.

Constant Force Retractors (CFR): Distribute force or load exerted on a seat belt, and then gradually release the seat-belt webbing in a controlled manner.

Crumple zones: Designed to compress during an accident to absorb energy from an impact, decreasing transfer of that energy to the occupants.

Digressive load-limiting seat belts: Retractor senses a vehicle impact and immediately applies a load to the seat belt to properly position the occupant before the full load from the vehicle impact is imparted onto the occupant. It then reduces the seat belt load to moderate forces imparted onto the occupant during the impact event.

Electronic brake force distribution: Adjusts braking pressure front to rear, based on weight distribution of passengers and cargo, to minimize brake dive during hard braking.

Electronic Roll Mitigation (ERM): An extension of the Electronic Stability Program (ESP). Uses input from the ESP sensors to anticipate if the vehicle is at risk of entering a potential roll situation, then reacts immediately, applying the brakes individually and modulating throttle position as needed to attempt avoiding the roll situation.

Electronic Stability Program (ESP): Enhances driver control and helps maintain directional stability under all conditions. Provides the greatest benefit in critical driving situations such as turns, and is especially valuable when driving on mixed surface conditions such as snow, ice or gravel. If there's a discernible difference between what the driver asks through the steering wheel and the vehicle's path, ESP applies selective braking and throttle input to put the vehicle back onto the driver's intended path.

Energy-absorbing steering column: The manual-telescoping steering column utilizes two hydroformed coaxial tubes that can move relative to each other to allow the column to move forward for enhanced energy-absorption during a crash.

Enhanced Accident Response System (EARS): Makes it easier for emergency personnel to see and reach occupants in the event of an accident by turning on the interior lighting and unlocking the doors after air bag deployment. Also shuts off the flow of fuel to the engine.

Height-adjustable front seat belts: Allows occupants to raise and lower the shoulder belt. Encourages seat belt usage by offering a more comfortable fit.

HomeLink universal home security system transceiver: Stores three separate transmitter radio-frequency codes to operate garage-door openers, security gates, security lighting or other radio-controlled devices.

Integrated child booster seats: For children up to 4-foot 9-inches tall and between 48-pounds raise the child into the adult belted zone

Interior head-impact protection: Interior pillars above the beltline and instrument panel, including areas around windshield and rear window headers, roof and side-rail structures, and shoulder belt turning loops specifically designed to limit head-impact force.

Keyless ignition system: A fob with integrated key and a wireless ignition node with integral ignition switch replace the metal key. The double-sided integrated key is inserted into the ignition switch to start the vehicle. The fob also contains the Remote Keyless Entry and a removable valet key.

Knee bolsters: The lower instrument panel and the glovebox door are designed to properly position the occupant, enabling the air bags to work effectively.

Low-risk deployment air bag: Front-passenger air bag that uses unique shape, venting, folding patterns, advanced inflators or a combination of these four technologies to position and inflate the restraint properly for a belted passenger, while also meeting federal safety requirements for out-of-position, small occupants and rear-facing infant seats. Occupants are advised to always sit properly in their seats with the seat belt fastened. Children 12 years old and younger should always be seated in a back seat correctly using an infant or child restraint system, or have the seat belt positioned correctly for their age and weight.

ParkView™ Rear Back-up Camera: Provides a wide-angle view of the area immediately behind the vehicle, giving the driver greater peace of mind before backing up. Also aids in lining up a trailer to the vehicle's trailer hitch, when so equipped. The image automatically displays on the navigation screen when the transmission is shifted into Reverse.
Remote Keyless Entry: Locks and unlocks doors, and turns on interior lamps. If the vehicle is equipped with a vehicle-theft security alarm, the remote also arms and disarms that system.

Remote start: Conveniently starts the engine from outside the vehicle by using the fob while maintaining vehicle security.

Seat-belt pretensioners: During a collision, the impact sensors initiate the front seat belt pretensioners to immediately remove slack, thereby reducing the forward movement of the occupants' heads and torsos.

Sentry Key® engine immobilizer: Utilizes an engine key that has an embedded transponder with a preprogrammed security code to discourage vehicle theft. When the key is inserted into the ignition, the controller sends a random number to the transponder and the engine is allowed to start. If an incorrect key is used, the engine will shut off after only a few seconds.

Side-occupant protection system: Includes side-curtain air bags with extended up-time, tethers and roll-detection system that deploy in certain rollover situations and side-impact events. Utilizes information from multiple sensors to determine the severity of the impact.

Supplemental side air bags: Provide enhanced protection to the driver and front outboard passenger in certain impacts. Each side air bag has its own impact sensor to autonomously trigger the air bag on the side where the impact occurs. Supplemental side air bags are housed within the outboard side of each front seat.

Supplemental side-curtain air bags: Extend protection to all outboard front- and rear-seat passengers, including third-row outboard passengers in vehicles so equipped. Each side air bag has its own impact sensor to autonomously trigger the air bag on the side where the impact occurs.

Tire Pressure Monitoring (TPM): Informs occupants when tire pressure is too low. Pressure-sensor modules within the valve stems of all four road wheels send continuous radio-frequency signals to a receiver and the system.
Trailer Sway Control (TSC): Reduces trailer sway and improves handling in adverse towing conditions caused by crosswinds and traffic. Software monitors the vehicle's movement relative to the driver's intended path, then applies brake pressure to slow the vehicle and then increases the pressure on one front wheel to counteract the sway induced by the trailer.

UConnect® Hands-free Communication System: Uses Bluetooth® technology to provide voice-controlled wireless communication between the occupants' compatible mobile phone and the vehicle's onboard receiver. The hands-free option promotes safety, freedom, value and flexibility.

2009 Dodge Journey

The all-new 2009 Dodge Journey is a global vehicle that offers a unique combination of versatility and flexibility in a youthful, sporty package. With a starting U.S. Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) of $19,985 (including $625 destination), this all-new vehicle takes the capability of a sport-utility vehicle (SUV) and the overall efficiency of a passenger car and blends all the best attributes of each into an all-new "right-sized" crossover for the Dodge brand.

Clever, flexible seating and storage combinations include standard five-passenger seating with spacious cargo room and available third-row seating for as many as seven passengers. Spacious storage bins, hidden in the floor and available under the front passenger seat cushion, combined with fuel-efficient and powerful powertrain options, make Dodge Journey flexible, functional and fun-to-drive. The Dodge Journey includes numerous standard safety features including advanced multi-stage front driver and passenger air bags, front-seat-mounted side air bags, three-row side-curtain air bags, four-wheel disc anti-lock brakes (ABS), Electronic Stability Program (ESP), Electronic Roll Mitigation and Trailer Sway Control. The 2009 Dodge Journey is currently available in U.S. dealerships and will be available in global volume markets outside North America in both left-hand and right-hand drive, later this summer.

Dodge Brand

With a U.S. market share of 6.4 percent, Dodge is Chrysler LLC's best-selling brand and the sixth largest nameplate in the U.S. automotive market. In 2007, Dodge sold more than 1.3 million vehicles in the global market.

The Dodge brand's first crossover vehicle — the all-new 2009 Dodge Journey — is available in the first quarter of 2008 and will be available outside North America in both left- and right-hand drive in mid-2008. Arriving this spring is the limited-edition 2008 Dodge Challenger SRT8 with a 6.1-liter HEMI V-8 engine that boasts 425 horsepower and 420 lb.-ft. of torque. The all-new 2009 Dodge Ram with game-changing exterior and interior design, innovations, best-in-class features and craftsmanship will arrive this fall. Also arriving this fall is the 2009 Dodge Durango Hybrid. Recently, the all-new 2008 Dodge Grand Caravan arrived in dealerships with 35 new or improved features including the newest innovation, the Swivel 'n Go™ seating system. In 2007, Dodge Avenger and Nitro entered key volume segments outside North America, joining the Dodge Caliber, which launched in those markets in 2006.

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