

Bringing Back Magic

Acura Creates a Mature but Potent Performance Sedan in Integra Type S

By Derek Price

CARGAZING.COM

After a week with Acura's hottest Integra, one thing becomes crystal clear: the Type S badge carries serious weight.

This \$54,395 sport compact delivers an intoxicating blend of performance and practicality that justifies its premium positioning.

At the heart of this high-performance variant lies a turbocharged 2.0-liter engine producing 320 horsepower and 310 lb-ft of torque. The motor pairs exclusively with a slick-shifting six-speed manual transmission and limited-slip differential, creating an engaging driver's car that excels on both road and track.

The clutch and shifter action is precise and perfectly weighted, making every gear change a rewarding experience.

While based on the same basic architecture as the Honda Civic Type R, the Integra Type S charts its own course with more sophisticated styling and a broader performance envelope.

The adaptive damping system offers some level of comfort when cruising while maintaining impressive body control during spirited driving. It's a more mature take on the sport compact formula.

The practical side of the equation is equally compelling. The five-door liftback



The 2025 Integra Type S maintains a subtle performance presence with its trunk-lid spoiler and wider stance, avoiding the shouty styling of some competitors.

design provides 24.3 cubic feet of cargo space with the rear seats up, rivaling some small SUVs. Rear passengers enjoy a generous 37.4 inches of legroom.

The cabin features standard niceties such as a 10.2-inch digital gauge cluster, 9-inch touchscreen with wireless smartphone integration and a premium

16-speaker ELS audio system.

There are some compromises. At highway speeds, road noise is more pronounced than expected in a luxury-branded vehicle. The interior materials and design, while nice, don't quite match the car's premium pricing. And despite the sophisticated powertrain,

some buyers may wish for an all-wheel-drive option, particularly in snowy climates or to eke out slightly better cornering performance on the track.

But these are minor quibbles in what is otherwise a thoroughly impressive performance car.

The Integra Type S successfully bridges the gap

between hardcore sport compacts and luxury vehicles, offering stellar driving dynamics without boy-racer styling.

Its combination of performance, practicality and refinement makes it a compelling choice for enthusiasts seeking a more grown-up alternative to traditional hot hatches.

AT A GLANCE

WHAT WAS TESTED?

2025 Acura Integra Type S (\$52,600). Options: Premium paint (\$600). Price as tested (including \$1,195 destination charge): \$54,395

BY THE NUMBERS

Wheelbase: 107.7 in.
Length: 186 in.
Width: 74.8 in.
Height: 55.4 in.
Engine: 2.0-liter turbocharged four cylinder (320 hp, 310 ft. lbs.)
Transmission: Six-speed manual
MPG: 21 city, 28 highway

RATINGS

Style: 9
Performance: 10
Price: 7
Handling: 10
Ride: 4
Comfort: 5
Quality: 9
Overall: 10

WHY BUY IT?

The Integra Type S delivers track-ready performance and everyday practicality in a sophisticated package. It's a mature performance car that doesn't sacrifice driving excitement.

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The practical side of the equation is equally compelling. The five-door liftback design provides 24.3 cubic feet of cargo space with the rear seats up, rivaling some small SUVs. Rear passengers enjoy a generous 37.4 inches of legroom.



Premium touches such as microsuede seat inserts and aluminum trim elevate the Type S cabin, though some materials feel more sporty than luxurious.

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A CLOSER LOOK



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FACTS, FIGURES AND RATINGS

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