

# SUZJIVI SPRING 2022



# THE ALL-NEW S-CROSS IS HERE!

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Three's The Block NZ returns for Redemption Suzuki's ultimate vision of a car for Gran Turismo Finding freedom with the all-new S-Cross

Six reasons you should get your car serviced



# Three's The Block NZ returns with chance at Redemption

It's that time of the year again, Block fans! Three's The Block NZ is back, and this season – the tenth in the show's history – is all about second chances.

It wouldn't be Three's The Block NZ without Suzuki as a core partner, and we are as pumped as ever to see how the contestants go with their shot at redemption.

As the official vehicle supplier for the fourth season running, Suzuki is thrilled to be back on Three's The Block NZ for another year. From the Swift Sport challenge in 2019 to the Ignis football challenge last year, Suzuki not only provides logistical support throughout the season but also a hefty dose of fun.

Three's The Block NZ: Redemption is the season's official name, and Season 10 is all about bringing together previous teams that missed out on their first go around. The teams are Quinn & Ben (Christchurch, Season 3, 2014), Maree & James (Auckland,

Season 3, 2014), Chloe & Ben (Auckland, Season 7, 2018), and Stacy & Adam (Wellington, Season 8, 2019).

Long-time Three's The Block NZ viewers may remember Quinn & Ben as the couple announced Quinn was pregnant during filming, leading to more than a few challenges for them over the duration of the season. Then there's Team Chloe & Ben, who were on opposing teams in 2018 but have since joined forces to seek redemption for 2022. The other two teams of Maree & James and Stacy & Adam both had some measure of success during their time on the show but neither took out the top prize, and so are here again to try once more.

This year's location is the northern beach

community of Orewa, so expect plenty of sand and surf. Once known as a seaside retirement community, Orewa's demographics have changed somewhat in recent years as Aucklanders look to move further out of town in search of a less hectic lifestyle.

Just as this season's teams are back, so too is the all-new Suzuki S-Cross – the perfect SUV for getting around town and trips to grab DIY supplies.

As the season progresses, there are sure to be some DIY surprises in store. With all teams familiar with the show's format, we should see some more advanced tactics and less panic, but only time will tell.

Tune in to Three's The Block NZ: Redemption, Mon-Wed 7.30 pm, or stream on ThreeNow.



# Picture perfect

Jordan Perry is a Gisborne
Tairāwhiti-based freelance
photographer and videographer.
He's also a big Suzuki fan,
relying on a series of SUVs
to take him into the back of
beyond.

Growing up making short films with his mates and taking photos on digital cameras fuelled a love of the visual arts for Jordan – a love that only grew after seeing the now-famous landscapes portrayed in *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit* movie series. After working for US/NZ-based content company Royster Productions for a couple of years and gaining valuable experience, he decided to transition back into freelance work and chase his dreams.

This move ignited a desire to make the shift a long-term career, with the ability to be his own boss and build his own brand offering an attractive measure of freedom. Every landscape photographer needs a sturdy, steady means of transportation to provide that freedom, and for Jordan that means Suzuki.

He started with an SX4 as his first car, and held onto that for 4-5 years before transitioning to a '92 Vitara. After that, he owned a Jimny briefly before passing it on to a family friend. He's now back in the market for

a replacement vehicle, and he has no plans to move away from Suzuki.

"I'm really trying to find another Vitara, like the one I had before the Jimny," Jordan says. "An older model. It performed really well off-road. I could take it into the middle of nowhere, and didn't really have to worry about damaging it as much. The Jimny was a bit more expensive, so that made me a little more nervous when driving it through deep rivers, or into other rough places where it could get damaged."

While he spends most of his time working in and around Gisborne Tairāwhiti, a love of mountains and waterfalls often takes him farther afield. Jordan's favourite area of New Zealand to shoot is the Central Plateau and surrounding areas, completing shoots on the Tongariro Crossing and Mt. Ruapehu, as well

## "I'M A REALLY BIG FAN OF THEIR STYLING. THERE'S JUST SOMETHING ABOUT THEM THAT'S VERY COOL."

as places such as Taupō. One of his favourite shots is one of Dawson Falls, at the base of Mt. Taranaki.

"That waterfall picture I took was on a week-long trip that was a loop of the North Island. From Gisborne, we drove down to Wellington, then up the west coast to New Plymouth, on to Hamilton, and then

back across to Gisborne. A big journey for the 1992 Vitara."

For Jordan, it's a combination of character and capability that makes Suzuki so unique.

"I'm a really big fan of their styling. I like a smaller kind of car or SUV over the bigger four-wheel drives. There's just something about them that's very cool. And also, you can get them into a lot of places that you can't bigger trucks. I took my Vitara on a lot of off-road adventures where I was thinking, 'Man, if I had a bigger truck, I might not have gotten through here.' They can just sort of hop through or over obstacles because they're so light."

Of the three Suzuki models he has owned, only one received a nickname: Suzie.

Time and again, Jordan returns to Suzie the Vitara with an almost wistful tone, talking up its off-road capabilities and reliability when out in the wop wops.

"I did a 4-wheel-drive track in the Waioeka Gorge, which was really quite rough. We had no other car with us, which made it a bit sketchier. Just a drive in and out, but there were quite a few river crossings, and quite a few areas where I was a touch nervous, but the Vitara pulled through brilliantly."

Check out Jordan's work, travels, and hopefully another Suzuki on his Instagram - @jordanperry01.





The all-new S-Cross has finally hit New Zealand shores, with an all-new look of bold sophistication. With the last release of the S-Cross in 2017, the crossover SUV is back with rugged styling and a more elegant interior cabin.

Its brand-new piano black grille, accented with a chrome band, sets it apart, while its squarer wheel arches, roof rails, and slightly blunted nose add to the SUV's sturdy exterior aesthetic. The headlights and taillights each feature three LED lamps, adding to the unafraid styling.

While the exterior is shaped by an appetite for adventure and urban escape, the interior features a more refined aesthetic that offers immediate calm and a sense of freedom. With heated seats and leather upholstery (JLX only), you'll ride in comfort as your worries melt away, while the dual-zone automatic air

conditioner, with personalised settings for both driver and front passenger, assures it's your worries and not you that melts on a hot day.

The S-Cross is powered by Suzuki's own Boosterjet 1.4-litre turbocharged petrol engine, which, when combined with the SUV's maximum kerb weight of 1,290 kg, makes for a responsive vehicle that handles well and is a joy to drive. The direct fuel injection system is optimised for improved performance and efficiency, while the turbocharger maximises torque at low rpm. The 6-speed auto transmission, with its wide gear ratios, provides excellent

acceleration and reduced fuel consumption when cruising.

Packed full of safety technologies, the S-Cross delivers peace of mind for the driver through its impressive suite of features, including dual sensor brake support, lane departure warning, weaving alert, blind spot monitor, hill hold control, reverse camera, front and rear parking sensors, and forward collision warning. An exciting new addition to the JLX model is the 360 camera, offering a variety of views on the 9-inch infotainment screen. Stay aware of your surroundings when starting off and parking, and forget about ever



scraping your rims on the curb again.

Speaking of 9-inch infotainment screens (7-inch in the JX Turbo), the screen acts as the heart of the vehicle, delivering a visual interface for the driver to see how the SUV is performing. From fuel economy to driving range, as well as any warnings or views offered by the reverse or 360 cameras, the infotainment screen keeps the driver informed at all times. It is also the vehicle's connectivity hub, offering hands-free Bluetooth calling, as well as Android Auto and Apple CarPlay (wireless

Apple CarPlay on the JLX).

What good would a rugged exterior and aesthetic be if it didn't come with actual performance capabilities? While not quite offering the ground clearance of the Jimny or Vitara, the S-Cross still has some off-road chops thanks to Suzuki's ALLGRIP SELECT all-wheel technology (JLX AWD only). With its easy-to-find dial by the gear shift, the S-Cross can transition between four different modes: Auto (switches to AWD when slippage is detected), Sport (optimises accelerator response and

torque characteristics), Snow (enhanced traction in snow or slippery surfaces), and Lock (maximum torque directed to the rear wheels, for mud or sand).

The all-new S-Cross is a welcome addition to the Suzuki range – bringing a distinctly sophisticated flavour without sacrificing any of the funtastic energy and thirst for adventure that Suzukis are known for. Bold on the outside, enlightened on the inside, you'll feel free at last in the all-new S-Cross.





# Suzuki Unveils All-New SUV for Indian Market

Suzuki Motor Corporation and Toyota Motor Corporation signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for a business alliance in 2017. Since then, the automotive powerhouses have shared technologies to develop low and zero emission vehicles, the fruits of which are coming to pass in India.



The MOU outlined that a Toyota plant would be set up in southern India, where a hybrid SUV designed and developed by Suzuki would be made, with production beginning in August.

The mid sized SUV will be offered by both brands in India with choice between a mild hybrid and a strong hybrid powertrain. Mild hybrids rely on an integrated starter generator (ISG) to boost efficiency by charging the lithium ion battery when braking and coasting, then shutting off the engine when stationary. It provides electric drive assist to the 1.5 litre engine when accelerating to reduce emissions and fuel consumption.

Strong hybrids (also known as full hybrids), on the other hand, use a battery pack to power an electric motor, which allows fully electric driving over short distances. They do not need to be plugged in to charge the battery, unlike plug-in electric vehicles (PHEVs), and rely on the engine as a generator, as well as regenerative braking. They lack the electric driving range of PHEVs or battery electric vehicles (BEVs), but provide a seamless transition to hybrid technology without customers needing to charge their vehicles.

While there is a commitment to ramping up production of BEVs in future from the alliance, not all parts of the world will have the necessary infrastructure to support these models. In the short term, the focus on hybrid models is a better choice for the Indian market under present conditions.

In March, Suzuki invested \$1.4 billion into its India market operations, with plans of producing lower cost BEVs and batteries. This investment was undoubtedly attractive to Toyota, along with Suzuki's local market knowledge, and positions the two Japanese car giants well in a growing market.

Maruti Suzuki has been the dominant seller in the Indian market for many years, often holding a 50% market share. The last financial year saw 1,365,000 Suzukis sold in India, with an additional 96,000 India-produced Suzuki vehicles exported to various markets, including the Baleno to New Zealand.

The new SUV to be sold by Suzuki in India will be marketed as the Grand Vitara, a familiar name to many.



# Suzuki VGT Dazzles as Video Game Concept Car

As part of the car racing video game series Gran Turismo, now in its seventh instalment, Suzuki has teamed up with the game developer, Polyphony Digital, to create the Suzuki Vision Gran Turismo concept car.

The Suzuki VGT is a two-seater roadster powered by a 1340-cc inline-four engine from the company's legendary sports bike, the Hayabusa, with three electric motors powering the drivetrain. With a combined total output of 318 kW, a 9700 rpm redline and 610 Nm of torque, it's easy to imagine this sleek spyder winding around a windswept ocean highway.

It features a front-engine, rear-wheel drive build, and weighs a nimble 970 kg. Styling-wise, the car draws inspiration from the Suzuki Swift Sport and the Suzuki Cappuccino, the latter a two-seater sports car last produced in 1998. Imagine if these two cars fused into one, and then that fused car was squished into a low-slung beast, all

powered by the world's fastest standard production bike of the 20th century.

The front of the Suzuki VGT features a wide open grille and cat-like, upslanted headlights that give it a streamlined look, while the tail end boasts a carbon-fibre diffuser with dual exhausts. Like all roadsters, it is open-air and boasts roll hoops and a central fin between the two seats.

The interior is minimalist but no less sleek, featuring a yoke steering control, a heads-up display, small screens on either side of the yoke in lieu of wing mirrors, and paddle shifters for gear control.

While it's a near certainty that the Suzuki VGT will never get made outside of a video game, like all previous VGTs, it's an exciting addition to the storied garage of Gran Turismo concept cars.

Gamers, start your engines!



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THE REAL DRIVING SIMULATOR



No-one looks forward to that time of year when your service is due. Maybe you're looking to save on running costs by putting it off for a month or two, or maybe you're considering doing it yourself at home – either way, the last thing you want is to break down in the middle of nowhere or end up causing an accident. Here are six reasons why you should get your car serviced by a professional:

### **KEEPS YOU SAFE**

A regular service by a trained professional is crucial from a safety perspective, as faulty parts can put you and other road users in danger. By taking it to someone who knows the make and model of your car inside out and who uses the latest diagnostic and technical tools, you'll reduce the risk of problems occurring while you're on the road. Experienced technicians also have access to all the latest software updates for your vehicle and details of any recalls.

# **OPTIMISES PERFORMANCE**

Servicing your car helps to check that all the parts are in excellent working condition. Having the oil and filters changed regularly is important as oil quality deteriorates over time. This also prevents any dirt or dust getting into the engine and potentially causing major issues, prolonging the engine's, and the car's, longevity.

Making sure the tread depth of your tyres is road legal will give you better

traction on the road and prevent you from skidding. The legal tread depth limit is 1.5 mm, but you should consider changing your tyres at around the 3 mm mark to maintain adequate performance.

### **SAVES YOU MONEY**

By taking your car in for a regular service, the technicians can identify any small problems that need fixing before they turn into larger ones. Catching these early means they'll be cheaper to fix, as opposed to becoming a big expensive problem, where you'll need to fork out a large sum of money to repair the issue.

### **BOOSTS FUEL EFFICIENCY**

If you're not looking after your car, you could be throwing your money down the drain. A poorly maintained car will empty your fuel tank much quicker, meaning you'll have to make more frequent trips to the petrol station. With regular servicing, you are maximising the fuel efficiency of your car.

### **PROTECTS CAR VALUE**

Buying a car is one of the most expensive purchases you're going to make. Ensuring your car is in tip-top condition helps maintain its value and your investment. Regular servicing prolongs your car's life, while a full service history can help boost re-sale value.

If the car is written off in an accident, your insurer may pay out a lower-thanexpected sum because they'll say the car is worth less without a proper service history.

# MAINTAINS YOUR WARRANTY

By having your car serviced regularly, you protect your manufacturer's warranty. Servicing outside of the manufacturer's guidelines can invalidate the warranty, possibly leaving you to pick up the repair bill should something go wrong.

With all this talk about servicing, you should check when your car is due for one. If you've clocked more than a few kms, or it's almost been a year since your last one, it's time to get it done!