

## Choosing a Car—Small or Big?

by Kay Brickley

### Small Cars Are Better

1 Imagine driving around the block looking for the last parking space left, only to discover that it is a tight space **sandwiched** between two large vehicles. Not a problem if you have a small car. You slip into the space with breathing room to spare. Small cars and large cars may have equal rights when it comes to large, **marked** parking lots; but in the world of on-street parking, small cars rule.

2 From my point of view, a small car is the better choice for many reasons. To begin with, a small car typically costs less because it takes fewer raw materials to manufacture it. That leaves you with more money in your pocket for gasoline, which is also a better deal in a small car. Small cars have smaller, less powerful engines, and because they weigh less, they get better miles per gallon of gasoline. Now, you have just saved even more money!

3 I believe that small cars are also more safe, as well as more fun, to drive. They are sportier and easier to **maneuver** in and out of traffic. If you have to get out of the way quickly, a small car is your best bet. Because it has a lower center of gravity, it is less likely to flip or roll over if an accident occurs.

4 Based upon all these facts, I propose that you choose a small car for your transportation needs.

### Glossary

**Sandwiched**—to squeeze in between two things or people

**Marked**—to label

**Maneuver**—movement

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5 Are you looking for the comforts of home on four wheels? Choose a big car. If you have a large family or like to go on trips with friends, a big car is the answer. There is more space for people, especially longer-legged people, and more room for pets, sports equipment, groceries, or anything else you like to take on the road.

6 In a collision between a large car and a small car, the large car is usually the safer choice. Because a big vehicle is built with more metal, it protects both driver and passengers. There is less chance of anyone getting hurt. You cannot put a price on safety!

7 Big cars are more fun to drive. When your seat is higher off the ground, your visibility is vastly improved. You can see the road ahead of you more easily. The ride, too, is much smoother. In a small car, you are likely to feel every bump in the road, but in a big car, the sensation of bumps and potholes is greatly reduced.

8 Think of all the places you drive to in a day and all the hours it takes to get from here to there. Do you want to enjoy that time in big-car luxury or endure it in a small box on wheels? Join the big-car craze. You will not regret having a more relaxing, safer, smoother ride on every mile.

Glossary
Vastly—greatly