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The Continuous Variable Transmission (CVT Transmission) has become a rather polarizing topic in auto discussions within the last decade. Car enthusiasts typically harbor a certain disdain for them and often complain of their loud drone and lack of performance while supporters of the CVT often praise the fuel economy and smooth seamless acceleration. This article will provide a brief overview of the CVT transmission as well as a comprehensive list of cars with the CVT transmission. A CVT is a type of automatic transmission which uses variable-width pulleys that are connected by a flexible steel belt rather than the planetary gears and torque converters used in many traditional automatic transmissions. In a car equipped with a CVT, there are typically two pulleys, 1 pulley connected to the engine (Drive Pulley) and the second pulley connected to the wheels (Driven Pulley). The Drive Pulley is used to transmit energy from the engine through the belt which drives the Driven Pulley and delivers power to car's wheels. During operation of the vehicle, the CVT simultaneously adjusts the diameter of both pulleys and as one pulley increases in size, the other pulley decreases in size. To simulate low gear, the drive pulley decreases in diameter while the driven pulley increases in diameter, and conversely when simulating a high gear, the drive pulley increases in diameter while the driven pulley decreases in diameter. Through this relationship of pulley diameters, the transmission is often referred to as having the ability to offer an unlimited number of "gears" to match any engine speed and allows the engine to operate in a defined range. The pulley system making these adjustments as the speed of the engine increases or decreases is also what eliminates the feeling of gears being shifted that most of us have gotten accustomed to in driving traditional automatic cars. Below are the most common pros and cons of CVT transmissions that are mentioned by owners of these vehicles: Pros mentioned by many owners: Better gas mileageSmoothness of operationNo searching for gears when traveling up a steep incline Cons listed by many owners: Droning noise especially during attempts at spirited drivingCostly to repairMomentary lack of responsiveness when accelerating from a standstill Whether you are a fan of the CVT or find CVTs to be so unappealing that you rather not have a rental car with a CVT, you will find the following list of cars offered with the CVT to be helpful in your search for a vehicle. ManufacturerModelYearCVT Type AudiA4 (1.8)2008 - 2016multitronic AudiA4 (2.0)2008 - 2016multitronic AudiA4 (3.2)2008 - 2016multitronic AudiA4 (2.0 TDI)2008 - 2016multitronic AudiA4 (2.7 TDI)2008 - 2016multitronic AudiA5 (3.2 FSI)2007 - approximately 2016multitronic AudiA5 (2.0 TDI)2009 - approximately 2016multitronic AudiA5 (2.7 TDI)2007 - approximately 2016multitronic AudiA6 (2.5 FSI)2011 - approximately 2016multitronic AudiA6 L (2.8 FSI)2012 - approximately 2016multitronic BuickEncore GX2020CVT ChevroletSpark2012 - 2020CVT ChevroletMalibu (RS)2019 – PresentCVT ChevroletMalibu (L)2019 – PresentCVT ChevroletMalibu (LS)2019 – PresentCVT ChevroletMalibu (LT)2019 – PresentCVT ChevroletTrailblazer (L FWD)2021 – PresentCVT ChevroletTrailblazer (LT FWD)2021 – PresentCVT ChevroletTrailblazer (LS FWD)2021 – PresentCVT ChevroletTrailblazer (Active FWD)2021 – PresentCVT ChevroletTrailblazer (RS FWD)2021 - PresentCVT DodgeCaliber (Express)2011CVT DodgeCaliber (2.0 SE)2007 - 2009CVT DodgeCaliber (R/T)2007 - 2011CVT FordFiesta1983 - 2002CVT FordFusion (Hybrid)2012 - PresentCVT FordFive Hundred (AWD)2004 - 2007CVT FordFreestyle2005 - 2007CVT HondaCivic (Non-Type R & Non-Si)2015 - PresentCVT HondaInsight2000 - 2014CVT HondaFit2001 - PresentCVT HondaFit (Hybrid)2010 - PresentCVT HondaAccord (1.5T)2018 - PresentCVT HondaCRV2017 - PresentCVT HyudaiElantra (SE)2020 - PresentCVT HyundaiElantra (SEL)2020 - PresentCVT HyundaiElantra (Value Edition)2020 - PresentCVT HyundaiAccent (1.5 MPi)2017 - PresentCVT InfinitiQX602013 - PresentCVT InfinitiQX502017 – PresentCVT JeepCompass (Freedom Drive II)2011 - 2017CVT JeepPatriot (Freedom Drive II)2007 - 2017CVT KiaRio (LX)2019 – PresentIVT KiaRio (S)2019 – PresentIVT KiaSoul (S)2019 – PresentCVT KiaSoul (GT-Line)2019 – PresentCVT KiaSoul (X-Line)2019 – PresentCVT KiaSoul (EX)2019 – PresentCVT LexusCT 200h2011 – PresentECVT LexusIS 300h2013 – PresentECVT LexusES 300h2012 - 2018ECVT LexusES 350h2019 - PresentECVT LexusNX 300h2014 - PresentECVT LexusRX 350h2003 - 2015ECVT LexusRX 450h2016 - PresentECVT LexusGS 450h2005 - 2018CVT LexusLS 6002006 - 2017CVT LexusNX 300h2014 - PresentCVT LexusUX 2002018 – PresentCVT LexusUX 250h2018 - PresentECVT MitsubishiEclipse Cross (1.5L)2018 – PresentCVT MitsubishiLancer (DE, ES, GTS)2001 - 2017CVT MitsubishiLancer (SE, GT)2012 - 2017CVT MitsubishiMirage (LE, SE)2013 – PresentCVT MitsubishiMirage G4 (LE, SE)2016 – PresentCVT MitsubishiOutlander (2.4L)2006 - PresentCVT MitsubishiOutlander Sport (2.0)2018 – PresentCVT Mercedes BenzA Class (W169)2004 - 2012CVT Mercedes BenzB Class (W245 B200 CDI)2005 - 2011CVT NissanAltima2007 – PresentCVT NissanMaxima2004 – PresentCVT NissanCube (Optional)1998 - 2014CVT NissanJuke (S, SL, SV)2010 - 2019CVT NissanKicks2018 – PresentCVT NissanMurano2003 - 2007CVT NissanMurano (Non-Hybrid)2009 - 2014CVT NissanPathfinder2013 – PresentCVT NissanQuest2011 – 2017CVT NissanRogue2007 – PresentCVT NissanRogue Sport2017 – PresentCVT NissanSentra (Optional)2007 - 2012CVT NissanSentra2013 – PresentCVT NissanVersa2007 – PresentCVT SaturnVue (4 Cylinder)2002 - 2005CVT SaturnION (Coupe)2003 - 2004CVT ScioniM (Optional)2015 - 2018CVT SubaruAscent2018 - PresentCVT SubaruCrosstrek (Optional)2017 – PresentCVT SubaruCrosstrek (Hybrid)2014 - PresentCVT SubaruXV Crosstrek2013 - 2016CVT SubaruForester (Optional)2012 - 2018CVT SubaruForester2018 - PresentCVT SubaruImpreza (Optional)2011 - PresentCVT SubaruLegacy (Optional)2009 - 2014CVT SubaruLegacy2015 - PresentCVT SubaruOutback2015 - PresentCVT SubaruWRX2015 - PresentCVT SuzukiKizashi (Optional)2010 - 2013CVT SuzukiSX42010CVT SuzukiSwift (Optional)2010 – PresentCVT ToyotaAvalon (Hybrid)2013 - PresentECVT ToyotaCamry Hybrid (LE, XLE)2011 - 2019ECVT ToyotaCamry (Hybrid)2017 - PresentECVT ToyotaCorolla2014 - PresentECVT ToyotaCorolla (Hybrid)2017 - PresentECVT ToyotaCorolla Hatchback (SE, SE Nightshade)2019 - presentCVT ToyotaCorolla Apex2021CVT ToyotaC-HR2018 - PresentCVT ToyotaHighlander (Hybrid) (LE, XLE)2020 – PresentCVT ToyotaPrius2007 - PresentECVT ToyotaPrius Prime2016 - PresentCVT ToyotaRav-4 (Optional)2012 - PresentCVT ToyotaRav-4 (Hybrid)2012 – PresentCVT ToyotaSienna2021CVT ToyotaVenza2021CVT ToyotaYaris2019 – PresentCVT ToyotaYaris RS2019 - PresentCVT ToyotaGR Yaris2019 - PresentCVT ToyotaYaris (Hybrid)2019 – PresentECVT Despite CVTs being a polarizing topic within car communities, many benefits can be derived from their use in passenger vehicles. If you are currently shopping for a vehicle and this will be your first experience with a CVT, my advice is to keep an open mind and test drive various makes and models listed above in the class of car that you are shopping for. By test-driving various makes and models which use the CVT, you will gain a greater amount of exposure that can be useful in determining whether a CVT is generally appealing to you, if only the CVT offered by a specific manufacturer is the right match for you, or if a conventional automatic transmission remains your preference. If you are like many people who are reading this article armed with the knowledge that a CVT is not the right fit for you, hopefully, this list will save you hours of researching cars equipped with the CVT so they can be avoided. Several car brands have models equipped with Continuously Variable Transmission (CVT) technology. Some of these brands include Honda, Toyota, Nissan, Subaru, and Mitsubishi. CVT transmissions provide seamless acceleration and improved fuel efficiency compared to traditional automatic transmissions. These vehicles are popular among drivers who prioritize a smooth and efficient driving experience. Car models such as the Honda Civic, Toyota Corolla, Nissan Altima, Subaru Forester, and Mitsubishi Outlander often come with CVT transmissions as an available option. The use of CVT technology continues to expand across different car manufacturers, providing drivers with a wider range of vehicle options that offer the benefits of CVT technology. Credit: www.edmunds.com Continuously Variable Transmission (CVT) is a type of automatic transmission that provides seamless shifting between gears, resulting in a smoother and more fuel-efficient driving experience. Many car manufacturers now offer CVT as an option in their vehicles, providing drivers with a wide range of choices when it comes to finding a car with this innovative transmission technology. In this article, we will explore three top cars that come equipped with CVT transmission, offering both performance and efficiency.Car 1 With Cvt TransmissionThe XYZ Model is a popular choice among car enthusiasts who appreciate the benefits of CVT transmission. With its sleek design and powerful engine, this car offers a smooth and responsive driving experience. Equipped with CVT, the XYZ Model allows for effortless acceleration and improved fuel efficiency, making it an ideal choice for both city driving and long road trips.Car 2 With Cvt TransmissionThe ABC Model is another impressive car that features CVT transmission. Known for its exceptional fuel economy and comfortable ride, this car is perfect for those who prioritize efficiency and smooth performance. With CVT technology, the ABC Model delivers seamless gear shifting, ensuring a consistent and enjoyable driving experience for all passengers.Car 3 With Cvt TransmissionThe PQR Model stands out in the market for its impeccable design and superior performance. Equipped with CVT transmission, this car offers not only a powerful and refined driving experience but also improved fuel efficiency. Whether you're cruising on the highway or navigating through city traffic, the PQR Model's CVT transmission ensures a seamless and responsive ride.In conclusion, these top cars with CVT transmission provide drivers with the best of both worlds – performance and efficiency. With advancements in transmission technology, CVT has become increasingly popular among car manufacturers and buyers alike. Whether you're looking for a stylish sedan or a versatile SUV, these cars offer the benefits of CVT transmission, delivering a smooth and enjoyable driving experience. Credit: www.whichcar.com.au CVT transmission offers numerous benefits in cars, including smoother acceleration, improved fuel efficiency, and seamless gear shifting. Many car manufacturers, such as Honda, Nissan, and Subaru, have embraced this technology, offering vehicles with CVT transmission for a more effortless driving experience. One of the primary benefits of CVT (Continuously Variable Transmission) transmission in cars is improved fuel efficiency. Unlike traditional automatic transmissions that have a fixed number of gears, CVT transmission allows for an infinite number of gear ratios within a certain range, ensuring the engine operates at its optimum efficiency at all times. CVT transmission eliminates gear shifting, which can waste fuel during acceleration and deceleration. It provides a seamless and continuous flow of power from the engine to the wheels, reducing energy loss. With a wider gear ratio range, CVT-equipped cars can achieve better fuel economy both in city traffic and on the highway. Another advantage of CVT transmission in cars is the smooth and seamless acceleration it offers. Unlike conventional transmission systems that may involve jerky gear shifts, CVT utilizes a system of pulleys and belts to deliver smooth power delivery from the engine to the wheels. CVT allows for a stepless progression of gear ratios, ensuring a smooth acceleration without the need for shifting gears. The seamless power delivery results in a more comfortable ride for both the driver and passengers. CVT-equipped cars are particularly beneficial in start-stop traffic situations, as they can smoothly transition between low speeds and higher speeds without noticeable gear shifts. The use of CVT transmission in cars also enhances the overall driving experience for car owners. The technology offers several advantages that contribute to a more enjoyable and effortless driving experience. CVT eliminates the need to manually shift gears, making driving easier and more convenient. It provides a responsive and quick acceleration, allowing drivers to pass or merge with ease. CVT-equipped cars tend to have a smoother and quieter operation compared to vehicles with traditional transmissions. This technology allows the engine to operate within its optimal power band, maximizing performance without sacrificing fuel efficiency. Choosing a car with CVT transmission requires careful considerations such as reliability, performance, and fuel efficiency. Several car brands offer CVT transmission, including Toyota, Honda, Nissan, and Subaru, providing a wide range of choices for buyers. Performance And Power Choosing a car with a CVT (Continuously Variable Transmission) requires careful consideration of various factors. One such factor is the performance and power offered by the CVT transmission. With a CVT, the gear ratios are continuously adjusted to provide smooth acceleration and improved fuel efficiency. The absence of fixed gears allows for seamless shifting, enabling the engine to stay in its optimal power band. This results in better acceleration and responsiveness, especially at lower speeds. Whether you are tackling city traffic or cruising on the highways, a car with CVT transmission offers a comfortable and enjoyable driving experience. Reliability And Durability When choosing a car with CVT transmission, it is important to consider the reliability and durability of the transmission system. CVT transmissions have fewer moving parts compared to traditional automatic or manual transmissions, reducing the chances of mechanical failure. This simplicity also leads to improved durability, as there are fewer components that can wear out over time. CVT transmissions have undergone extensive testing and refinement to ensure their longevity. Additionally, many car manufacturers offer extensive warranties on their CVT systems, providing peace of mind to car owners. Maintenance And Repair Costs Another key factor to consider when selecting a car with CVT transmission is the maintenance and repair costs associated with this type of transmission. Compared to traditional transmissions, CVTs generally require less maintenance. However, it is still important to follow the manufacturer's recommended maintenance schedules. Regular fluid changes, inspections, and adjustments are essential to keeping the CVT transmission running smoothly. In terms of repair costs, CVTs are typically more complex and specialized than traditional transmissions. This means that if a repair is needed, it may require specialized knowledge and parts, potentially increasing the overall repair costs. Nonetheless, with proper maintenance and care, a car with CVT transmission can provide reliable and cost-effective long-term transportation. In conclusion, performance and power, reliability and durability, as well as maintenance and repair costs are all crucial considerations when choosing a car with CVT transmission. By keeping these factors in mind, you can make an informed decision and enjoy the benefits of a vehicle equipped with this advanced transmission technology. Credit: www.caranddriver.com See Also: How to Refill Transmission Fluid: Expert Tips for Smooth Shifting CVT transmission is used in various car models. Many popular brands such as Nissan, Honda, Toyota, and Subaru offer cars equipped with CVT transmission. It provides smooth acceleration, better fuel efficiency, and a seamless driving experience for the users. Cars with known issues related to their CVT transmissions include Nissan Sentra, Nissan Pathfinder, Honda Accord, and Subaru Impreza. Honda cars are renowned for having the most reliable CVT (continuously variable transmission). Their CVTs deliver smooth performance and are known for their durability and longevity. Honda's reputation for reliability makes their cars a top choice when it comes to CVT technology. CVT is generally considered better than automatic transmission due to its smooth and seamless gear shifts, and improved fuel efficiency. Unlike traditional automatic transmissions, CVT doesn't have fixed gears, allowing for a continuous range of gear ratios. This translates into better performance and reduced wear and tear on the engine. A CVT (Continuously Variable Transmission) is a type of automatic transmission that smoothly changes gears without the need for traditional fixed gear ratios. CVT transmissions offer improved fuel efficiency, smooth acceleration, reduced emissions, and a more comfortable driving experience. Car models like Nissan Altima, Honda Civic, Toyota Corolla, and Subaru Impreza are known for offering CVT transmissions. A CVT transmission uses a belt and pulley system to provide an infinite range of gear ratios, allowing the engine to operate at its most efficient speed. To sum up, several car manufacturers offer vehicles equipped with CVT transmissions. Brands like Honda, Nissan, Toyota, and Subaru have embraced this technology in their lineup, providing drivers with a smooth and efficient driving experience. Understanding the benefits and drawbacks of CVT transmissions can help you make an informed decision when purchasing your next car. Whether you prefer the seamless acceleration or the improved fuel economy, CVT transmissions have become a popular choice in the automotive industry. The Continuous Variable Transmission (CVT Transmission) has become a rather polarizing topic in auto discussions within the last decade. 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If you are currently shopping for a vehicle and this will be your first experience with a CVT, my advice is to keep an open mind and test drive various makes and models listed above in the class of car that you are shopping for. By test-driving various makes and models which use the CVT, you will gain a greater amount of exposure that can be useful in determining whether a CVT is generally appealing to you, if only the CVT offered by a specific manufacturer is the right match for you, or if a conventional automatic transmission remains your preference. If you are like many people who are reading this article armed with the knowledge that a CVT is not the right fit for you, hopefully, this list will save you hours of researching cars equipped with the CVT so they can be avoided. How can financial brands set themselves apart through visual storytelling? Our experts explain how.Learn MoreThe Motorsport Images Collections captures events from 1895 to today's most recent coverage.Discover The CollectionCurated, compelling, and worth your time. Explore our latest gallery of Editors' Picks.Browse Editors' FavoritesHow can financial brands set themselves apart through visual storytelling? Our experts explain how.Learn MoreThe Motorsport Images Collections captures events from 1895 to today's most recent coverage.Discover The CollectionCurated, compelling, and worth your time. Explore our latest gallery of Editors' Picks.Browse Editors' FavoritesHow can financial brands set themselves apart through visual storytelling? Our experts explain how.Learn MoreThe Motorsport Images Collections captures events from 1895 to today's most recent coverage.Discover The CollectionCurated, compelling, and worth your time. Explore our latest gallery of Editors' Picks.Browse Editors' Favorites Continuously variable-speed transmission (CVT) improves fuel economy compared to traditional automatic, and these car manufacturers still use it to great effect in their smaller passenger vehicles.This post includes each make's models that utilize the CVT automatic gearbox.Toyota makes some of the most reliable models and is renowned for excellent product quality and efficient people mover with low ownership costs.The Japanese marque is a leader in the gas-electric technology space, and its use of the CVT gearbox extends to the hybrid models to further improve fuel efficiency and reduce CO2 emission.If you want to own a CVT-equipped Toyota, the extensive model list will please:Toyota Corolla – compact sedan and hatchback.Toyota Corolla Hybrid – compact sedan.Toyota Prius – hybrid hatchback.Toyota Prius Prime – plug-in-hybrid hatchback.Toyota Mirai – fuel-cell electric sedan.Toyota C-HR – subcompact SUV.Toyota Corolla Cross – compact SUV.Toyota RAV4 Hybrid – compact SUV.Toyota RAV4 Prime – compact SUV.Toyota Highlander Hybrid – midsize SUV.Toyota Venza – midsize SUV.Toyota Sienna – minivan.The relevant model years with the continuously variable transmission are as extensive as the Toyota vehicles with CVT.Honda, another giant in the automotive industry, has a front-running model in almost every body style.Like its arch-rival, Toyota, Honda has long adopted the CVT transmission in their passenger vehicles, including some of the most recognizable nameplates in the industry, like the Civic, Accord, and CR-V.Besides the popular models, other Honda CVT cars also benefit from that transmission:Honda Civic – small sedan and hatchback.Honda Insight – small hybrid sedan.Honda Clarity – small plug-in-hybrid sedan.Honda Accord – midsize sedan.Honda Accord Hybrid – midsize sedan.Honda HR-V – extra-small SUV.Honda CR-V – small SUV.Honda CR-V Hybrid – small SUV.Nissan has never quite reached the heights that its more-famous Japanese rivals were able to scale in sales and reliability reputation.Still, this manufacturer makes fuel-efficient and good-quality CVT vehicles, often at a slightly lower price than the equivalent offering from Honda and Toyota.Nissan's smallest and midsize vehicles use CVT to lower production costs and improve fuel economy:Nissan Kicks – subcompact hatchback.Nissan Versa – subcompact sedan.Nissan Sentra – compact sedan.Nissan Altima – midsize sedan.Nissan Maxima – midsize sedan.Nissan Rogue Sport – subcompact SUV.Nissan Rogue – compact SUV.Nissan Murano – midsize SUV.Subaru is known for producing affordable fast cars – like the BRZ and WRX – and SUVs with above-average ground clearance and off-road capability.Still, those features cannot compare to Subaru's all-wheel-drive (AWD) offering, standard across all but one model, the BRZ coupe.Couple AWD and CVT, and you get Subarus with added desirability:Subaru Impreza – small sedan and hatchback.Subaru WRX – small sedan.Subaru Legacy – midsize sedan.Subaru Crosstrek – small SUV.Subaru Crosstrek Plug-In-Hybrid – small SUV.Subaru Forester – small SUV.Subaru Ascent – midsize SUV.Subaru Outback – midsize SUV.The Subaru CVT vehicles post contains more details on the relevant model years and trim levels.Hyundai has been rising through the design and reliability ranks among global automakers with value-for-money, aesthetically-pleasing models.Although Hyundai CVT cars aren't as many as its main Japanese competitors, the continuously variable transmission technology is available in the popular small and extra-small vehicles.They include:Hyundai Accent – subcompact sedan.Hyundai Elantra – compact sedan.Hyundai Venue – subcompact SUV.Hyundai Kona – subcompact SUV.If you want to know which model years have the continuously variable transmission, head to the Hyundai CVT cars post.Mimicking its corporate cousin, Hyundai, Kia offers tonnes of value and an industry-best warranty.Plus, Kia's smallest entrants benefit from the CVT's improved efficiency in fuel consumption and production costs:Kia Rio – extra-small sedan.Kia Forte – small sedan.Kia Soul – extra-small SUV.Kia Seltos – small SUV.The Kia CVT models post has more details.This American make has an extensive lineup across various body styles, best known for sports cars like the Camaro and Corvette, long-time favorites among speed enthusiasts.Still, the CVT transmission is only available in the automaker's smaller passenger vehicles:Chevy Spark – subcompact hatchback.Chevy Malibu – midsize sedan.Chevy Trailblazer – subcompact SUV.Despite being one of America's oldest automotive brands, Buick does not have an extensive lineup, and fewer still with CVT.Its sole CVT model is:Buick Encore GX – extra-small SUV.While this American marque had a rich history of innovation aimed at upper-class professionals, Buick vehicles today target mainstream buyers, establishing itself as more of a middle-class car manufacturer.Apart from the premium car and truck-specialist brands, these mainstream manufacturers do not produce vehicles with CVT:References: //automobiles.honda.com/vehicles //www.subaru.com/index.html //www.kia.com/us/en/vehicles //www.buick.com/all-vehicles In the intricate world of automobiles, the term "CVT" is fast becoming a familiar one. "CVT" stands for Continuously Variable Transmission, a technology that has found its way into an increasing number of vehicles. CVT's introduction to the automobile industry has undoubtedly shaken up the playing field, prompting numerous discussions on its efficacy, longevity, and impact on vehicle performance. CVT, or Continuously Variable Transmission, is a unique type of automatic transmission that provides more efficient and smoother power delivery compared to traditional transmissions. Some of the most well-known cars with CVT transmissions include: Honda Fit Toyota Corolla Nissan Altima Subaru Legacy Subaru Forester Honda CR-V Sports Cars Infiniti QX60 Audi A4 Lexus ES Hybrid This article will delve into the details of CVT, the benefits and drawbacks of this technology, and most importantly, highlight the various cars that employ a CVT transmission. A Brief History of CVT Transmission Continuously Variable Transmission (CVT), a term frequently heard in the automotive world today, isn't as modern as one might believe. The concept of CVT dates back to the late 15th century and was included in the brilliant array of ideas conceived by Leonardo da Vinci. The first patent for a workable CVT was issued in 1886 to a man named Daimler. His invention, though rudimentary, laid the groundwork for the future development of CVTs. Over the years, technological advancements have led to improvements and refinements in CVT design. Initially, CVTs were mostly limited to small vehicles due to their inability to handle high torque. However, as the technology evolved, CVTs began to find their way into larger, more powerful vehicles. The turning point for CVT came in the late 20th century, specifically in 1992, when Nissan introduced its proprietary CVT technology, the Extroid CVT (PDF). Nissan's Extroid was the first CVT that could handle the torque of a V6 engine, marking a significant breakthrough in CVT technology. With Extroid, Nissan changed the face of CVT and paved the way for other manufacturers to consider CVT for their own vehicles. Today, CVTs have become commonplace in the automotive market. Despite some challenges and criticism, the CVT's journey is far from over, with continual advancements expected in response to the shifting dynamics of the automotive industry. Benefits and Drawbacks of CVT Transmission If you're looking to purchase a car with a CVT transmission, you should first understand its benefits and drawbacks. Benefits of CVT Enhanced Fuel Efficiency—CVTs provide an infinite number of "gears" that allow the engine to operate at its most efficient speed, regardless of whether you're accelerating, cruising, or towing. This feature results in optimal fuel consumption, making CVTs a popular choice in a world increasingly focused on energy conservation. Smooth and Seamless Gear Changes—In traditional transmissions, drivers can feel the gear shifts as the car accelerates or decelerates. CVTs eliminate these shifts by continuously adjusting the gear ratio, making for a smoother ride. Whether you're accelerating onto a highway or navigating stop-and-go city traffic, CVTs maintain consistent power delivery without any shift shocks. Long-term Maintenance—Generally, CVTs have fewer parts, which can translate to fewer potential points of failure. Additionally, CVTs don't require periodic clutch replacements like manual transmissions, which can save on long-term maintenance costs. Drawbacks of CVT Unsettling Drone Sounds—Unlike traditional transmissions, which change gears at specific RPMs, CVTs can hold the engine at high RPMs during acceleration, causing a constant "drone" noise. This can be off-putting for some drivers, especially those accustomed to the gear-shift noises of a traditional transmission. Durability Issues—Some early CVT designs faced durability issues, especially when handling high-torque situations. Though modern CVTs have undergone significant improvements, these early issues have raised questions about CVT's overall lifespan compared to traditional transmissions. Steep Repair Costs—This is due, in part, to the complexity of CVT systems and the fact that many parts are not serviceable individually, requiring the replacement of the entire transmission in some cases. It's important to consider these potential costs when deciding on a vehicle with a CVT. Popular Cars with CVT Transmission Over the years, CVT has become a staple in the auto industry due to its fuel efficiency and smooth driving experience. A variety of vehicles across segments, from compact cars to SUVs, now utilize this technology. Here's a closer look at some popular models. Compact Cars: Honda Fit, Toyota Corolla Compact cars are favored for their fuel efficiency, making them perfect candidates for CVT technology. The Honda Fit is one such compact car that has adopted CVT. Known for its roomy interior and versatile cargo space, the Fit is an economical choice that pairs its 1.5-liter four-cylinder engine with a CVT for smooth and efficient performance. Another iconic compact car, the Toyota Corolla, also features a CVT. Corolla's CVT helps the car deliver a fuel-efficient performance without compromising on the driving experience. Toyota has even incorporated a physical first gear in newer models for a more natural feel during initial acceleration. Sedans: Nissan Altima, Subaru Legacy Sedans have also embraced CVT technology. The Nissan Altima features Nissan's XTRONIC CVT, which boasts of a wide gear ratio for efficient high-speed cruising and responsive acceleration. Paired with a comfortable interior and advanced safety features, the Altima's CVT contributes to a pleasing overall driving experience. On the other hand, the Subaru Legacy pairs its standard all-wheel-drive system with a CVT, providing a stable and fuel-efficient ride. Subaru's CVT, also known as Lineartronic, has been designed to work seamlessly with their Boxer engines and Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive systems for optimum performance and fuel efficiency. SUVs: Subaru Forester, Honda CR-V CVT technology is not limited to compact cars and sedans but is also found in popular SUV models. The Subaru Forester, for instance, is a compact SUV that combines a robust all-wheel-drive system with a CVT. This setup ensures a comfortable ride, whether you're on the highway or off-road trails. The Honda CR-V also utilizes a CVT. The CR-V's CVT aids in providing a smooth, efficient, and quiet ride, complementing the SUV's spacious interior, versatile cargo space, and a suite of safety features. Sports Cars: Subaru WRX Sports cars, which prioritize performance and responsiveness, have also started to include CVTs in their lineup. A notable example is the Subaru WRX, a performance sedan famed for its rally heritage. In addition to its turbocharged engine and all-wheel drive, the WRX offers a CVT option for those seeking an automatic transmission without losing performance benefits. Luxury Cars with CVT Transmission Luxury vehicles are not immune to the appeal of CVT and its numerous benefits. Many renowned luxury car brands have adopted CVT technology to enhance the performance of their vehicles. Here's a look at some luxury cars with CVT. Audi A4 and A6 Audi, one of the world's leading luxury car manufacturers, has a rich history of using CVT in their vehicles. The Audi A4 and A6 models were once equipped with Audi's Multitronic CVT, designed to handle high-torque applications. This transmission aimed to offer the efficiency benefits of a CVT without sacrificing performance or driving feel. Paired with Audi's robust engines and sophisticated Quattro all-wheel drive, Multitronic contributed to a smooth and fuel-efficient ride. Lexus ES The Lexus ES, a luxury sedan from Toyota's luxury division, also features a CVT as part of its hybrid powertrain. In this system, known as the Hybrid Synergy Drive, an electronic CVT works in conjunction with an electric motor and a gasoline engine to provide smooth, efficient performance. The ES's CVT contributes to a serene driving experience that's in line with the model's focus on comfort and luxury. Infiniti QX60 Infiniti, Nissan's luxury division, uses the XTRONIC CVT in its QX60 model, a midsize luxury SUV. The QX60 combines a 295-horsepower V6 engine with a CVT for a smooth and responsive ride. The CVT's infinite gear ratios allow the engine to operate at optimal ef