**Skoda Fabia**

The original Skoda Fabia was instrumental in transforming [**Skoda**](http://www.whatcar.com/skoda/) from the butt of countless jokes into a brand with the credibility to match the likes of [**Ford**](http://www.whatcar.com/ford/) and [**Volkswagen**](http://www.whatcar.com/volkswagen/).

It sits in one of the most fiercely contested sectors of the UK car market, with more than 30 direct rivals. But then it's hardly surprising that there's so much competition, given that [**small hatchbacks**](http://www.whatcar.com/small/)outsell every other type of car.

To help it appeal, Skoda offers a wide choice of engines and trim levels, and while the Fabia is by no means the cheapest small car on sale, it is cheaper than the [**Ford Fiesta**](http://www.whatcar.com/ford/fiesta/hatchback/review/). It will also cost you less than an equivalent [**Volkswagen Polo**](http://www.whatcar.com/volkswagen/polo/hatchback/review/), despite sharing the same engines and many of the same mechanicals.

Anyone in the market for a small car should have the Fabia on their shortlist, then, but which version is best? Read on over the next few pages to find out.