



# Which Cars Offer the Best Handling and Cornering Ability?



When looking for a car that offers great handling and cornering ability, it's important to focus on the overall driving experience. Some cars offer precision steering, a low center of gravity, and responsive suspensions that make them stand out.

If you are working with a budget of \$40,000, there are still plenty of great options available. In this article, we will explore the [best cars under 40k](#), focusing on how they handle and corner, along with their overall performance characteristics.

## Key Factors Affecting Handling and Cornering

Several elements contribute to a car's ability to handle and corner effectively. These include the suspension system, weight distribution, tyre quality, steering response, and powertrain. A balanced suspension keeps the car stable, and the tyres gripped to the road, especially in tight corners. Proper weight distribution ensures that the car handles evenly, reducing the risk of oversteering or understeering. The car's overall design also plays a major role in its ability to stay planted on the road.

## Best Cars Under \$40,000 with Great Handling

## 1. Mazda MX-5 Miata

The Mazda MX-5 Miata is known for its light, responsive handling. Its rear-wheel-drive layout and low centre of gravity make it a fantastic choice for those seeking precision driving. The Miata's suspension system and quick steering allow it to take corners with ease. It's an affordable, fun car that punches well above its weight when it comes to performance.

- **Strengths:** Lightweight, agile, precise steering, sporty driving experience.
- **Weaknesses:** Limited storage, small interior.

For driving enthusiasts looking for an affordable option, the Mazda MX-5 Miata is a great pick among the **best cars under 40k**.

## 2. Honda Civic Type R

The Honda Civic Type R combines daily usability with exceptional handling. It features a turbocharged engine, adaptive suspension, and front-wheel-drive with a limited-slip differential. This combination allows it to handle corners with great precision while offering excellent traction and stability. The Civic Type R is an ideal option for anyone looking for a performance car that is also practical for everyday use.

- **Strengths:** Powerful engine, excellent grip, aggressive performance.
- **Weaknesses:** Firm ride, cabin noise at high speeds.

With its combination of power and handling, the Civic Type R stands out as one of the **best cars under 40k** for anyone who enjoys spirited driving.

## 3. Subaru WRX

For those who need an all-wheel drive for better stability, the Subaru WRX is an excellent choice. The WRX is equipped with a turbocharged engine, and its all-wheel-drive system ensures superior handling, especially in wet or snowy conditions. The car's suspension system is tuned to provide excellent cornering ability while offering a balance of comfort and performance.

- **Strengths:** All-wheel drive, turbocharged engine, excellent cornering.
- **Weaknesses:** Rough ride on uneven roads, basic interior design.

If you need a car that handles well in all weather conditions while offering an enjoyable driving experience, the Subaru WRX is a great option in the **best cars under the 40k** category.

## 4. Ford Mustang EcoBoost

While Ford's Mustang is known for its powerful V8 engines, the EcoBoost model offers an efficient turbocharged four-cylinder engine. The Mustang EcoBoost is equipped with an independent rear suspension system, which greatly improves its handling and cornering ability. It offers a balance of performance and comfort, with sharp handling that competes with more expensive performance cars.

- **Strengths:** Strong acceleration, sharp handling, modern features.
- **Weaknesses:** Ride quality can be firm, and rear seats are cramped.

For those looking for a muscle car that also offers great handling, the Ford Mustang EcoBoost is an affordable option among the **best cars under 40k**.

### 5. Volkswagen Golf GTI

The Volkswagen Golf GTI is a hatchback that excels in both handling and practicality. Equipped with a turbocharged engine and front-wheel drive, the GTI is agile in corners and offers impressive grip. Its responsive steering and sport-tuned suspension make it a top performer for anyone looking for a car that balances fun and functionality.

- **Strengths:** Agile handling, comfortable interior, good fuel economy.
- **Weaknesses:** Higher starting price, road noise at high speeds.

For those who want a fun and practical car, the Volkswagen Golf GTI is a standout choice among the **best cars under 40k**.

## Conclusion Finding the Best Handling Cars Under \$40,000

In the **best cars under the 40k** category, you have many excellent choices for performance, handling, and cornering ability. Whether you prefer the lightweight agility of the Mazda MX-5 Miata, the powerful performance of the Honda Civic Type R, or the all-weather capability of the Subaru WRX, there's a car for every driving enthusiast in this price range.