Adult occupant protection

Frontal impact driver

Frontal impact passenger

Side impact driver

Child restraints

18 month old Child

Britax Roemer Duo Plus, forward facing

3 year old Child

Britax Roemer Duo Plus, forward facing

Pedestrian protection

No image car front available

Safety equipment

Front seatbelt pretensioners

Front seatbelt load limiters

Driver frontal airbag

Front passenger frontal airbag

Side body airbags

Side head airbags

Driver knee airbag

Car details

Hand of drive
LHD

Tested model
Renault Modus 1.5 dCi

Body type
SUPERMINI

Year of publication
2004

Kerb weight
1185

VIN from which rating applies
VF1JPOJ0532390106

Comments

The Modus made test history as the first supermini sized car to gain a full five-star safety rating. It achieved this after Euro NCAP allowed a re-run of the frontal test, following improvements to the driver’s airbag. The car's body proved to be extremely strong, providing good protection for adults: the Modus lost just two points in the frontal impact tests. Its restraint systems include dual stage airbags and front belts with double pre-tensioners and load limiters. The rear outer belts have pre-tensioners and load limiters. The protection it gave to child occupants was good but it did little to safeguard pedestrians.

Front impact

The body suffered minimal deformation at the screen level and at the footwell. The Modus uses dual stage airbags and double pre-tensioners with load limiters to control loads and restrict forward movement in a crash. These devices, and its stable structure, worked well, keeping impact forces low on the front occupants’ chests and legs. There has been much design effort to safeguard the driver’s knees and upper legs. The footwell suffered little deformation or intrusion.

Side impact

A very impressive protection system includes seat-mounted thorax airbags and a head curtain airbag to protect front and rear occupants. The car scored full marks in this section of the tests.

Child occupant

There is a manual on/off switch for the passenger frontal airbag and its status is shown on the instrument panel. Good
warnings of the danger of placing a child in a rear-facing restraint opposite an airbag were given on both sides of the passenger’s sun visor. The children sat in Britax Romer Duo Plus restraints, fitted using ISOFIX mounting points and top tethers. Both children were well protected although the older one’s chest load was slightly high in the frontal impact.

**Pedestrian**
Protection levels did not match those for occupants. Only the areas where an adult’s head would most likely strike were cushioned. The bumper and the bonnet’s leading edge were particularly ‘unfriendly’.