



Nissan Serena

| RATING | SCORE | Front: 5 | Side: 16 |
|--|-----------|-----------------|----------|
|  ADULT OCCUPANT ★★☆☆☆ | 21 | | |
|  PEDESTRIAN ★☆☆☆☆ | 15 | Pre 2002 rating | |



Adult occupant protection



Frontal impact driver



Frontal impact passenger



Side impact driver

- GOOD
- ADEQUATE
- MARGINAL
- WEAK
- POOR

Child restraints

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 18 month old Child | Britax Roemer king, forward facing |
| 3 year old Child | Britax Roemer king, forward facing |

Safety equipment

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Front seatbelt pretensioners | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Front seatbelt load limiters | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Driver frontal airbag | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Front passenger frontal airbag | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Side body airbags | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Side head airbags | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Driver knee airbag | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Pedestrian protection

No image car front available

Car details

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Hand of drive | LHD |
| Tested model | Nissan Serena 1.6 |
| Body type | 7-seat MPV |
| Year of publication | 1999 |
| Kerb weight | 1500 |
| VIN from which rating applies | 091762, with 'F' or 'G' in position 16 of the model code |

Comments

The Serena suffered massive intrusion into the footwell and cabin. The front wheel was pushed back into the driver's footwell while the fascia and steering wheel were pushed upwards, reducing the driver's survival space to a worrying extent. What's more, the slide mechanism on the front passenger seat failed, allowing it to move forward during the impact. And, because the belt buckle is attached to the seat rather than directly to the cabin floor, this failure was even more alarming. Nissan says it is investigating why this happened and how it can improve future designs.

Front impact

The passenger compartment collapsed around the driver. The pillar supporting the door hinges was torn from the sill and was no longer held at its lower end. However, the driver's airbag protected his head and chest from serious injury. But there was also excessive pedal displacement posing a threat of serious feet and ankle injuries. The area where the driver's knees struck needed improvement, too. Euro NCAP was also very concerned by the way the front passenger seat slid forward on its runners during the crash. Finally, the centre rear seat is fitted with only a static lap belt, which offers much less crash protection than a full three-point harness would.

Side impact

Like most vehicles of this type, the driver sits substantially above where a normal-size car would strike in side impact, and this lessens the risk of him sustaining serious injuries. As a result the Serena gave its driver

excellent protection, gaining maximum points in this aspect of the test, in stark contrast to its performance in the frontal and one which improved its overall crash rating considerably.

Child occupant

The Serena has rear belts fitted to the mid-row outer seats which can be locked to retain a child seat in place. This feature was poorly labelled, but Nissan says it intends to improve this in line with Euro NCAP's recommendations. Neither child seat was compatible with the adult belt buckles and in an accident these are placed under stress and could fail. The three-year-old's head motion was excessive in the frontal impact and his head was inadequately protected in the side impact.

Pedestrian

Although the pedestrian rating was not good, the bumper was more forgiving to pedestrians than most other cars tested here. As a result, the Serena proved one of the better performers in this test.