



TOYOTA

Starlet

South Africa • 2026 Official Buyer's Guide

996 cc

ENGINE

72 kW

POWER

162 mm

CLEARANCE

16.7 L/100

FUEL ECON

5 seats

SEATING

ZAR 244,900 – 319,900

Ex-Showroom Starting Price

<https://www.hagalu.com/south-africa/toyota/starlet/>

Independent Automotive Research for Africa

TOYOTA

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|---|-----------------------|------------|----------|
|  | 4.3 / 5.0 124 Reviews | 3 Variants | 3 Priced |
|---|-----------------------|------------|----------|

01 Overview & Quick Facts

The Starlet is a practical vehicle offering reliable performance in its segment. Engineered for South African driving conditions with attention to durability and real-world usability. The modern powertrain delivers adequate performance for daily commuting, weekend adventures, and practical family transport. Interior design prioritizes comfort and functionality. Build quality is solid with proven reliability backing every vehicle sold in South Africa. New car pricing is accessible for target buyers. The vehicle attracts owners seeking dependable transport without premium complexity. The Starlet represents a genuine evolution in its segment, balancing practical daily usability with longer-term ownership satisfaction. In South Africa's diverse driving conditions—from metropolitan congestion to regional highways to occasional rough tracks—this vehicle delivers competence across the spectrum. Market positioning places the Starlet as a premium vehicle for buyers prioritizing premium refinement. Reliability underpins ownership satisfaction—this vehicle won't surprise you with premature failures or component issues. Ownership costs align with realistic expectations. Service intervals are reasonable. Parts availability is reliable. Dealer networks exist where you need them. For five-year ownership, total cost of ownership—including fuel, maintenance, insurance, and depreciation—sits comfortably within segment...



| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Body Style | Hatchback |
| Launched | 2020 |
| Generation | First generation Starlet in South Africa on B-segment platform |
| Fuel Types | Petrol |
| Colours | White, Silver, Grey, Blue, Red, Orange |
| OEM Website | https://www.toyota.co.za/vehicles/starlet |

02 Variant Pricing & On-Road Costs

| | | |
|---------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Starting From | ZAR 244,900 – 319,900 | 3 Variants Available |
|---------------|------------------------------|----------------------|

| Variant | Fuel | Transmission | Trim | Ex-Showroom |
|----------------|--------|--------------|------|--------------------|
| 1.0T XS Manual | Petrol | Manual | Base | ZAR 244,900 |
| 1.0T GS CVT | Petrol | Automatic | Mid | ZAR 279,900 |
| 1.0T XR CVT | Petrol | Automatic | Top | ZAR 319,900 |

Estimated On-Road Price — 1.0T XS Manual (Base Variant)

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Johannesburg | ZAR 258,838 |
| Cape Town | ZAR 260,873 |
| Durban | ZAR 257,249 |
| Pretoria | ZAR 258,043 |

* On-road prices are estimates including registration, road tax and insurance.

03 Pros, Cons & Expert Verdict

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>● STRENGTHS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reliability is demonstrated through proven engineering and market operation. ✓ Service costs remain reasonable through dealer and independent networks. ✓ Fuel economy sits within realistic ranges for segment class. ✓ Interior space accommodates family use across most configurations. ✓ Resale values develop as market recognizes vehicle positioning. ✓ Safety features include modern systems addressing real-world hazard scenarios. | <p>● CONSIDERATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Depreciation follows segment patterns, with steeper loss during initial ownership years. ✗ Interior materials prioritize function over premium perception. ✗ Styling appears understated compared to visually aggressive competitors. ✗ Technology features may lag premium competitors in sophistication. ✗ Off-road capability remains basic for adventure-focused buyers. |
|---|---|

Expert Verdict

"Best value compact Toyota in SA"

The Starlet is the practical choice for buyers prioritizing premium experience. It delivers genuine capability without requiring premium pricing or exotic maintenance. Resale values develop as market recognition grows. The used market becomes increasingly active as ownership examples accumulate. For buyers seeking dependable, honest transport, the Starlet represents genuine value.

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| City Driving | Urban driving reveals competent engineering. Visibility is adequate for metropolitan traffic navigation. Parking assistance systems help genuinely in tight spaces. Air conditioning operates properly in South African summer heat. The driving position commands authority without excessive height. Interior layout remains intuitive through extended city driving. Audio systems integrate smartphone connectivity. Climate control maintains comfort in traffic-heavy commutes. Steering is responsive enough for urban maneuvers. Fuel consumption in city traffic remains predictable and manageable. The vehicle functions reliably through daily metropolitan use, delivering comfort during extended urban residence. |
| Highway | Highway driving confirms engineering integrity. At 120 km/h cruising, engine operation is relaxed and refined. Road noise remains controlled through wind and tire sound management. Fuel economy stabilizes within predictable consumption ranges. The transmission settles into efficient cruising operation. Comfort extends across multi-hour driving periods. Seating provides proper support without requiring frequent adjustment. Climate control maintains consistent cabin temperature. The ride quality balances bump compliance with directional stability. Highway safety systems function predictably without intrusive interventions. Extended highway driving confirms the vehicle's suitability for regional travel between major centers. |
| Off-Road | Off-road access ranges from basic to moderate depending on configuration. Ground clearance handles typical farm gates and low obstacles. Gravel roads present no challenge for standard variants. Basic farm tracks are traversable for most configurations. Rough terrain requires appropriate driving technique rather than extreme capability. The vehicle functions adequately for recreational off-road scenarios without specialization for rock crawling. |

Best For

First-time buyers, young urban drivers, budget-conscious buyers

04 Variant Comparison Matrix

All 3 variants of the Toyota Starlet side-by-side. Use this to spot the smallest differences quickly — fuel, power, gearbox and price all in one view.

| SPEC | 1.0T XS Manual | 1.0T GS CVT | 1.0T XR CVT |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Price (ex-showroom) | ZAR 244,900 | ZAR 279,900 | ZAR 319,900 |
| Fuel Type | Petrol | Petrol | Petrol |
| Transmission | Manual | Automatic | Automatic |
| Trim Level | Base | Mid | Top |
| Engine | 996 cc (1.0L) | 996 cc (1.0L) | 996 cc (1.0L) |
| Max Power | 72 kW (97 bhp) | 72 kW (97 bhp) | 72 kW (97 bhp) |
| Max Torque | 140 Nm (103 lb-ft) | 140 Nm (103 lb-ft) | 140 Nm (103 lb-ft) |
| Drivetrain | FWD | FWD | FWD |
| Fuel Economy | 16.7 km/l | 16.7 km/l | 16.7 km/l |
| Seating | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| Boot Space | 265 L | 265 L | 265 L |
| Ground Clearance | 162 mm | 162 mm | 162 mm |
| Kerb Weight | 1005 kg | 1005 kg | 1005 kg |

→ [Compare these variants on hagalu.com](#) (live prices, on-road costs, real owner reviews and EMI calculator)

05 Toyota Starlet — 1.0T XS Manual

ZAR 244,900

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ENGINE 996 cc | POWER 72 kW · 97 bhp | TORQUE 140 Nm · 103 lb-ft | ECONOMY 16.7 km/l | FUEL Petrol Manual |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|

Base Trim · Petrol · Manual

[View live price & EMI →](#)

ENGINE & PERFORMANCE

| | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| Engine | 1.0L Turbocharged 3-Cylinder Petrol | Engine Type | Inline 3 Cylinder Turbocharged |
| Displacement | 996 cc | Cylinders | 3 |
| Valves per Cylinder | 4 | Power | 72 kW |
| Power @ RPM | 5500 rpm | Torque | 140 Nm |
| Torque @ RPM | 1500-3000 rpm | Fuel System | Direct Injection |
| Turbocharger | Single Turbo | Top Speed | 175 km/h |

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Transmission | 5-Speed Manual | Drive Type | FWD |
| Drivetrain Layout | Front Wheel Drive | LSD Available | Not Available |
| Paddle Shifters | Not Available | Transfer Case | Not Applicable |
| Differential Lock | Not Applicable | Number of Gears | 6 |
| Transmission | Automatic CVT | Clutch Type | Single Plate Diaphragm |
| Final Drive Ratio | 3.909:1 | Transmission Type | Manual |

DIMENSIONS

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------|------------------|--------------|
| Ground Clearance | 162 mm | Wheelbase | 2520 mm |
| Length | 3995 mm | Width | 1695 mm |
| Height | 1520 mm | Kerb Weight | 1005 kg |
| Gross Vehicle Weight | 1420 kg | Seating Capacity | 5 |
| Boot Space | 265 l | Towing Capacity | Not Rated kg |
| Front Track Width | 1470 mm | Rear Track Width | 1455 mm |

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Claimed Mileage | 16.7 km/l | City Mileage | 13 km/l |
| Highway Mileage | 18 km/l | Fuel Tank Capacity | 40 l |
| Emission Standard | Euro 5 | AdBlue Tank Capacity | Not Applicable l |
| Auto Start Stop | Standard | Average Fuel Consumption | Available |
| Claimed Fuel Consumption | Available l/100km | Distance To Empty | Available |
| Low Fuel Warning | Available | Fuel Efficiency | Available l/100km |

SAFETY

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|----------|
| Airbags | 2 | ABS | Standard |
| Electronic Stability Control | Standard | Traction Control | Standard |
| Hill Descent Control | Not Available | Hill Start Assist | Standard |

| | | | |
|--------------------|----------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Child Safety Lock | Standard | ISOFIX Mounts | Standard |
| Brake Assist | Standard | Tyre Pressure Monitor | Not Available |
| Engine Immobiliser | Standard | Alarm System | Standard |

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Climate Control | Manual AC | Power Windows | All Doors |
| Keyless Entry | Standard | Push Button Start | Not Available |
| Wireless Charging | Not Available | Sunroof | Not Available |
| Electric Tailgate | Not Available | Automatic Headlamps | Not Available |
| Rain Sensing Wipers | Not Available | Auto Dimming Mirror | Not Available |
| Power Mirrors | Power Adjustment | Payload Capacity | 500 |

+ 11 more spec categories (Infotainment & Connectivity, Interior, Exterior, Driver Assistance, ...) available on the live model page.

→ [See 1.0T XS Manual full specs, live price & on-road costs in South Africa](#)

[Compare with rivals →](#)

06 Toyota Starlet — 1.0T GS CVT

ZAR 279,900

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ENGINE 996 cc | POWER 72 kW · 97 bhp | TORQUE 140 Nm · 103 lb-ft | ECONOMY 16.7 km/l | FUEL Petrol Automatic |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|

Mid Trim · Petrol · Automatic

[View live price & EMI →](#)

ENGINE & PERFORMANCE

| | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| Engine | 1.0L Turbocharged 3-Cylinder Petrol | Engine Type | Inline 3 Cylinder Turbocharged |
| Displacement | 996 cc | Cylinders | 3 |
| Valves per Cylinder | 4 | Power | 72 kW |
| Power @ RPM | 5500 rpm | Torque | 140 Nm |
| Torque @ RPM | 1500-3000 rpm | Fuel System | Direct Injection |
| Turbocharger | Single Turbo | Top Speed | 175 km/h |

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Transmission | CVT Automatic | Drive Type | FWD |
| Drivetrain Layout | Front Wheel Drive | LSD Available | Not Available |
| Paddle Shifters | Not Available | Transfer Case | Not Applicable |
| Differential Lock | Not Applicable | Number of Gears | 6 |
| Transmission | Automatic CVT | Transmission Type | Automatic |
| Final Drive Ratio | Available | Steering Turns Lock to Lock | Available |

DIMENSIONS

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------|------------------|--------------|
| Ground Clearance | 162 mm | Wheelbase | 2520 mm |
| Length | 3995 mm | Width | 1695 mm |
| Height | 1520 mm | Kerb Weight | 1005 kg |
| Gross Vehicle Weight | 1420 kg | Seating Capacity | 5 |
| Boot Space | 265 l | Towing Capacity | Not Rated kg |
| Front Track Width | 1470 mm | Rear Track Width | 1455 mm |

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Claimed Mileage | 16.7 km/l | City Mileage | 13 km/l |
| Highway Mileage | 18 km/l | Fuel Tank Capacity | 40 l |
| Emission Standard | Euro 5 | AdBlue Tank Capacity | Not Applicable l |
| Auto Start Stop | Standard | Average Fuel Consumption | Available |
| Claimed Fuel Consumption | Available l/100km | Distance To Empty | Available |
| Low Fuel Warning | Available | Fuel Efficiency | Available l/100km |

SAFETY

| | | | |
|------------------------------|----------|------------------|----------|
| Airbags | 6 | ABS | Standard |
| Electronic Stability Control | Standard | Traction Control | Standard |

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Hill Descent Control | Not Available | Hill Start Assist | Standard |
| Child Safety Lock | Standard | ISOFIX Mounts | Standard |
| Brake Assist | Standard | Tyre Pressure Monitor | Standard |
| Engine Immobiliser | Standard | Alarm System | Standard |

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Climate Control | Manual AC | Power Windows | All Doors |
| Keyless Entry | Standard | Push Button Start | Standard |
| Wireless Charging | Not Available | Sunroof | Not Available |
| Electric Tailgate | Not Available | Automatic Headlamps | Not Available |
| Rain Sensing Wipers | Not Available | Auto Dimming Mirror | Not Available |
| Power Mirrors | Power Adjustment | Payload Capacity | 500 |

+ 11 more spec categories (Infotainment & Connectivity, Interior, Exterior, Driver Assistance, ...) available on the live model page.

→ [See 1.0T GS CVT full specs, live price & on-road costs in South Africa](#)

[Compare with rivals →](#)

07 Toyota Starlet — 1.0T XR CVT

ZAR 319,900

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ENGINE 996 cc | POWER 72 kW · 97 bhp | TORQUE 140 Nm · 103 lb-ft | ECONOMY 16.7 km/l | FUEL Petrol Automatic |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|

Top Trim · Petrol · Automatic

[View live price & EMI →](#)

ENGINE & PERFORMANCE

| | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| Engine | 1.0L Turbocharged 3-Cylinder Petrol | Engine Type | Inline 3 Cylinder Turbocharged |
| Displacement | 996 cc | Cylinders | 3 |
| Valves per Cylinder | 4 | Power | 72 kW |
| Power @ RPM | 5500 rpm | Torque | 140 Nm |
| Torque @ RPM | 1500-3000 rpm | Fuel System | Direct Injection |
| Turbocharger | Single Turbo | Top Speed | 175 km/h |

TRANSMISSION & DRIVETRAIN

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Transmission | CVT Automatic | Drive Type | FWD |
| Drivetrain Layout | Front Wheel Drive | LSD Available | Not Available |
| Paddle Shifters | Not Available | Transfer Case | Not Applicable |
| Differential Lock | Not Applicable | Number of Gears | 6 |
| Transmission | Automatic CVT | Transmission Type | Automatic |
| Final Drive Ratio | Available | Steering Turns Lock to Lock | Available |

DIMENSIONS

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------|------------------|--------------|
| Ground Clearance | 162 mm | Wheelbase | 2520 mm |
| Length | 3995 mm | Width | 1695 mm |
| Height | 1520 mm | Kerb Weight | 1005 kg |
| Gross Vehicle Weight | 1420 kg | Seating Capacity | 5 |
| Boot Space | 265 l | Towing Capacity | Not Rated kg |
| Front Track Width | 1470 mm | Rear Track Width | 1455 mm |

MILEAGE & EFFICIENCY

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Claimed Mileage | 16.7 km/l | City Mileage | 13 km/l |
| Highway Mileage | 18 km/l | Fuel Tank Capacity | 40 l |
| Emission Standard | Euro 5 | AdBlue Tank Capacity | Not Applicable l |
| Auto Start Stop | Standard | Average Fuel Consumption | Available |
| Claimed Fuel Consumption | Available l/100km | Distance To Empty | Available |
| Low Fuel Warning | Available | Fuel Efficiency | Available l/100km |

SAFETY

| | | | |
|------------------------------|----------|------------------|----------|
| Airbags | 7 | ABS | Standard |
| Electronic Stability Control | Standard | Traction Control | Standard |

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Hill Descent Control | Not Available | Hill Start Assist | Standard |
| Child Safety Lock | Standard | ISOFIX Mounts | Standard |
| Brake Assist | Standard | Tyre Pressure Monitor | Standard |
| Engine Immobiliser | Standard | Alarm System | Standard |

COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Climate Control | Automatic AC | Power Windows | All Doors |
| Keyless Entry | Standard | Push Button Start | Standard |
| Wireless Charging | Optional | Sunroof | Not Available |
| Electric Tailgate | Not Available | Automatic Headlamps | Standard |
| Rain Sensing Wipers | Standard | Auto Dimming Mirror | Standard |
| Power Mirrors | Power Adjustment | Payload Capacity | 500 |

+ 11 more spec categories (Infotainment & Connectivity, Interior, Exterior, Driver Assistance, ...) available on the live model page.

→ [See 1.0T XR CVT full specs, live price & on-road costs in South Africa](#)

[Compare with rivals →](#)

08 Explore More on Hagalu

Jump to live prices for each variant

→ 1.0T XS Manual — ZAR 244,900

→ 1.0T GS CVT — ZAR 279,900

→ 1.0T XR CVT — ZAR 319,900

Live Prices & On-Road Costs — Toyota Starlet

→ Latest ex-showroom and city-wise on-road prices in South Africa.

→ Open

Side-by-Side Comparison

→ Compare Toyota Starlet vs any rival model.

→ Open

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→ Open

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