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## Parker's Car Report



September 2005

### Suzuki Vitara V6 5d

## Welcome

**T**o possibly the most useful car report on the planet. If you've used Parker's pricing, then you'll already know what we are about; easily digested information that you can trust. This isn't a report about your car's shady history, or which part of the engine to tap before buying.

Rather than a little information on a lot of cars, this report contains absolutely everything we know about one exact car; some aspects, such as our review and the images, cover all of the engines in the range. The usefulness of this profile is to be found in the specific data, for the exact engine/trim combination that you are interested in. We hope that you find everything you need....

### SUMMARY

★★★★☆☆☆☆

Vitara is best viewed as a road car rather than an off-road workhorse. The five-door estates are fairly refined, especially V6 versions. Three-door cars are often 'loaded' with extras to mark them out as urban fashion statements.

- ⊕ Nice V6 engines
- ⊖ Poor ride; tinny

## Suzuki Vitara V6 5d



[Pictures shown illustrate a variety of models from this range](#)  
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### BEHIND THE WHEEL

★★★★☆☆☆☆

Driving position is upright and gives a good view of the road ahead. Scattered layout of the buttons and switches is typical of designs from the late 1980s/early nineties - sometimes oddly placed and tricky to reach. Higher mile age steering wheels may have been worn smooth.



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### COMFORT

★★★★☆☆☆☆

There are only two seats in the back of the three-door and they're quite difficult to access, as they're high up. However, passengers have plenty of head and shoulder room, though legroom is a bit tight. The five-door is better for families and seats three kids in some comfort.

Length:	4125 mm
Width:	1695 mm
Height:	1695 mm
Weight:	1330 Kg

### PERFORMANCE

★★★★★☆☆☆☆

Only a 1.6 8v unit was available when the Vitara was launched in 1988. Performance from this unit isn't fast: 0-60 comes in 16 seconds and it has a top speed of 93mph. The five-door, launched in 1991, benefited from a 1.6 with 16 valves, bringing the 0-60 time down to 14.5 seconds; this unit didn't make it into the three-door or soft-top as standard until 1994. The smooth 2.0 V6 with 134bhp arrived in 1995 and had more urge than the 1.6 models. A (Mazda-powered) turbo diesel went on sale in January 1996.

BHP:	134
Engine capacity:	1998 cc
Cylinders:	6
Fuel delivery:	Multi point fuel injection
Gears:	5 Speed
Torque:	126 lb/ft
Torque:	172 Nm
Transmission:	Manual
Valves:	24

### HANDLING

★★★★☆☆☆☆

Handling is how you'd expect from a 4x4 dating from the 1980s. Steering is slow and it can be hard work to park - especially on early models without power steering. Four-wheel-drive is switchable, which means that it's two-wheel-drive on the road; four-wheel-drive is selected through a separate gearbox when needed. The ride is exceptionally harsh, especially at lower speeds, which is only made worse with bigger wheels.

Wheelbase:	2480 mm
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### PRACTICALITY

★★★★★☆☆☆☆

Three door has very limited luggage space and is really only suitable for couples, who can use the back seats for shopping. The five-door is better and with the seats down becomes a practical family holdall. A large glovebox and side door pockets about it on the inside.

Braked towing weight:	1875 kg
Turning circle:	11 m
Unbraked towing weight:	645 Kg

### RELIABILITY

★★★★★★★☆☆

Generally reliable but can give problems if neglected; interiors wear badly.

Car check body:	Damage from off-roading
Car check engine:	Worn camshaft and valves; noisy gearbox; check history - especially 16-valve, V6 and 2.0D.
Car check other:	Differential whine; worn brake callipers.

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## Suzuki Vitara V6 5d

### SAFETY



Vitara is an old design and this shows on the safety and security front. No Euro NCAP crash test rating, but driver and passenger airbags were added in the late 1990s, as was an immobiliser.

[Click here for more NCAP info](#)

### RUNNING COSTS



Relatively cheap to run and insure; parts can be expensive.

Insurance group:	10
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Miles per gallon:	28
Fuel capacity:	70 litres
Euro emissions standard:	2
CO2 emissions:	207 g/km

Vehicle excise duty for cars registered on or after 1st March 2001, is now based on the fuel type and carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions levels of individual vehicles. Vehicle excise duty for cars registered before this date is calculated as follows.

	6mths	12mths
Engine sizes up to 1549cc	£60.50	£110.00
Engine sizes over 1549cc	£90.75	£165.00

Company car tax for the year 2005/2006; for tax purposes the list price of a car includes delivery charges but not road tax and new car registration fee.

Annual tax at 22%:	£971
Annual tax at 40%:	£1766

[For a full explanation of company car tax rules see the Inland Revenue website](#)

### BUYING USED



Although it's an elderly design, it does have with simple, fairly robust engineering; fully loaded cars can be pricey; estates preferred for family use.

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### USED PRICES

Parker's independent experts analyse 4100 car sales every single day. That's 1.5 million sales a year. We value more cars, with greater accuracy and are trusted by more people than any other Car Price Guide you can buy.

Registration Year/Plate	Average Mileage	New List Price	Franchise	Independent	Private	Part Exchange
1995/M	90	15640	2385	2215	1875	1490
1995/N	90	15650	2580	2395	2025	1610
1996/N	80	15650	2645	2465	2155	1735
1996/P	80	15950	2825	2630	2300	1850
1997/P	70	15950	2940	2730	2415	1995
1997/R	70	15950	3150	2925	2585	2135
1998/R	60	15950	3415	3170	2820	2375

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**Mileage:** The standard average mileage in ,000 miles for the year. See the mileage adjustment tables for higher or lower values.

**Franchise:** The typical price paid at a franchised dealer for a car in a 'Used Approved' scheme. Lower than the 'sticker price' on the screen because we've allowed for sensible haggling.

**Independent:** Typical price paid for the car at an independent dealer or car supermarket. Prices are slightly lower than main dealers because you don't get all of the 'Used Approved' benefits.

**Private:** Typical private sale value of a car in good condition with full MoT and service history, needing no work.

**Part Exchange:** The typical 'bottom-book' price that a dealer offers for your car in part-exchange. The actual value can vary from deal to deal, depending on the price and desirability of your car, but this is a good indication of what to expect.

### MILEAGE ADJUSTMENT

The used prices shown above are valued at a standard mileage of 10,000 miles per year. This table allows you to add or deduct an amount for mileages that are lesser or greater than this standard mileage.

Year/Plate	10k	20k	30k	40k	50k	60k	80k	100k	120k	150k
1995/M	-	650	560	460	370	280	90	-90	-280	-500
1995/N	-	700	600	500	400	300	100	-100	-300	-550
1996/N	-	650	540	430	330	220	-	-220	-420	-660
1996/P	-	700	580	470	350	230	-	-230	-450	-710
1997/P	750	630	500	380	250	130	-130	-380	-580	-810
1997/R	830	690	550	410	280	140	-130	-400	-620	-860
1998/R	730	580	440	290	150	-	-300	-580	-830	-1050

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### MODEL HISTORY

**01/07/1992** Special Mustique (£9899); values as JLY Soft Top or Estate.

**01/05/1993** Sport 2-seater Soft Top: removable hood; optional rear seats. JX 5-door Estate launched, mechanically similar to JLY SE but without central locking, electric windows, etc. JLY Soft Top and Estate now have standard PAS. Special 'X-EC' 5-door Estate (£13950); values approx. 8% higher than 5-door JLY SE.

**01/01/1994** Special Verdi and Rossini 4-seater Soft Tops (£9990). Used values approx. 10% higher than Sport Soft Top. JX Soft Top 2- and 4-seater models launched.

**01/02/1995** Sport 2 Soft Top and JX 3 door estate launched. Special edition X-EC 5 door reintroduced - used values 10% higher than JLY SE 5 door. 2.0 V6 Estate. PAS, central locking, elec windows and mirrors, two tone metallic paint, auto free-wheel front hubs, twin airbags, alarm.

**01/01/1996** 2.0 Diesel. PAS, two tone metallic paint, chrome grille, central locking, elec windows and mirrors. 1.6 JX Soft Top and 3 door estate reintroduced. Revisions to 3 door models: new bumpers and grille, twin rear fog lamps, restyled fascia, improved trim.

**01/01/1997** Revisions to JX Sport: new bumpers and grill, restyled rear lamps and fascia. JLY Soft Top Special Edition - values as JLY.

**01/07/1999** New range; JX and special '4U2' Soft Top and estate.

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### SELLING



There should be no problems, providing it has been well looked after and it is well priced.

**Warranty:** Mechanical 3 years, bodywork 6 years  
**Servicing:** Every 6,000 miles



[Pictures shown illustrate a variety of models from this range](#)

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### EQUIPMENT



All models have switchable 4WD, tinted glass, electric mirrors, split rear seats. Power Pack SE models add PAS, central locking, electric windows and alloy wheels; 2.0 D and V6 models have electric mirrors, two-tone metallic paintwork, chrome mirrors and grille surround, lower body wheel arch mouldings.

Options include spare wheel covers, side steps, bull bars, roof racks, coloured hoods, targa sunroof, wheel arch mouldings, exhaust endpieces, auto free-wheeling hubs, driving lamps, alloy wheels. Special editions include: JLX SE 16v 'X-EC' 5-door (July 93): blue metallic, body colour spare wheel cover, remote central locking; 'Rossini' 4-seater Soft Top (Jan 94): red metallic, white hood, white vinyl seat trim; 'Verdi' Soft Top (Jan 94): green metallic, white hood, white vinyl seat trim; JLX 'Special Edition' Soft Top (July 97): mercury silver paint, red soft top, red spare wheel cover. 4U(July 98), two-tone paintwork, alloy wheels, rear spoiler, silver exterior detailing. 4U2 metallic black or solid yellow, alloy wheels, rear spoiler, special graphics and '4U2' spare wheel cover.

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