The Toyota RAV4: from Inception to its Current Incarnation by Timmy Radloff

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These days, car buyers are looking for vehicles with enhanced performance and maximized functionality for everyday use. Additionally, many vehicles have evolved beyond their basic functions and provide their owners with many upgrades. Though sedans and pickup trucks continue to remain popular, the compact SUV has become a popular option for many car buyers in Ottawa.

The Toyota RAV4 is one such viable option. The name RAV4 actually stands for â€œRecreational Active Vehicle and 4-wheel drive.â€• However, not all RAV4s are equipped with 4-wheel drive capacityâ€”itâ€™s just one of the major options from manufacturers from other countries. Moreover, this vehicle has been designed to accommodate a lot of cargo.

The first generation of RAV4s was originally based on the Corolla platform and was originally offered in 2 and 4 door versions. Furthermore, its original transmission options were the five-speed manual and four-speed automatic transmission. Then, there was the RAV4 EV that was released as an electrical version with a zero emission feature.

The second generation of RAV4s was released in the mid-2000s. These were known as the Edge and Cruiser models. The only difference between the first and second generation models was its appearance. The second generation models were larger than their predecessors. Plus, more doors were availableâ€”from its original 2-4 doors to the presentâ€™s 4-5 door capacity.

The third generation of RAV4â€™s was completely redesigned: the Corolla platform was dropped and an all-new platform was used for the current model. The radically redesigned RAV4 was unveiled in the Frankfurt Motor Show in 2005. The new RAV4 now uses the Electric Power Steering (EPS) system. Dealers that retail the used Toyota RAV4 tend to offer models from the years 2008 to 2011. These models have 4-cylinder engines, as well as redesigned front ends and tweaked rear ends. Added features include turn signal mirrors, backup cameras, satellite navigation, keyless entry, push button starters, and a multifunction meter display.

Dealers of the used Toyota Ottawa drivers want have available models from the last generation with 2.4L 2AZ-FE I4 or 3.5L 2GR-FE V6 with 269 horsepower engines fitted with 5-speed automatic transmission. All engines are also equipped with Toyotaâ€™s Star Safety System that includes Vehicle Stability Control.

Used Toyota RAV4 dealers in the Ottawa area ensure their buyers of the quality and functionality of their models. Such vehicles even surpass their warranty year and will continue to serve their owners well for years to come. The Toyota RAV4 is one of the most desirable cars available today. It has indeed come a long way from its inception in 1994. For more information, please visit toyota.com or thecarconnection.com/cars/toyota_rav4.

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