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Looking for a car poses a challenge, especially for first-time buyers. Since this will be their first set of wheels, they want to make sure they arrive at the best decision possible. Itâ€™™s very confusing, nevertheless, for every buyer to determine where to start his search.

Perhaps Consumer Reports can help in a first-time buyerâ€™™s search for a suitable car. Every year, Consumer Reports publishes its top picks based on three factors: road test, reliability, and safety. Analysts look at available data about every available vehicle on the US market and list the automobiles that have the most potential. Below are some of the vehicles that are included in the top 10 for 2012.

Ford Mustang

Time and again, Fordâ€™™s iconic pony car has proven itself to be quite an impressive sight for many. Named after the fearsome fighter plane that helped win World War II, the Ford Mustangâ€™™s features are just as formidable and made it land on Consumer Reportsâ€™™ top pick for sporty car.

The Mustangâ€™™s design is unique: putting a powerful V6 or V8 engine on a compact body at an affordable price. Itâ€™™s not surprising, therefore, that it somehow pays tribute to a flying vehicle that helped change history. Of course, the Mustang also takes pride in more than just power, as it also boasts excellent steering.

Chevrolet Avalanche

Chevyâ€™™s SUV or pickup truck understands if you have more than one preference. Consumer Reports chose the Avalanche for top pick on the pickup truck category because of its main characteristics: utility and versatility. In Indianapolis, where your car needs can change as fast as pit crews on the Indy 500, Indianapolis cars may as well be universally adaptable. This pickup truck wins the competition by, well, an avalanche.

The Avalancheâ€™™s â€œutility and versatilityâ€• takes the form of a foldable partition in the rear of the cab that allows the vehicle to carry longer cargo or allocate more space for additional load. If not on cargo duty, the partition on this Indianapolis car can provide more seats â€“ switching between SUV and pickup truck in mere seconds.

Visit Consumer Reportsâ€™™ official website at ConsumerReports.org for more information on other cars that made the top picks. While their report should not be taken as the absolute word, buyers can use it as a good basis when choosing an automobile. Armed with a good overview, they will be ready to start negotiations when they visit an Indianapolis car dealer.

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