

The Mitsubishi L200 has been the number one pick up for years. It was so popular it once commanded 70% of the sector and that's huge! So, when we heard the 5th generation model had arrived at Charles Warners in Lincoln we were keen to see what they could've done to improve it further.

First impressions don't disappoint retaining the sporty and elegant features of its predecessor, the fifth generation L200's exterior styling projects a dynamism which evokes the finely-honed muscles of an athlete. Tightly sculpted and more modern, this latest model has more kerb appeal and whether you happen to be a country dweller, farmer, tradesman, or weekend outdoor type, this all-new L200 will tick the boxes.

It's practical, comfortable, and gets you on and off the muddiest terrain with utter ease. But it doesn't stop there, it'll be your best friend when it comes to collecting loads thanks to its 1050 kg payload and it's the perfect vehicle for lugging a laden trailer.

Double cabs often leave rear seat passengers somewhat cramped but in the new L200 there's easily enough room for

four six footers, so when the Mitsubishi isn't tackling off road areas or hauling heavy-duty merchandise around, it can become a versatile family motor.

Its also surprisingly quieter to drive thanks to an all-new 178bhp, 2.4 litre MIVEC turbo-charged diesel engine and noise-reducing measures on the vehicle body making it hushed enough to have conversations with your rear passengers, even when driving on motorways or rough roads.

And, although pace may not be the first thing on your mind when buying a pickup, this unit, mated to either a boxfresh six-speed manual transmission or auto version provides excellent performance and fuel economy - over 1000 mph, 42.8mpg and 173g/km CO2 emissions.

Behind the wheel, everything feels

solid and creature comforts are high in all models, with air conditioning, Bi Xenon headlamps, a switchable 4x4 system and enough passive and active safety kit to cover you for most eventualities; including seven airbags and trailer stability assist to name but a few.

You have to take your hat off to the new L200 it's smoother, quieter, faster and greener than its predecessor and with prices starting just below the £20k barrier (exc vat) the L200 is likely to win hearts like never before.

Car courtesy of Charles Warner Mitsubishi, Lincoln, Tel: 01622 806200.