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## **The New Golf GTI Australian Launch**

More than three decades after a small band of engineers started work on the first prototype Golf GTI, the very latest evolution and sixth generation of the original hot hatch has arrived.

The original Golf GTI was planned as a limited series of 5,000 cars. Since then – and five generations of Golf GTI later – more than 1.7 million have been sold worldwide.

The elements of the original Golf GTI remain; sharp dynamics, a responsive four-cylinder engine and driver involvement are at the core of the new Golf GTI. Yet it has evolved – the new Golf GTI is more powerful than any standard Golf GTI before it. However, the day-to-day usability of the new Golf GTI has not been forgotten and it is cleaner, safer and more efficient than ever before.

An advanced new 2.0-litre TSI turbocharged engine producing 155kW of power, linked to either a six-speed manual or 6-speed DSG transmission, is at the heart of the new Golf GTI. Despite the rise in power output, the new Golf GTI is assured of greater grip in all conditions thanks to Extended Electronic Differential Lock (XDL). The XDL improves traction and reduces the tendency to understeer. Unique springs and dampers combine with lowered suspension give new Golf GTI drivers the on-road experience they expect of the brand. In addition, Volkswagen's innovative optional Adaptive Chassis Control system, featuring electronically controlled damper units, is offered for the first time on the new Golf GTI. This allows the driver to select from normal, comfort or sport modes to define the desired suspension settings for any particular journey.



The mechanical changes are joined by subtle cosmetic additions. The basis of the new Golf GTI is the chassis structure of the new Golf, onto which is added an aggressive new front bumper.

This features a deep honeycomb air intake framed by vertical fog lights which sit below a new grille element adorned by a GTI badge. As with the new Golf, the new Golf GTI uses horizontal lines to make the new car appear lower and wider than it really is. In reality, the new Golf GTI is 27 mm wider than the car it replaces. At the rear, a diffuser is located between an all-new exhaust system with separated tailpipes to further lower the stance of the car. A subtle rear wing sits above a pair of smoked rear light lenses with a single "GTI" badge.

As with the entire new Golf range, the new Golf GTI features class-leading levels of safety with ABS (Anti-lock Braking System), ESP (Electronic Stabilisation Program) and seven airbags, including for the first time a driver's knee airbag, all standard. The new Golf GTI was awarded a maximum five-star rating by the EuroNCAP crash testing agency along with a maximum five-star safety rating by the Australasian New Car Assessment Program (ANCAP).