

* **Hottest Coupes of 2008**

Valentines Day – a day to forget the kids and cargo – and focus on the latest crop of sexy coupes. According to [Forbes](#), buyers of lower-cost coupes are often younger drivers who have yet to start a family, while costlier models tend to appeal to recent empty-nesters who are drawn to something with vehicular va-va-voom. But for the most part sales of many two-doors are declining. Fifteen years ago, 78 separate car lines were sold either exclusively or optionally as coupes. By comparison, just 31 coupes being sold in the U.S. for 2008. Coupes' status may be shrinking, but don't count them out just yet. At least two new models — the Dodge Challenger and [Smart ForTwo](#) — have created such buzz that thousands of eager buyers put down deposits before even seeing the final product. "A coupe can be a great addition to an automaker's line, especially if it's something that's more than just a two-door version of a sedan," says Francois Gravigny, an advisor with R.L. Polk. "If it's done well, it can help an automaker sell other vehicles." [Click here for the Hottest Coupes of 2008 slideshow.](#)

* <http://www.roadandtravel.com/automotive/buyersguides/2008buyersguide/2008awards/2008-entrylevel.aspx>