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# Renault Pulse - A Sportier Nissan Micra

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The French auto manufacturer, Renault had launched its first small car for the Indian market, the Pulse at the 2012 Auto Expo. The company had also arranged for a special preview of the model way back in October last year and we brought you a live coverage of the event, straight from the venue. The Pulse is Renault's take on the hotly competitive small car segment for the Indian auto market. Designed by the company's design studio located in Mumbai, the car does raise some eyebrows about its styling cues. Not that the car is badly styled, but I say it would raise eyebrows because of its very strong resemblance to the Nissan Micra. If you happen to keep a Pulse and a Micra side-by-side, I am sure you would say they look like brother and sister!

Well jokes apart, the exterior of the Pulse gets newly designed headlamps and a redesigned grille compared to the Micra. On the rear, though not much has been changed. The interiors also speak the same story. Going by the current diesel craze going on in the country, it seems Renault has decided to take full advantage of this opportunity. The Pulse is only offered in diesel, no petrol. The Pulse gets a 1.5 litre K9K engine that delivers a peak power of 64 PS at 4000 RPM and torque 160 Nm at 2000 RPM. It also comes with a class leading ARAI certified fuel efficiency figure of 23.08 kmpl. The engine is mated to a 5 speed manual transmission sending power to the front wheels.



The Pulse will be sold in the Indian market in 2 variants; the RxL and the RxZ which are priced at Rs. 5.77 lakhs and Rs. 6.25 lakhs respectively (all prices ex-showroom, Delhi). The top-of-line RxZ variant comes loaded with dual airbags, illuminated engine start-stop button, lock and unlocks sensing folding ORVM, automatic climate control, smart access key, leather wrapped steering wheel and gear knob, rear defogger with timer, roof spoiler and front fog lamps. It also gets 15 inch alloy wheels while the lower variant gets 14 inch ones. It will be offered in 6 colours; Pearl White, Metallic Red, Solid Black, Metallic Silver, Metallic Grey and Champagne Gold colours.

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