The Volvo S-line - a modern and elegant version of a classic model

S stands for Saloon.

Today, Volvo's customers have three modern variants of the classic four-door saloon to choose between:

The compact Volvo S40, the new Volvo S70 or the flagship, the Volvo S90, which is also available in a highly exclusive Royal/Executive version.

The Volvo S40, which was presented in the autumn of 1995, has made a strong entry in the strategic and economically important compact segment.

With its softer lines, the Volvo S40 was the first representative of Volvo's new design direction, which was further consolidated with the introduction of the Volvo S70, the Volvo V70 and the Volvo C70 Coupe and Convertible.

Attractive design, a high level of comfort and driving pleasure in combination with a large number of technical refinements and the freedom to personalise one's own individual car are all factors that contribute to the attraction of the Volvo S40.

When it comes to safety, the Volvo S40 has a structure and integrated safety system which – in combination with its advanced handling characteristics – ranks the model among the safest in its class.

The Volvo S40 was, among other things, the first compact car on the market with side airbags as standard. The advanced anti-spin system, DSA – Dynamic Stability Assistance – contributes to the car's outstanding driving safety.

The engines in the Volvo S40 are all four-cylinder members of Volvo's modular engine family. There are currently three petrol variants:

- 1.6 litres, 105 bhp with a torque of 143 Nm.
- 1.8 litres, 115 bhp, 165 Nm.
- 2.0 litres, 140 bhp, 183 Nm.

The Volvo S40 is also available with a smooth four-cylinder 1.9-litre, 90 bhp turbodiesel with a torque of 176 Nm.

The diesel engine is only available with manual transmission, while the petrol engines can be combined with either automatic or manual. Two chassis settings are available – one comfort version and one sporty version with stiffer springs.

The Volvo S70

The new Volvo S70, which was introduced just before the end of last year, represents the latest generation of the most award-winning car of the 1990s – the Volvo 850. More modern styling, a completely new interior and a total of more than 1,800 improvements make this car an exciting upgrade of its predecessor.

The front and rear ends of the Volvo S70 have the more rounded and elegant lines that have become the signature of the new Volvo. The new impression is achieved through the sloping, V-shaped bonnet which merges with the upright grille, the new headlamps and new bumper.

At the rear, the tail lamps have been made larger, at the same time as the boot has more modern lines. The rear bumper has also been redesigned.

A greater degree of colour-keying – with mouldings, rear mirrors and bumpers all painted in the same colour as the car body – also contributes to the overall impression of vitality. The level of standard equipment has also been raised in order to give better value for money.

New interior

The interior of the Volvo S70 is completely new and intended to create a greater sense of spaciousness, quality and comfort.

The dashboard is the same as in the Volvo C70, simple and functional in true Scandinavian style, with plenty of information from clear instruments. All the controls have been redesigned to be more pleasant to the touch and further enhance the sense of quality.

The new front seats feature improved vertical adjustment, more effective heating and new upholstery materials.

Even safer

Although the Volvo 850 was often called the safest car in the world, the safety level has been increased even further in the Volvo S70. The SIPS side-impact protection system has been strengthened, the pyrotechnical belt tensioners have been made even more effective, the collapsible steering column has been upgraded and greater protection has been added for the driver's knees.

Volvo has placed considerable emphasis on also upgrading the driving pleasure and dynamism that were hallmarks of the Volvo 850 – thanks to the unique Delta-link rear suspension, among other things. The main improvement in the Volvo S70 has been achieved by optimising the shock absorbers. There is also news on the engine front – where the customers have a wide choice of five-cylinder units from 126 bhp upwards. The 2.3-litre turbo engine has been raised from 225 bhp to 240 bhp and the torque has been increased at the same time from 300 to 330 Nm.

In the 2-litre turbo version, the power output has been increased from 210 bhp to 225 bhp, and the torque from 300 Nm to 310.

Volvo S70 customers have access to a flexible model system with extensive freedom to compose a car to suit their own preferences, needs and uses. There is, for example, the Volvo S70 TDI for those who prefer diesel, or the methane-driven Volvo S70 Bi-Fuel for the environmentally aware who has access to natural gas or biogas, or the Volvo S70 R for those who want extremely high performance in a first-class package.

The Volvo S90

Volvo's flagship, the Volvo S90, has been upgraded with a number of new comfort features in conjunction with the new model name, at the same time as the customers have a greater range of choice to personalise their cars.

New upholstery and new colours give a greater range of choice. The interiors are light, with different tones of grey and beige. The customers can choose from several different types of plush and leather. The Woodline trim in the dashboard, doors, centre console and steering wheel is available in two types: birch or walnut.

The most eye-catching change is the completely redesigned centre console. The gear lever, armrest, handbrake lever and other controls have been restyled and improved. The integrated cupholders have also been improved and the practical storage pockets in the front seats add extra convenience and comfort.

Improved, quieter air-conditioning with even more effective cooling is another important comfort enhancement.

There are a number of new products in the audio range in the form of upgraded radio units. The Volvo S90 is now available with the digital RTI road and traffic information system, which provides the driver with convenient access to the latest traffic information along with navigation assistance via a special display on top of the dashboard.

When it comes to the exterior, there are new alloy and chrome wheels in either 15" or 16".

There are also changes to the engine range. On all European markets, apart from Israel and eastern Europe, the six-cylinder 3-litre engine which has hitherto only been available for cars in North America is being introduced. This engine will replace the smaller 2.5-litre unit and is available with either automatic or manual transmission. The power output is 180 bhp and maximum torque is 260 Nm.

The Volvo S90 is, as before, also available with a six-cylinder 3-litre engine of 204-bhp and a maximum torque of 267 Nm.

The Volvo S90 Royal and Executive

The Royal and Executive models are at the top of the S90 range. Extended by 15 cm, they offer style and elegance in combination with generous space and outstanding comfort. The high level of equipment makes this car a very attractive choice, regardless of whether the customer has a chauffeur or drives it himself.