

Mercedes Benz Vaneo



RATING	SCORE	Front: 11	Side: 16
 ADULT OCCUPANT ★★☆☆☆	27		
 PEDESTRIAN ★★☆☆☆	10		

Adult occupant protection



Frontal impact driver



Frontal impact passenger



Side impact driver

■	GOOD
■	ADEQUATE
■	MARGINAL
■	WEAK
■	POOR

Child restraints

18 month old Child	Britax Roemer Duo, forward facing
3 year old Child	Britax Roemer Duo, forward facing

Pedestrian protection

No image car front available

Safety equipment

Front seatbelt pretensioners	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Front seatbelt load limiters	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Driver frontal airbag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Front passenger frontal airbag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Side body airbags	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Side head airbags	<input type="checkbox"/>
Driver knee airbag	<input type="checkbox"/>

Car details

Hand of drive	LHD
Tested model	Mercedes-Benz Vaneo 170 CDi
Body type	5 door MPV
Year of publication	2002
Kerb weight	1365
VIN from which rating applies	all Vaneos

Comments

The Vaneo is a small MPV based on the A-class, which did well in past Euro NCAP tests. No surprise then that the Vaneo picked up four stars for crash safety. Its body is strong and protects its occupants. However, the driver's upper torso fared better than his lower body did in the frontal impact. The Vaneo's high-set seating improves protection in the side impact. Small children were not sufficiently safeguarded in the frontal impact, although protection for their heads in the side impact was better.

Front impact

The Vaneo's cabin is strong and survived the impact well. As an indication of this, the driver's door could still be opened almost as normal afterwards. The Vaneo's airbags were untethered and not of the more complex dual-stage type that featured in some other cars tested, but they protected the driver's and front passenger's heads and necks well. However the airbags and seat belts did less to reduce chest injury. The area where the front occupants' knees might strike was clear of hazards, although the steering column presented risks. Finally, the centre rear seat had a three-point belt, which is much safer than a lap-only belt.

Side impact

High-set seats helped keep occupants away from harm. The door-mounted chest and abdomen airbag also reduced injury risks.

Child occupant

Mercedes-branded Romer Duo seats had recognition transponders which 'tell' the car when a seat is fitted on the front passenger seat and also indicate which way round it is. The car then turns off its passenger airbag if necessary. Both restraints attached to two-point ISOFIX mountings in the rear seats, but instructions provided with the seats were confusing. Both children's heads were protected in the frontal impact. But they risked chest and other injuries, particularly the younger child, who could have suffered neck injuries. However the seats worked well in the side impact.

Pedestrian

The steeply sloping bonnet helped reduce leg injuries and the large windscreen provided some protection for pedestrians' heads.