

## 2000 Nissan Altima



### **2000 Nissan Altima Receives Substantial Refinements, Providing Enhanced Handling, Comfort, Quietness, Value**

Though the second generation Nissan Altima was introduced only two years ago, the popular mid-size sedan reflects major changes for the 2000 model year, enhancing its competitiveness in the increasingly crowded mid-size sedan segment. The 2000 Altima continues to hold a unique position in the marketplace as a true "affordable luxury" sedan, but is now defined as much by its spirited performance and active safety abilities as its amenities, quality and competitive pricing.

Refinements to the 2000 Altima include a dozen styling modifications, more than 20 NVH (noise, vibration and harshness) improvements, 18 comfort and convenience enhancements, 11 engine hardware changes and a greatly revised suspension system - including the first original equipment manufacturer (OEM) passenger car application of acceleration-sensitive strut valving.

"It's unusual to make such an extensive hardware investment midway through a vehicle's product cycle. But with the introduction of the all-new 2000 Maxima and winter debut of an all-new 2000 Sentra, we wanted to pump up Altima's performance, luxury and value at the same time," said Jed Connelly, vice president and general manager, Nissan Division. "We now have the strongest sedan lineup in Nissan history - with Maxima, Altima and Sentra all feeling like they were cut from the same cloth."

First introduced as a 1993 model, Altima has been best-in-class in J.D. Power and Associates' Initial Quality Study (IQS) three of the past four years, an IntelliChoice "Best Overall Value" winner five straight years and a Consumer Digest "Best Buy" four times.

### **Exterior Design**

For 2000, the North America-designed Altima's exterior has been freshened with an aggressive new front fascia (with a distinctive lower treatment for the SE model), new grille and new integrated clear-lens headlights. The headlights include turn signals and cornering lamps in a one-piece, wrap-around design, giving Altima a longer, wider look. New clear lens foglights are standard on Altima SE and GLE models. The previous external radio antenna has been replaced by a rear window in-glass antenna for an improved overall appearance.

The vehicle's front end has been lowered seven millimeters, giving the new Altima a slightly pronounced rake. New 16-inch wheels with lower profile tires for the SE, GLE and GXE (optional) models (standard 15-inch wheels for XE, GXE) provide a smoother, sporty silhouette. In the rear, a revised fascia with new bright red taillights and a new rear deck lid finisher continue the wider, more elegant styling theme. Overall length has been increased slightly (+2.1 inches).

The 2000 Altima's coefficient of drag remains unchanged at a low 0.32. Body stiffness has been increased through use of a rear tunnel brace and front strut tower brace (on models with 16-inch wheels). Altima is assembled at Nissan Motor Manufacturing Corporation U.S.A. (NMMC) in Smyrna, Tenn., using the Intelligent Body Assembly System (IBAS) - the same method used to assemble the Infiniti Q45 - to produce panel fit accuracy within +/- 1.0 mm.

The 2000 Altima is offered in ten colors, including three new colors - Sandrift Beige, Alpine White Pearl and Green Emerald.

### **Interior Design**

Inside, the 2000 Altima receives new front seats for improved cushion and seatback comfort, revised seat cloth for GXE and SE models, a new combination instrument cluster (which includes a LCD odometer with dual trip meters) and numerous other refinements - including a new center console with dual level storage and dual rear cupholders (automatic transmission vehicles only), a vehicle immobilizer security system and redesigned sunvisors with available HomeLink™ Integrated Transceiver. Also offered are new audio units and an overhead sunglass storage compartment.

A Charcoal color cloth interior is now available in addition to the previously offered Dusk and Blonde interior colors.

Extensive attention was paid to reducing noise, vibration and harshness levels - including measurable improvements in wind, road and engine noise. Among the many NVH changes for 2000 are new outside mirror designs, use of expandable foam in the windshield pillars, roof rails, front doors and sills, thicker front door glass, new foam seals in the engine compartment, increased suspension mounting stiffness and a new driveshaft design with low friction joints (automatic transmission models).

### **Engine/Suspension**

The most noticeable differences a driver will feel between the 2000 Altima and the previous year's edition are in acceleration and handling. "The 2000 Altima feels much more spirited, from the first push of the throttle from a standing stop to the flatter cornering and firmer, sportier steering feedback," said Connelly.

For 2000, the front engine/front-wheel drive Altima's proven 2.4-liter in-line 4-cylinder powerplant has received subtle refinements that add up to a significant performance improvement - including a 0.8-second reduction in 0 to 60 mph acceleration (Nissan preliminary testing). Horsepower has been increased to a

class-leading 155 at 5,600 rpm, while torque is rated at 156 ft-lbs at 4,400 rpm.

For this power gain, the engine's cam profile has been changed to increase torque at low- to mid-range rpm levels. In addition, aluminum valve lifters, reshaped intake valves and reduced valve spring rates were adopted. The exhaust manifold was modified, and exhaust system backpressure has been reduced.

Dual-tipped platinum spark plugs with 100,000-mile service intervals have been added, and California-spec Altimas now meet California LEV emissions standards.

A 5-speed manual transmission is standard on Altima XE, GXE and SE models. Standard on Altima GLE and available on XE, GXE and SE is an electronically controlled 4-speed automatic transmission.

Both transmissions feature new final drive ratios (3.823:1 versus 3.650:1 manual, 4.087:1 versus 3.619:1 automatic) for quicker acceleration. First through third gear ratios have been revised on the manual transmission, and the automatic features a refined shift schedule to improve acceleration from slow speeds.

The 2000 Altima's responsive 4-wheel independent strut suspension with coil springs and rear Super Toe Control features an all-new acceleration-sensitive strut design developed by Monroe exclusively for Altima (available with 16-inch wheels and tires only). These struts automatically adjust dampening firmness, using an oil flow bypass valve to reduce compression damping at a preset vertical acceleration (0.5g), to improve handling without sacrificing ride quality.

Other changes include the addition of a front strut tower brace (16-inch wheel models), increased front and rear stabilizer bar diameters, increased front and rear spring rates (SE model) and low profile 16-inch tires (205/55R16).

Steering is provided by a power rack-and-pinion design. Both the power steering pump and steering gear have been refined to provide a firmer, sportier steering feel. Altima XE, GXE and GLE models offer power-assisted front disc/rear drum brakes, with 4-wheel discs standard on the SE model. Optional on GXE, SE and GLE models is a 4-channel/4-sensor Anti-lock Braking System (ABS).

## **Safety**

Standard safety equipment includes second generation dual front supplemental air bags, as well as child safety rear door locks, child safety anchors and pipe-style steel side-door guard beams. Every Altima features 3-point front and rear seat belts (now including the center rear position) with standard pretensioners on the height-adjustable front belts. Front seat supplemental side-impact air bags are now offered as standard equipment on the GLE model and optional on GXE and SE models. An Immobilizer Enhancement System is optional on GLE and SE models.

## **Model Availability**

Four models of Altima are again available for 2000: the entry level XE, value-oriented GXE, luxurious GLE and sporty SE. In addition to separate options, three special option packages are offered: the XE Option Package, the GXE Value Option Package (VOP) and GXE Appearance and Convenience Package.

### 2000 Altima Specifications & Features

ENGINE	XE	GXE	SE	GLE
KA24DE 2.4-liter DOHC 16-valve 4-cylinder engine with cast iron block and aluminum head	•	•	•	•
Displacement	2.4-liter/2,389cc			
Horsepower (SAE net)	155 hp @ 5,600 rpm			
Torque (SAE net in ft-lbs)	156 ft-lbs @ 4,400 rpm			
Bore X stroke (inches)	3.50 X 3.78			
Bore X stroke (millimeters)	89.0 X 96.0			
Compression ratio	9.2:1			
Induction system	Sequential multi-point fuel injection			
Valvetrain	DOHC, 4-valves-per-cylinder, direct acting			
Recommended fuel	Unleaded regular			
Emissions system	EGR, oxygen sensor, catalyzer			
Maximum engine speed	6,100 rpm			
DRIVETRAIN				
Drive configuration	Front engine, transverse mounted/ front-wheel drive			
Transmission type	5-speed manual or electronically controlled 4-speed automatic transmission			

Gear ratios		4-speed automatic	5-speed manual	
	1st	2.785	3.400	
	2nd	1.545	1.955	
	3rd	1.000	1.272	
	4th	0.694	0.954	
	5th	--	0.740	
	reverse	2.272	3.428	
Final drive ratio ( :1)		4.087	3.823	
Differential type	Conventional			
<b>BODY, SUSPENSION AND STEERING</b>				
Body type	All-steel unibody with DURASTEEL® , high-tensile steel and Bake-Hard steel			
Front suspension	Subframe mounted, independent, MacPherson struts with coil springs, 21.0 mm stabilizer bar			
Rear suspension	Independent MacPherson struts with coil springs and Super Toe Control, 16.0 mm stabilizer bar			
Steering ratio	17.0:1			
Turning circle (curb-to-curb in feet)	37.4			
Turns (lock-to-lock)	2.7			
Steering type	Power-assisted rack-and-pinion steering			
<b>BRAKES</b>	<b>XE</b>	<b>GXE</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>GLE</b>
Front: Power-assisted 11.02-inch vented discs with audible brake-wear warning sensor	•	•	•	•
Rear: Power-assisted 9.0-inch drums	•	•	-	•

Rear: Power-assisted 10.16-inch disc	-	-	•	-
4-channel/4-sensor Anti-lock Braking System (ABS)	-	o	o	o
<b>ELECTRICAL</b>	<b>XE</b>	<b>GXE</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>GLE</b>
Electronic ignition system	•	•	•	•
100 amp alternator	•	•	•	•
Low-maintenance 12-volt, 49 amp-hour battery	•	•	•	•
<b>WHEELS AND TIRES</b>	<b>XE</b>	<b>GXE</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>GLE</b>
15-inch steel wheels with covers (6.0JJ X 15)	•	•	-	-
16-inch aluminum-alloy wheels (6.0JJ X 16)	-	o	•	•
P195/65-15 all-season steel-belted radial tires	•	•	-	-
P205/60-15 all-season steel-belted radial tires	-	o	-	-
P205/55-16 all-season steel-belted radial tires	-	o	•	•
<b>EXTERIOR DIMENSIONS</b>				
Wheelbase (in inches)	103.1			
Overall length (in inches)	185.8			
Overall width (in inches)	69.1			
Overall height (in inches)	55.9			
Front track width (in inches)	59.3			
Rear track width (in inches)	58.9			
Trunk liftover height (in inches)	29.1			
Minimum ground clearance (in inches)	4.1			
Coefficient of Drag (Cd)	0.32			

EXTERIOR FEATURES AND OPTIONS	XE	GXE	SE	GLE
Flush-mounted multi-parabola halogen headlights	•	•	•	•
Body-color front grille bar	-	-	•	-
Chrome front grille bar	•	•	-	•
Green-tinted glass with dark-tint upper windshield band	•	•	•	•
Energy-absorbing body-color front and rear bumpers	•	•	•	•
Dual black power outside mirrors	•	-	-	-
Dual body-color power outside mirrors	-	•	•	•
Body-color door handles	•	•	•	•
Chrome side window moldings	•	•	•	•
Fog lights	-	-	•	•
Body-color rear spoiler	-	o	•	o
Power sliding glass sunroof with tilt feature and vented sliding sunshade	-	o	o	o
INTERIOR DIMENSIONS	Front		Rear	
Head room (in inches)	39.4		37.7	
Leg room (in inches)	42.0		33.9	
Hip room (in inches)	52.5		52.6	
Shoulder room (in inches)	55.7		54.8	
INTERIOR FEATURES AND OPTIONS	XE	GXE	SE	GLE
Contoured 4-way adjustable front bucket seats with adjustable head restraints	•	-	-	-

8-way manual adjustable driver's seat	-	•	•	-
8-way power adjustable front seats with driver's lumbar support adjustment (SE requires leather seat option)	-	-	0	•
Adjustable lumbar support	-	-	•	•
Cloth seat trim	•	•	•	-
Leather seating surfaces (sporty perforated on SE)	-	-	0	•
Rear seat center armrest with trunk pass-through	-	-	•	0
60/40 split fold-down rear seat	-	•	•	•
Leather-wrapped steering wheel and manual transmission shift knob	-	-	•	•
Full cut-pile carpeting	•	•	•	•
Dual front-door map pockets	•	•	•	•
Large center console box with tissue storage, CD (9), cassette (12) storage and credit card case with armrest-style console lid	•	•	•	•
Dual cup holders	•	•	•	•
<b>CAPACITIES</b>				
Seating capacity	5			
Interior passenger volume (cu. ft.)	94.0			
Cargo volume (cu. ft.)	13.8			
Fuel tank (gals.)	15.9			
Engine coolant (qts.)	7.0			
Engine oil (qts.)	3.63			
Maximum towing capacity (lbs.)	1,000			
<b>CURB WEIGHTS (lbs.)</b>	<b>XE</b>	<b>GXE</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>GLE</b>



Manual transmission		2,851	2,945	2,962	N/A
Automatic transmission		2,933	3,027	3,044	3,057
Weight distribution (front / rear %)	Manual trans.	61/39	61/39	61/39	N/A
Automatic trans.		62/38	62/38	62/38	62/38
COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE FEATURES AND OPTIONS		XE	GXE	SE	GLE
CFC-free air conditioning		-	o	•	•
Power windows with driver-side one touch auto-down feature		•	•	•	•
COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE FEATURES AND OPTIONS, CONT.		XE	GXE	SE	GLE
Power door locks		-	o	•	•
Cruise control with steering wheel-mounted controls		o	•	•	•
Remote trunk, fuel filler door and hood releases		•	•	•	•
Tilt steering column		•	•	•	•
2-speed wipers		•	•	-	-
Variable intermittent wipers		-	-	•	•
Electric rear window defroster with timer		•	•	•	•
Side-window demisters		•	•	•	•
Remote keyless entry and Vehicle Security System		-	o	•	•
Locking glove compartment		-	•	•	•
Dual visor vanity mirrors (passenger's-side only on XE)		-	•	•	-

Dual illuminated visor vanity mirrors	-	-	-	•
Interior courtesy lights - overhead, trunk and glove compartment	•	•	•	•
<b>AUDIO SYSTEMS</b>	<b>XE</b>	<b>GXE</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>GLE</b>
Electronically tuned 60-watt AM/FM/CD 4-speaker audio system, Dolby® Noise Reduction, automatic metal tape capability, automatic program, clock display	0	0	-	-
Electronically tuned 120-watt AM/FM/cassette/CD 6-speaker audio system, Dolby® Noise Reduction, automatic metal tape capability, automatic program, clock display	-	0	•	•
In-glass antenna	-	0	•	•
<b>SAFETY AND SECURITY FEATURES</b>	<b>XE</b>	<b>GXE</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>GLE</b>
Dual air bags	•	•	•	•
Front seat side airbags	-	0	0	•
Remote keyless entry and Vehicle Security System	-	0	•	•
Immobilizer anti-theft system with indicator light	•	•	•	•
Pipe-style steel side-door guard beams	•	•	•	•
Child safety rear door locks	•	•	•	•
Child seat anchors (3 in rear seat)	•	•	•	•
3-point seat belts in all seating locations	•	•	•	•
ALR/ELR seat belt system for all seating positions (ELR only driver's position)	•	•	•	•
Front seat belts with pretensioners and adjustable upper anchors	•	•	•	•
Shift interlock system	•	•	•	•

Hood buckling creases and safety stops		•	•	•	•
Body side reinforcements		•	•	•	•
Energy-absorbing steering column		•	•	•	•
Front and rear crumple zones		•	•	•	•
EPA MILEAGE ESTIMATES		XE	GXE	SE	GLE
Manual transmission	City	23	23	23	N/A
Highway		31	31	31	N/A
Automatic transmission	City	21	21	21	21
Highway		28	28	28	28
INSTRUMENTATION		XE	GXE	SE	GLE
Speedometer, coolant temperature gauge		•	•	•	•
Tachometer		•	•	•	•
Dual trip odometer		•	•	•	•
White-faced electroluminescent speedometer and tachometer gauges		-	-	•	-
Digital quartz clock (in audio display)		•	•	•	•
FACTORY OPTIONS & PACKAGES		XE	GXE	SE	GLE
Anti-lock Braking System (ABS) (requires side air bags for GXE and SE)		-	0	0	0
Power sliding glass sunroof (requires appearance and convenience package on GXE)		-	0	0	0
Leather seat trim/8-way power driver's seat with adjustable lumbar support and rear seat center arm rest		-	-	0	•
XE Option Package - includes 100-watt AM/FM/CD audio system, CFC-free air conditioning and cruise control					

	o	-	-	-
GXE Appearance and Convenience Package — 100-watt AM/FM/cassette/CD 6-speaker audio system, 16-inch alloy wheels, strut tower brace, luxury-tuned sport suspension and cargo net	-	o	-	-
GXE Value Option Package — CFC-free air conditioning, 100-watt AM/FM/CD 4-speaker audio system, cruise control, power door locks, remote keyless entry, 15-inch all-season radial tires, variable intermittent wipers, dual illuminated visor vanity mirrors, glove compartment lock and lamp, rear cupholders/rear power point (A/T), phone storage compartment (A/T), dual overhead map lamps, sunglass holder, battery saver system, slant cut tailpipe, illuminated entry/exit fade out system	-	o	-	-
Color-keyed spoiler	-	o	•	o
Splash guards	-	o	o	o
Electronically controlled 4-speed automatic overdrive transmission	o	o	o	•
Front seat side airbags	-	o	o	•
Immobilizer enhancement system	-	-	•	•
<b>DEALER INSTALLED ACCESSORIES</b>				
Rear spoiler kit, 15-inch aluminum-alloy wheels, splash guards, nose mask, floor mats, convenience net, 10-disc CD autochanger (trunk-mounted), sunroof wind deflector, battery warmer, car cover/cable lock, engine heater, wheel locks, trunk mat, cigarette lighter, gold badging, fog lights				
		•	Standard Equipment	
		o	Optional Equipment	

	- Not Available
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