



Safety Benefits

Bumper Support System

Vehicle compatibility for SUVs has received a tremendous amount of negative press. The Touareg's lower bumper support system matches the lower level of the bumpers found in other vehicles. This helps prevent serious injury to passengers of smaller cars.

Rigid Body Structure

Extremely high crash requirements were taken into account during the Touareg's development to provide protection for both passengers and pedestrians. The body is designed to the highest safety standards, including a very high level of energy absorption by the front end of the vehicle. These high standards are in part accomplished through the use of aluminum as found in the hood, and plastic components as found in the front and rear bumper covers and front fenders. The aluminum hood is light and provides optimum deformation characteristics in the event of an accident. A fully galvanized construction with even distribution of torsional rigidity caters to optimal safety.

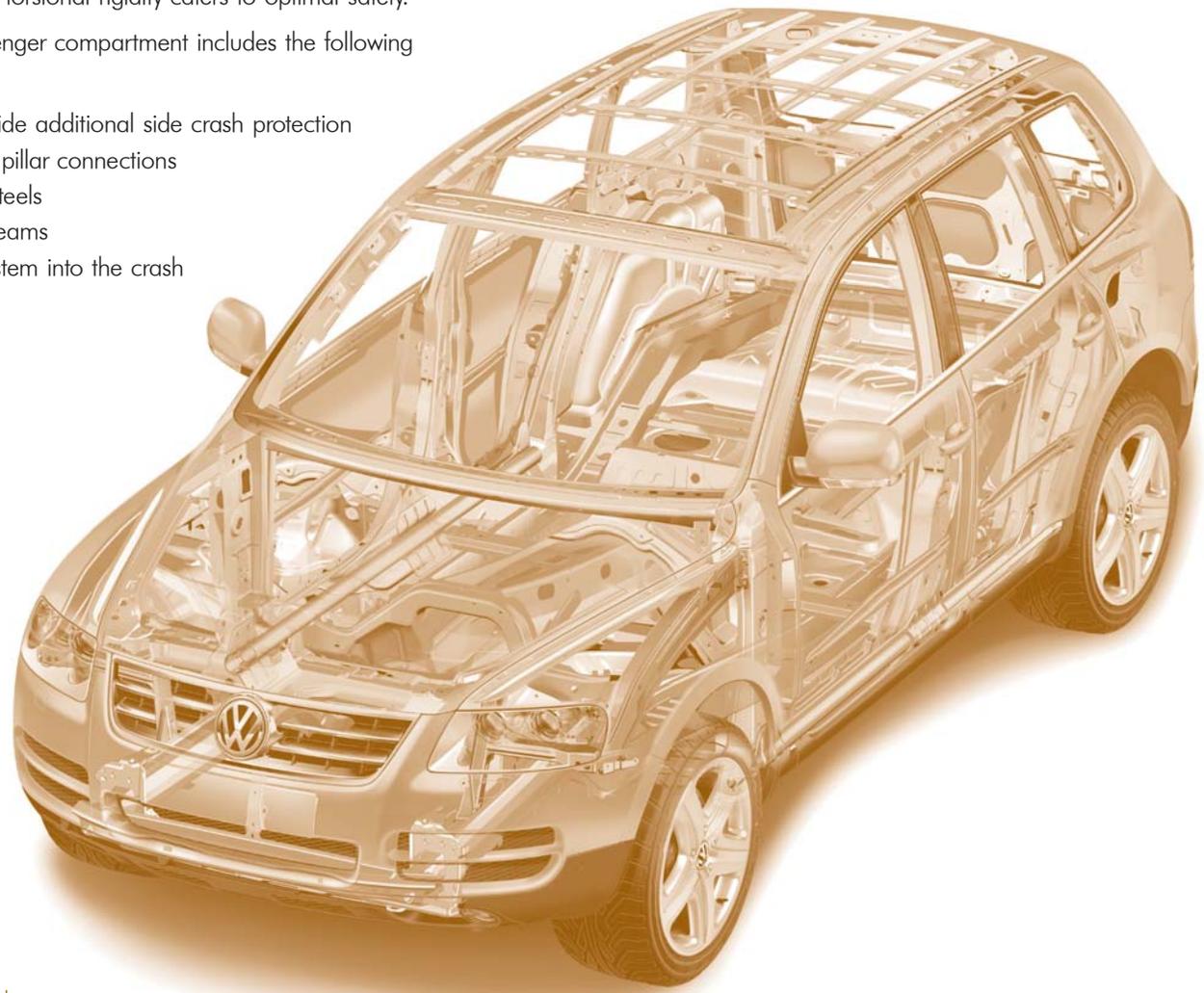
The exceptionally rigid passenger compartment includes the following protective measures:

- Tubes in the sills that provide additional side crash protection
- Extremely rigid pillars and pillar connections
- The use of high-strength steels
- The use of laser-welded seams
- Integration of the door system into the crash structure

Pedestrian Injury Protection

With the advanced pedestrian injury protection measures, the Touareg complies with future automobile safety requirements. Two examples are the engine hood, which is made of aluminum so that a better deformation pattern can be achieved, and the energy-absorbing plastic fenders which further help to reduce the risk of pedestrian injury. In short, the vehicle body is designed in such a manner that it deforms strategically and quickly reduces energy.

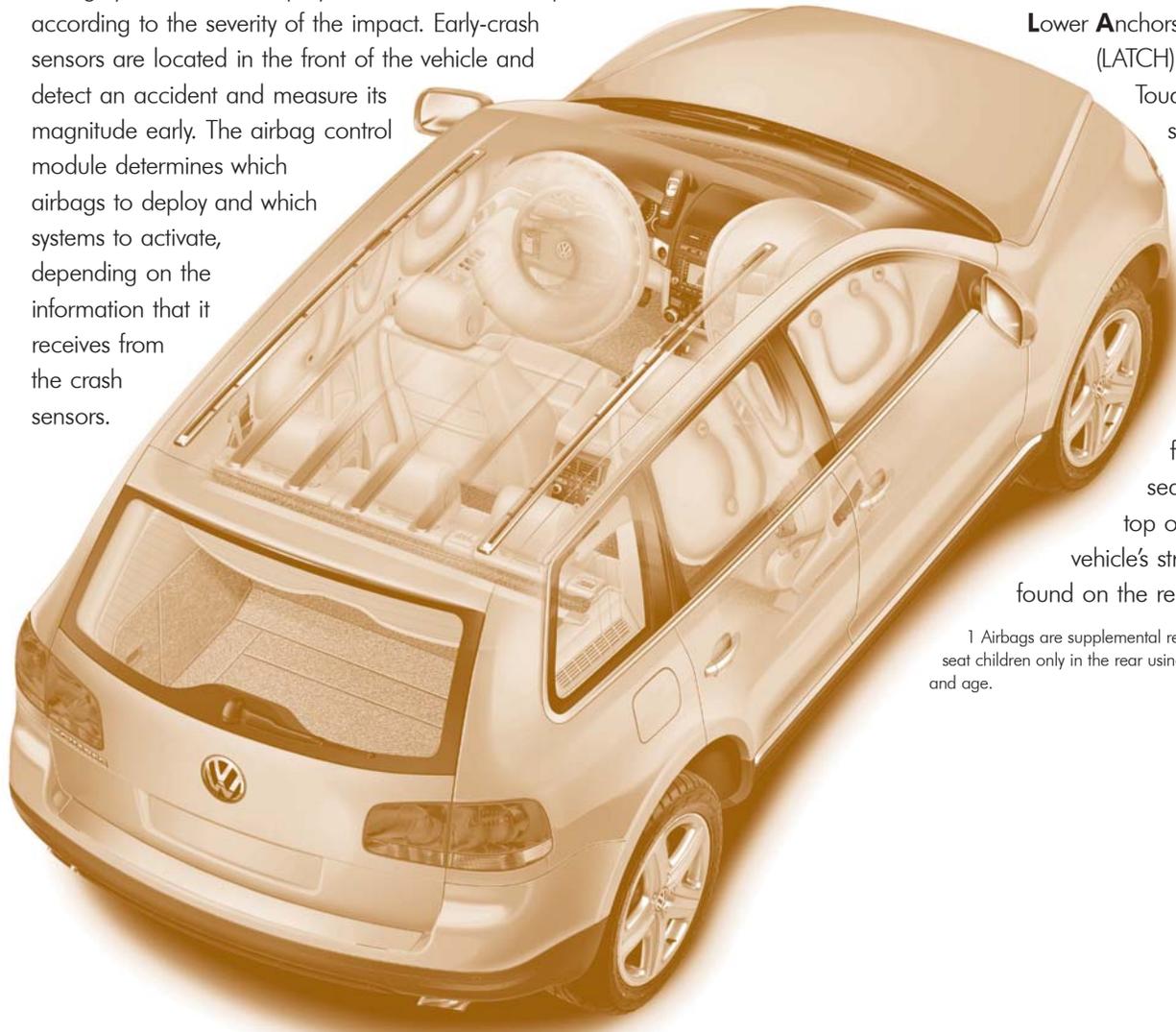
Overall, the crash behavior of the Touareg is unusually first-rate for a vehicle of its kind.



Supplemental Restraint System¹

The interior of the Touareg features a supplemental restraint system that consists of front and side airbags for the driver and front passenger, and a Side Curtain Protection™ system for the front and rear seat occupants. Side Curtain Protection consists of airbags that cover the entire window surface between the A and C pillars on each side of the vehicle.

The front seat occupants are protected by an adaptive, two-stage airbag system that will deploy at either one of two speeds according to the severity of the impact. Early-crash sensors are located in the front of the vehicle and detect an accident and measure its magnitude early. The airbag control module determines which airbags to deploy and which systems to activate, depending on the information that it receives from the crash sensors.



Seat Belts

All seats, including the center rear seat, have three-point seat belts and head restraints. Seat belt tensioners are included for all outboard seats. The driver and front passenger also have belt force limiters which means that during a collision, the belts are at first tensioned to provide early binding of the passengers to the vehicle structure. After a certain belt force has been attained, the belt relaxes a bit, resulting in a reduction of collision energy. In addition, belt height adjustability ensures proper positioning and thus further safety.

Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children (LATCH)

are incorporated in the Touareg to meet high child safety standards. Lower anchors secure a LATCH-equipped child restraint in the rear seat without the use of the vehicle's safety belt. They provide a secure attachment system for child restraint installation in the rear outboard seats. Tethers further limit the forward movement of a child seat in a crash. They attach the top of the child restraint to the vehicle's structure. Tether attachments are found on the rear side of the seat back.

¹ Airbags are supplemental restraints only. Always use safety belts and seat children only in the rear using restraint systems appropriate for their size and age.

"...a serious challenge to some of the best SUVs on the road."
— *The Car Connection*
October 7, 2002

Intelligent Crash Response

The Touareg's protection system continues to act even after a possible accident. As soon as a defined crash severity is exceeded or the airbags are triggered, the following occur:

- All doors unlock automatically.
- The battery is isolated from the generator cable.
- The HVAC system and all other high-power electrical units are shut off.
- The fuel supply is cut off.
- The hazard lights turn on.

Headlights

Both the standard halogen lights and optional bi-xenon headlights are assembled behind clear-glass optics in a mirror-coated module. The bi-xenon headlights offer superbly controlled even lighting, to illuminate the darkest of roads. In addition, there are practical aspects like the long lifespan of the xenon lamps and low-energy consumption. The turn signal and the side marker lamp are also integrated into the headlamp assembly for higher visibility.



A special system takes care of cleaning the headlights, which is effective at any speed and does not dim the light from the headlights while it is in operation. The system consists of extendable cleaning nozzles and high-pressure cleaning jets that do the cleaning and rinsing.

Other safety features include LED turn indicators in the side mirrors for better visibility, and a sensor (selectable on the light knob if desired), which automatically switches on the headlights and rear lights when driving through tunnels or at twilight.



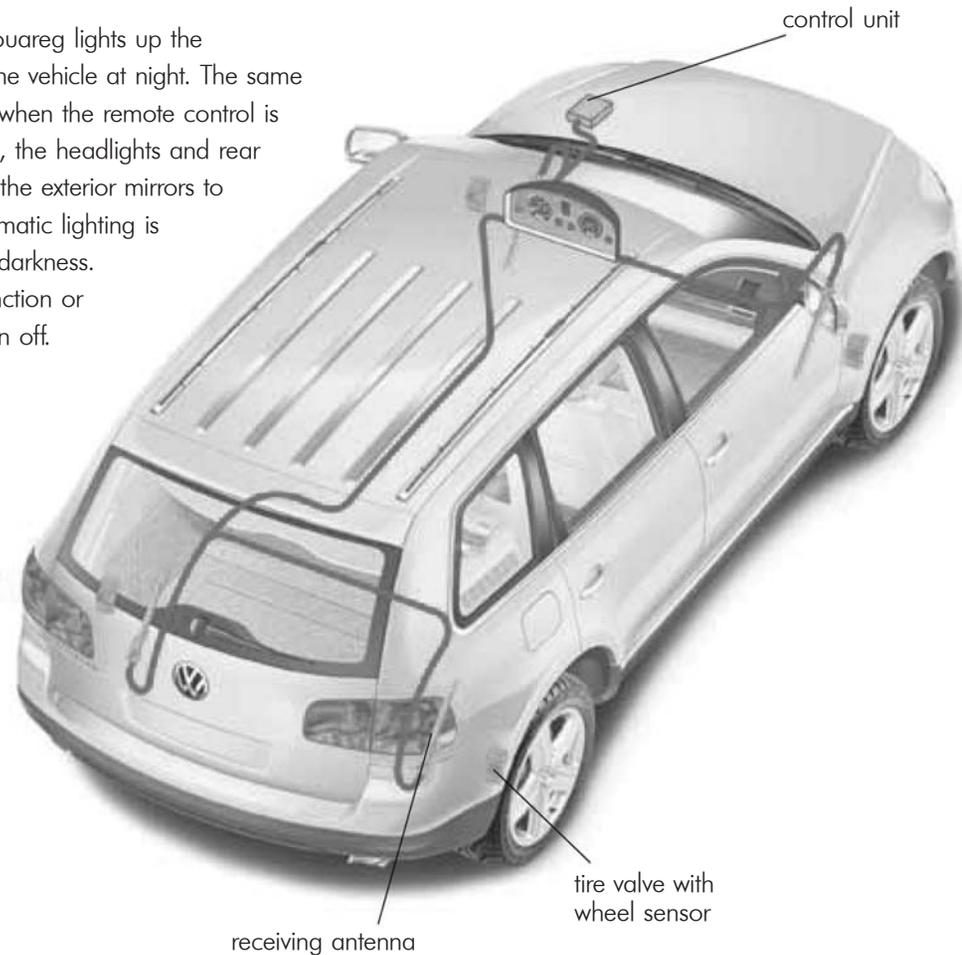
Tire Pressure Monitoring System

The standard tire pressure monitoring system continuously monitors tire pressure. Electronic sensors in the tire valves and the receiving antennas in the wheel housings transmit data to a control unit which monitors tire pressure. When tire pressure needs correction, the system gives a visual and audible alarm.

The tire pressure monitoring system makes it possible to always have optimal air pressure, resulting in minimized tire wear, less fuel consumption, and of course, a safer ride.

Surround Lighting

With the Coming Home function, the Touareg lights up the surrounding area when the driver exits the vehicle at night. The same occurs with the Leaving Home function when the remote control is used to unlock the doors. In both cases, the headlights and rear lights combine with the bottom lights in the exterior mirrors to light up the surrounding area. This automatic lighting is in response to a sensor that checks for darkness. If desired, the driver can turn off this function or set the time delay at which the lights turn off.



Compressed Air Connection

When tire inflation is necessary, a compressed air connection is available in vehicles with or without air suspension.

