



Matt White

Diecast Report

Kyosho Cadillac CTS

With European styling, this is not your father's Cadillac.



The styling of this vehicle is up to the minute and is as far removed from its ancestors as it is possible to be. There are no outrageous fins, no white wall tires and little chrome to speak of on its bodywork. It could have come from any of the finest design studios of Europe. But it does not, because these finely chiseled, sharp lines belong to a Cadillac!

Kyosho, the Japanese manufacturer who is already well known for its impressive range of European and Japanese diecast replicas has announced this 1/18 scale version of the 2009 Cadillac CTS sedan.

First unveiled in 2003, the CTS was the first in a new generation of Cadillacs, designed to appeal to a younger buyer. At the time of its release, the CTS was a radical new departure for the brand compared to more traditional Cadillac. Time has seen its styling carried throughout the rest of the Cadillac line. The CTS has attained its goal, challenging the smaller executive sedans from Europe yet retaining an American feel and identity.

The Kyosho version of the sporty sedan is offered in Crystal Red and Metallic Black. Both are genuine colors from the Cadillac palette, which happen to suit the wedgy lines of the sedan particularly well. The applied paintwork on the replica has a deep gloss with a great level of finish. Befitting its status, the CTS is also fitted with an operating sunroof.

The prominent V-shaped nose has now become a Cadillac trademark and is dominated by the large chrome grille with horizontal bars that feature photo-etched detail and a centrally mounted Cadillac crest. The front lights have patterned glass and are well modeled.



Body features, such as the pumped guards and vents in the front wings, are faithfully replicated.

Opening the hood you find the scale version of the 3.6 liter direct injection V6 that develops 304hp. The motor sits in a fully decorated engine bay that has very good detailing—quality that can also be seen in the Cadillac badge, warning labels and realistic finishes.

Entering the sumptuous interior of the diecast is easy



once the four doors are opened. Kyosho has incorporated a high level of finish in the model courtesy of the variety of



applied finishes. Molded in a two-tone coloring, the dashboard is nicely patterned, while the wood-grain trim adds a touch of class. Switches and controls are finely detailed, and the opening glove box and center console armrest add a touch of realism. Flocked floor covering and nicely molded imitation leather seating, combined with the fabric seatbelts and photo etched buckles, complete the quality feel of the replica's interior.

Inside the spacious, fully lined trunk is the spare tire, which is optional on the real thing. The correct red lenses for production will replace the clear taillights on the sup-



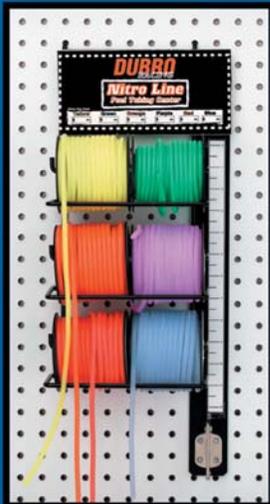
plied pre-production sample. Also fitted to the trunk lid of the Cadillac is a small rear spoiler.

Many collectors will enjoy the touch and feel factor, which is provided by the operating suspension and poseable front wheels of the undercarriage. Kyosho has also fitted a rotating drive shaft. The chrome wheel and low profile tire combination is well matched to the vehicle and looks right at home!

To see a current American road car modeled is a rarity from one of the larger manufacturers. The modern styling of this a model will make it look great in any collection. With a guaranteed future within the new GM range in 1:1 scale, the Cadillac CTS by Kyosho will become a must have for collectors. **HM**

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