

Thatcham Research 1st

BMW 4 series convertible



New convertible derived from BMW 3-series platform, larger but lighter than the previous convertible.

MANUFACTURERS:

ALFA ROMEO
AUDI
BENTLEY
BMW
CADILLAC
CHEVROLET
CHRYSLER/JEEP
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FIAT
FORD
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HONDA
HYUNDAI
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SUZUKI
TATA
TOYOTA
VAUXHALL
VW
VOLVO
OTHERS

OTHER CAT.:

REPAIR
SAFETY
GENERAL



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Structure :

As derived from the 3-series, the 4-series convertible will feature a press-hardened B-post reinforcement, Advanced HSS through the screen pillars and header rail, front bulkhead over the transmission tunnel, sill reinforcements, and for the rear floor, cross-member and chassis leg closings. The rest of the structure features a high percentage ($\approx 60\%$) of High Strength Steels. Based on the modular platform set, the rear floor will be a unique module to the cabriolet. With the new platform the new car has a wheelbase that is longer than the outgoing 3 series convertible and is longer overall at 4,638mm. Like the 4 series coupe, the convertible is 10mm lower to the road and with a wider track than the 3 series.

Joining in production is predominantly by spot welding, but the cabriolet features ≈ 50 metres of adhesive bonding and nearly 4 metres of laser welding in key areas such as the bulkhead over the transmission tunnel.

The result is a body structure with a rigidity as much as 40% improved over the 3-series cabriolet it replaces, and with weight still decreased by $\approx 20\text{kg}$.

The convertible roof itself is a 3 piece unit that is available in Black, Chrome, or Satin and can be lowered or raised, whilst the car is driving at speeds up to 8mph, in just 20 seconds.



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Technology :

Adaptive headlamps (£360) and adaptive LED headlamps (£1,600) are available as an option on all models.

Head-up Display is available as an option on all models. This projects driving information into the driver's view so that the driver does not need to look away from the road.

An Advanced Parking Package is available on all (£545 option), which adds a rear camera to assist reversing. This can be combined with the folding, auto-dimming door mirrors (optional, £300), as part of a Surround-view package £500.

The 4-series can be specified with a Lane departure warning system, (the auto-dimming door mirrors need to be specified too). The optional (£620) Active Cruise Control with Stop & Go is an ACC system that maintains the distance set from the vehicle ahead, adapting speed via throttle and brake control down to a complete stop if required. This system requires the Automatic Transmission (£1,550) or Sports Automatic Transmission (£1,690).

As a convertible the 4-series can feature the Air Collar system to channel warm air to the neck and shoulders of front seat occupants. BMW Professional Media package (£990) includes connected services such as BMW emergency-call, satellite navigation, remote connection to the car via a smartphone and online connections.





Trim levels : SE, Sport,
Modern, Luxury, M Sport

All models have as standard: heated front seats, xenon headlamps, front and rear parking sensors and a 6.5" TFT screen with BMW iDrive Controller.

SE : feature 17" 5-spoke alloy wheels, a chrome surround with black slats for the kidney grille and a matt aluminium finish to the front wing vents. The interior is finished in black or beige leather with silver finishers.

Sport : can be recognised by high gloss front and rear bumper finishers and 19" 5 x triple spoke alloy wheels. The interior features red-leather heated seats and is finished in brushed aluminium.

Modern : matt chrome front and rear bumper finishers and grille slats and 19" Turbine alloy wheels. The interior is finished in Dakota leather in Oyster colour and finished in Anthracite wood trim. The front seats are heated as standard.

Luxury : bright chrome finishers for the front and rear bumpers, bright chrome grille slats and 19" multi-spoke alloy wheels. The interior features 'Saddle Brown' leather seats and trim, finished with Ash wood. This model also includes the BMW Professional Media Package as standard.

M Sport : finished in Estoril Blue, with high gloss black kidney grille slats and front wing air vents. The front bumper cover and the side sill skirts are unique to this model; the interior features black leather with blue highlights and aluminium trim finishers.





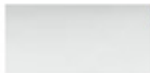









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Paint colours:

Alpine White or Jet Black are standard colours, with the metallic colours a £645 option).

	Alpine White		Jet Black		Melbourne Red
	Sapphire Black		Glacier Silver		Imperial Blue Xirallic
	Orion Silver		Mineral White		Midnight Blue
	Mineral Grey		Sparkling Brown		Liquid Blue

Powertrains :

435i – six-cylinder, twin turbo-charged petrol engine, 306bhp with 400Nm of torque.

428i – four-cylinder, twin turbo-charged petrol engine, 245bhp with 380Nm of torque.

420d – four-cylinder, turbo-diesel engine, 184bhp with 380Nm of torque.

A 6-speed manual transmission is standard on all models, with an optional 8-speed automatic transmission with paddle shift capability.

Aluminium is extensively used in the suspension, primarily to reduce weight, and the suspension control arms are arranged and positioned differently to the 3 series so that the 4 series has a lower centre of gravity for stability.

The M Sport models have a firmer damper and spring setting, with stiffer anti-roll bars, unique to the 4 series convertible. This is available as an option for other non M Sport models for £315, or £750 for an Adaptive system.

