



SEX APPEAL: MotorMania correspondent Itumeleng Motuba shines next to the new Renault GTline coupé

Picture: HALDEN KROG

# Megane's red-carpet ride

By ITUMELENG MOTUBA

Eat your heart out Gisele Bündchen, when I am sitting pretty driving the new Renault Megane GTline, I also feel just like a supermodel on the runway

**I** HAVE always respected the French for their alluring arts, yummy food, amazing wines — and for producing some of the world's most sought-after fashion designers.

So, after several years of scepticism, I now feel the French have finally put that designing artistry to work in making such a beautiful car that it deserves to be on a red-carpeted runway. The new Renault Megane GTLine Coupé is actually so jaw-droopingly gorgeous it is almost scary.

To top it all, once you get into the car there is an instant love affair — you feel as if you could fall asleep in it.

The whole interior absorbs you and you end up sitting — on beautiful detailed sports seats — quite silly and smiling to yourself.

It also drives like a dream, and, to make it even more exciting, the smart Renault engineers have included a system in the car that tells you when it is best to shift gears, giving you the best performance, and saving you fuel at the same time.

There is a six-speed gearbox that gets to up to a pretty decent speed and it also comes with a useful TomTom GPS, which is fairly easy to use.

But as I delved further, I was reminded of the French love for abstract art because trying to figure out how things function on the GTLine, is really a bit tricky.

After several days, you finally discover the controls for the radio/music player are behind your steering wheel — it's like cracking some top-secret government code. There is a built in Bluetooth hands-free set, which will probably also take you a day to figure out. This is where this motoring



BEND IT: Renault's new GTlines, pictured here is the hatchback, drives like a dream — in the city or on the long road

journalists put her shame aside and picked up the manual. Okay, I admit beautiful things are often not functional or practical.

It is that type of car, just as those six-inch Jimmy Choo heels you practically cannot walk in but gets compliments from everyone Space is not bad, considering the GTLine is, in fact, a coupé. Although, if

you have extremely tall friends and you are tall yourself, I suggest you tell them to come in their own cars: four sexy French models will definitely not be comfortable in this car. Boot space is decent, though, and the Megane GTline makes you a feel you are driving a car worth more. It is really reasonably priced — R250 000 for the GTline hatch and R260 000

for the coupé.

So if you are a social-type and love to dress up, you have found the perfect accessory to complement everything else about your style. It even made me feel like a supermodel!

So eat your heart out Gisele Bündchen, who needs a ramp anyway — in the new Megane GTlines the whole world is one big runway.



## THE SPECS

<b>Megane GT-Line Coupé</b>	(claimed)
<b>Engine:</b> 1 397cc four-cylinder turbo	<b>Fuel consumption:</b> 6.6l/100km (claimed/combined)
<b>Power:</b> 96kW at 5 500rpm	<b>CO<sub>2</sub>:</b> 145g/k1
<b>Torque:</b> 190Nm at 2 250rpm	<b>Price:</b> R259 000
<b>0-100km/h:</b> 9.6 seconds	
<b>Top speed:</b> 208km/h	