

MEDIA ALERT

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NEW TOP GEAR IMPRESSES CRITICS IN THE UK



The new season of *Top Gear*, premiering in Australia this Sunday on BBC Knowledge at 8.30pm, has received positive reviews from both press and audiences in the UK. The first episode featured James McAvoy in a revamped 'star in a reasonably fast car'.

He is the first celebrity to appear in this segment, which instead of using an old hatchback, sees him take a reasonably fast car, in this case the Toyota GT86, for a spin around a very wet track, following some coaching from Chris Harris. David Tennant will be the next star to test out his driving skills.

In studio, James revealed how he drove on film sets for years without a license.

'I played a car thief in *Shameless* and had to drive many beautiful cars and nobody ever asked me if I had a driver's license, so I didn't offer it up. I didn't get a driver's license till six years later,' said James.

Gizmodo UK

'If last night's show was a sign of things to come, then *Top Gear* could be taxiing back into pole position amongst the BBC's crown jewels.'

The Telegraph

'It would seem official then – *Top Gear* is back, with a lot more miles left on the clock than anyone suspected.'

Digital Spy

'Judging from one episode of series 24, we're hopeful that *Top Gear* is back on track.'

Huffington Post

'From the off, it was immediately clearly that the new team of Matt LeBlanc, Chris Harris and Rory Reid, has worked tirelessly to play to its strengths.'

*Images are available for download on the [BBC Media Site](#).
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