

# Head-turning Red Sport

BY JOE SAGE

This is not the first time a manufacturer's two-door luxury performance coupe has been recognized as the most beautifully executed in the lineup, but that seems to be widely the case. Let your eye run over this from the unified Infiniti family grille up front to the rear, and it's largely familiar as Infiniti. Let your eye run over it from back to front, and it's all new and very individually styled.

The Infiniti lineup lives in several pools of relativity. One is the current Infiniti lineup of Q-number cars and QX-number SUVs, which replaced a prior long-established mixed alphabet a few years ago. Easy to translate from old to new model names at first, then adding exceptions—mostly just the new designations matter by now, long story short.

Another realm of relativity is the Infiniti lineup against that of its Nissan cousins. Having evolved from the Infiniti G37 Coupe, a luxury-skinned-and-trimmed relative of the Nissan 370Z, by now, as the two brands' model identities have become more distinct and with its newer badge having added one more layer of separation from the past, the Q60 remains a close cousin of the Nissan Z, yet few are likely to cross-shop them per se. Their personalities and features are just too distinct. And that can be seen as a benefit of its own, for both.

Even within the Infiniti Q60 lineup, there's relativity. There are three trim levels, and each is available with or without AWD (otherwise RWD). But most notably different is the one we have here—

the Q60 RED SPORT 400 (in our case AWD). All have a 3.0-liter V6, but in the RED SPORT, the engine is tweaked in several ways to put out 400 hp versus the 300 of its other two trims. Along with the RED SPORT's power come upgrades to brakes, tires and wheels, as well as other engineering and style points throughout.

Add up all those relativities, and the car we're driving here—compared to older Infinitis, to the Nissan Z and to the lower-output Q60 models—occupies an enviable spot indeed.

Unlike the Z-car, Infiniti Q60 is only available with an automatic, but not only is it well calibrated and benefiting from its own sport mode, it has downshift rev matching, delivering much of the performance control so often missing in an automatic. And it was a delight—both in function, powering us down as we exited on downhill freeway ramps, as surely as a performance jet hitting the runway, and in the sound effects it produces.

Despite being Z-related in concept and form, the Q60 feels very spacious inside (other than inherently tight stowage spots and such). The package ultimately speaks to its owner, as well as to the outside world, as exactly what it is—not a track sports car, but a luxury performance coupe.

It's a performer, and it's a beauty. The brakes alone earn a longer than average gaze. It's definitely a car you'll turn around and take another look at every time you've parked. ■

## SPECIFICATIONS

<b>ENGINE</b> .....	3.0L alum-alloy DFI 24v DOHC V6 (RED SPORT) twin-pump intercooler
<b>HP/TORQUE</b> .....	(RED SPORT) 400 hp / 350 lb-ft
<b>TRANSMISSION</b> .....	7-spd auto, sport mode, downshift rev matching
<b>DRIVETRAIN</b> .....	ATESSA ET-S® AWD (RWD avail)
<b>SUSPENSION</b> .....	<b>F:</b> indep dbl-wishbone, stblzr bar; <b>R:</b> multi-link indep, stblzr bar
<b>STEERING</b> .....	power-asst veh-speed-sens rack & pinion (note: direct adaptive steering avail on RED SPORT)
<b>BRAKES</b> .....	(RED SPORT) <b>F:</b> 14.0x1.3, 4-piston <b>R:</b> 13.8x0.8, 2-piston
<b>WHEELS / TIRES</b> .....	20x9 / 255/35R20 AS (note: RWD has staggered 20x9/20x9.5 summer)
<b>LENGTH / WHEELBASE</b> .....	184.4 / 112.2
<b>TURNING CIRCLE</b> .....	AWD 38.1 ft (RWD 36.7)
<b>HEADROOM (F/R)</b> .....	(w moonroof) 37.4 / 34.5 in
<b>LEGROOM (F/R)</b> .....	43.1 / 32.4 in
<b>CARGO CAPACITY</b> .....	8.7 cu.ft
<b>WEIGHT / DISTRIB</b> .....	(RED SPORT AWD) 4047 lb / 58/42
<b>FUEL / CAPACITY</b> .....	premium unl / 20.0 gal
<b>MPG</b> .....	19/26/21 (city/hwy/comb)

<b>BASE PRICE</b> .....	<b>\$59,150</b>
<b>CARBON FIBER PKG:</b> carbon fiber rear decklid spoiler, exterior mirror covers, fog lamp finishers, fender vents ..	2280
<b>WHEELS:</b> 20" 5-spoke dual-finish ..	1790
<b>RADIANT ILLUMINATED KICK PLATES</b> ..	420
<b>RADIANT WELCOME LIGHTING</b> ..	465
<b>INTERIOR AMBIENT LIGHTING</b> ..	510
<b>CARGO PKG:</b> trunk protector, cargo net, console net, first aid kit, shopping bag hook ..	310
<b>DESTINATION CHARGE</b> .....	1025

**TOTAL**..... **\$65,950**

## 2020 INFINITI Q60 LINEUP

Q60 3.0t Pure.....	300 hp	RWD	\$41,350
.....		AWD	43,350
Q60 3.0t Luxe.....	300 hp	RWD	\$45,500
.....		AWD	47,500
Q60 3.0t RED SPORT ..	400 hp	RWD	\$57,150
.....		AWD	59,150

