

Carman i100 Scan Tool

REVIEWED BY ADAM WATKINS

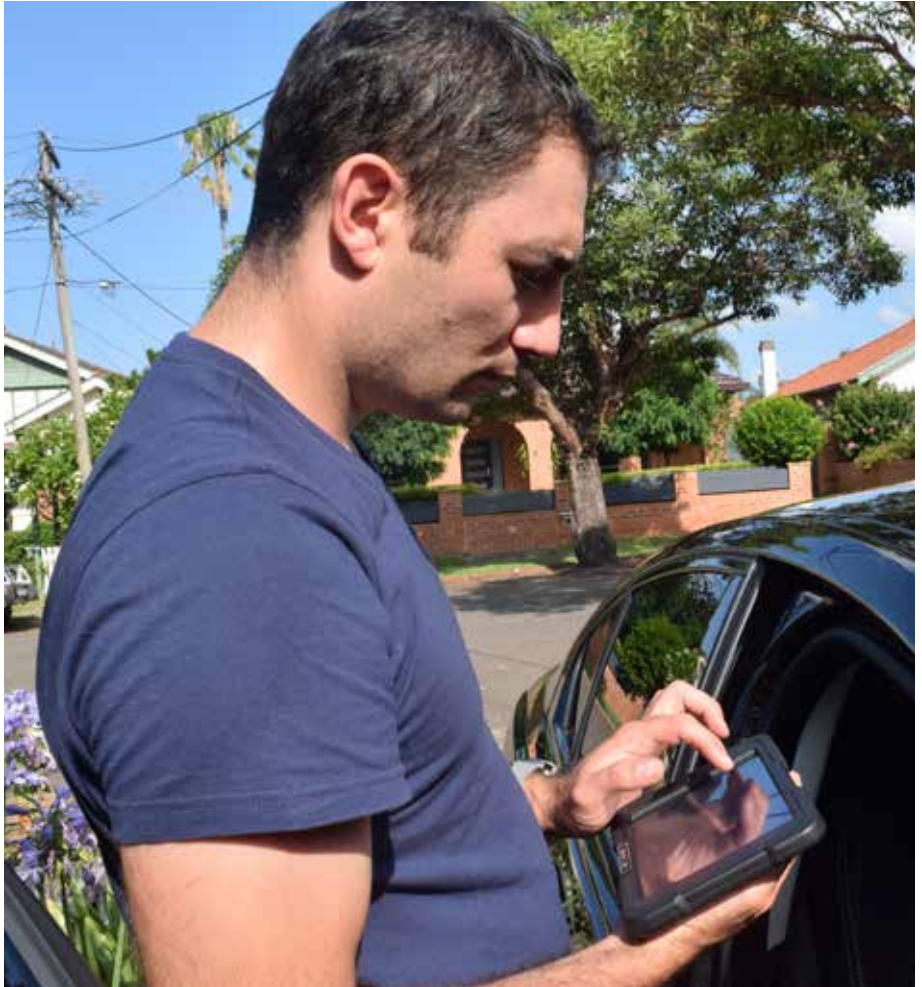


Scan tools are just an essential in the modern automotive workshop. They are required to carry out servicing as well as diagnosing complex automotive faults. Most scan tools I have seen and tested come in a large blow-molded carry case with a variety of different connectors and cables. So I was quite surprised when I was handed a small satchel bag to test the Carman i100 scan tool. Looking inside was a 10" Windows tablet, a few USB power cords and a Bluetooth OBDII adapter!

The Carman i100 is a Windows-based product that can be loaded onto any device which is both Bluetooth and Windows compatible. It works on the same operating platform as other Carman scan tools so it was easy to use and navigate.

As it was the holiday period here at The Northern Sydney Institute, this tool test went on the road and only having to carry around that satchel bag made travelling a lot easier.

The OBDII Bluetooth adapter powers up and connects to the tablet once it is plugged into the vehicle's OBDII plug. However, if there is no power supplied at the plug, the adapter has its own built-in battery to allow connection to the tablet as well as a power socket adapter.



I found that the Bluetooth connectivity worked well. There is an OBDII extension cable to help with this. Just make sure you remember to remove the adapter when you have finished.

The Carman operating platform is always improving with their engineers developing new software three to four times a year and with more than 20,000 new items recently added. So when testing some vehicles I was interested to see what it could do.

The i100 fits in the palm of your hand with Bluetooth connectivity letting you walk around the vehicle, which is handy for both busy workshops and mobile mechanics. It even makes test driving easier without having a cable under your feet.

I can definitely see how this tool could be used for servicing or fault diagnosis. It doesn't take up much space and not having a cable means it can be easily connected



by just plugging in the OBDII adapter.

This is definitely one handy scan tool to use on the move and it comes with a free three-year update.

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