



# 2026 Prelude Competitive Comparison

## Prelude leads with the 4 P's: **Performance, Progression, Premium, and Practicality.**

It's not just balanced, it's better, with standout wins like Type R chassis components, advanced hybrid tech, refined features, and real-world usability the GR86 and Miata RF can't match. Let's take a look!



## Performance

The Prelude's hybrid drivetrain delivers **immediate electric torque**, so acceleration out of corners feels instant and confident. Unlike GR86 and Miata's gas-only engines, the hybrid system responds right away, helping close gaps in traffic and making every back-road exit more satisfying.

At the heart of it is Honda's **exclusive two-motor e-CVT system**. One motor drives the wheels while the other manages regeneration and power delivery, working together for seamless transitions. The result is strong low-end pull, smooth power at speed, and efficiency the competition can't match. It feels direct and responsive, without the gear-hunting lag found in conventional automatics.

Prelude introduces S+, a feature that amplifies whichever drive mode you choose. With simulated shifts and sharper response, it adapts to driver inputs and delivers a visceral experience that stands apart from the competition.

Paired with the **Adaptive Damper System** that reads the road in real time, Prelude adapts instantly to whatever comes next. Add in the Type R-inspired dual-axis strut suspension and **standard Brembo® 4-piston front brake calipers**, and Prelude proves that hybrid tech can really mean performance.

## Competitive Wins:



**Hybrid powertrain** delivers stronger low-end torque vs. GR86 and Miata's gas-only engines



**Adaptive dampers** for real-time handling response (not offered by either competitor)



**Dual-axis front suspension and Brembo® 4-piston front calipers** standard (GR86 and Miata RF: Brembo® front brake calipers optional)



**S+ drive mode** for additional driver tuning (GR86 and Miata RF: Not available)



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## Progression

Modern drivers expect more than just analog thrills, they want cutting-edge tech that enhances the experience. With standard **Google built-in, wireless Android Auto™ compatibility and Wi-Fi hotspot capability**, Prelude doesn't just move the game forward, it redefines it.

### Competitive Wins:



**Hybrid powertrain** with EV-like smoothness and improved efficiency



**Standard Google built-in, Wi-Fi hotspot, and Alexa Built-in** (not offered by competitors)

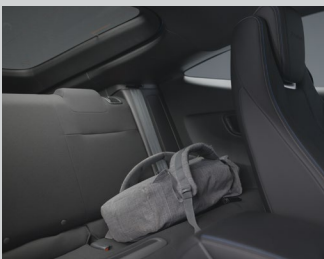


**Modern infotainment** with a 10.2-inch Digital Instrument Cluster and 9-inch Color Touchscreen vs. smaller analog-heavy setups on GR86 and Miata RF

## Practicality

With Prelude, everyday life is easier. The rear seat is designed with a unique recline angle so items like gym bags or laptops don't tumble during hard stops or quick turns. The Miata RF doesn't even offer a rear seat, and the GR86's is cramped and upright by comparison. Up front, there's wireless charging, a center armrest with storage, and clever USB-C placements. The Miata RF and GR86 feel like weekend cars. Prelude is ready for the daily routine, without giving up the fun.

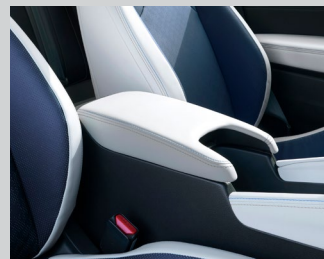
### Competitive Wins:



**Rear seat recline angle** designed to help keep bags in place (Miata RF: no rear seats)



**Standard Wireless phone charger** (GR86 and Miata RF: not offered)



**Center armrest with storage compartment** (GR86: no center console armrest)



**Cargo space:**  
Prelude- 11.6 cu. ft.  
GR86- 6.3 cu. ft.  
Miata RF- 4.5 cu. ft.



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## Premium Features

Step into the Prelude and everything feels a class above. The leather-trimmed sport seats with two tone accent stitching aren't just eye-catching; they're heated for chilly mornings and part of a standard dual-zone automatic climate control system that keeps both driver and passenger dialed into their own comfort. Ambient lighting, soft-touch materials, and premium switchgear quietly elevate the daily drive. The GR86 and Miata RF are built for sport, but they lack the premium details that make Prelude feel more refined and more livable.

## Competitive Wins:



**Standard Leather-trimmed front seats** with heating (Miata RF, GR86: optional)



**Standard Dual-zone automatic climate control** (Miata RF: optional)



**Standard Bose 8-speaker Premium Audio System with Subwoofer** (Miata RF and GR86: Optional)

## Conclusion:

The 2026 Prelude sets itself apart by blending hybrid power, advanced engineering, and premium design with real everyday usability. While GR86 and Miata focus narrowly on performance, Prelude delivers thrills

without sacrificing comfort, technology, or practicality. It is proof that a modern sport coupe can be exciting, refined, and livable all at once, making it a standout in this segment.



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