

Automotive Answers



Tips To Make Your Tank Of Gas Go Further

(NAPSA)—Unpredictable gas prices got you down? You're not alone. Drivers are increasingly interested in getting the most for their money when it comes to gasoline and automobiles and are studying up on how to become more fuel-efficient drivers.

The Internet hosts a wealth of information and tips on saving money on gasoline while also preventing excessive wear and tear on your vehicle. Summed up below are some of the best quick-fix gas-saving tips.

First, maintain your vehicle to ensure it is running its best. Perform simple maintenance tasks yourself such as replacing your air filter and inflating your tires. Take your vehicle to an automotive technician for scheduled tune-ups to ensure everything is in proper condition. Use only the necessary octane gasoline and the proper weight of oil.

Other good advice is to reduce the number of trips you take. Car-pooling is not only great for getting to work, but also to the grocery store, to school or other events. Plan your day and run errands on the way home that are in the same area instead of making multiple trips. One-stop shopping at stores that have it all—food, toiletries, hardware—can help you cut down on trips. Instead of going out for meals, eat food you have at home or order out.

If you have more than one car, drive the more fuel-efficient one. This may mean a smaller vehicle, but a big cut in your fuel costs. Take unnecessary items out of your vehicle to lighten the weight the engine has to push.

It's also a good idea to reevaluate your driving tactics and take it easy on the roads—aggressive driving can ruin efficiency. Revving your engine, accelerating quickly, and traveling at very high speeds can all reduce your miles

A smaller car can make a big difference in your fuel costs.

per gallon substantially. Use cruise control to keep RPMs level. And remember that timing is everything. Try to be on the roads outside of rush hour and peak shopping times if possible, as stop-and-go traffic and crowded roads are fuel-burners.

Finally, you may be ready to look for a more fuel-efficient vehicle. Automotive sites such as AutoTrader.com make it easy to both post your car for sale, as well as simplify the search process if you're in the market for a new or used car. The site's Power Search allows users to look for vehicles by body style, gas mileage, engine size, and type of fuel the vehicle uses, making it easy to find vehicles that run more economically. If you want to buy or sell for a fixed amount or within a certain geographical area, the Web site offers options for these criteria as well.

To learn more about buying or selling a car, visit www.autotrader.com.