



13 Ways to Stretch Your Gas Dollar

Know your tire pressure

Keeping your tires at the proper pressure can improve your gas mileage by 3.3%. Underinflated tires can lower your miles per gallon (mpg) by 0.3% for every one pound per square inch (psi) drop in pressure of all four tires.

Use the right oil

You can improve your gas mileage by 1% to 2% just by using the manufacturer's recommended grade of motor oil. And, to get even more bang for your buck, look for motor oil that says "Energy Conserving" on the API performance symbol (which means it contains friction-reducing additives).

Keep idling to a minimum

It's no secret that letting your car idle drains gas. But keep in mind, idling cars with larger engines typically waste more gas than those with smaller engines.

Stay up-to-date on maintenance

A simple tune up can boost your gas mileage by 4%. And, fixing a serious problem, such as a faulty oxygen sensor, can improve your gas mileage by a whopping 40%.

Drive sensibly

Aggressive driving wastes gas. Drive safer. Drive smarter. It can lower your highway gas mileage by 33% and in-town mileage by 5%.

Watch your speed

Gas mileage decreases rapidly at speeds above 60 mph. Each 5 mph you drive over 60 is like paying an additional \$0.30 per gallon for gas.

Opt for cruise control

Maintaining a constant speed on the highway is more fuel efficient than repeatedly accelerating. It also makes for a smoother ride.

Use overdrive gears

Your car's engine speed goes down in overdrive, which means gas savings. It's also easier on your engine and reduces wear.

Remove excess weight

Avoid keeping unnecessary items in your vehicle, especially heavy ones. An extra 100 pounds can reduce your gas mileage by 2%.

Plan ahead and combine trips

Combining errands into one trip saves you time and money. Your fuel economy is worse when your engine is cold than when it is warm—several short trips taken from a cold start can actually use 50% more fuel than a longer, multipurpose trip covering the same distance.

Change your commuting habits

If you own more than one vehicle, drive the one that gets the best gas mileage. Avoid peak rush hours to save fuel sitting in traffic. Consider starting a car pool to cut your gas spending in half. Or, if your employer permits it, opt to work from home.

Install low rolling resistance tires

Low rolling resistance tires improve the fuel economy of your vehicle. Visit www.eere.energy.gov/afdc/vehicles/fuel_economy_tires_light.html to learn more.

Buy a fuel efficient vehicle

The U.S. Department of Energy provides a guide to the most fuel efficient vehicles sold in America. Visit www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/pdfs/guides/FEG2017.pdf

For details on tax incentives, visit www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/taxcenter.shtml or consult your tax professional.

More information can be found on the U.S. Department of Energy fuel economy website: www.fueleconomy.gov

For more information on NYSERDA programs visit nyserdera.ny.gov, call **1-866-NYSERDA**, or email info@nyserdera.ny.gov