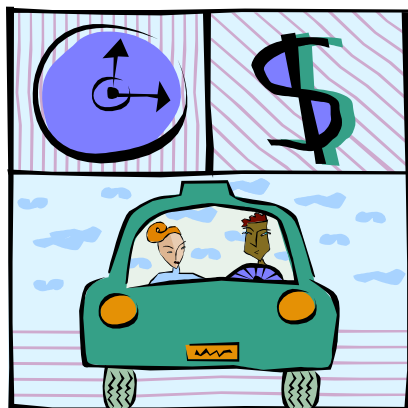


Driving More Efficiently

A consumer fact sheet



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Drive Sensibly

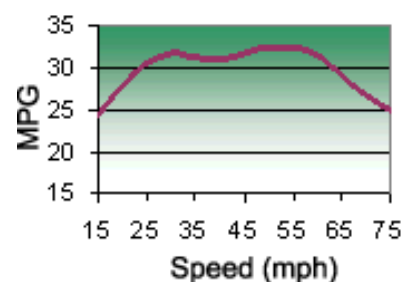
Aggressive driving (speeding, rapid acceleration and braking) wastes gas. It can lower your gas mileage by 33 percent at highway speeds and by 5 percent around town. Sensible driving is also safer for you and others, so you may save more than gas money.

Fuel Economy Benefit*:
Equivalent Gasoline Savings

5-33 %
19¢ to \$1.23 per gallon

Observe the Speed Limit

Gas mileage decreases rapidly at speeds above 60 mph. Each 5-mph you drive over 60 mph is like paying an additional 20¢ per gallon for gas. Observing the speed limit is also safer.



Fuel Economy Benefit:
Equivalent Gasoline Savings

7-23%
26¢ to 86¢ per gallon

Avoid Excessive Idling

Sitting in traffic, or idling, wastes gas. Cars with larger engines typically waste more gas idling than cars with smaller engines.

Use Cruise Control

Using cruise control on the highway helps you maintain a constant speed and, in most cases, will save gas.

Use Overdrive Gears

When you use overdrive gearing, your car's engine speed goes down. This saves gas and reduces engine wear.

Keep Your Engine Properly Tuned

Routine maintenance and repair can improve gas mileage by an average of 4.1 percent, though results vary based on the kind of repair and how well it is done. Fixing a faulty oxygen sensor may improve your gas mileage *as much as 40 percent*.

Fuel Economy Benefit:
Equivalent Gasoline Savings

4%
15¢ per gallon

*Fuel Economy Benefit refers to the percentage of improved gas mileage

Check & Replace Air Filters Regularly

Replacing a clogged air filter can improve your car's gas mileage by as much as 10 percent. The air filter keeps impurities from damaging the inside of the engine. Replacing a dirty air filter saves gas and protects the engine.

Fuel Economy Benefit:	up to 10%
Equivalent Gasoline Savings	Up to 37¢ per gallon

Keep Tires Properly Inflated

You can improve your gas mileage by around 3.3 percent by keeping your tires inflated to the proper pressure. Under-inflated tires can lower gas mileage by 0.4 percent for every 1 psi (pounds per square inch) drop in pressure of all four tires. Properly inflated tires are safer and last longer.

Fuel Economy Benefit:	up to 3%
Equivalent Gasoline Savings:	up to 11¢ per gallon

Use the Recommended Grade of Motor Oil

You can improve your gas mileage by 1-2 percent by using the manufacturer's recommended grade of motor oil. For example, using 10W-30* motor oil in an engine designed to use 5W-30 can lower your gas mileage by 1-2 percent. Using 5W-30 in an engine designed for 5W-20 can lower your gas mileage by 1-1.5 percent. Also, look for motor oil that says "Energy Conserving" on the API performance symbol to be sure it contains friction-reducing additives.

Fuel Economy Benefit:	1-2%
Equivalent Gasoline Savings:	.04¢ to .07¢/gallon

**represents the viscosity of the oil, depending on climate you want to use a higher or lower viscosity.*

Choosing the Grade of Gasoline

Check your automobile's users manual. If the manufacturer recommends premium, use it. If not, use the lowest octane available for your car. Most cars run well on regular gasoline. Higher-octane gasoline by itself does not run 'cleaner' than lower octane, nor does it do a better job of cleaning deposits in your engine.

Planning and Combining Trips

Combining errands into one trip saves you time and money. Several short trips taken from a cold start can use twice as much fuel as a longer multipurpose trip covering the same distance when the engine is warm. Trip planning ensures that traveling is done when the engine is warmed-up and efficient.

With a little planning, you can avoid retracing your route and reduce the distance you travel as well. You will not only save fuel, but also reduce wear and tear on your car.

Commuting

If you can stagger your work hours to avoid peak rush hours, you will spend less time sitting in traffic and consume less fuel. Additionally, using Fast Lane Pass programs reduces idling at tollbooths.

If you own more than one vehicle, drive the one that gets the best gas mileage whenever possible.

Consider telecommuting (working from home) if your employer permits it. If possible, take advantage of carpools and ride-share programs. You can cut your weekly fuel costs in half and save wear on your car if you take turns driving with other commuters. Many urban areas allow vehicles with multiple passengers to use special High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes.

Consider using public transit if it is available and convenient for you. Go to the official MBTA website at: www.mbta.com

Traveling

A roof rack or carrier provides additional cargo space and may allow you to meet your needs with a smaller car. However, a loaded roof rack can decrease your fuel economy by 5 percent.

Reduce aerodynamic drag and improve your fuel economy by placing items inside the trunk whenever possible.



Avoid carrying unneeded items, especially heavy ones. An extra 100 lbs. in the trunk reduces a typical car's fuel economy by 1-2 percent.

Purchasing an Automobile

Think fuel efficiency (CAFÉ Standards). When buying a new automobile or renting an automobile on vacation, factor fuel-efficiency and how much you will spend on gasoline into your decision, go to www.fueleconomy.gov for information on specific vehicles.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

For more information, go to www.fueleconomy.gov to find gas mileage estimates and more information for 1985-2003 car models.