

CUT COMMUTING COSTS WITH A CARPOOL OR VANPOOL



Carpooling and vanpooling are great ways to save on your commuting costs.

Supersize Your Ride

Go bigger with a vanpool.



A vanpool can save you even more! Vanpools typically have five to fifteen passengers (one of them is the driver), with a commute distance of 20 miles or more. Most of the carpool tips apply to vanpools as well.

Here are some extra suggestions for vanpoolers:

- **Make admin easier.** Find a vanpool company to handle the lease and administration of the vanpool—do a quick online search to find companies operating in your area.
- **Choose a coordinator.** One or two vanpool members coordinate schedules and payments. Drivers don't need a special license.
- **Pre-plan the parking.** Check out parking access to reduce costs, or ask your employer if they will provide special parking.
- **Realize the savings.** Vanpoolers save up to \$6,000 annually**... so shouldn't you get started?

Can't wait to carpool?

Here are some action items, tips, and benefits:

- ✓ **Ask around at work.** Bring up carpooling in your next department meeting. Your co-workers may live closer to you than you think and might be open to sharing the ride into work.
- ✓ **Check out apps.** Some ride-hailing apps now have carpool options.
- ✓ **Keep it in the family.** Share a ride with a family member. Even if your schedules only match up part of the time, you'll still be saving.
- ✓ **Start small.** You might find it easier to start by carpooling just once a week and then establish a regular routine.
- ✓ **Set up a schedule.** Whatever you decide, be clear about the days and times—and be on time. If you are running late, send a quick text to your carpool partner.
- ✓ **Use your resources.** Check out the nearby Park and Ride locations for an easy in-between place to meet up for a carpool.
- ✓ **Agree on the rules of the road.** Decide on a division of costs and stick to it. For instance, if you decide to reimburse the driver every Friday, keep to that schedule. There are convenient mobile apps that allow you to pay small amounts to individuals. Discuss any detours in advance—such as a quick trip to pick up children after school. Don't spring surprises on your carpool partner, but don't assume a detour isn't possible just because you are sharing the ride.
- ✓ **Be green—and clean.** Be respectful of your passengers, your driver, and the car that gets you where you are going. Don't eat or drink in the car unless you've cleared it with the driver, and be sure to take any trash with you.
- ✓ **The more, the merrier.** A typical 20-minute carpool ride saves more than \$500 annually.** Cut your expenses even more by adding a third or fourth member to your carpool.
- ✓ **Best case scenario.** Eliminate a car from your household to maximize savings on insurance, repairs, depreciation, and gas.

* <https://www.enterprise.com/en/commute.html>

** Based on AAA's Your Driving Costs 2018. <https://exchange.aaa.com>