

Slash Your Petrol Costs

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Once Week Petrol

I only have to get petrol once a week. I make sure that, regardless of how much petrol I have in my tank, I always fill up on Tuesday or Wednesday. These two days are undoubtedly the cheapest days of the week to get petrol and with skyrocketing petrol prices who wouldn't want to fill up on the cheapest days? - Contributed by Michelle, Sydney



Never Forget a Petrol Docket Again

Hang a paper clasp on your key rack and clip your fuel saver docket on the clasp. When you go to get your car key you can get a docket to use when you fill the tank and fill up your wallet with the savings in the long run - Contributed by Eve, Burnside Heights

Improved Fuel Consumption Outweighs Initial Fuel Cost

Using premium petrol (highest octane available) improves engine performance and extends its life, reduces pollution and improves fuel consumption. Although it is dearer per tank, the mileage increase more than compensates for this. On open roads (highways, freeways, motorways etc.) drive with the windows closed: it reduces wind resistance and improves fuel consumption. - Contributed by Liljana, Cronulla

Reimbursed Gas Conversion Saves in the Long Term

I'm saving around \$8,000 on fuel costs over the life of my car and got paid by the Government. I was reimbursed \$2,000 on the cost of converting my car to LPG by the Government, which was almost the full cost of the conversion. So not only was the conversion cheap, but instead of paying around \$1.25 litre for petrol I now only pay 49c litre for gas. Looking at petrol costs of say \$25/week that's a saving of \$15.20/week or \$7,904 over 10 years. - Contributed by Sandra, Erskine Park

Know How Much to Travel Here and There

With the cost of petrol going up I wanted to calculate how much it is costing me to get to various destinations. All you need is the average number of kilometres your car will get on a full tank, and how much it costs to fill up your tank. My car gets on average 380 kilometres, and it costs about \$100 to fill her up on today's petrol prices. (Eeek!) 100 divided by 380 gives me about 0.26, that's 26 cents for every kilometre I travel. Then all I need is the approximate distance to get here or there. Eg. To travel 10kms will cost me \$2.60, or \$5.20 there and back. I also use the map maker on the website <http://www.travelmate.com.au> This tells you exactly how many kms from one place to another anywhere in Australia. It is amazing how much I reconsider hopping in the car when I know how much it is costing me to get there! I can then think out my trips better, saving me both money and time. - Contributed by Bernadette, Greensborough

Not Only a Mind in Neutral

For automatic cars when stopped at traffic lights put the car in neutral. I'm no mechanic but this seems to be making a tank of petrol go further. I used to generally have to fill up each week but I seem to only be 3/4 down now after adopting this myself. - Contributed by Liz, Brighton

Regular Service Saves Fuel

Having grown up in a family of mechanics; the most important tip for saving fuel when running a car, is to make sure your cars are serviced regularly and in particular make sure they are tuned properly. The fuel consumption of an engine that is poorly tuned can be very high. I drive an old 1992 Fairlane Ghia and it is more economical to run than our late model Fairlane Ghia. They are both in top condition, but the later model has(EFI) Electronic Fuel Injection, and that in itself makes a car more fuel hungry. - Contributed by Christine, Regents Park

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