

## **Frugal Fill-Ups: 25 Ways to Save at the Pump**

Don't let skyrocketing fuel prices drive you crazy - there are many ways to put an immediate dent in your gas bill.

First, nothing will save you more money at the station than a fuel-efficient car. Large, heavy vehicles can burn up to three times as much fuel as small car - and as gas prices rise, your wallet will groan with every extra pound. If it's time for a trade in, seriously consider purchasing a car that was built to get good gas mileage. There are even tempting tax breaks for investing in the latest technology: if you buy a new hybrid car, you may be eligible for a one-time federal income tax deduction of \$2,000. The following twenty-four additional tips will speed up your savings even further - print them out and keep them on your dashboard as a daily reminder!

2. Make sure your air filter is clean
3. Keep your tires filled with the right amount of air
4. Keep your clutch adjusted
5. Have enough - and clean - engine oil in your car
6. Choose the route with the flattest terrain and fewest stops
7. Use your air conditioner sparingly
8. Remove unused bike and luggage racks to make your car aerodynamic
9. Keep the windows closed when traveling at high speeds
10. Avoid traffic jams and stop and go traffic
11. Remove heavy objects from the car
12. Bike, walk, or use public transportation whenever possible
13. Turn the car off rather than idle (when appropriate)
14. Don't warm up new cars - most don't need it
15. Avoid traveling at fast speeds in low gears
16. Drive the speed limit
17. Use cruise control on the open road, when safe
18. Use downward slopes to your advantage
19. Accelerate slowly when leaving the stop light
20. Buy regular unleaded versus the highest priced gasoline - most cars are built for it
21. Don't rev your engine
22. Arranging for car pools to share the cost of gas
23. Use your car only for necessary trips
24. Use your navigation system (if available) to avoid getting lost and wasting gas
25. Combine errands into one trip