

## **Twelve Gas Saving Tips**

(Taken from Chevron Products - "Consumer Tips: 10 Better Mileage Tips for Summer Driving" ([www.chevron.com](http://www.chevron.com)) and Gasbuddy.com's "Top 10 Gas/Fuel Saving Tips" ([www.gasbuddy.com](http://www.gasbuddy.com)))

1. **Slow down** – As your speed increases, your car's aerodynamic drag increases forcing your engine to work harder and use more fuel. Driving 62 mph vs. 75 mph will reduce fuel consumption by about 15%. Simply decreasing your freeway speeds to 55 mph can increase your fuel economy by as much as 20%.
2. **Do not accelerate or brake hard** – Quick acceleration might get you off the line faster, but it will get you empty faster too; lowering gas mileage by as much as 33 percent. Engines require the most fuel when accelerating from a full stop, so apply the gas moderately. Hard braking is equally as bad for fuel economy!
3. **Trip planning** – If you are going out for an errand run, plan all of your stops ahead of time to avoid unnecessary driving. Also, try not to drive during rush hour; the constant starting, stopping, and idling hurts fuel economy.
4. **Carpooling** – Consider joining a carpool.
5. **Use air conditioning sparingly** – The use of air conditioning can reduce fuel economy by as much as two miles per gallon under certain speeds and operating conditions. The defrost position on most cars also uses the air conditioner.
6. **Keep tires properly inflated** – Windows open, especially at highway speeds, increase drag and result in decreased fuel economy, up to 10%. A single tire under-inflated by 2 psi, increases the fuel consumption by 1%.
7. **Service vehicle regularly** – proper maintenance avoids poor fuel economy related to dirty air filters, old spark plugs, or low fluid levels.
8. **Check your tires** – Not only are under-inflated tires dangerous, but they can reduce your fuel economy by up to 3 percent. So keep your tires inflated to the recommended pressure.
9. **Use cruise control** – Maintaining a constant speed over long distances often saves gas.
10. **Empty your trunk** – Does your trunk double as a mobile storage facility? All that extra weight requires extra power and extra fuel from your engine. For every 100 pounds, fuel economy is reduced by up to 2 percent, especially if you drive a smaller, lighter car.
11. **Avoid long idles** – If you anticipate being stopped for more than 1 minute, shut off the car. Restarting the car uses less fuel than letting it idle for this time.
12. **Reduce the revs** – Driving in gears which rev the engine wastes fuel. With automatic transmissions, let the computer determine the proper gear. In manuals, choose the gear with the lowest rpm which doesn't risk stalling the engine.