



**Cut Gas Spending By \$500 A Year!**

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You are encouraged to print this book for easy reading. Turn your printer on, then use the keyboard command shortcut "CTRL-P" or go to the top menu bar, click on "File" and then on "Print."

You are also encouraged to take action! Learning about these tactics won't save you money on gas. Taking action is the key to saving!

# Cut Gas Spending By \$500 A Year!

With the cost of gas soaring and no end in sight--many market experts are even suggesting that we will on day look back at \$4 a gallon gas with nostalgia---most everyone is suddenly ready to get serious about cutting down on fuel consumption.

And while there are many high tech improvements and advanced engineering features available on new model cars and trucks, it's not necessary to buy a new hybrid just to save on gas. There are many low and no cost ways to save on gas with your current vehicle that you can *AND SHOULD* start using today!

It is with gas-saving tips as it is with most things in life-- a little knowledge, a pinch of patience, and some commitment to following through goes a long way toward achieving success.

Nowhere in this report will you find any mention of things you might have seen elsewhere—things like additives, air injectors or magnets—that claim to cut fuel consumption and lead to stupendous savings. No magic pill to throw in your tank and turn water to fuel. No magnetic disc to mysteriously pull impurities out of gasoline and make your car run cleaner.

I'd be happy to present such product information—if only any of it were true.

Alas, such product claims are out and out scams and shams.

The EPA—Environmental Protection Agency, searches for and tests products claiming to save on gas consumption. Over the years, they say, they've tested more than a hundred products that claim to increase fuel efficiency and thus save on gas. In all it's test, the EPA says, it has never found a single product that produced significant savings on gasoline--let alone the huge savings many claimed.

And think about it—with the public clamoring for relief from rising gas prices, the EPA and auto manufacturers themselves would be the first to tell you if any of these products actually worked.

So this report will concentrate on what's tried and true, those things that, should you commit to making them a part of your daily life, can easily cut \$400 to \$500 or more off your yearly expenditure for gasoline.

The ideas, tips and techniques in this book have been culled from conversations with "Hypermilers." What's a hypermiler? That's someone who obsessively tinkers with vehicles, working to eek out every last little drop of fuel efficiency they can wring from their gas tank.

The term "hypermiler" seems to have originated with hybrid vehicle driving clubs whose members actively compete to see who can go furthest in exceeding the EPA's (United States Environmental Protection Agency's) estimated fuel efficiency.

By using real-time mileage displays, hypermilers were able to pinpoint the driving techniques that delivered the best EPA ratings. Once identified, these techniques could be tweaked and refined.

The trend started out within a competitive atmosphere of drivers who put their hypermiling talents to the test in hypermileage marathons. But as gas prices in the United States began an unprecedented climb in 2007, hypermiling began to draw media attention.

Today, the average hypermiler is less likely to be a hybrid-driving competitor and more likely to be a working man or woman trying to squeak some extra miles out of a gas budget that's begun taking a bigger and bigger bite out of the typical household budget.

Even drivers of luxury SUV's, the vehicles favored by the more affluent families in America, are showing an increasing interest in hypermiling, hoping that a few tricks performed behind the wheel will lead to less sticker shock in front of the gas pump.

Avid hypermilers claim they can increase their mileage by better than forty percent. Many say they've taken automobiles with an average miles-per-gallon rating of 27mpg and easily gotten to 40 mpg.

The hypermilers I've learned from taught me that with a little bit of equipment, some common sense and a lot of plain old paying attention to detail, I could save a significant amount of money on gasoline every year.

Below is a list of ideas which are guaranteed to reduce you fuel consumption by anywhere from five to forty percent. Acting on most of these ideas won't cost you a dime. Everything you need may already be in your garage. The only items you may have to spend some money on are

A good quality tire pressure gauge: \$5 to \$15

A new air filter (if needed): \$20 to \$50

Oil change (seriously consider a synthetic): \$20 to \$50

How much can you save? Let's make a conservative estimate:

If the average motorist drives 15,000 miles per year in an average car getting 25 miles per gallon, and the prevailing fuel cost is \$3.00 per gallon, this motorist would spend \$1,800 each year on fuel.

If this motorist aggressively incorporates many of the suggestions contained in this report into their driving and vehicle maintenance habits, they would certainly reduce their fuel consumption by 25%, or \$450 each year.

Most investors would be giddy with delight to have a few stock tips that can effectively guarantee a 450% annual return on their investment.

Of course, how much you save will depend entirely on how many of my suggestions you actually carry out and how efficiently you choose to drive.

### ***Keep Your Engine Properly Tuned***

Fixing a car that is noticeably out of tune or has failed an emissions test can improve its gas mileage by an average of 4 percent, though results vary based on the kind of repair and how well it is done. Some studies have shown properly tuning a car can reduce its gas consumption by 25%.

Fixing a serious maintenance problem, such as a faulty oxygen sensor, can improve your mileage by as much as 40 percent. Keep in mind that all new electronically controlled fuel injection systems have very little need of regular maintenance. Your engine light will inform you of an engine, transmission, or emissions system fault. Otherwise, consider new spark plug wires or other ignition system components per your owner's manual recommendations.

***Use the Recommended Grade of Motor Oil*** You can be sure the manufacturer of your vehicle has tested various grades of motor oil and chosen the one that gives that vehicle the best performance. Don't stray from that recommendation! Using the wrong grade of motor oil can significantly reduce your mileage.

For example, 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.

Lastly, look for motor oil that says "Energy Conserving" on the API performance symbol to be sure it contains friction-reducing additives.

### ***Keep Tires Properly Inflated***

You can improve your gas mileage by checking your tires weekly and making sure they are inflated to the proper pressure. For every pound of under inflation, you can lose up to 6% in gas mileage. That means if your tires are 5 pounds under inflated, you'll use up to 30% more gas. Properly inflated tires are safer, last longer and save you money on gas!

***Use Steel-belted Radial Tires*** They increase gas mileage up to 10%

### ***Drive Sensibly***

Aggressive driving (speeding, rapid acceleration and braking) wastes gas. It can lower your gas mileage by 5-30%. Sensible driving is also safer for you and others, so you may save more than gas money—you may save yourself from an accident!

### ***Avoid Unnecessary Braking***

Every time your foot touches the brakes, the energy in your gas tank turns directly into HEAT energy. Acceleration uses significantly more fuel than cruising at constant speed. Anticipate stoplights, avoid tailgating, and try to drive at a constant speed.

### ***Don't Drive 85 !!!***

While each vehicle reaches its optimal fuel economy at a different speed (or range of speeds), gas mileage usually decreases rapidly at speeds above 60 mph.

As a rule of thumb, you can assume that each 5 mph you drive over 60 mph is like paying an additional \$0.20 per gallon for gas.

Observing the speed limit is also safer.

***Coast*** up to traffic lights and traffic jams by lifting your foot off the gas pedal instead of approaching at full speed and slamming on the brakes. It takes 20% more gas to accelerate to normal speed from a full stop than it does from 4 or 5 miles an hour.

### ***Avoid Excessive Idling***

Don't warm your car by letting it idle. Idling gets **zero** miles per gallon. Cars with larger engines typically waste more gas at idle than do cars with smaller engines. A cold engine warms up faster when driving than it does idling. Idling wastes about a gallon of gas every 15 minutes.

***Don't Drive Too Fast or Too Slow*** It takes 20% to 30% more gas to drive at 70 miles per hour than to drive at 50 miles per hour.

***Use Cruise Control If You Have It*** Maintaining a steady speed on highway or freeway driving, especially on long trips, will reduce your gas consumption. Try to avoid getting stuck behind cars. Slowing down to their pace and then speeding up to get past them increases gas consumption.

***Use Regular Gasoline*** Don't use high-octane gas unless your car is pinging and knocking or you have a high-performance engine and the manufacturer recommends premium gas.

***Don't Top Off Your Gas Tank On A Hot Day*** Don't "top off" your gas tank when pumping gas. On a warm day, gasoline expands and can overflow. When filling your tank, always leave some room for expansion.

### ***Remove Excess Weight***

Avoid keeping unnecessary items in your vehicle, especially heavy ones. An extra 100 pounds in your vehicle could reduce your city MPG by up to 2%. The reduction is based on the percentage of extra weight relative to the vehicle's weight and affects smaller vehicles more than larger ones. If you play golf on weekends, but carry the clubs around in your trunk all week, you're paying a heavy toll in extra gas consumption.

***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'll 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'll spend less time sitting in traffic and consume less fuel.

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.

### ***Drive LESS***

Walk, bike, carpool, or take the bus once in a while.

I understand that these ideas aren't new, nor high-tech. They're not as much fun as putting a magnet in your gas tank and waiting for the magic to happen. But unlike the magnet, these ideas REALLY WORK to reduce fuel consumption and save you money on gas. Use them on a regular basis, make them a part of your life as a motorist, and you will easily see that savings of \$400, \$450, \$500 or more on your gas expenses over the next year.

To learn more about the hottest trend in saving gas by Hypermiling go to [The Magic of Hypermiling](#) and learn the techniques that will save you even more on gas at the pump, Starting Today!

### **Data Sources**

Estimates for fuel savings from sensible driving are based on studies and literature reviews performed by Energy and Environmental Analysis, Inc., Washington, DC.

Estimates for the effect of speed on MPG are based on a study by West, B.H., R.N. McGill, J.W. Hodgson, S.S. Sluder, and D.E. Smith, *Development and Verification of Light-Duty Modal Emissions and Fuel Consumption Values for Traffic Models*, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, March 1999.

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