

\$ Stretch Your Dollar \$

Stretch Your Transportation Dollar

1. Watch your speed. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, driving 55 mph instead of 65 mph improves gas mileage by 15%.
2. Avoid aggressive driving. Eliminating “jackrabbit” starts and stops to improve gas mileage by 5%.
3. Avoid idling when possible. Turn off the engine if you have a long wait.
4. Use cruise control when appropriate. Steady driving uses less fuel.
5. Use AC less. Use air conditioning as little as possible. However, on warm days, running the AC may be more cost effective than driving with the windows down – which can cause drag and reduce aerodynamics.
6. Maintain your car. Keep maintenance on schedule. Check and replace air filters regularly.
 - a. Get regular oil changes. Use the manufacturer’s recommended grade of motor oil.
 - b. Keep tires properly inflated and aligned.
7. Remove excess weight. An extra 100 pounds in the trunk can reduce fuel economy by up to two percent.
8. Excess weight in the luggage rack on top creates wind resistance for additional reductions in fuel efficiency.
9. Shop around for the best gas prices. Compare gas stations. Remember to use the octane level you need. Check the owner’s manual for the recommended octane level of gasoline for your car. Don’t buy a more expensive octane level if your car doesn’t need it.
10. Plan trips. Reduce miles by combining errands so that you make stops along a planned route.
11. Spend less time driving. Take public transportation. Carpool. Walk. Ride a bike.



References:

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Prepared by:

Laura Connerly, Instructor - Family Resource Management (lconnerly@uaex.edu), University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service.

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