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Foreword

With the climbing cost of gas prices...and no end in sight...everybody would like to save as much money at the gas pump as they potentially can. You might not be able to command the price of gas but you are able to alter particular habits and abide by some primary guidelines to help you save as much money as imaginable.

Every time that the price of gas climbs at the fuel pump by 10 cents the cost of the average drivers gas costs will climb by about \$75 over 12 months.

With gas prices so elevated, the media is flooded with lists of gas-saving tips. If you read this book, you are able to see hybrid-type savings without being forced to purchase a new car.

By altering your driving habits you are able to better fuel economy up to thirty-seven percent at once (depending upon how you drive). Merge several tips and do routine maintenance and you'll save true dollars, not just cents.

Crazy? These common tips have actually been road tested. A few of them worked great. Some of them didn't. The fantastic part is that bettering your car's mileage is simply a matter of altering your habits and doing some maintenance. Use a few of these ideas together and you'll see a hearty savings at the pump.

Gas Saving Secrets Exposed!

All the techniques you'll ever need to know about saving big bucks at the pump!

Chapter 1:

Drive Moderately Not Aggressive

Synopsis

This may smart a little. The most substantial way to save gas is: you. And we're speaking of monumental fuel economy increases.

Slow Down

Do you believe you need a hybrid? You've probably got hybrid-style mileage in your accelerator pedal foot. Don't squash the gas pedal when you start up the engine. Take the farsighted view of the road and brake slowly. This tip solely can save you incredible amounts of gas.

Make believe your car is a bicycle, and you're doing the work, not the engine. When you stamp on the accelerator pedal and the engine bellows, that's your legs spinning crazily and your heart about to break open. Most of us just push the accelerator and brake and don't sense the car's effort. Attempt to tune into the engine's sound and revolutions per minute as you drive along.

This won't be amusing unless you get a little feedback. Keep a log in the car and put down the odometer reading and amount of gallons used so you are able to figure your fuel consumption rate each time.

Look far down the road for stoplights. Did the Light just turn red? Remove your foot from the accelerator and coast. If you're lucky it will turn green while you're still moving down the road, then you are able to slowly get back up to speed. (This will save your brakes too). The Sorriest possible utilization of gas is to maintain your speed, screech to a stop, then speed up from zero. If you take the same road daily, get to know the length of the stoplights so you are able to better time them. Whenever you see a group of cars that's just left an intersection and there are no cars trailing them, its plausible that the light just turned green, so you likely don't need to speed up to make the light.

You are able to go faster through turns and not drop off speed by sweeping wide before the turn and then conforming to the path that makes the broadest radius. This is like the ballplayer that cuts out to the right prior to rounding first base. You'll discover that a lot of turns can be taken without braking, depending upon conditions.

On the freeway: slow up! Yep, we've all learned about wind resistance and gas use, but individuals just can't seem to change. Here's a few bonuses: its easier and more restful to drive a little slower; In a typical 30 minute trip, slowing down from sixty-five to sixty will only alter your trip by about three minutes, so leave three minutes earlier!

Don't sail around the parking lot to discover that "perfect" parking space. Park as soon as you can and turn off the car. Aside from the gas savings you'll be out of everybody's way and get a little work out walking too.

Put the car in neutral for a downward-sloping road. The RPM's will go way down and depending upon the slope, you'll go on to travel at speed but enjoy 100+ mpg.

Chapter 2:

Use Cruise Control

Synopsis

Utilizing cruise control is a bit of gas-saving advice often on hints lists. This tip in theory is good, but reports of the actual road test showed significant results.

Cruise It

First of all, it smoothes out the driver's accelerator input by precluding nervous "surging." Secondly, it makes the driver take the long view of the road instead of responding to every shift in the traffic around them.

Cruise control guarantees that a driver sustains a common, steady speed while on the road, helping to do away with much of the stopping and starting that unnecessarily burn off expensive fuel. With gas prices rising across the country, utilizing cruise control is an easy, effective, economical way to step-up fuel efficiency and reduces out of pocket expenses.

Many cruise control systems are mounted on the steering wheel of autos and are easily accessible on either side of the horn. The buttons are placed on either side of the steering wheel and speed may be sped up or slowed with the touch of the buttons provided on the steering wheel console.

A few people find that cruise control can be hard to use because they feel like they aren't doing much to control the car and while driving at night they may find it easier to dose off behind the wheel. If you're one to dose off behind the wheel, never utilize cruise control.

As well, in spite of its gas saving advantages, cruise control isn't for everybody and is not for all roads. It's best for open city driving, generally flat roads, without hills where there's not much need for a driver to stop and start.

The cruise control is designed for normal road conditions. It does not recognize when the pavement is slippery. Under slick circumstances, you need to be in complete control and monitoring road conditions. You are more likely to detect hydroplaning if you are not relying on the cruise control. With a few cars, it is possible that the wheels will in reality spin faster when the cruise control is on and the car runs into a slippery spot. Once the tires make contact with firm road once more, the car may skid or lose control.

On just about all cars, the cruise control is disengaged by tapping on the brake. In an emergency situation, this contributes a fraction of a second to your reaction time as well as the chance of the braking action itself causing a loss of control on a slippery road.

Another thing that's crucial to note: if you are in a mountainous area you should switch off cruise. It will attempt to keep you up to the speed you've set and will use a lot of extra gas downshifting to lower gears to achieve this.

Chapter 3:

Check Your Tires

Synopsis

Regardless how many times drivers find out about the importance of tire pressure, virtually all of them do not do anything about it.

Check Them

People likely don't like crouching beside their car in a busy filling station with fumes whirling around them. But is it significant? The response is yes, for a number of reasons. Correctly inflated tires are less likely to break down at high speeds. They wear down more evenly and, yes, they deliver better gasoline mileage. How much? Authorities on the subject swear by it.

So just how do you check your tires correctly?

Let the tires cool off before checking their pressure (tires are more inflated when warm, to a lesser extent when cold). You will then remove the cap from the valve on one tire. Push a tire gauge firmly onto the valve and take note of the reading. If you hear escaping air it means you haven't placed the gauge correctly: it's either pushed on cockeyed or you're pushing too softly.

Next add air to reach the recommended pressure, which is listed on a sticker on the driver's side doorjamb, in the car's manual or on the tire itself.

If you overfill, you are able to expel air by pressing on the tiny metal stem in the middle of the valve with a fingernail or the tip of a pen or pencil. If you really need to guess at the pressure, 32 psi (pounds per square inch) is a in force guideline for most passenger cars with stock tires.

Now you can put the valve cap back on.

Duplicate this for each tire, including the spare (the condition of its pressure is a great deal of the time disregarded until it's needed, and then it's too late).

You'll want to ascertain the tread depth too. The suggested depth differs with different types of tires. For a standard sedan tire, a penny pressed into the tread may give you an approximate reading. If you are able to see any of Lincoln's head, it might be time to replace the tire. A tread-depth gauge will give you a more exact reading. There might also be wear indicators constructed into the tread; if they are showing, replace the tire.

Be sure to check for even wear too. If the treads on the outside or inside are especially worn, you might need to rotate your tires or have your alignment checked over.

Each set of tires is different and every vehicle is different. So do your own tests to see what inflation setting gives you the most beneficial gas savings.

Chapter 4:

Pulse And Glide

Synopsis

This is a favored technique of supposed hypermilers, a unique strain of drivers who go to extraordinary lengths to get as much as they can from each gallon of gas. And it can be done only with hybrid vehicles. The pulse-and-glide technique betters fuel economy by minimizing use of the internal combustion engine.

Controversial Technique

This necessitates speeding up gently to a speed that's slightly higher than that which the driver prefers as the average (the pulse), and then removing your foot off the accelerator pedal while leaving the car in a high gear (the glide) till the speed falls to somewhat under the average. The driver then speeds up over again to repeat the procedure. This means you go forward by accelerating and decelerating, which drives anybody behind you crazy.

What makes pulse and glide effective is that in a modern auto the fuel injectors are likely to be controlled by an engine-management system that's programmed with deceleration fuel cut-off (a.k.a. DFC). This helps automakers step-up the average gas economy of their vehicles. If the auto is in gear and the driver removes his foot from the accelerator, the system turns the fuel injectors off. This is because the momentum of the auto will keep the engine turning over. Sliding the car into neutral to coast along will allow for the fuel injectors to stay on because the engine needs to be kept running.

Manufacturers or an experienced mechanic should be able to furnish details about DFC on certain cars. These will deviate from model to model. Toyota says for a diesel-powered Yaris, the injectors stop issuing fuel to the engine if the accelerator isn't pressed and the engine is turning above 1,500rpm.

So, the most economical way to drive this car downhill is to keep it in a high gear to sustain the rpm just above that figure and take your foot off the accelerator pedal. That way no fuel at all will be utilized.

Pulse and glide may also be utilized with DFC on the level pavement, and with practice it will even work driving up a hill. One test showed that using pulse and glide over a couple of miles got 92mpg (3.07 liters per 100km) out of a Yaris.

On an expressway, though, this fell and the temper of drivers behind rose as the car surged ahead and then slowed. As a matter of fact, the strategy might work best at only comparatively moderate speeds, according to a few who have experimented with it.

Individuals driving hybrids, like the Toyota Prius, may do something similar according to those who have attempted it.

It can also be utilized in a car with an average combustion engine by turning the engine off shortly after the pulse and then restarting it by re-engaging the clutch (easier naturally in a manual) after the glide.

However as many point out in their books and articles, pulse and glide can be dangerous (it might likewise turn off the power steering and power-assisted braking) and is illegal in a lot of places.

Chapter 5:

Ride The Slipstream

Synopsis

Drafting or slipstreaming is a strategy where 2 vehicles or objects align in a close group reducing the overall effect of drag due to exploiting the lead object's slipstream.

Drafting

This driving strategy has given me some first-class mileage when I used to travel back and forth long distance a long time ago. Plainly, it calls for a lot of skill and it's not exactly advocated, since you should pay attention to the road and we all recognize most individuals just don't. All the same it is probably among the best "secret" fuel saving tips I am able give you.

This strategy is often utilized by race car drivers to increase speed and used by truck convoys to save fuel. Every car has a particular amount of drag (or wind resistance). This drag, the rolling resistance of your tires and the friction in your engine are the 3 chief causes of reduced gas efficiency.

A car proceeding through the air causes the air to split around the car and produces turbulence behind the car (the slipstream). If you drive your auto into another cars slipstream, both cars will economize on fuel (less turbulence). The following car saves the most gas.

Now remember, I'm not recommending that you tailgate. All the same, you are able to try to find a big truck (more turbulence and a longer slipstream tail) and sneak in there. Now you are able to still keep some distance (contrary to the NASCAR driver) and still save fuel.

All the same, a lot of individuals can't regulate their speed without braking. In this case you're probably better off just maintaining your distance and not braking.

Hypermilers utilizing this strategy may achieve 75 mpg or more. On the TV show Mythbusters, slipstreaming behind an 18-wheel truck was tested and results indicated that traveling a hundred feet (thirty meters) behind the truck expanded overall mpg efficiency by eleven percent. Traveling ten feet (three meters) behind the truck acquired a thirty-nine percent gain in efficiency.

Of course one must remember that this is the truck's blindspot and if the truck stops fast there's much less time to respond. Truckers are not fond of the additional stress this puts on them, worrying about cars on their tail. In addition, it can be very serious for the following car if one of the truck's tires (or their recaps) blows out, as the chunks of expelled rubber can be big enough to cause serious harm, even death, to a driver following too close.

Bottom line... this will save gas but it can cause damage too!

Chapter 6:

Use The Right Oil

Synopsis

You are able to better your car's fuel consumption rate by 1 percent to 2 percent by using the manufacturer's suggested grade of motor oil. Opt for motor oil with the words "energy conserving" on the API performance label. This oil holds friction-reducing additives.

Do It Yourself

Changing your vehicle's oil is essential to keep it running in tip-top shape and it saves gas. Oil allows for lubrication for your vehicle's engine, which keeps the active parts of the engine from directly contacting one another. Motor oil likewise helps disperse heat from the engine and keep contaminants from reaching the critical parts of the engine. Changing your oil on a regular basis guarantees that proper lubrication, heat dissipation, and contaminant removal will continue undisturbed as well as save gas.

Changing your own oil isn't for everybody. You might be satisfied by paying to have somebody else do it for you. But if you would like to save a few bucks, and like tinkering around with mechanical things, changing your own oil might be just what you're looking for as a money saving tip. A do-it-yourself oil change may be done for as little as twelve -fifteen dollars. Here is a fast overview of the steps essential to get the job done.

To change your own oil, the first thing you need to do is make certain you car is on a flat part of your garage or drive. If the engine is cold, warm up your car to thin the oil so that it runs out better. With the auto off, and the emergency brake set, block the car's wheels and start jacking the car up with a jack. Use jack stands to support the car after it's lifted to the right height. Never keep the auto supported via the jack. It may give way and the car will come crashing down on you.

Find the drain plug in the engine's oil pan. This is commonly the part of the engine that's closest to the ground. In the effort to sustain a clean work area, lay down paper under the general area of the drain plug and oil filter. Put the container that you're utilizing to catch the

used oil directly below the drain plug. Use a ratchet and socket or a wrench to undo and remove the drain plug. Let the oil drain till the old oil is gone. Removing the oil filler cap off will help the oil drain faster.

Next find the oil filter. Use your oil filter wrench to undo the oil filter, by turning it counter-clockwise. After it's loose, finish removing the oil filter by hand. Allow a few more moments for all of the leftover oil to drain from the engine.

Ready the new oil filter by utilizing a little oil to lubricate the rubber seal on the fresh oil filter. Put the fresh oil filter on by threading it onto the post where the old filter was. Don't over tighten it or the seal won't be good. Thread it on finger tight, and then utilize the oil filter wrench to tighten it about another one-half turn.

Place the drain plug back in the engine's oil pan. If you have a fresh washer for the drain plug, that's great, but generally, the previous washer is still in good condition. Don't over tighten the drain plug. You do not want to strip it or make it hard to remove next time.

Put in the fresh oil, utilizing the amount suggested by your vehicle's manufacturer and the energy efficient oil. Check the dipstick after filling. It should display that you have the correct amount of oil.

Finally start the engine and look for leaks. If no leaks are discovered, you're done.

Chapter 7:

Replace Air Filters

Synopsis

Keep a close eye on your engine's air filter. When the engine air filter backs up with dirt, dust and bugs, it causes your engine to work harder and your car gets to be less fuel-efficient.

Keep It Clean

Replacing a clogged air filter may improve your fuel consumption rate by as much as ten percent and save you fifteen cents a gallon.

It's a beneficial idea to have your engine air filter checked at each oil change. The Car Care Council recommends changing your car's air and oil filters every 3 months or 3,000 miles or as specified in your owner's manual.

If your car is beginning to run poorly, or you notice a drop in fuel efficiency, it may be time to change your air filter. It's a fast job that most physically capable individuals can do for themselves to save some money.

Go to your local auto store and get the right replacement filter. If you don't understand which one to get, then take off the old one first and take it to the auto parts store to make certain you get the correct one.

You will want to Turn off the car engine and allow it to cool down. Once the car is cool open the hood and find the air cleaner housing.

On older autos it will generally be a circular metal object right on top of the engine. Newer autos generally have plastic housings placed in an assortment of positions, but commonly within easy reach once you're under the hood. You will find a description and usually a picture location in your autos user manual.

Decide what tools you will need, commonly just either a flat or Phillips head screwdriver. Some of the time the housing is merely held with clamps that you are able to flip up with your index finger.

You will open the housing and lift out the old filter. Have a close look at it to see if it is indeed in need of replacement. You'll come across obvious grime and discoloration on the paper pleats as well as dust around the integrated seal if it needs to be changed.

Take a clean soft cloth to wipe out the top and bottom of the air filter housing, and then drop in the fresh filter and replace the top of the housing just as you removed it.

Chapter 8:

Tips About The Tank

Synopsis

There are some tips you should know about the gas in your tank.

Use It Right

Make sure you fill up with a lower-octane gas. Purchase the lowest grade or octane of gas that is suitable for your auto. Unless your car calls for premium gas, filling up your car with high-octane fuel is a total waste of money. That high-dollar premium fuel will not boost your car's fuel economy or performance even a little, so just skip it.

If you're not certain what grade of fuel works most effectively for your car, open up your owner's manual and have a look. As long as your engine does not knock or ping once you fuel up with regular unleaded, you are good to drive on this much more inexpensive gas. Passing on high-dollar premium gas may save you hundreds of dollars every year.

Do not top off your tank. Do not bother topping off your tank when filling your car at the pump. Any extra gas is just going to slosh around or ooze out. Why squander your money paying for gasoline your car won't use? Quit pumping at the first indication that your tank is full when the automatic nozzle clicks off.

Make sure you tighten up that gas cap. Gas will vaporize from your car's gas tank if it has a way out. Loose, missing or damaged gas caps cause 147 million gallons of gasoline to vaporize yearly, according to the Car Care Council. So make sure to tighten up that gas cap each and every time you gas up your auto.

Get that car in the shade. The hot summertime sun that makes the inside of your auto feels like a sweat room likewise vaporizes fuel from your gas tank. If you let your automobile bake in the sun there's going to be a higher amount of evaporative emissions that occur than

if you park in the shade. So park your car in the shade of a building or tree if possible. And purchase a good windshield shade. A windshield shade blanks out sunlight and helps to keep heat out of the inside of your car.

Make sure you utilize your garage for your car. If you have a garage clear it out and make room for your auto. Parking in your garage will help your car remain warm in winter and cool in summertime, and you won't have to depend as much on your gas - gulping air conditioner or defroster when you drive.

Chapter 9:
Alternative Transportation

Synopsis

We all know most of the most popular alternative transportation tips, but do we attempt to integrate them into our lifestyle? Perhaps these tips will help us to get going to save some money!

Do It Differently

How about using a car pool? You know it's curious how we hear how we should carpool less often than let's say twenty years ago! But it is a good alternative transportation to keep in mind and try to do more regularly.

We as well can walk as often as possible. Besides saving money walking is better for you and the environment. Check into living within walking distance to your work, or consider living in a pedestrian friendly designed community.

Get out your bike. Utilizing your bike for transportation is a dandy alternative to using the gas guzzler. Check into your community plans and see if there is bike path committee. If there is not one consider beginning a bike path group to construct a safe bike path in your community and bike everywhere you are able.

Think about a Motorized Bike/Scooter. Think of the fun of riding a foot powered scooter and the fun had on Mopeds of the 1970's? Think about purchasing a fancy new scooter or fuel efficient motorized scooter to save a ton of gas.

Check into being able to telecommute. See about the alternative of working from home. If this isn't an option ask and see if your employer would think about letting you work from home part-time.

Look into energy efficient vehicles. Learn about the options and benefits to utilizing energy efficient vehicles, including the tax credits that are available!

How about using public transportation when possible? Google Transit public transportation makes it simple to find routes, directions, and even has a characteristic that lets you input your requested time of arrival to plan your trip. Google Transit is available in many major cities...with more cities added daily. Or look for a website for your local public transportation.

You could live car free! You are able to rent a car for use when you need it.

And last but not least make sure you combine your errands into one trip, instead of striking out multiple times during the day. Coordinate your stops so they're near one another and so you don't retrace your path. You might even be able to park in one central spot and walk between some of your stops, instead of driving and parking at each one. Utilize navigation aids on the Net or in your vehicle to keep from getting lost — and thus wasting fuel — when you're headed to a new, alien location.

Chapter 10:

Buy A More Efficient Car

Synopsis

With the data provided to you by the EPA you are able to make a wise choice when it comes to purchasing your next car. There are many guides out there to assist you with your decision.

Purchase

Never make a rush decision when you're buying a new car or truck for more fuel efficiency. Take your time and make certain that you comparison shop to make certain that you are getting the best deal that you are able to get.

Most of the newer cars that are being developed these days are extremely fuel efficient so you are able to be assured that you will be making the right choice no matter what type of car that you buy. Just know that some are more fuel efficient than others.

It will all boil down to what auto is best for you and which one appeals to you the most and which one you feel will save you more on gas. By utilizing consumer guides you are able to see which cars are the most popular on the market nowadays.

When you are buying a vehicle here are some matters that you should keep in mind if you are thinking of fuel efficiency:

- Purchase a smaller vehicle that will still meet your needs in the city. If you require a bigger vehicle that you won't be utilizing on a daily basis you may want to think about leasing/renting one.
- Think about putting yourself on the waiting list of the increasingly popular hybrid car. The sum of money that you'll save in fuel costs will come back to you in a short amount of time.

- Select fewer of the “power” options that you are proposed when you purchase your new car. These power options include air conditioning, power windows, and automatic transmission.
- Purchase a two wheel drive if you have no true need for a four wheel drive vehicle.

Wrapping Up

Gas prices just keep going up, and the money in our wallet just keeps vaporizing more quickly. There are many ways you are able to spend less money on gas and reduce your overall fuel consumption. But, you must think it through and begin formulating new plans and hopefully this book has given you some fresh ideas!

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Today You Will Be That Source!
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