

OCTOBER IS

Car Care

MONTH

Want to save on gas?

Reduce fuel consumption by 10% with fuel-efficient driving

With the price of gas constantly on the increase, reducing your gas consumption by 10 percent sounds pretty darn good. By putting into practice a few fuel-efficient driving techniques, you can cut back on your fuel consumption immediately. Fuel-efficient driving, or "eco-driving", involves making some simple changes to your habits.

MAINTAIN A CONSTANT SPEED

Drive at a constant speed, avoiding unnecessary accelerations and sudden stops. Try paying closer attention to your driving environment so that you can anticipate slow-downs and avoid braking at the last minute. Increase the distance between yourself and other vehicles in order to keep constant speeds and avoid repetitive braking.

REDUCE YOUR SPEED

Air resistance is greater at high speeds, and it forces your vehicle to consume more energy in order to keep moving

forward. Reducing your speed from 120 km/h to 100 km/h uses 20 percent less fuel!

MAINTAIN A LOW ENGINE SPEED

Your engine speed, in revolutions per minute, is indicated by a dashboard tachometer or RPM gauge. Monitor this gauge, because your engine will achieve optimum efficiency at a lower engine speed of 2,500 RPM.

AVOID UNNECESSARY IDLING

Today's car engines do not need to be warmed up in order to work well. That means there is no need to leave your engine idling for a while before you drive away in the morning. Unless you are in traffic, idling at a standstill is a waste of gas and money — your car will use more gas to idle for 10 seconds than it will if you stop and restart your vehicle.

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