



ABA News to Use

Keeping banking's frontline personnel informed

Tips for Saving Money on Fuel

Rising gas prices are squeezing budgets across the board. But you can still save on gas -- and keep your savings plans on track-- with the following “banker’s dozen” fuel economy tips:

1. Choose the lowest grade (octane) of gas that’s right for your car. Your owner’s manual has this information.
2. Look for service stations that offer discounts for cash, or use a credit card with cash rebates for gasoline purchases -- at least you’ll get something back.
3. Stop pumping before your tank is full to the top -- topping off wastes gas and money.
4. Make sure your gas cap fits tightly so gas won’t evaporate.
5. If possible, do your stop-and-go driving during non-rush-hour times to save time and fuel.
6. Make a point to use a light touch and light foot -- sudden stops and starts overtax the engine and burn extra fuel.
7. Air conditioning is fine for highway driving, but using it in stop-and-go situations can lower fuel efficiency up to 20 percent. Open the windows instead.
8. Plan your route before getting in your car to lower the number of miles required to do errands.
9. For longer trips, Web sites including AAA offer fuel cost estimators that will give you gas and mileage totals for your specific make of car on one-way and round-trip journeys.
10. Slow down. You can save up to two miles per gallon by going from 65 to 55 mph.
11. Keep your engine tuned for efficiency, and your tires properly aligned, balanced and inflated.
12. Clean out all non-essentials in the trunk to lessen “cargo” weight and increase fuel economy.
13. Leave the car at home. Can you walk, take a bus or ride a bicycle instead of driving?

For information about ABA News to Use, or to suggest subjects for future articles, please contact ABA’s [Brian Nixon](#).