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Avoid ke especial vehicle. Consider the weight of the vehicle. The reduction is based on the percentage of extra weight relative to the vehicle's weight and affects smaller vehicles more than larger ones.

Fuel Economy Benefit: 1-2% / 100 lbs
Equivalent Gasoline Savings: \$0.04-\$0.08/gallon

4. Avoid Excessive Idling
Idling gets 0 miles per gallon. Cars with larger engines typically waste more gas at idle than do cars with smaller engines.

5. Use Cruise Control
Using cruise control on the highway helps you maintain a constant speed and, in most cases, will save gas.

6. Use Overdrive Gears
When you use overdrive gearing, your car's engine speed goes down. This saves gas and reduces engine wear.

Note: Cost savings are based on an assumed fuel price of \$4.08/gallon.
Source: Federal Trade Commission

KEEPING YOUR CAR IN SHAPE

Keep Your Engine Properly Tuned

Fixing a car that is noticeable 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.

Fixing a serious maintenance problem, such as a faulty oxygen sensor, can improve your mileage by as much as 40 percent.



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Keep Tires Properly Inflated

You can improve your gas mileage by around 3.3 percent by keeping your tires inflated to the proper pressure. Under-inflated tires can lower gas mileage by 0.4 percent for every 1 psi drop in pressure of all four tires. Properly inflated tires are safer and last longer.

Fuel Economy Benefit: up to 3 %
Equivalent Gasoline Savings: up to \$0.12/gallon

Use the Recommended Grade of Motor Oil
You can improve your gas mileage by 1-2 percent by using the manufacturer's recommended grade of motor oil. For example, using 10W-30 motor oil in an engine designed to use 5W-30 can lower your gas mileage by 1-2 %. Using 5W-30 in an engine designed for 5W-20 can lower your gas mileage by 1-1.5 %. Also look for motor oil that say "Energy Conserving" on the API performance symbol to be sure it contains friction-reducing additives.

Fuel Economy Benefit: 1-2 %
Equivalent Gasoline Savings: \$0.4 - 0.8/gallon

Note: Cost savings are based on an assumed fuel price of \$4.08/gal
Source: www.fueleconomy.gov

RECOMMENDED	
tire size	tire pressure
tire tread	tire wear
vehicle capacity	vehicle weight
oil grade	oil type
oil weight	oil viscosity
oil quantity	oil change interval



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COLLINS is president of the Senior's Right to Know Network. Sam specializes in assisting Senior citizens, 62 & older to utilize their Senior's Right to Know Network. Turn it into a benefit them retirement and you can be 800-242-5085. You can find more information at [delawarefinancial.com](http://www.delawarefinancial.com).



Combining Your Trips
(Saves Time and Money)

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 multi-purpose 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.

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if you use shower, or if you and your apartment other both work a common schedule. In that case, you can dial back your heating/cooling while you're at work, but have it back at a comfortable level when you arrive home at the end of the day.

(3) Put a sealed jar or jug of water in your toilet tank or even a brick. Doing so displaces water in the tank and causes you to use less. Of course, too little water when you flush can cause problems, so you'll have to experiment with this one. But be careful... Displacing so much water that you have to flush twice is generally more wasteful than flushing a larger volume once.

(4) Install low-flow shower heads. Actually, I only did this for the sake of completeness, because I hate weak showers. I'd much rather cut my shower short than deal with wimpy water flow.

(5) Install aerator screens on all of your faucets. Most modern houses will have aerators on their kitchen and bathroom sinks, but many don't have them when it comes to laundry or utility sinks. The magic of aerator screens is that they increase the apparent "power" of the stream of water as it comes out of the faucet. Thereby, you don't need to turn the faucet up as high to get the same effect.

(6) Get a separate water meter for your exterior hose and/or irrigation system. In most locales, your sewer bill is tied to your water usage. Why pay more for sewer service in the summer when much of the water isn't going down the drain? Many water utilities allow you to have dual meters, only one of which gets billed for sewer service (the one that feeds your house).

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(10) Insulate your garage door. Many garage doors today are already insulated, but if your home is older, you may find your garage door is not. Insulating your garage door works wonders for controlling the temperature in a room above the garage.

(11) Plant trees in strategic locations around your house. This is a longer term solution, but deciduous shade trees can keep your house much cooler in the summer without blocking the sun in the winter. Planting trees also helps offset our high-carbon lifestyles.

(12) This is where you guys come in. Instead of capping this list at twelve, I bet you have tons of ideas yourself. Make you own list or if you like, give me a call and I can add them to the list above and share them with everyone.

Thinking About Buying a New Vehicle?

For the latest gas mileage estimates and more information for 1985-2009 model year vehicles visit www.fueleconomy.gov.

Selecting which vehicle to purchase is the most important fuel economy decision you'll make.

The difference between a car that gets 20 MPG and one that gets 30 MPG amounts to \$1,020 per year (assuming 15,000 miles of driving annually and a fuel cost of \$4.08).

That's \$5,100 extra in fuel costs over five years!

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