







# ECO-PRIVING TOP TIPS

If you implement these eco-driving tips you could experience an overall fuel <u>saving of 15% or more</u>.

# The top four tips



#### Shift to a higher gear as soon as possible

Driving at lower engine speeds reduces fuel consumption; change up between 2,000 and 2,500 rpm.

2



#### Anticipate road conditions and drive more smoothly

Rather than last minute braking, decelerate smoothly by easing off on the throttle as early as possible. This allows the car to decelerate using engine braking. With the car in gear and the throttle released, a modern car uses no fuel at all. This form of braking is also smoother on the car and its occupants.

3



# Maintain a steady speed in as high a gear as possible

Driving at a steady speed requires little effort for the engine. Avoiding unnecessary acceleration and heavy braking helps reduce your fuel consumption.

4



#### Drive a little slower than your normal speed

Stick to the speed limits and make your fuel go further. For most cars the most efficient speed is 45–50 mph. The faster you go above this, the more fuel you will use.

Driving at 50mph rather than 70mph reduces your fuel consumption by 10% at a stroke.

# Best of the rest

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# Switch off rather than idling if you're stationary for more than a minute or so

When stuck in traffic or waiting for someone, switch off your engine. Switching off in appropriate situations can soon lead to significant savings.

6



## Keep your tyres at optimum pressures

Under-inflated tyres not only lead to poor road holding but also cause excessive drag and resistance, and as a result increase fuel consumption. Both over and under-inflated tyres can be dangerous to road holding, so make sure your tyres are at their recommended pressure.

7



## Switch off air conditioning unless absolutely necessary

Use air conditioning sparingly as your engine has to work harder to make the air conditioning machinery work. If driving at low speed, open the window.

8



# Close your windows if travelling at 50mph or more

The aerodynamic drag on your car of an open window at speeds of 50mph or more can add to your fuel usage. Keep your windows closed at high speeds.

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# Remove roof boxes and roof racks if not being used

Car designers work hard to make their products as aerodynamic as possible. Adding a roof box or rack can spoil this by increasing drag on your car and therefore increasing your engine workload and fuel usage.

A Spanish research study found that using a large roof box whilst travelling at motorway speeds could increase your fuel consumption by as much as 39%. So, if not in use, remove them.

10



# Remove excessive weight that is not needed

Carrying excess weight in a vehicle increases fuel consumption, so heavy or large items, e.g. heavy tool kits, golf clubs, etc should be removed when not required.

