



## Eco Driving Made Easy

Want to do more for the environment, or just save some money? You could trade in your current car for a newer, greener model – but not all of us can afford to do so. Don't worry, though – you can make a real difference just by changing your driving habits.

### CHANGE YOUR DRIVING STYLE TO BE MORE EFFICIENT

- Modern engines don't need to be warmed up before driving, so just drive off after you've started the car and your windows are clear.
- If you get stuck in traffic for even a couple of minutes, switch the engine off. Many modern cars do this automatically, as this feature alone can save up to 10% of your fuel.
- Look ahead when driving, and slow down earlier so you can keep the car moving where possible. Constantly accelerating and braking is very inefficient and uses lots of fuel.
- Drive smoothly away from stops like give way lines or traffic lights, as accelerating harder than necessary will increase fuel consumption.
- Use the highest gear possible without letting the engine labour – usually change up at 2000rpm (for a diesel car) to 2500rpm (for a petrol car).
- Stick to the speed limit on major roads, as fuel efficiency drops sharply as your speed increases.
- Allow more time for journeys so you don't have to rush, and stay relaxed for a smoother trip.
- Share cars with colleagues or friends where possible – this will reduce your fuel cost by at least 50%!

### LOOK AFTER YOUR CAR TO SAVE FUEL

- Don't drive around with unnecessary weight in your car – the engine will have to work harder and, as a result, you'll use more fuel. If you don't need it, don't carry it.
- Remove roof boxes and roof racks when you're not using them, because the extra aerodynamic drag they cause will increase fuel consumption.
- If conditions allow close the windows and sunroof, because these also create drag and will increase fuel consumption.
- Stick to the manufacturer's service schedule – a well maintained car emits less carbon dioxide than one that isn't.
- Under-inflated tyres wear out faster and have more rolling resistance, so check them weekly to get the best life from them, and maximize your fuel economy.