BLOWBAG: 7 Things to Check Before Driving

Brake. Before going on for a ride, check the brake fluid and make sure it is performing at its maximum level. Check for the brake pads and gas pedal if it is 100% okay.

Lights. Check engine light, headlights, brake lights, and signal lights if they are functioning well.

Oil. The oil should reach the "full" mark to consider it good. Check for oil leaks.

Water. The water of the radiator should be full to prevent overheating. Check if there is a water leak. Check the windscreen washer bottle to make sure there is enough supply.

Battery. Check the battery terminals.

Air. Assess the air pressure of tires and make sure there are no bulges and holes. If the tire treads are worn out, change tires as soon as possible.

Gasoline. Make sure there is enough gas in the gas tank by checking the gas gauge.

References:

Fuel-efficient driving. (n.d.). http://eartheasy.com/ move_fuel_efficient_driving.html

BLOWBAG: 7 *things to check before driving.* (2010, Sept. 21). http://lakwatserangfrog.blogspot.com/2010/09/blowbag-7things-to-check-before-road.html

CO2 Mitigation through Efficient Driving

CO2 Avoidance of fuel saved:

Diesel = 2.7 kg/liter Gasoline= 2.3 kg/liter



Do your part in saving the environment.

Drive efficiently.

Save gas, save money.

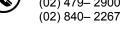
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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY



Efficient Driving Tips



Plan trips



Planning trips help avoid congested routes and roads.

Change driving habits

As much as possible, **combine** all small trips and errands. Every time you start an engine cold, your car burns 20% more fuel.



Leave early to avoid traveling during peak hours.

Gas up wisely



Buy gasoline during the coolest time of the day, early morning or late in the afternoon. This will result in loading 3-6% more fuel as against filling up during noontime when

the ambient temperature is higher. **Don't fill** fuel tank up to the brim to avoid spillage,

Get rid of all extra weights

Remove unnecessary items from the trunk or inside of the car. For every extra 50 kilos in one's car, its fuel mileage decreases by 2%, especially when driving up.

Preferably use small cars



Smaller engines usually give better fuel economy.

Accelerate with care

Avoid jack-rabbit starts. Drive away immediately when starting from cold – idling wastes fuel and wears down the engine.



Moderate speed to minimize heavy braking and sharp accelerations.

Maintain speed to save gas. The most efficient speed depends upon the type of car but is usually between 75 and 90 kph or an rpm of less than 3000. Anticipate road conditions and drive steadily.

Anticipate stops



To avoid skidding. Skidding is caused by sudden hard and violent braking. Tests prove that a vehicle driv-

en at 60 kph can travel a distance of 650 meters by a gradu-

al halt without additional fuel consumption.

Pick a lane and stay on it

While driving, it is more economito drive along a straight line. Frequent changing of lanes is unsafe burns a lot more fuel. Unnecessary overtaking results to cessive fuel consumption.

cal and ex-

Use windows and air conditioning wisely

Minimize use of air conditioning. In some situations, if it's cool enough, use the flow-through ventilation instead of rolling down the windows or using the ac.

Setting the air con at the lowest level is also a good consideration.

At high speeds, closing the windows is more efficient because of the air drag.



Park car properly

Park car in the shade of a building or under a tree whenever possible. Use your car garage.



Check tires regularly



Keep tires properly inflated. Under

inflated tires cause 1% increase in fuel consumption due to increased resistance. Over-

inflated tires cause imbalance in gravitational weight due to insufficient tire-to-tire surface contact.

Make it a habit to check tire pressure, especially after a sudden drop in temperature.

Change oil and oil filters

Change oil and oil filters at intervals recommended by the manufacturer. Dirty oil and low oil levels can cause friction and wear that



rob gasoline mileage and can seriously damage the engine.

Observe proper maintenance



Regularly tune up car to ensure best performance. Without a good tune up, a vehicle uses as much as 20% more gasoline than a well tuned-up vehicle.

Give special attention to maintain clean air filters.

Consider replacing old vehicle

Monitor fuel consumption. Measure the cost of keeping an old car against getting a newer, more fuel-efficient vehicle.

