

Why go electric?



Good reasons why it makes sense to buy an all-electric car.

- Much cheaper to run. An electric car costs approx. 3.5p per mile (depending on the cost of electricity) as opposed to 10p for a petrol vehicle. Servicing costs are also much lower as there are many fewer moving parts. These two factors offset the initial higher purchase cost and over a five year period the costs are roughly the same.
- If charging from renewable electricity, emissions are zero.
- Re-charging from home can be done overnight using economy tariffs. There is a grant towards a charger.
- There is a Government grant of £3,500 towards the purchase cost of a new electric car.
- Road Fund Licence is zero for vehicles costing under £40,000.
- Battery range is much improved with typical range 150 - 200 miles (some as much as over 300 miles.)
- Electric cars are much quieter.
- Many electric cars have *amazing* acceleration.
- All major manufacturers are now producing at least one model.
- No congestion charges and in some areas free parking.
- Nationwide recharging infrastructure is ever expanding and increasingly charging points use contactless credit cards.
- Recharging speeds are coming down dramatically. The time taken depends on the size of the battery and the speed of the charging point. A typical 7 kW home charger will take around 9 hours to recharge a 60kWh battery. Rapid 350kW away from home charging points can recharge up to 80% full in as little as 20 minutes.*
- In car Sat Nav mapping can show availability of charging points in real time and take you to nearest charger.



From 2030 the sale of all new petrol and diesel cars will be banned as part of the Government's efforts to reduce carbon emissions and pollution. Certain new plug in hybrids will continue to be sold until 2032.

With the introduction of a "smart electricity grid" electric car batteries could be used to store home generated electricity. This could be from home solar panels or imported cheap rate electricity that could then be sold back to the grid when electricity costs more.

The electric car scene is a rapidly changing scene as battery technology evolves and prices come down.

- * Once an electric car battery reaches approximately 80% full, the rate of charge slows to prevent the battery overheating. More expensive cars now have a battery cooling system to overcome this characteristic.
- The recharging also depends on the capacity of the car inbuilt charger. Increasingly new electric cars have minimum of capacity 100kW, a few as much as 350kW

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