

Hypermiling 101

Step One

1. Go to fuelconomy.gov to learn your vehicle's suggested miles per gallon.
2. Maintain your car: keep it tuned, use high-performance spark plugs, use low viscosity oil like lightweight 0W-20, or as allowed by car manufacturer.
3. Keep your wheels balanced. Check tire pressure for correct pressure. The wrong pressure can cause drag or insufficient surface contact.
4. Take unneeded stuffs out of your car. Leave spare tire, jack, etc., obviously. (Note: "stuffs" is more than one stuff).

Step Two

1. Maintain a steady speed; use cruise control whenever possible.
2. Drive as if you don't have brakes – coast as much as possible. But don't disengage clutch or put in neutral gear because it's idling = zero mpg.
3. Coast safely; keep your foot ready to brake. Observe traffic laws; never coast through stop signs.

Step Three

1. Use the accelerator as little as possible. When you must accelerate, do so gently and get it over quickly.
2. **Stop idling!** Turn off your engine when stopped for more than 2 minutes. Frequent restarts are no longer hard on a car's engine and battery. The added wear amounts to no more than \$10/yr. That's less than the cost of wasted fuel which can add up to \$70-\$650/yr. Idling increases overall engine wear as the car runs longer than necessary. Check out the Idle Less campaign.

3. Buckle your seat belt, adjust mirrors and driver's seat, arrange your phone, etc. before starting the engine. When you are parking, first turn off the engine then undo your seat belt, etc.
4. You don't need to "warm up" your car in cold weather. It wastes gas and pollutes the air. Just driving will warm your engine.
5. Go uphill slower and downhill faster. Use momentum to your benefit.

Step Four

1. Limit A/C use to the freeway. It works better at speeds over 45 mph anyway. Set temperature at coldest setting with the fan at the lowest speed possible. Periodically cycle air from just the fan to A/C + the fan.
2. Open windows cause drag on the car at higher speeds so keep them closed. Put a convertible roof up, especially on the freeway.

Plan Ahead

1. Plan your route for fuel efficiency. Go to furthest destination first which warms up your car for the remainder of the trip.
2. Take the route with the fewest stops and the fewest hills when possible. This sometimes means taking Hwy 26 instead of TV Hwy.

Parking

1. Avoid searching for the perfect parking spot; that's a lot of stop and go as you wait for other cars to pull out, pedestrians, etc. We all can use the exercise so park farther away.
2. Find a spot where you can pull through. Backing up wastes gas.