

Daily Life with an Electric Vehicle

The Electric Vehicle (EV):

An electric powered vehicle, or EV, looks like any other gasoline powered car until you open the hood and see empty storage or a motor instead of a combustion engine.

- The electric motor is smaller than the typical space under a hood and does not need regular maintenance.
- A row of lithium-ion batteries is usually located either under the seats or in the rear.
- A charging port can be in different places on different model EVs. Sometimes it is in the same place where the fuel filler is on gasoline vehicles, it can be located on the driver's side near the side mirror or in the front area of the car where the hood is.

Safety:

Though new car gasoline car manufacturers include sensors to improve the safety of those inside and outside the vehicle, they are limited without batteries to power them while the car's combustion engine is off.

- These sensors are standard and in continuous operation in an EV.
- Motion and temperature sensors work in tandem to keep the interior from overheating when occupied, whether the vehicle is on or off. This technology can help when children and animals are left in hot cars.
- Exterior cameras can detect pedestrians, other vehicles and road hazards to reduce accidents.

Charging:

The electric vehicle is not confined to cities. Just as early automobiles depended on where fueling stations were located EVs are dependent on charging stations. These stations are under construction to supply electric vehicles with power.

- At present, EV charging stations are spread out at intervals along major roadways to prevent EVs from running out of battery power and the infrastructure is growing.
- Remote tourist spots already have EV charging stations, including some which do not have gasoline stations.
- Usually, EV charging stations are placed adjacent to a restaurant or hotel, allowing the traveler to fully charge the EV while they eat a meal or sleep.
- Some businesses have added EV charging stations to parking lots for their employees or customers.

Maintenance:

The cost of electricity, like fuel, varies from state to state. By and large, the daily expense to charge an EV is significantly less than purchasing fuel to cover the same distance. Most EV owners invest in an EV outlet for their home.

- An EV's electric motor does not need oil and overall has fewer moving parts to wear out.
- EVs do not drip anything to make roads slippery and do not contaminate the ground.

Sound Pollution:

Electric vehicle motors are silent. The only noise is the tires rolling. Significantly reducing road noise improves city living, makes neighborhoods quieter and is better for wildlife.

- Animals and insects will no longer struggle to hear in high traffic areas. Some manufacturers have introduced a system of optional sounds to warn pedestrians an electric car is approaching and some states are making this a requirement for safety.
- For those who enjoy the sound of an engine revving, there is an option to mimic those noises through the car's interior speakers only.

Air Quality:

Currently, there is an environmental impact when constructing the batteries for an electric vehicle, but it is isolated to the manufacturing location. Developers continue to improve the batteries to lessen the pollution emitted during production.

- The completed EV produces no emissions and therefore no pollution where people live and work for the entire life of the car.

