

About Hltravel

Hltravel is helping local people to improve the environment of our towns, to make them more pleasant places to live, visit and spend time.

Funded by the Scottish Government and led by HITRANS, Hltravel aims to reduce traffic and congestion, in addition to helping people be a bit more active.

Cars have an important role to play in our transport system, and are essential for many people's journeys. Yet no-one wants our towns to be dominated by traffic.

Many people spend over £1,000

on fuel every year, so big savings can be made by driving a bit less or driving smarter.

Typical drivers can save around 15% of their fuel, just by driving more efficiently.

Sharing a car with someone else going the same way will cut your fuel bill in half.

Give the suggestions in this leaflet a try and see how much you can save!

For more information about the Hltravel campaign visit www.hitrans.org.uk/hltravel



Further information

For more information on smarter driving:

www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/domestic/drive-smarter

To find other people to car share with: <http://ifyoucareshare.com/>

To explore public transport options and access other travel information:

- In the Highlands www.travelhighland.info
- In the Western Isles www.cne-siar.gov.uk/travel
- Or visit www.travelinescotland.com



Drive Smarter

Petrol 15% off: drive smarter

Follow these tips to save fuel every time you drive:

- **Drive smoothly:** Anticipate the road ahead as much as possible to avoid unnecessary braking and acceleration.
- **Higher gear:** When accelerating, shift to higher gears early, usually by around 2000rpm.
- **Step off the accelerator:** When slowing down or driving downhill, remain in gear but take your foot off the accelerator as early as possible. In most situations this reduces fuel flow to virtually zero while the car is slowing.
- **Slow down:** Your fuel costs will increase the faster you drive so keep speeds reasonable.
- **Switch off your engine:** Many newer cars automatically turn off when stationary in neutral. If yours doesn't, turn off your engine when you've stopped for a minute or so to save fuel.
- **Windows vs air conditioning:** At low speed opening the windows is more efficient than using air con, but if you're travelling at more than around 40-45 miles per hour, closing the windows and using the air con will save you more.
- **Tyre pressures:** Under-inflated tyres increase your fuel consumption and can be dangerous on the road so check them at least once a month and before long journeys.
- **Roof racks/boxes:** Having these attached to your car when they're not being used will increase drag and increase your fuel costs.
- **Lighten your load:** Remove excess items from your car before travelling to reduce weight.



Petrol 50% off: car share

For some journeys, the car can be the most practical option, but before making a solo journey, consider whether you could share the journey. Doing so could halve your fuel bill.

You can arrange informally with colleagues at work, other parents at the school gate or take a look at the car share scheme [ifyoucareshare.com](https://www.ifyoucareshare.com). It's free to join and you can register if you're looking to offer or accept a lift.

Or just make fewer journeys

Do you really need to make all those journeys by car?

- Consider whether, for some journeys, you could travel by a different means. Walking, cycling or using the bus can often be as quick for short journeys.
- Plan ahead: could you combine trips rather than making lots of separate short journeys? You might save yourself a lot of time as well as fuel.
- Can you travel to somewhere closer by? Do you need to drive to and from a supermarket for a few groceries that you could buy from a local shop? Local shops can cost a little more but can save you time and fuel.

