When choosing a new car, simply compare the fuel economy figures for the types of journeys you do most to see which cars use the least fuel – and could therefore save you the most money.

New cars now have more reliable ‘official’ fuel economy figures covering a wider range of everyday journeys. These give you a clearer idea of what you could achieve and what you might therefore spend on fuel.

**MORE REALISTIC FIGURES TO HELP YOU FIND YOUR IDEAL CAR**

When choosing a new car, simply compare the fuel economy figures for the types of journeys you do most to see which cars use the least fuel – and could therefore save you the most money.

- **Low speed** (City centre driving)
  - Stop-start city centre driving with an average speed of 16mph.
- **Medium speed** (Town driving)
  - Town or suburban driving, average speed of 28mph.
- **High speed** (Rural driving)
  - Rural, A-road or dual carriageway journeys, average speed of 38mph.
- **Extra high speed** (Motorway)
  - European motorway driving with a max speed of 81mph (where permissible).
- **MIXED**
  - The average of all four journeys for those that do a variety of driving.
- **Combined**
  - The average of all four journeys.
RIGHT FIGURES + RIGHT JOURNEY = RIGHT CAR

All new cars now undergo the improved WLTP fuel economy test, using more sophisticated testing techniques, tougher procedures and ‘real world’ driving styles to better reflect how we drive today.

More realistic journeys

Are you a motorway cruiser or a city-centre crawler? For the first time, fuel economy figures are based on four different journeys which you can compare to the way you drive to get a more reliable idea of how far your fuel will take you and how much it could cost in a particular car.

Optional extras

The WLTP test also accounts for manufacturer options like larger wheels or a heavy panoramic roof – while they look great, they can adversely affect fuel economy. This means there’s no nasty surprises.

Put simply, the WLTP test gives you more realistic information so you can be a smarter car buyer and pick the most fuel efficient new car for you.

HOW DOES THE WLTP TEST GIVE YOU MORE REALISTIC FIGURES?

- More realistic driving behaviour
- Different driving situations: city, town, rural and motorway
- Higher average and maximum speeds
- Takes account of the optional equipment fitted to the vehicle
- Stricter setup and measurement conditions
- Highest and lowest fuel consumption numbers to reflect the effects of manufacturer options

Ask your dealer for help using the WLTP figures so you can choose the right car.
What is WLTP?
WLTP stands for the ‘Worldwide Harmonised Light Vehicle Test Procedure’. It’s the new globally recognised official lab test for measuring a new car’s fuel economy, electricity consumption, electric range and emissions, and replaces the previous NEDC test.

Why has WLTP been introduced?
The old NEDC test was introduced over 25 years ago, and is actually based on original principles from the 1970s. As you’d expect, times have changed and there have been big advances in car technology, testing procedures and how we now drive. The WLTP test reflects these changes, to give you a far more representative and useful indication of a car’s fuel economy, emissions or electric range.

How realistic are the new WLTP figures?
If you drive carefully in ideal conditions, it should be possible to achieve the WLTP fuel economy figures. However, there’s no lab test that can 100% reflect real-world driving conditions and behaviour, so there will always be some differences.

What about used cars?
WLTP official figures only apply to cars first registered from 1 January 2019 onwards. The vast majority of used cars currently on sale were first registered before then, so their existing NEDC economy and emissions figures still apply.

Why are the same models now showing different miles per gallon numbers?
WLTP uses robust lab testing across a broader range of journeys, based on modern road conditions and the way we drive. It also accounts for manufacturer options added to the car. This gives new fuel economy figures that are closer to real-life driving (and therefore different) from the previous NEDC test figures. Nothing’s changed with the car itself.

What’s happening to my car tax (VED) or company car tax (BIK)?
Vehicle Excise Duty and company car tax will continue to be based on NEDC CO₂ emissions until 5 April 2020. Only cars registered after this time will use WLTP CO₂ emissions figures. This doesn’t apply to cars registered before then.

Are electric and plug-in hybrid cars included?
Yes. For electric and plug-in hybrid cars, the WLTP test includes more realistic electricity consumption and electric range figures. In short, they show you how far the car can drive on a single charge and how much electricity it uses.

To find out more, speak to your car dealer.
When will WLTP replace the current figures?

From 1 January 2019, **WLTP fuel economy, electricity consumption and electric range** will replace the NEDC figures for almost all new cars on sale in the UK.

**WLTP fuel economy** – January 2019

**WLTP electricity consumption and electric range** – January 2019

What about CO₂ emissions?

The new **WLTP CO₂ emissions** figures will only come into use for taxation purposes from 6 April 2020.

Until then, the NEDC CO₂ figure will continue to be used.

**WLTP carbon emissions** – April 2020

How can I find this information when I’m buying a car?

From 1 January 2019 you’ll start to see the new WLTP fuel economy, electricity consumption and electric range figures:

- at dealerships, on the ‘environmental’ label* found next to every new car, and in vehicle brochures and sales materials
- within manufacturer brochures and on their websites
- in printed car advertising and marketing
- motoring media listings and comparison tables (these will take longer to be updated)
- in the government’s official database at [www.vehicle-certification-agency.gov.uk](http://www.vehicle-certification-agency.gov.uk)

*The new car environmental label