

Electric Vehicle (EV) Checklist

Interested in buying an EV, but not sure what to consider before making the decision? This guide will help you maximize your savings and enjoy all the benefits of clean car driving.



#1

Charging your EV

Do you have access to a plug outdoors?

If you have an outdoor plug within 25 ft of your parking location, then that may be all you need to start. All EVs can be charged via a standard 120V wall outlet - a great option for overnight charging.

Install a 240V charger

For faster charging times, consider installing a Level 2 charger (\$500-\$900 before incentives - which could cut costs by up to 50%). This option can deliver 10-60 miles of range in just one hour. Any qualified electrician can install one (\$200+ depending on access) and many states offer rebated to lower the costs of installation as well.

Public Charging

Know where to charge your EV when you are on the go. Check out [PlugShare.com](https://www.plugshare.com) and the PlugShare app for a map of residential, public and fast charging stations near you. Many could be free.

The Department of Energy also has a great online and app-based tool, the Alternative Fueling Station Locator, to help you find charging stations near you, as well as a helpful route guide that maps all the charging stations along your road trip.

For more, visit:

<https://energy.gov/eere/electricvehicles/charging-road>



#4

Check your electric utility rates

Some utilities offer time-of-use rates, which lower the costs of electricity during off-peak hours. This plan can offer consumers additional savings when charging an EV overnight. (In some jurisdictions, the rate is free!) Contact your utility company and ask for plans optimized for EV owners.

#2



Incentives

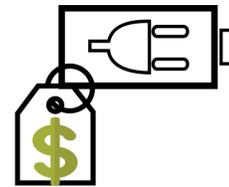
Buying an EV can qualify for federal tax credits between \$2,500 and \$7,500. State and local tax incentives can further lower the cost of buying an EV by thousands of dollars. Check out the DOE guide on federal and state tax incentives for new vehicles and at-home charging station installation.

Some states even offer EV owners access to the special High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes.

For more, visit:

<https://energy.gov/eere/electricvehicles/electric-vehicles-tax-credits-and-other-incentives>

#3



How much is it to charge an EV?

Electric vehicles offer significantly lower fuel costs compared to traditional gasoline-powered cars. On average, a gallon of gas costs about twice as much as the comparable cost to run an EV. And electricity rates tend to be more stable than oil prices.

Use the Department of Energy's eGallon tool to calculate how much can save in fuel costs by switching to an EV.

For more, visit: <https://energy.gov/eere/electricvehicles/saving-fuel-and-vehicle-costs>