

## Fueling Conversation

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Quality & Compliance

Summer driving season is fast approaching! It's time to wash the winter grime off your car, plan a vacation road trip and perhaps buy a cool new pair of sunglasses. Warm air and dry roads generally mean

better gas mileage than in winter (see October 2015 Fueling Conversation), but here are a few tips to make your summer driving more cost-effective.

**Drive slower.** Ponder Emerson's famous quote that "Life is a journey, not a destination." Although you will be eager to arrive at your beautiful vacation spot, remember that fuel economy drops as much as 20 percent when driving at 75 mph versus 55.

**Avoid the roof rack.** The more stuff you pile on top of the car, the more aerodynamic drag will reduce your mileage. Depending on your car and the size of your cargo, rooftop carriers can substantially lower fuel economy.



**Use the AC wisely.** Before starting the car, roll down the windows to release the hot air. Keep them rolled down while driving at low speeds, but roll them up when you get on the highway. At higher speeds, air conditioning is more efficient than the drag created by open windows. But air conditioning can reduce summer mileage by 10 percent, and even more in a hybrid vehicle. With your new sunglasses and the AC cranked high, you'll be super cool but your car will use more gas.

**Buy your gas at Costco.** Save your hard-earned vacation dollars by purchasing clean-burning Kirkland Signature™ Gasoline! ■