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Subject: Re: What new car to buy (for me)

Posted by [Doitle](#) on Wed, 01 Aug 2007 12:39:30 GMT

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Not to be rude or anything but when you say your car gets 40 kilometers per liter of petrol, it's like saying I get 50 hectares per oz. I have no idea what it means as far as comparison goes. Sure European cars in general use less fuel because they are lighter. There isn't much you can do besides lighten a car to increase fuel efficiency. If any of you are of the physics mindset you can do the calculation to see how much energy it takes to move something standing still to 45mph. That much energy has to come from the engine. Gasoline has a certain value in joules that it produces when burned and when you do the math there is a base amount of gasoline that has to be burned based on the weight of the vehicle and nothing else. How fast you get there is the determining factor really. You burn more by getting to that speed sooner and you save gas by slowly acheiving the speed. When you see all the little tiny cars that get 40 miles per gallon, they aren't some engineering marvel or a testament to foreign ingenuity. They are light. Really really light. It takes fewer joules of energy to get a lighter object up to speed.

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