

# Electric Vehicle 101



Seattle City Light

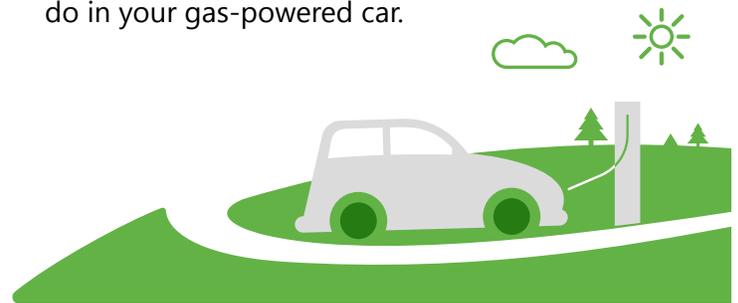
Everything you need to know about driving electric

## What is an electric car?

Powered by a rechargeable battery instead of a traditional, gas-burning engine, electric cars are simply a better way to drive. They accelerate faster, delivering a quick, quiet ride, and they eliminate the need to ever visit a gas station again.

Charging stations are installed at homes and offices and are becoming readily available on roads everywhere. The dashboard display includes speed and mileage like your gas-powered car, but instead of a gas gauge, a range monitor lets you

know how far you can drive before needing a new charge. And the pedals work just like they do in your gas-powered car.



## Why should I choose an electric car?

### A CHEAPER DRIVE

In the Pacific Northwest, electric car drivers pay a fraction of the cost to drive the same distance as a gallon of gas in a conventional car. They're cheaper to operate, with almost no maintenance costs.

### NO MORE GAS STATIONS

You'll never have to stop for gas ever again. Charge your car at home overnight just like your phone, at work or at a direct current (DC) Fast Charging Station.

### TOP-OF-THE-LINE TECHNOLOGY

The electric car dashboard display shows your battery's range, your current driving efficiency and navigation—all the must-have technology for today's driver.

### 0–60 M.P.H. IN SECONDS

When you accelerate in an electric car, the power goes directly from the battery to the tires, creating some of the quickest acceleration times possible.

### QUIET AS A MOUSE

The next time you're in a conventional car, take a listen. We've all gotten used to the engine noise as part of the driving experience—but electric cars are nearly silent at all speeds.

### BENEFITS THE ECONOMY & THE ENVIRONMENT

Electric cars are oil-free, produce 85% less carbon emissions and no smog, and can be powered by renewable energy sources like solar and wind.



## What you need to know

### HOW LONG IS YOUR COMMUTE?

Even entry-level electric cars have a range of 80+ miles per charge—well within most of our daily commutes. For those going further, there are newer models with ranges of 200+ miles per charge.

### DO YOU HAVE ACCESS TO CHARGING WHERE YOU LIVE?

If you have a source of power where you park, you're all set. You can plug right into a regular 110 volt household outlet. If you want faster charging, you can install a home charger using the same high-voltage outlet that powers your laundry dryer or stove. If you live in a condo or apartment, see if the building can install public chargers or find one of hundreds of locally available public chargers at [plugshare.com](http://plugshare.com).

### ARE THERE CHARGERS WHERE YOU WORK?

If there are, you instantly double your daily range! Car charging is becoming more and more common at the workplace, and some businesses will provide it if requested. Just ask.

### ARE THERE FAST CHARGERS IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

Even if you don't have access to a charger in your building, you may be able to find a DC Fast Charger near you. These stations greatly reduce time spent charging—adding about 50 miles of range in about 20 minutes.



# POWER SEATTLE



Courtesy of Forth

Source: Alternative Fuels Data Center, eGallon (U.S. Department of Energy)



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