



# How much does it cost to charge an ev car

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The average cost to charge an electric car at a public charging station is \$0.30 to \$0.60 per kWh, which is three to six times as much as the average American would pay to charge at home. Depending on the size and make of your car, it could cost you anywhere from \$10 to \$50 for a full charge.

Although a Level 2 charging system can cost anywhere between \$400 to \$6,500, plus the cost of installation, the cheaper rates for home charging versus public charging pay off over time.

The cheapest time to charge your car at home is overnight, when energy rates are generally the cheapest. Electric providers often increase prices at peak times--about 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. daily--so it's best to charge outside those hours.

If you compare the cost of fuel to the cost of electricity, the answer varies: Sometimes public charging stations do cost more than fuel. Ultimately, electric vehicles wind up being vastly cheaper than gas-powered cars in the long run.

David Kuchta, Ph.D. has 10 years of experience in gardening and has read widely in environmental history and the energy transition. An environmental activist since the 1970s, he is also a historian, author, gardener, and educator.

A watt is a unit of power, whereas a watt-hour is a measure of how much power is used. If you leave a 100-watt light bulb on for 10 hours, you have used 1000 watt-hours, or 1 kilowatt-hour, abbreviated as kWh.

An eGallon is the amount of electricity an EV would need to travel the same distance as a similar gas-powered car.

Table 5.6.A. Average Price of Electricity to Ultimate Customers by End-Use Sector, by State, July 2021 and 2020 (Cents per Kilowatthour). U.S. Energy Information Administration.

Hardman, Scott, et al. A Review of Consumer Preferences of and Interactions With Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure. Transportation Research Part D: Transport and Environment, vol. 62, 2018, pp. 508-523., doi:10.1016/j.trd.2018.04.002

Harto, Chris. "Electric Vehicle Ownership Costs: Today's Electric Vehicles Offer Big Savings for Consumers." Consumer Reports, October 2020.

"eGallon," U.S. Department of Energy, 2021.



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"Average Age of Automobiles and Trucks in Operation in the United States." U.S. Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics.

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