

2007 ford explorer fuel economy

2007 ford explorer fuel economy is a critical consideration for potential buyers and current owners seeking to understand the efficiency and running costs of this popular midsize SUV. The 2007 Ford Explorer, known for its rugged design and spacious interior, offers a range of engine options and drivetrain configurations that affect its fuel consumption. This article explores the fuel economy ratings of the 2007 Ford Explorer, factors influencing its mileage, comparisons with competitors, and tips to optimize fuel efficiency. Understanding these aspects helps consumers make informed decisions regarding ownership and maintenance. The discussion includes detailed insights into EPA ratings, real-world performance, and practical recommendations. Below is a comprehensive overview of what will be covered in this article.

- Fuel Economy Ratings of the 2007 Ford Explorer
- Engine and Drivetrain Impact on Fuel Efficiency
- Factors Affecting Real-World Fuel Economy
- Comparison with Competitors in the Same Class
- Tips to Improve Fuel Economy for the 2007 Ford Explorer

Fuel Economy Ratings of the 2007 Ford Explorer

The official fuel economy ratings for the 2007 Ford Explorer provide a baseline for evaluating its efficiency. These ratings are determined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under standardized testing conditions to help consumers compare vehicles. The 2007 Explorer is equipped

with different engine choices, each delivering varying miles per gallon (MPG) figures for city and highway driving.

EPA Fuel Economy Estimates

The 2007 Ford Explorer offers two primary engine options: a 4.0-liter V6 and a 4.6-liter V8. The V6 engine is commonly paired with rear-wheel drive (RWD) or four-wheel drive (4WD), while the V8 is typically available on higher trims and equipped with 4WD. According to EPA estimates:

- The 4.0-liter V6 RWD model achieves approximately 15 MPG in the city and 21 MPG on the highway.
- The 4.0-liter V6 4WD version averages around 14 MPG city and 20 MPG highway.
- The 4.6-liter V8 4WD trim delivers about 13 MPG city and 18 MPG highway.

These figures highlight the impact of engine size and drivetrain on fuel efficiency. The V6 models offer better fuel economy compared to the more powerful V8, which consumes more fuel due to increased displacement and power output.

Fuel Tank Capacity and Range

The 2007 Ford Explorer comes with a fuel tank capacity of approximately 20 gallons. Based on EPA fuel economy ratings, this translates to the following estimated driving ranges:

- V6 RWD: Up to 300 to 320 miles per tank on combined city/highway driving.
- V6 4WD: Approximately 280 to 300 miles per tank.
- V8 4WD: Around 260 to 280 miles per tank.

These ranges are useful for planning longer trips and understanding fueling frequency requirements.

Engine and Drivetrain Impact on Fuel Efficiency

The 2007 Ford Explorer's fuel economy is heavily influenced by its engine type and drivetrain configuration. Understanding these technical aspects can clarify why fuel consumption varies across different models.

4.0-Liter V6 Engine

The 4.0-liter SOHC V6 engine is the base powertrain for most 2007 Explorer models. It produces about 210 horsepower and 254 lb-ft of torque, balanced to provide adequate power while maintaining reasonable fuel efficiency. This engine uses a five-speed automatic transmission that helps optimize fuel consumption by adjusting gear ratios according to driving conditions.

4.6-Liter V8 Engine

Available on the Explorer Eddie Bauer and Limited trims, the 4.6-liter V8 generates approximately 292 horsepower and 300 lb-ft of torque. This engine offers enhanced towing capacity and performance but results in decreased fuel economy due to higher fuel demands. The V8 is paired with a six-speed automatic transmission, which partially offsets fuel consumption through more efficient gear shifts.

Drivetrain Variants: RWD vs. 4WD

The drivetrain configuration also impacts fuel economy. Rear-wheel drive models generally achieve better MPG ratings than their four-wheel drive counterparts because 4WD systems add weight and mechanical complexity, which increase fuel consumption. The additional drivetrain components in 4WD models create more drivetrain losses, reducing overall efficiency.

Factors Affecting Real-World Fuel Economy

While EPA ratings provide standardized fuel economy figures, actual mileage can vary significantly based on several external and operational factors. Understanding these helps owners estimate realistic fuel costs and identify ways to improve efficiency.

Driving Conditions and Habits

Stop-and-go city traffic, frequent acceleration, and high-speed driving adversely affect fuel economy. The 2007 Ford Explorer's fuel consumption tends to worsen in urban settings due to constant braking and idling. Conversely, steady highway speeds without excessive acceleration can improve MPG significantly.

Vehicle Load and Towing

Carrying heavy cargo or towing trailers increases the engine workload, resulting in higher fuel consumption. The 2007 Explorer has respectable towing capabilities, especially with the V8 engine, but owners should expect a drop in fuel economy when hauling substantial loads.

Maintenance and Tire Condition

Proper vehicle maintenance plays a vital role in ensuring optimal fuel efficiency. Regular oil changes, air filter replacements, and maintaining correct tire pressure reduce engine strain and rolling resistance. Worn spark plugs or dirty filters can cause inefficient combustion, lowering fuel economy.

Environmental and Terrain Factors

Driving in extreme temperatures, hilly terrain, or rough roads can contribute to increased fuel consumption. Cold weather thickens engine oil and reduces battery efficiency, while uphill driving

requires more power from the engine, leading to greater fuel use.

Comparison with Competitors in the Same Class

Assessing the 2007 Ford Explorer's fuel economy relative to other midsize SUVs from the same era provides context for its efficiency and competitiveness in the market.

Chevrolet TrailBlazer

The 2007 Chevy TrailBlazer, a direct competitor, features a 4.2-liter inline-six engine offering EPA ratings around 14 MPG city and 20 MPG highway, similar to the Explorer's V6 4WD model. Its available V8 engine versions tend to have slightly lower fuel economy, comparable to the Explorer's V8 options.

Dodge Durango

The 2007 Dodge Durango also competes in this segment, with a 4.7-liter V8 engine delivering approximately 14 MPG city and 20 MPG highway. Its fuel efficiency closely matches that of the Explorer's V8 trims, while its V6 versions typically provide marginally better mileage.

Toyota 4Runner

The Toyota 4Runner offers a 4.0-liter V6 engine that achieves approximately 16 MPG city and 20 MPG highway, slightly edging out the 2007 Explorer V6 in fuel economy. The 4Runner's reputation for reliability and fuel efficiency makes it a popular alternative in this class.

Summary of Competitor Fuel Economy

- 2007 Ford Explorer V6: 14-15 MPG city / 20-21 MPG highway
- Chevy TrailBlazer V6: 14 MPG city / 20 MPG highway
- Dodge Durango V8: 14 MPG city / 20 MPG highway
- Toyota 4Runner V6: 16 MPG city / 20 MPG highway

Overall, the 2007 Ford Explorer's fuel economy is competitive within its class, with minor variations depending on engine and drivetrain choices.

Tips to Improve Fuel Economy for the 2007 Ford Explorer

Owners seeking to maximize the fuel efficiency of their 2007 Ford Explorer can adopt several practical strategies. These steps help reduce fuel consumption, lower emissions, and save on operating costs.

Maintain Proper Tire Pressure

Ensuring tires are inflated to the manufacturer's recommended pressure reduces rolling resistance, enabling the vehicle to operate more efficiently. Underinflated tires increase drag and fuel consumption.

Regular Vehicle Maintenance

Scheduled maintenance, including oil and filter changes, spark plug replacement, and air filter cleaning, ensures the engine runs optimally, which directly affects fuel economy.

Moderate Driving Habits

Avoiding rapid acceleration, excessive idling, and aggressive braking conserves fuel. Smooth driving habits promote better mileage and reduce wear on vehicle components.

Reduce Excess Weight

Removing unnecessary cargo and roof racks decreases the vehicle's weight and aerodynamic drag, improving fuel efficiency.

Use Recommended Fuel Grade

Utilizing the fuel grade specified by Ford for the 2007 Explorer ensures efficient combustion and engine performance, contributing to optimal fuel economy.

Plan Efficient Routes

Combining errands and avoiding congested routes minimizes stop-and-go driving, which improves overall fuel consumption.

- Maintain tire pressure at recommended levels
- Perform regular engine and vehicle maintenance
- Drive smoothly and avoid aggressive maneuvers
- Remove unnecessary weight and external accessories
- Use the correct fuel grade as specified

- Plan trips to reduce idle and congestion time

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the average fuel economy of a 2007 Ford Explorer?

The 2007 Ford Explorer has an average fuel economy of about 14 miles per gallon (mpg) in the city and 20 mpg on the highway.

Does the 2007 Ford Explorer have different fuel economy ratings based on engine type?

Yes, the 2007 Ford Explorer comes with a 4.0L V6 engine that typically achieves around 14 mpg city and 20 mpg highway, while the 4.6L V8 engine has slightly lower fuel economy.

How does the 2007 Ford Explorer's fuel economy compare to other SUVs in its class?

The 2007 Ford Explorer's fuel economy is average to below average compared to other midsize SUVs from the same model year, with some competitors offering better mileage.

Can upgrading to premium fuel improve the 2007 Ford Explorer's fuel economy?

The 2007 Ford Explorer's engines are designed to run on regular unleaded gasoline, so using premium fuel typically does not improve fuel economy or performance significantly.

What driving habits can help improve the fuel economy of a 2007 Ford Explorer?

Maintaining steady speeds, avoiding rapid acceleration and heavy braking, keeping tires properly inflated, and reducing excess weight can help improve the fuel economy of a 2007 Ford Explorer.

Does the 2007 Ford Explorer have any fuel-saving features?

The 2007 Ford Explorer features electronic throttle control and an overdrive transmission which help optimize fuel efficiency, but it does not have advanced fuel-saving technologies like cylinder deactivation.

How does carrying heavy loads affect the 2007 Ford Explorer's fuel economy?

Carrying heavy loads or towing with the 2007 Ford Explorer significantly decreases fuel economy due to the extra weight and increased engine workload.

What maintenance tips can help maintain optimal fuel economy in a 2007 Ford Explorer?

Regular maintenance such as timely oil changes, replacing air filters, maintaining proper tire pressure, and ensuring the engine is properly tuned can help maintain the fuel economy of a 2007 Ford Explorer.

Additional Resources

1. Maximizing Fuel Efficiency in the 2007 Ford Explorer

This book provides practical tips and techniques for improving the fuel economy of the 2007 Ford Explorer. It covers maintenance routines, driving habits, and aftermarket modifications that can help reduce fuel consumption. Ideal for owners looking to save money at the pump and reduce their

environmental impact.

2. The 2007 Ford Explorer: A Comprehensive Guide to Fuel Economy

An in-depth guide that explores the fuel efficiency features of the 2007 Ford Explorer. The book compares different engine options and trims, offering insights into how each affects mileage. Readers will find detailed advice on optimizing fuel use and understanding the vehicle's performance metrics.

3. Driving Smart: Enhancing Fuel Mileage in Your 2007 Ford Explorer

This title focuses on smart driving techniques tailored specifically for the 2007 Ford Explorer. It explains how acceleration, braking, and speed influence fuel consumption and provides strategies to drive more economically. The book also discusses how environmental factors impact fuel efficiency.

4. Maintenance and Fuel Economy for Ford SUVs: The 2007 Explorer Edition

A maintenance-focused guide that details how regular upkeep can improve and maintain fuel economy in the 2007 Ford Explorer. Topics include tire care, engine tuning, and fluid replacements. This book is perfect for DIY enthusiasts and those wanting to extend their vehicle's efficiency.

5. Fuel Economy Myths and Facts: The 2007 Ford Explorer Explained

This book debunks common myths about fuel economy related to the 2007 Ford Explorer and clarifies facts with scientific explanations. It helps readers distinguish between marketing claims and real-world performance. The book also offers practical advice for getting the best mileage from the vehicle.

6. Aftermarket Upgrades for Better Fuel Economy in the 2007 Ford Explorer

Explore various aftermarket parts and modifications that can enhance the fuel efficiency of the 2007 Ford Explorer. From aerodynamic enhancements to engine tuning chips, this book covers options available to owners looking to boost mileage. It includes cost-benefit analyses to help readers make informed decisions.

7. The Environmental Impact of the 2007 Ford Explorer: Fuel Economy and Beyond

This book examines the environmental consequences of driving a 2007 Ford Explorer, focusing on fuel consumption and emissions. It discusses how improving fuel economy can reduce carbon footprint and

offers suggestions for eco-friendly driving practices. The book aims to raise awareness about sustainability in SUV ownership.

8. Comparing Fuel Economy: 2007 Ford Explorer vs. Competitors

A comparative study of the 2007 Ford Explorer's fuel economy against other SUVs of the same era. The book analyzes specifications, user reports, and test results to provide a clear picture of how the Explorer stacks up. It's a valuable resource for buyers considering a used SUV purchase.

9. Understanding Your 2007 Ford Explorer's Fuel Economy Dashboard

This guide helps owners interpret and utilize the fuel economy information displayed on the 2007 Ford Explorer's dashboard. It explains various indicators, alerts, and data readouts, empowering drivers to monitor and improve their vehicle's fuel efficiency. The book also covers how to reset and calibrate fuel economy systems.

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