



'Ask Hanip'

I've recently just bought a Toyota Corolla Altis and one of my main reasons of making the purchase was because of the car's incredible fuel economy. I was wondering are there any other ways to further improve my fuel consumption? Leonard Eng

HANIP: Good choice on the Altis, with its VVT-i engine, I've had other drivers stating they got FC figures that mirror those of a sub-compact. However there still several ways to further improve your fuel economy, firstly you can ensure that your car's engine is always running in tip-top condition, meaning that regular servicing is a must. An engine performing not at optimum standards might require more fuel for combustion and also lead to sluggish performance.

Another important thing to note is the tyre pressure; always check your tyre pressure regularly as well to ensure that all tyres are properly inflated to the manufacturers' specifications. An under-inflated tyre would take its toll on the car's performance causing it to require more petrol just to move the wheels.

Finally, and this probably is the most important and easiest way to improve fuel consumption is to train the driver. Heavy footedness would surely lead to high FC, learn to limit your revs to a stipulated rpm and also depress the pedal gradually instead of just plunging the accelerator into the mat every time you get onto the roads.

Sticking to a constant speed while cruising is a good way of ensuring good fuel economy as well, many times drivers aren't aware that they are the biggest contributor to their car having poor fuel economy.

