
CNG FOR VEHICLES

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is compressed natural gas (CNG)?

Compressed natural gas or **CNG** is an auto fuel that is simply natural gas stored under high pressure. Comprised of almost 90% Methane, CNG is low density and is super-compressed - up to 200 bar pressure - so it can be stored in a fuel tank that fits into a vehicle. Hence, its name Compressed Natural Gas. CNG is stored in safe and high-grade in-tube cylinders designed to withstand high impact or puncture.

CNG is a lower cost, fuel-efficient and cleaner alternative to heavier and more polluting fuels such as diesel and petrol and can be used in cars, auto-rickshaws and heavy-duty transit vehicles like buses and trucks.

2. What are the benefits of using CNG compared to other conventional fuels for vehicles?

- **More savings:** With CNG, you can save up to 50% on fuel costs compared to petrol and up to 20% compared to diesel. CNG offers better mileage and less engine damage, reducing both running and maintenance costs.
- **Longer vehicle life:** CNG is non-corrosive and reduces harmful accumulations in your engine, improving vehicle life and performance.
- **Less emissions:** CNG burns more cleanly than petrol and diesel, which makes it safer for the environment and people's health.

3. What types of vehicle can be converted to CNG?

CNG is suitable for almost all motor vehicles including auto-rickshaws, motorcycles, cars, taxis, small trucks, 4-wheeler tempo vans and buses.

4. How much will I save by using CNG?

CNG is up to 50% less than petrol. This means the moment you convert to CNG, you start saving.

5. How eco-friendly is CNG compared to diesel and petrol?

CNG produces less emissions than diesel and petrol as it contains less pollutants. Because of its lower carbon content, CNG burns cleaner than other fuel products, making it a greener alternative to traditional motor fuels.

6. How does a CNG-run vehicle perform compared to other vehicles?

Motorists should experience the same level of performance with CNG as they do with petrol and diesel. It has a higher octane rating than premium petrol, producing a smoother, quieter performance.

CNG reduces harmful carbon accumulations in your engine, does not contaminate or dilute crankcase oil, and extends the life of lubricating oils. Being non-corrosive and without lead or benzene content, CNG also reduces damage to spark plugs. Overall, CNG minimizes engine wear and reduces the frequency of maintenance checks.

7. How safe is CNG as fuel?

Motorists can drive with the peace of mind when running on CNG. It is lighter than air, so it quickly disperses. It has a low flammability range of 5–15% which reduces fire risk.

CNG is stored in safe and high-grade, tube-shaped cylinders made of high-strength materials designed to withstand outside impact and puncture.

8. How do I convert my vehicle to CNG?

Converting your vehicle to run on CNG is easy and must only be done by an RTO-approved vehicle retrofitter. The process involves installing a CNG conversion kit, which includes the high-grade cylinder where the gas is stored. The gas cylinder can be fitted to the rear, top or undercarriage of your vehicle. The conversion also includes installing a fuel port, a fuel gauge for your vehicle dashboard showing how much CNG is left in your cylinder, and an electric switch that allows the engine to run on either CNG or petrol.

9. How do CNG cylinders fit in cars, especially in small vehicles?

CNG cylinders can be fitted in vehicles of all sizes, including small vehicles and auto-rickshaws. Depending on the size of your cylinder, it will be fitted to the rear, top or undercarriage of your vehicle.

10. Can I go back to using petrol once I switch to CNG?

Yes. Even after conversion, a CNG-run vehicle retains its dual fuel system. Drivers can easily run on CNG or petrol by flipping a switch that is part of the conversion kit.