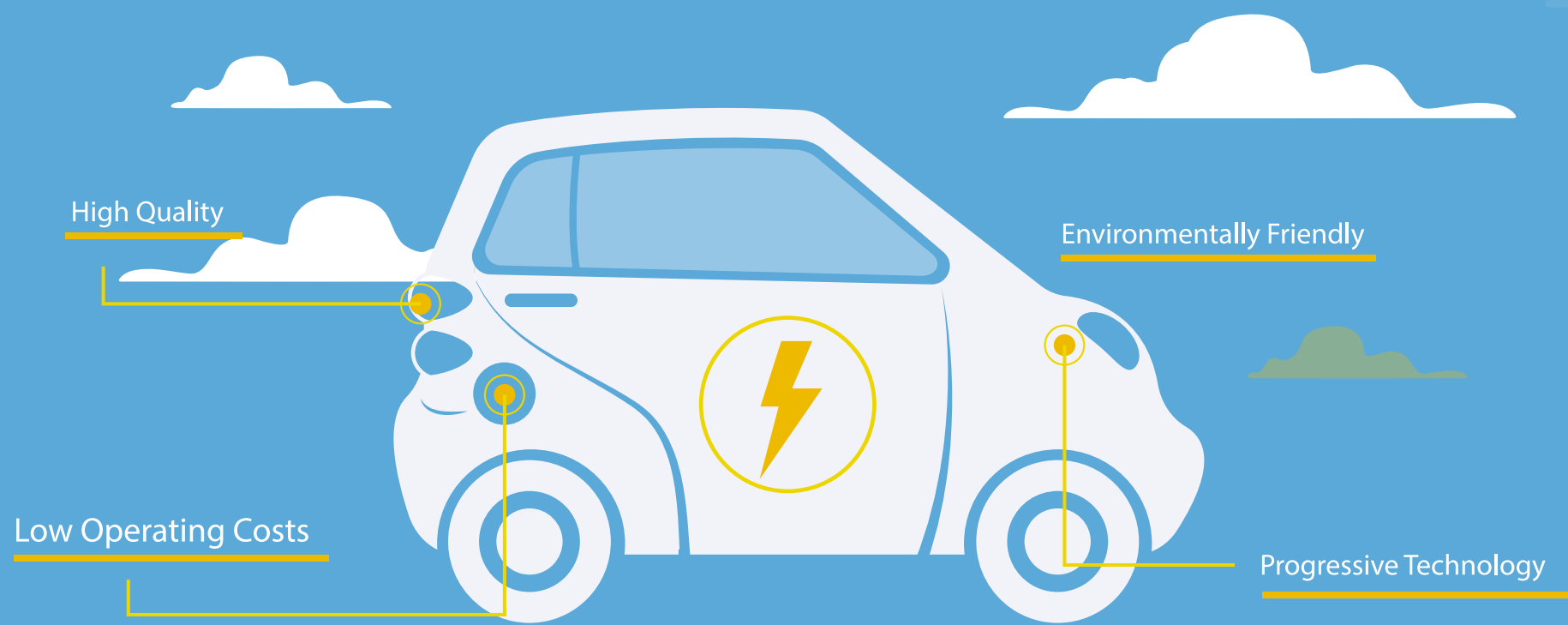


THE PROS AND CONS OF ELECTRIC CARS

EXPLAINED



THE PROS +

1 Low Operating Costs

Gasoline is getting more expensive, and the cost of electricity used to run an electric car is generally cheaper than trying to run the car on gasoline.

2 More Environmentally Friendly

If you're interested in electric cars because you want to contribute positively to protecting the environment, they're a great place to start. While the production and operation of electric cars isn't perfect for the environment, it's a major improvement over conventional vehicles.

3 Use Progressive Technology

For car owners who want a car that uses state-of-the-art smart device technology and other 21st-century amenities, an electric car is a good way to go. Many of these electric brands, such as Tesla, use specialized smart device software applications that allow an electric car to be operated and monitored remotely by its owner through their smartphone or tablet.

4 Low Maintenance Needs

For car owners who don't want to deal with oil changes or other maintenance issues on a car, an electric car is a great advantage. Unlike conventional vehicles, with an electric car you'll very rarely have to troubleshoot the battery, motor, or other electronics.

5 High-Quality Construction

Along with including some of the most progressive technology in the automotive market, electric cars also feature high-quality construction and materials in their design. This makes them lighter and stronger than many older gasoline-powered cars.

6 High-Quality Performance

When they were first introduced, electric cars did not have the same performance abilities as conventional cars. But as the technology and engineering in electric cars progresses, they are increasingly able to compete with gasoline-powered cars in performance as well as cost.

7 Earn Tax Credits and Rebates

Governments are encouraging citizens to phase out gas-powered vehicles and take up electric cars en masse to help fix environmental problems. Because of this encouragement, in many places the government offers significant tax credits and rebates to consumers who invest in electric car technology.

8 Get Special Highway Use

In many places around the country, driving an electric car can get you special privileges on the road. The High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) or carpool lane on major highways is usually reserved for cars with passengers, but electric cars are also allowed to use this lane as a reward for environmentally friendly practices.

9 Integrated into Home Solar Power

For some electric car models, such as Tesla, the electric car is only one extension of a greater power-saving layout in the household. Installing a Tesla home energy bank allows car owners to charge their Tesla off their solar panels and solar battery capacity.

10 Represent Resource Security

Having an electric car can represent a lot of resource security at the personal level, but when you're considering the advantages of getting one, it's a good idea to look at the bigger picture. Fossil fuels are a non-renewable resource and will eventually be depleted.

THE CONS -

1 Hard to Find Electric Car Charging Stations

Depending on where you live, finding a charging station to charge your electric car when you leave home can be a daunting task. While some people are lucky enough to live in areas with superchargers or destination charging stations, others may be restricted to the charging station in their home.

2 Batteries Are Expensive

Compared to batteries for conventional gas-powered cars, electric car batteries are very expensive to replace. Compared to the cost of replacing a conventional car's battery, which typically costs a few hundred dollars in parts and repairs, electric car battery replacements can cost a whopping \$5,000 to \$10,000.

3 Are Still Expensive to Buy

Electric cars have gotten cheaper over the past decade, but that doesn't mean that these cars are still a cheap option for purchase. While an operating gas-powered car can be purchased for just two or three thousand dollars, even the cheapest electric cars can cost five times that much.

4 Long Charging Times

The average electric car takes just under seven hours to reach a full charge.

5 Limited Driving Range

Compared to gas-powered cars, electric cars have a greatly reduced driving range. An average gas-powered vehicle can get between 400 and 500 miles on a single tank of gas, while an average electric car can only travel 100 to 200 miles on an overnight charge.

6 Hard to Do Home Repairs on Electric Cars

Many of the digital components of an electric vehicle cannot be fixed by mechanics that aren't certified in electric car repair. Attempting to repair an electric car in your own garage can quickly lead to your warranty being voided.

7 Still Take Money to Operate

There is a big misconception among many drivers that an electric car can be driven for free or will completely pay itself off in comparison to a gas-powered car. The truth is that even if you're using public charging stations, you'll still have to pay a fee for electrical use. And if you're using electricity from your own home, you're just tacking on to your own utility bill.

8 Use Rare Metals

While electrical cars are considered more environmentally friendly than gas-powered cars, there is one big environmental issue that is often looked over in electric car production: cobalt. The biggest problem with the fact that cobalt is such a vital resource in the construction of electric car batteries is that this metal is mined under exploitative conditions for workers in third world countries.

9 Offer Few Aesthetic Options

Most people don't buy an electric car because of their aesthetic style, but the limited inventory of most electric car models and the limited number of color options available can be a bummer compared to the wide variety of colors and options available in conventional vehicles.

