Looking Into Electric Cars Maintenance

Total Cost of Ownership Or Maintenance

Maintenance



Learning Center ∨

Marketplace ∨

Buyer's Guide

News

Event

Electric cars are gaining more and more acceptance in the marketplace. The advantages of going electric are clear: driving emissions-free significantly reduces your carbon footprint; electric cars offer superior performance and quiet to gasoline vehicles; and you could save thousands of dollars a year on fuel. So, it's no surprise that more and more Americans make the switch every year.

Indeed, with electric vehicles having been on sale for over a decade, and more models hitting showroom floors over time, many electric car drivers have now accumulated a lot of mileage.

Electric cars promise almost no mechanical maintenance, as there are no oil changes to deal with, and electric cars have far fewer parts and things to go wrong. In time, you may need new wiper blades and a few minor things, but even brake pads might last 200,000 miles thanks to the advantages of regenerative braking.

One area, however, where electric cars do require attention – and often more attention than gasoline vehicles – is tires. If you drive an electric car, you may find yourself wearing out tires a lot faster than you were used to with a gasoline vehicle – and spending a bit more on each set of tires. Why is that?

Maintenance

Few people want to go out on a limb and say no maintenance. But I have never taken my 30 year old electric drill in for maintenance. There will be some things that need it.

First up will be fluid changes in the mechanical brakes every 3 years. After that I can't remember anything I needed for the Subaru that the EV will need.

(OOOPS I tried to get brake fluid service and honest mechanic said wait until 10 years)

Maintenance

- Brakes
- Tires
- Cabin air filter
- High voltage battery
- 12V battery checks
- Lubricants
- AC

This is the maintenance list for an EV. I went to my favorite Gas vehicle mechanic to see if he wanted to do my brake fluid change. Said no, brake fluid is good for 200,000 miles. Don't get brake work done unless there is a symptom.

I will forever buy my tires at Beaumont Tire 812 Dennison, just east of the Dunkin' Donut on Prospect.

Energy

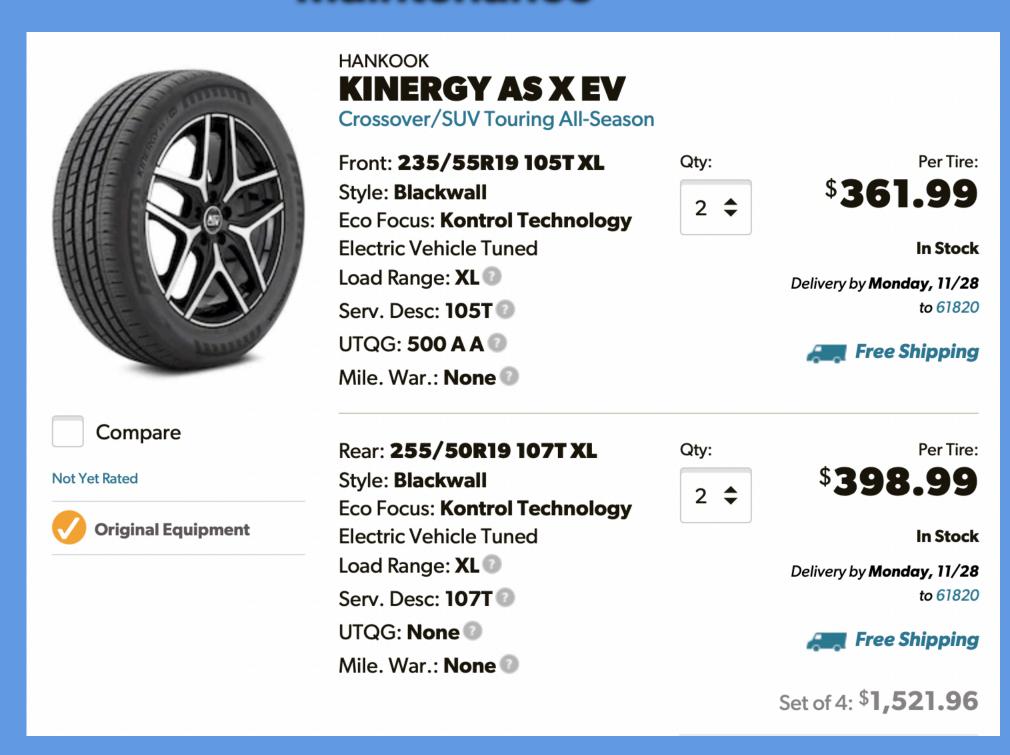
Maintenance



Hard to give a dollar amount on this. Each post office vehicle will save more than a vehicle for personal use. Maybe if someone drives very far everyday for work.

I will guess a good ballpark estimate is that every mile driven will save 10 cents. To get a total for the year, a number for yearly mileage is needed. For the last year of my gasoline Subaru - 6000 miles or \$600. But I've driven my VW ID4 twice that far this year.

Maintenance



TireRack website - (I buy all my tires there)

Its possible that a lot of EVs will be like mine and not have tire rotation. The illustration is for my tires and note different sizes, front and back.

Tires

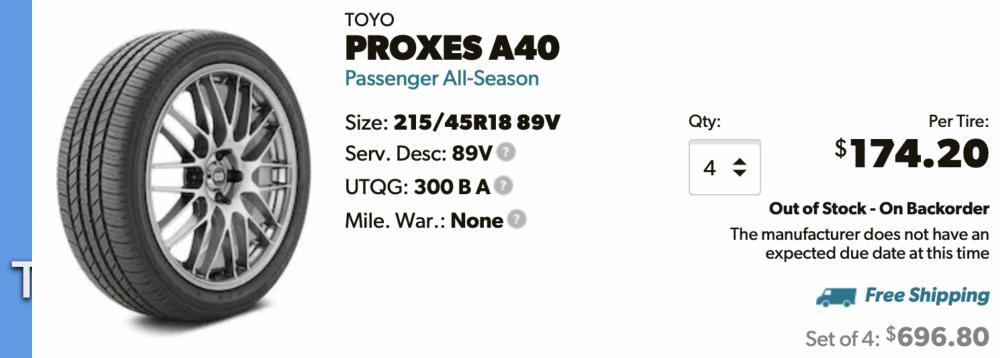
OUCH!!!

Tires are the big one. I haven't purchased tires in a while, but it looks like twice as much. Remember - These are TRUCK tires. With the EV battery the gross vehicle weight of the cars are high and need almost truck sturdy tires. Also non-EV tires are available cost less upfront. EV tires will get better range and cost less over time.

Tires

Maintenance





Less OUCH!!!

The top tire is OEM for Chevy Bolt.
The other is for a Mazda 3
considered a very similar car. The
Bolt tires are designed for better
range and are for a heavier vehicle.
Note the Chevy tires carry a fairly
high mileage warranty. The Mazda
tires has none.

Maintenance



Affirmation for Electric Vehicle

Definition (625 ILCS 5/12-805): Beginning on January 1, 2020, the registration fee for Electric vehicles shall be equal to the fee set forth in Section 3-806 for motor vehicles of the first division, other than Autocycles, Motorcycles, Motor Driven Cycles, and Pedacycles. In addition to the registration fees, the Secretary shall assess an additional \$100 per year in lieu of the payment of motor fuel taxes. \$1 of the additional fees shall be deposited into the Secretary of State Special Services Fund and the remainder of the additional fees shall be deposited into the Road Fund. (Source: P.A. 101-32, eff. 6-28-19.)

Fees

Random-Number Electric Vehicle License Plates

- Newly acquired vehicle/first-time issuance \$406 (\$155 title fee + \$251 registration fee)
- Currently titled vehicle/first-time issuance \$251 (\$251 registration fee)
- Current plates expire within 90 days \$280 (\$251 registration fee + \$29 replacement fee)
- Current plates do not expire within 90 days \$280 (\$251 registration fee + \$29 replacement fee)
- Annual renewal \$251

Passenger	\$151
Passenger Personalized	\$158
Passenger Vanity	\$164
Persons with Disabilities	\$151
Persons with Disabilities Personalized	\$158

Illinois Sec. Of State website

Registration

Passenger vehicle plates in Illinois cost \$100 more to offset the motor vehicle fuel tax that they do not pay.

Insurance

Maintenance



Expect car insurance to start a little higher. For a lot of insurance companies, the actual payouts for losses is an unknown, I expect that to go down as more EV drivers are cautious and the percentage of Tesla (Plaid version) street racers diminishes.