

GREEN CARS TAKE YEARS TO RECAPTURE THE GREEN

Hybrids cost more than regular gas counterparts but provide better mileage to the gallon. It can take years to recover the higher costs from fuel savings.

2008 Honda Civic

Hybrid: 1.3 liter 4 cylinder automatic
Costs: \$20,500 (after \$2,100 tax credit)
Annual fuel costs: \$996
Average mileage: 42 mpg

Non-hybrid: 1.8 liter 4 cylinder
Costs: \$16,960
Annual fuel costs: \$1,444
Average mileage: 29 mpg



Time to recoup higher vehicle costs:
 7 years

2008 Toyota Camry



Hybrid: 2.4 liter 4 cylinder automatic
Costs: \$25,200 (no tax credit available)
Annual fuel costs: \$1,230
Average mileage: 34 mpg

Non-hybrid: 2.4 liter 4 cylinder automatic
Costs: \$20,025
Annual fuel costs: \$1,674
Average mileage: 25 mpg

Time to recoup higher vehicle costs:
 11 years and 8 months

2008 Ford Escape

Hybrid: 2.3 liter 4 cylinder automatic
Costs: \$22,075 (after \$3,000 tax credit)
Annual fuel costs: \$1,310
Average mileage: 32 mpg

Non-hybrid: 2.3 liter 4 cylinder automatic
Costs: \$18,770
Annual fuel costs: \$1,904
Average mileage: 22 mpg



Time to recoup higher vehicle costs:
 5 years and 6 months

2008 Mercury Mariner

Hybrid: FWD 2.3 liter 4 cylinder automatic
Costs: \$22,955 (after \$3,000 tax credit)
Annual fuel costs: \$1,310
Average mileage: 32 mpg

Non-hybrid: FWD 2.3 liter 4 cylinder automatic
Costs: \$20,920
Annual fuel costs: \$1,904
Average mileage: 22 mpg



Time to recoup higher vehicle costs:
 3 years and 5 months

Toyota Prius



Hybrid: 1.5 liter 4 cylinder automatic
Costs: \$20,950 (no tax credit available)
Annual fuel costs: \$908
Average mileage: 46 mpg

Annual fuel costs are based upon gas costing \$2.79 a gallon and averaging 15,000 miles a year.

2008 Saturn Vue

Hybrid: 2.4 liter 4 cylinder automatic
Costs: \$24,145 (after \$650 tax credit)
Annual fuel costs: \$1,611
Average mileage: 26 mpg

Non-hybrid: 2.4 liter 4 cylinder automatic
Costs: \$21,450
Annual fuel costs: \$1,992
Average mileage: 21 mpg



Time to recoup higher vehicle costs:
 7 years

2008 Saturn Aura

Hybrid: 2.4 liter 4 cylinder automatic
Costs: \$21,490 (after \$1,350 tax credit)
Annual fuel costs: \$1,548
Average mileage: 27 mpg

Non-hybrid: 2.4 liter 4 cylinder automatic
Costs: \$20,395
Annual fuel costs: \$1,674
Average mileage: 25 mpg



Time to recoup higher vehicle costs:
 8 years and 7 months

2008 Toyota Highlander



Hybrid: 3.3 liter 6 cylinder automatic
Costs: \$33,700 (no tax credit available)
Annual fuel costs: \$1,611
Average mileage: 26 mpg

Non-hybrid: 3.3 liter 6 cylinder automatic
Costs: \$27,300
Annual fuel costs: \$2,201
Average mileage: 19 mpg

Time to recoup higher vehicle costs:
 10 years and 9 months

2008 Lexus RX 400h

Hybrid: 3.3 liter 6 cylinder automatic
Costs: \$40,080 (after \$1,100 tax credit)
Annual fuel costs: \$1,674
Average mileage: 25 mpg

Non-hybrid: 3.5 liter 6 cylinder automatic
Costs: \$37,400
Annual fuel costs: \$2,092
Average mileage: 20 mpg



Time to recoup higher vehicle costs:
 6 years and 5 months