

Automotive Answers

Inexpensive Ways To Boost Horsepower



Some of the same measures used to increase horsepower in race cars can be used to increase the horsepower of your car or truck.

(NAPSA)—Odds are you don't need to boost your buying power to improve your car's horsepower. Here are three easy ways to get more horses out of your ride—without taking out an extra car loan. You may even increase the life of your engine while you're at it:

- **Replace And Upgrade Your Air Filter**—Thousands of cubic feet of air pass through engine cylinders in their lifetime. Dust and other material in the engine can cause excessive wear and operating problems. It's imperative that you keep air filters clean by regularly replacing them. To further enhance performance, upgrade to a performance air filter, which can free up an additional two to three horsepower.

- **Upgrade Your Lubricants**—Friction and heat from engine components and the drive train rob horsepower and performance. Minimizing this power loss can be as

easy as upgrading to one of the newer high-performance lubricants that are available. For instance, in a test by Horsepower TV, upgrading to Royal Purple motor oil freed up nine horsepower. The company's products have also been proven in independent tests to save fuel and reduce emissions. More information can be found at www.royalpurple.com.

- **Use Higher-Octane Gas or an Octane Booster**—Go for the good stuff the next time you're at the pump. Depending on your vehicle, high-octane gasoline can provide an increase in horsepower. Even a marginal gain in switching from the lowest-octane gasoline to the highest octane is probably worth a few extra pennies at the pump. A racing blend of gasoline will work well for those wanting to see a more measurable increase in power. It may take some extra time and effort to find racing blends on the market, though.