

Common ways carmakers manipulate tests for CO₂ emissions and fuel economy

Disconnecting the alternator prevents the battery from charging, and reduces energy use.

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Carmakers can optimise the engine controls to reduce emissions.

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Careful lubrication and use of special lubricants help the car run more efficiently.

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Altering wheel alignment reduces rolling resistance

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Fitting special tyres with a lower rolling resistance.

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Overinflating the tyres reduces rolling resistance

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Using higher gears can allow the engine to operate more efficiently than normal.

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Taping over indentations or protrusions on the body reduces aerodynamic drag.

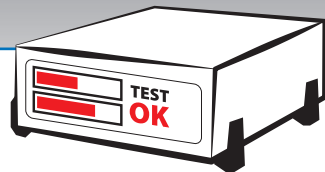
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Pushing the brake pads fully into the callipers reduces rolling resistance.

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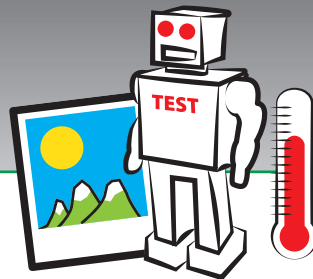
The rolling road is programmed with the minimum weight or inertia class.

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Laboratory instrumentation

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Optimising the test drive & ambient conditions

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Taking advantage of test tolerances and adjusting the results

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CO₂ results declared by the manufacturer can be up to 4% below the actual test results.

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