



Frequently Asked Questions



All unleaded petrol sold in the UK will now contain Ethanol, at rates of either 5% (E5) or 10% (E10).

What is ethanol?

Ethanol is an alcohol based renewable product used to make fuel, it is made from various plant materials and crops collectively known as 'biomass'. It is increasingly adopted due to the positive environmental impact and is said to be partially atmospherically carbon-neutral.

Why do you need ethanol protection when using E5 or E10 unleaded petrol?

Ethanol is corrosive, but when this is mixed with moisture in the fuel tank/system it makes this extremely corrosive and will affect the longevity and life of components.

Millers Oils Ethanol Protection System (EPS) additive is specially designed to prevent fuel system corrosion and helps protect engine components. With the increased percentage of ethanol in modern unleaded petrol, it has resulted in more vehicles being susceptible to fuel system corrosion.

Is E5 or E10 unleaded petrol compatible with all vehicles?

No, it is estimated around 600,000 cars on the UK roads are not compatible with either E5 or E10 unleaded petrol. Vehicles at risk range from vintage to classic and modern classic to even modern vehicles (up to 2011). Drivers should check their vehicle manufacturer recommendations in order to see fuel treatment should be used.

You can use the following link to check your car on the GOV.UK website - www.gov.uk/check-vehicle-e10-petrol

Where do you find the E5 or E10 label at a petrol station?

A circular 'E5' or 'E10' label will be clearly visible on both the petrol dispenser and nozzle, making it easy for you to identify the correct unleaded petrol to use. The 'E5' or 'E10' labels look like this:



Does EPS additive permit E5/E10 unleaded petrol to be used in a vehicle that possesses components that are incompatible with E5/E10?

Yes, with the addition of Millers Oils EPS additive E5/E10 unleaded petrol can be used in a vehicle that requires no/low amount of ethanol. It is also compatible for vehicles fitted with catalytic converters and endorsed by the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Club.

How does EPS additive prevent corrosion of metallic components and what evidence is there to suggest its effectiveness?

The EPS additive provides a protective coating on metal surfaces, this barrier stops ethanol latching onto metal surfaces and corroding materials. The use of E10 unleaded petrol is not new; it is only new for the UK. The USA has been using E10 since the 1990's and E15 since 2012, Germany has been using E10 since 2011. This means the additives for ethanol corrosion protection have been in use for over 20 years. At Millers Oils, we have been marketing fuel treatments for around 15 years and have worked with organisations such as the British Historic Vehicle Club (FBHVC). As such, Millers Oils has several products that have been endorsed by the FBHVC, receiving an 'A' rating for ethanol corrosion protection.

Can EPS additive prevent ethanol from degrading certain plastics and rubbers?

No, but the additive will cause no additional harm to plastics and rubbers.

How long does EPS additive reduce the rate of E5/E10?

The additive does not affect ethanol oxidation in the fuel; it is a corrosion preventive so actively protects metal surfaces.

How does EPS additive slow or curtail water absorption by the ethanol and the ensuing phase separation?

EPS additive is not a water separation additive, it primarily deals with the corrosion prevention. Separation will happen over a long period if the vehicle is laid up, if this occurs the fuel will need to be drained from the tank.

For further questions or technical enquiries please get in touch with our technical helpline:

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