Electric cars kw chart

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The most efficient electric cars are can eke loads of miles from their batteries, and that means you have to charge them less - especially if you plan to use the car to regularly cover long distances. Efficiency isn"t as a popular metric as range, but it"s equally important if you plan to use your EV a lot - or if you appreciate the most advanced battery and motor technology.

For example, the top-spec BMW iX has an enormous 100kWh battery, but because it weighs 2.5 tonnes and has the same aerodynamic characteristics as a house brick, it can only deliver around 3 miles of range for each kWh of electricity in its battery.

Below, we"ve ranked the most efficient electric cars on sale today. To average out the weather variable, we calculated each car"s efficiency by dividing its official WLTP range figure by its battery capacity. We"ve also omitted the cars that are notoriously inefficient, such as the Toyota bZ4X and MINI Electric. In a similar tone, here"s the EVs with the longest range.

Vauxhall facelifted the Corsa Electric in May 2023 - and the brand took the opportunity to fit the supermini with a larger 54kWh battery pack and a more powerful electric motor. The changes have brought some impressive efficiency gains, at least on paper. Using our calculation, it"s capable of delivering up to 5.0 miles per kWh, making it one of the most efficient electric cars on sale.

Naturally, we"ll need to wait until we"ve driven the revised Corsa Electric before we can endorse it. That"s because Stellantis electric cars have a habit of under-delivering on their efficiency claims. The outgoing version of the Corsa, for example, claimed a maximum range of 209 miles but could only deliver 180-ish miles in the real world, giving it an efficiency figure of around 3.6 miles per kWh.

If you want a fun electric car, you can"t do much better than the Fiat 500 Electric. It"s small, it"s agile, it has an incredibly eager electric motor, and it retains all the cutesy retro charm that made its petrol-powered predecessor such a hit. It"s also rather efficient. Our best-case scenario calculation suggests the range-topping 42kWh model will return almost 5.0 miles per kWh in ideal conditions. Worst-case figures are less impressive, but it you should still see numbers in the mid-3.0 mile per kWh range.

The trouble with the Fiat is that you can only achieve those economy figures if you"re prepared to drive it gently - and it"s so much fun to tear around in that you"ll inevitably end up thrashing the tyres off it and chewing through your battery capacity.

We like the Renault Megane E-Tech. Not only is it practical, good fun to drive and loaded with clever technology, but it"s also quite efficient. Our calculation estimates it can achieve 4.6 miles per kWh of battery capacity at a maximum range of 280 miles. Granted, this is a best-case scenario figure - catch the Megane on a

cold winter"s morning, and its efficiency figure will drop into the low 3.0-mile per kWh range.

However, we found the car"s range indicator to be frighteningly accurate, which allows you to plan your charging stops with greater accuracy and squash range anxiety. We took the Megane on a 70-mile route during its launch event, and according to the trip computer, the car used almost exactly 70 miles of electricity.

The ID.3 shares its platform with the Enyaq - and, because the Volkswagen is a smaller and lighter car, it improves on the Skoda"s efficiency. In ideal conditions, the ID.3 can cover up to 347 miles on a charge, with an average electricity consumption figure of 4.5 miles per kWh. Even if you"re not being particularly delicate with the accelerator, though, it should still manage upwards of 4.0 miles per kWh.

Volkswagen facelifted the ID.3 in early 2023. It was a mild update, with a few exterior styling and interior quality tweaks. We think the update has improved the ID.3 overall, but we"re disappointed that Volkswagen still hasn"t removed the car"s frustrating touch-sensitive climate controls and odd double-duty window switches.

The Model 3 has been a runaway success for Tesla. In 2021, the company sold 34,783 examples in the UK, making it Britain"s second best-selling car behind the Vauxhall Corsa. These booming sales figures are thanks in part to the Model 3"s impressive battery efficiency. Most electric cars can"t match their WLTP claimed figures - but the Tesla does what it says on the tin.