

Types of ev batteries

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There are around 239,000 zero-emission Battery Electric Vehicles (BEVs) on the UK's roads - with more than 100,000 registered in 2020 alone - along with 259,000 plug-in hybrids and 629,000 conventional hybrids.

Whether you're bamboozled by BEVs, perplexed by plug-in hybrids or you can't tell the HEVs from the HEV-nots, our handy guide to the different types of electric vehicles should ensure you enter the world of zero emissions with zero fuss.

Rather than a petrol or diesel engine, they feature an electric motor powered by batteries, which can be recharged at home using a domestic socket or dedicated home charge point, and on the move using the public charging network.

Cons: More expensive than conventional cars, weight of batteries puts a dent in overall efficiency, especially on motorways; smaller fuel tank can mean more frequent fill-ups on longer journeys, only limited electric range.

Hybrid Electric Vehicles (HEVs), often shortened to hybrids, or referred to as 'self-charging hybrids'; in some advertisements, are powered by electricity and a petrol or diesel engine.

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