

CHOOSING AN LPG CONVERSION

Questions to ask when choosing an LPG conversion for your vehicle

Are you **LPGA** Approved?

See separate page for details of the LPGA Approved Installer Scheme and the assurance that you will get by using an approved installer operating within the Scheme.

This is the way in which you can be assured of avoiding a dangerous or poor conversion.

Beware of companies who say they are “approved”– many may only be approved by their equipment supplier but not be part of the LPGA Approved Installer Scheme :-

- check our list of LPGA Approved Installers – see separate page
- on visiting the company's premises ask to be shown our Logo and an example of the LPG Conversion Certificate that you will be provided with on completion of the work (this is very important for insurance purposes). For details of what to look for see separate page on the LPGA Approved Installer Scheme.

Is my car suitable for conversion?

Some engines are not suitable for conversion such as those with direct injection or some engines which are prone to valve or valve seat degradation which require additional work to make them suitable for conversion (eg: some Fords, Hondas and Toyotas require hardened valves and valve seats).

There are a large number of different makes of LPG conversion equipment imported into the UK. The equipment suppliers for the following makes are known to have detailed information on the suitability of individual models:

Make of Equipment	Company	e-mail and website	Tel/Fax
AG	Nicholson McLaren Engines	e-mail jiw@n-mclaren.co.uk website www.nicholsonmclaren.com	Tel: 0118 973 8000 Fax: 0118 973 8030
BRC	CLS Dual Fuel Conversions Ltd	e-mail: gary@clsdualfuel.plus.com website: www.clsdualfuel.co.uk	Tel: 0191 384 9629 Fax: 0191 383 9323
E-Gas	Walker Autogas Systems	e-mail: sales@walkerautogas.co.uk website www.walkerautogas.co.uk	Tel: 01758 701144 Fax: 01758 701133
Landi,	National Autogas	e-mail andrewsanders@tiscali.co.uk website www.nationalautogas.co.uk	Tel: 01432 342132 Fax: 01432 340404
Necam	Nicholson McLaren Engines	e-mail jiw@n-mclaren.co.uk website www.nicholsonmclaren.com	Tel: 0118 973 8000 Fax: 0118 973 8030
OMVL	FES Autogas Ltd	e-mail omvl@fesautogas.co.uk website www.fesautogas.co.uk	Tel: Local Rate 0845 230 1819 Fax: Local Rate

Make of Equipment	Company	e-mail and website	Tel/Fax
			0845 230 1829
Prins	Alternatch Fuel Systems Ltd	e-mail: Dking@alternatch.co.uk Website: www.alternatch.co.uk	Tel: 02380 231112 Fax: 02380 231114
Romano	Autogas Worldwide Ltd	e-mail: sales@autogasworldwide.co.uk website: www.autogasworldwide.co.uk	Tel: 01633 894070 Fax: 01633 897078
Tartarini	Autogas 2000 Ltd	e-mail info@autogas.co.uk website www.autogas.co.uk	Tel: 01845 523213 Fax: 01845 526783
Zavoli	Jaymic Systems Ltd	e-mail info@jaymicsystems.com website www.jaymicsystems.com	Tel: 01263 517070 Fax: 01263 514133

Is the equipment you fit supplied direct from the manufacturer or an agent authorised by the manufacturer to supply to the UK?

This is important to ensure that the full equipment manufacturer's warranty is valid (this could provide you with cover if the installer ceases trading) and that technical support is available to the installer for solving any problems.

Beware of companies who obtain equipment from non authorised sources – these can often also be out of date or inappropriate or even illegal for the UK market.

What make of equipment will you fit to my vehicle?

As with vehicle manufacturers, there are many different manufacturers of lpg conversion equipment and most installers specialise in one or a small number of makes. The makes that each approved installer is authorised to fit is shown on our list of approved installers.

The association does not undertake assessments of LPG conversion equipment but in Scotland grants were available based on the make of equipment to be installed. Makes which were assessed and approved were:

AG, BRC, Landi, Necam, OMVL, Prins, Romano and Tartarini.

Have you converted my specific vehicle model before? If so when and how many?

This is a conversion to your vehicle and experience of your particular model will ensure that the conversion will work properly and achieve reduced emissions.

If yes, you could ask to contact a customer and see the completed conversion

If the answer is no, then establish if the supplier (see above) has this information and can provide support to the installer.

It is recommended that you speak to a number of approved installers to establish what is available for your vehicle - especially as, with the latest complex engine management systems, an equipment manufacturer may not have developed a kit for your specific vehicle. In these cases support from the manufacturer is vital

to ensure that the system works effectively with the vehicles own system without dashboard “management information lights” appearing.

What type of system will you fit to my car?

The majority of installations involve:

- **An LPG fuel tank and valves:**

These must be ECE67/01 approved and stamped to this effect. By law a pressure relief valve must be fitted.

Virtually all filling stations in the UK use the “bayonet” filling gun and this type of filler should be fitted to your vehicle so that filling can be undertaken without an adaptor. Adaptors can cause leaks and burns to the skin.

- **A “regulator” to convert the liquid gas to a vapour:**

This must be ECE67/01 approved and stamped to this effect

- **The means of injecting the vapour into the engine (mixer or injection)**

- ☐ **Single point mixer:**

The simplest and cheapest system and is only suitable for older vehicles.

If your vehicle has a catalytic converter then it must have an additional system to control the LPG mixture otherwise the catalytic converter is likely to be damaged. Most such systems use a link to the lambda sensor and are known as “closed loop”.

Single point mixer systems can cause backfire “explosions” and the installer should be questioned on the appropriateness of such a system for your vehicle.

Beware such systems should not be fitted if your vehicle has a plastic inlet manifold.

- ☐ **Multi-point injection:**

Injects the gas close to each cylinder inlet. This avoids the build up of gas in the inlet system and prevents the backfire “explosions”

Generally these systems provide better control of the amount of gas for the engine and hence smoother, more economical running and less emissions.

- ☐ **Multi-point sequential injection**

The most sophisticated type of installation which provide detailed control of the gas for maximum smoothness, economy and performance.

What mileage range can I expect from the tank that you will fit?

Ensure that the tank being fitted is big enough for your requirements – ask for the estimated range to be included in the written quote for the work.

What Warranty will I receive?

You should expect at least 12 months / 10,000 miles labour and parts warranty on the conversion equipment.

If your vehicle has a manufacturers warranty applying then this will almost certainly be affected by the conversion. Vehicle manufacturers can only void their warranty in respect of the parts affected by the conversion and LPGA Approved Installers can provide additional warranties to cover these areas.

Establish with the installer the cover that he will provide and whether it is included in the price quoted.

Will my insurance company accept certificates from the Installer?

When you have chosen the installer to use, **but before you agree to have the work carried out**, check with your insurance company.