

[<<Back](#)

The "Water Car" put to the test

Nov 24, 2005, 12:00 PM PST



At \$2.50 a gallon, gas prices may be lower, but they're definitely not cheap. So the Saving You Money Team is at it again, testing a device that one company guarantees will improve your mileage by 25 percent.

It's a hybrid that's going to have you shaking your head and has one national publication saying, "don't waste your time or money". It's much cheaper and easier to get than oil and gas. The secret ingredient? Water! Believe it or not, something safe enough to drink has enough firepower to boost your mileage.

Hard to believe right? We thought so too, but the inventors of the Aquatune Water Injection System told us they could prove it. The key ingredient is the 'H' in H₂O. They claim their device separates hydrogen from distilled water that you can buy at any supermarket for about 70 cents.

They say it happens when the water runs through the reactor and then the hydrogen ignites in the engine. You get a better burn and more miles to the gallon. Literally, more bang for your buck. We bought the Aquatune System from their web site and had it installed on a 2002 Ford.

Mechanic McDonald Davis says he's installed over a dozen systems already and we should expect big things.

"I have seen customers come back and they were very happy. It has increased fuel mileage by 40 percent and that was something."

25 percent. 40 percent. They seem like incredible claims. Especially since popular mechanics had some harsh words for the Aquatune System and other gas gadgets they tested.

The Aquatune Plus cost \$600 and the rest of the installation ran us another \$400. Aquatune says you can do the installation yourself, but only if you've got some skills under the hood. Since there isn't a lot of room under the hood, our windshield washer bottle had to double as our water supply. Once the system was installed, all we had to do was add water.

A box hooked up to our car's computer gives us a readout on what's going on under the hood. On one stretch of highway we got better than 40 miles to the gallon. That beats the 28 miles per gallon we were getting before we installed the Aquatune. We also got a boost in our city mileage from 17 to 23. Both numbers are in line with the 25 percent increase in fuel economy the makers promised.

The Aquatune System can take some tweaking to get it working properly, especially on cars with some miles on them. We talked to Popular Mechanics about our test and they said they stand by their assertion that the Aquatune and devices like it just don't work. Aquatune is continuing to develop their Hydrogen on Demand system, so it will be interesting to see if it really becomes "the energy source of the future".



All content © Copyright 2000 - 2006 WorldNow and KVBC. All Rights Reserved.
For more information on this site, please read our [Privacy Policy](#) and [Terms of Service](#).