

EV – Things to consider before buying

Audio transcript

Buying an electric vehicle can be a big investment.

So to find the right one for you, here are some of the key things to bear in mind to help you make an informed decision.

To choose the right EV for you it's really important to think about how you're going to use the vehicle, whether it's your daily commute, your weekly shop, or even those occasional road trips.

They all might affect the range you need your car to cover.

But remember, vehicles with larger batteries that can give you more range are usually more expensive to buy.

Charging at home is straightforward.

It's about plugging in overnight and waking up ready to go.

You can use a regular power socket or a dedicated home charger, which speeds up the process.

Energy companies might even offer an overnight tariff to save you money while you charge, but faster options are available at public charging stations.

It's important to note that not everyone will have the capability to charge at home.

There are a lot of different types of public charging stations from fast to ultra-rapid charging.

The standard chargers often found in shopping centres and in car parks typically can fully charge your vehicle in a few hours.

They are also fast chargers, which deliver more power, faster, which means you'll find them in short-stay locations like service stations.

But remember, faster charging speeds generally equal higher costs.

If you are planning a longer journey, you'll need to plan where you are going to charge along the way.

The good news is that public chargers are increasingly widespread across towns and cities.

From service stations, shopping areas to street sides, make sure you know where they are.

Many employers now provide electric vehicle charging facilities at work.

It can be really convenient once you get used to thinking of it as part of your workday routine.

Charging network apps are the EV driver's companion, helping you find available charging stations on the go.

These apps aren't just for locating chargers.

They also streamline the payment process.

Roadside charging assistance can be a lifesaver in unexpected situations.

It's worth checking if your provider offers this service, but it's always best to avoid situations where you may run out of charge by planning your trip in advance.

In bigger cities, EVs are often exempt from clean air zone charges, including the ULEZ.

Cold weather can mean longer charging times and reduce the range for your car.

So make sure you keep an eye out on the forecast.

If you're thinking that an EV might be right for you and you're ready to take the next step on your journey, visit the HSBC website to explore the different ways you could finance an electric vehicle.

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