# AdBlue®
# A drivers guide from Alphabet

From September 2015 in order to meet stringent new exhaust emissions and UK Government action to improve air quality in cities, the majority of new diesel cars and LCVs feature a factory-fitted AdBlue® injection system. This guide explains what AdBlue® is and answers some frequently asked questions for drivers.

## Why AdBlue®?

All new diesel vehicles sold in the EU from September 2015 must meet the Euro 6 (EU6) emissions standard.

The aim of the EU6 legislation is to make cars cleaner and more efficient, meaning lower levels of harmful car and van exhaust emissions such as nitrogen oxide (NOx). The result of reducing this can also mean better fuel economy and lower $CO_2$emissions.

Some diesel engines produce more NOx than equivalent-sized petrol engines, so manufacturers have developed a treatment system that has been almost-universally adopted for European diesel vehicles called 'selective catalytic reduction' (SCR).

SCR is becoming commonly known as AdBlue® (after the trade name of the diesel exhaust fluid injected into SCR systems). Whilst many HGVs, buses and other large diesel vehicles have used AdBlue® for several years the new EU6 legislation will extend AdBlue® to cars and LCVs.

## What is AdBlue®?

AdBlue® is made by mixing a compound made from ammonia and $CO_2$ into deionised water. It is carried in a tank on the vehicle and pumped to the engine where it is injected into the exhaust gases.

Together with a catalyst, AdBlue® converts 80% of the NOx coming from the combustion chambers into harmless nitrogen and water vapour.

AdBlue® is a registered trade mark of the German Automobile Industry Association (VDA), which licenses its production around the world .

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Where does AdBlue ® go?**

AdBlue ® is poured into a small tank in your vehicle which is exclusively for AdBlue ®. Check your vehicle handbook to ensure you put AdBlue ® in the right place.

**How often does AdBlue® need replacing?**

Once it is filled up you shouldn't need to worry about it again for several thousands of miles. For most car drivers their AdBlue® will be refilled at the scheduled servicing for their vehicle. Example: BMW cars carry enough AdBlue® for about 9,000 miles of normal driving. LCV drivers may need to "top up" more regularly due to the stop/start nature of the journeys they make.

**How will I know if the AdBlue® is getting low?**

An indicator in your vehicles on board computer will provide you with a warning – once you see this warning you must refill the AdBlue®.

**How easy is it to refill yourself?**

It's easy enough to refill the AdBlue® tank yourself through purchasing a small bottle (available at many service stations across the UK and Ireland).

**What happens if I run out of AdBlue® ?**

It is essential that AdBlue® levels are maintained within the vehicle and that you adhere to the warnings. Failure to do so will result in the car coming to a halt or not starting.

**Which vehicles are affected?**

Many manufacturers already have AdBlue technology within their diesel vehicles – always check your vehicle handbook or with your Fleet Manager/Leasing company if you are unsure.

## AdBlue® recommended guidelines for handling

**Do:**

- Always put AdBlue® into the AdBlue® tank. Both the nozzle/dispenser pistol and filler cap of the tank are clearly marked
- Refill with AdBlue® as soon as practicable after the dashboard warning message appears
- Only buy the product with the name AdBlue® – avoid any product with the names " urea solution" or "AUS"
- Ensure diesel, anti-freeze and screen wash liquids are never put into the AdBlue® tank
- Only use dedicated AdBlue® equipment when storing or refilling AdBlue®
- Ensure you firmly close your AdBlue® tank and container(AdBlue® freezes at an ambient temperature of 12˚F or -11˚C , but can be used once thawed)
- Use demineralised water (or AdBlue® when cleaning internally or priming AdBlue® equipment
- If you spill small amounts on the ground, in a vehicle or on a painted surface, rinse thoroughly with water
- Keep your AdBlue® out of direct sunlight

**Don't:**

AdBlue® is non-hazardous and it is easy to use, but there are some simple rules to follow to avoid AdBlue® contamination and costly repairs to your car or vehicle:

- Never fill AdBlue® into the diesel tank or vice versa
- Do not use other any other substances other than AdBlue®
- Do not mix AdBlue® to other liquids – it is not an additive
- Do not use AdBlue® if contaminated with tap water or other substances, especially diesel fuel
- Avoid spilling AdBlue® on the ground as the surface may become slippery or the concrete or brickwork could be affected
- Do not leave small amounts of spilt AdBlue®, rinse it away immediately
- Do not use dirty or contaminated equipment, such as funnels, jugs or oil containers, for refilling AdBlue®
- Never "top up" AdBlue® with water

(Source: Yara UK Ltd www.yara.com)