

# Decoding the 3 main engine oil types

With the advances in automotive engineering, motor oils are becoming more efficient in the way they protect every moving part of your vehicle's engine. But do you know the differences between them? Read below for more details. For help with your maintenance and repair management, please contact LeasePlan USA at 1-800-951-9024, or visit us online at [www.leaseplan.com](http://www.leaseplan.com).



## Characteristics

## Cost

## Oil change frequency\*

## Upsides

## Drawbacks

	Characteristics	Cost	Oil change frequency*	Upsides	Drawbacks
<p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>Conventional</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic protection for a variety of engines</li> <li>• Mineral-based</li> <li>• Around since the dawn of cars</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Average cost is \$46 (\$25 being the cheapest and \$50 being the most expensive)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Typically, every 5,000 miles or so</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cheaper than all other engine oil types</li> <li>• Ideal for people with "ordinary" driving styles and for cars with very simple engine designs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doesn't offer protection at extremely cold temperatures</li> <li>• More susceptible to breakdowns in extreme heat</li> <li>• More frequent oil changes necessary</li> </ul>
<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>Synthetic blend</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better protection than conventional oils</li> <li>• A combination of conventional and synthetic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Average cost ranges from \$45 to \$70</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less frequent than conventional, but more often than fully synthetic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compared to conventional oil, reduces engine wear by as much as three times</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doesn't offer as much protection as synthetic</li> <li>• Takes 10 minutes of circulation before the engine is well protected</li> <li>• More expensive than conventional</li> </ul>
<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>Fully synthetic</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Produced in a lab by a licensed chemist</li> <li>• Ensures engine is protected from wear and deposit build-up</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Average cost ranges from \$60 to \$100</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Typically, between 7,500 and 10,000 miles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better fuel efficiency</li> <li>• Enhances engine performance</li> <li>• Gets to moving parts of the engine quickly</li> <li>• Ensures good cold starting in freezing temperatures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More expensive than conventional or synthetic blends</li> </ul>

\*It is best to always follow your vehicle manufacturer's recommended oil change frequency.