



ELECTRIC VEHICLES 101

Charging at Home



At home charging is one of the most affordable and convenient ways to charge an EV. You will be able to satisfy the majority of your charging needs by ensuring your vehicle has a full charge before hitting the road. Regardless of whether you have a Level 1 or Level 2 charger, a BEV or PHEV, here are some best practices to follow when charging your EV at home.

- If you are purchasing your own charger for your fleet vehicle, purchase a charging device that is certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory.
- **Ensure your installation is done by a licensed electrician** and in compliance with any local regulations and permitting requirements.
- **Make sure to follow the manufacturer's guidelines when charging your vehicle.** Check with your local dealer if you need additional information.
- **Contact your energy provider** to ensure you're on the best rate plan for your situation and to understand what time of day charging rates are lowest.
- **Plug Level 1 EV chargers directly into an outlet designed to handle the amperage of the charging device.** Never use a multiplug adapter or extension cord.
- **If you have a Level 2 "smart" charger, make sure you take advantage of the apps that might come with the charger to set charging schedules and reminders.** These tools help take advantage of off-peak electricity rates and ensure your vehicle is charging when you expect it
- **Practice safe cord management.** When in use, ensure you're not blocking paths of travel to avoid tripping. When not in use, replace the cord so it's out of the way to avoid damage.
- Place all charging device components out of reach of children when not in use.
- **Maintain the components of your charging station according to the manufacturer's maintenance guidelines.** Signs of excessive wear may indicate a potential shock hazard. Never use an EV charger with obvious signs of damage.
- **Cover the EV charging station outlet to stop water from entering.** Check the manufacturer's guidelines to make sure it is safe to charge your EV in wet conditions.

Remember to review your company's fleet policy to ensure you are following guidelines.

