

## Fuel Systems

The fuel systems job is to provide your engine with the gasoline or diesel it requires so as to work. If whatever of the fuel system parts breaks down, your engine will not work properly. There are the main components of the fuel system listed underneath:

**Fuel Tank:** The fuel tank is a holding cell intended for your fuel. When filling up at a gas station, the fuel travels down the gas hose and into your tank. In the tank there is a sending unit. This is what tells the gas gauge how much gas is within the tank.

**Fuel Pump:** In newer cars, nearly all contain fuel pumps usually located inside the fuel tank. Several of the older automobiles will attach the fuel pump to the engine or positioned on the frame next to the tank and engine. If the pump is within the tank or on the frame rail, then it is electric and functions with electricity from your cars' battery, while fuel pumps which are mounted to the engine use the motion of the engine in order to pump the fuel.

**Fuel Filter:** Clean fuel is very important for overall engine life and engine performance. Fuel injectors have tiny openings which can clog very easily. Filtering the fuel is the only way this could be avoided. Filters could be found either before or after the fuel pump and in various instances both places.

**Fuel Injectors:** Nearly all domestic cars made after 1986, came from the factory with fuel injection. A computer control opens the fuel injectors in order to allow fuel into the engine, which replaced the carburetor who's task originally was to perform the mixing of the air and fuel. This has caused lower emission overall and better fuel economy. The fuel injector is basically a small electric valve that closes and opens with an electric signal. By injecting the fuel close to the cylinder head, the fuel stays atomized, or within tiny particles, and is able to burn better when ignited by the spark plug.

**Carburetors:** Carburetors have the job of taking the fuel and mixing it with the air without whatever intervention from a computer. Carburetors need repeated tuning and rebuilding though they are simple to operate. This is among the main reasons the newer vehicles available on the market have done away with carburetors instead of fuel injection.